

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO REBECCA EVERS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize 18-year-old Rebecca Denise Evers of Bayfield High School. Rebecca is the very first recipient in the school's history to receive the Boettcher Scholarship award. For this, Mr. Speaker, I would like the United States Congress to honor her.

She is one of 40 students statewide to receive this honor. The Boettcher Scholarship is recognized as the most prestigious private scholarship in the state of Colorado. Rebecca is one of 820 applicants and one of 72 finalists. For the honor, Rebecca had to finish in the top five percent of her class and have an ACT score of 27 or a 1,200 SAT score. Selections are based on academics, extracurricular leadership and involvement and character.

According to Rebecca's teachers, she is an energetic, hardworking, and caring young woman as well as an outstanding student, an exceptionally talented athlete, and is dedicated to helping others and contributing to her community. "She's an excellent student," said Paula Carron, her fifth grade teacher. "She was self motivated, happy, cheerful, and willing to help other people."

Rebecca is involved in many different activities. She is involved with the National Honor Society, the Future Business Leaders of America, the El Pomar Youth and Community Service Organization, and is her class president.

Rebecca was instrumental in the organization and implementation of Peer Helpers at Bayfield High School. She has dedicated several hours a week during the past two years helping many of her classmates solve personal problems as well as adjusting to high school life. She somehow has also found time to excel at volleyball, basketball and track.

Mr. Speaker, it is students like Rebecca Evers who take our mind off of all the negative and tragic events in our nation's schools, and focus on all the positives. Rebecca is truly someone who can be looked up to by young people everywhere.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES POLICE CHIEF JAMES T. MALETTO

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of James T. Maletto, retiring Chief of Police in West Long Branch, N.J. Over the last nearly four decades, Chief Maletto has made

tremendous contributions to our community through his commitment to law enforcement in this part of New Jersey's 12th Congressional District.

James Maletto's distinguished career with the West Long Branch police department began in 1964, following his honorable discharge from the army one year earlier, when Jim was made a Special Police Officer. Shortly after being promoted to the rank of Sergeant, James, in an act of bravery befitting his office, helped to thwart a May 1972 armed robbery at a local gas station. After wounding one of the perpetrators in a shoot-out and aiding in the successful apprehension of the robbers, Sgt. Maletto received an official Commendation from West Long Branch's mayor, Henry Shaeen, in addition to being awarded the title of Man of the Year by the West Long Branch Chamber of Commerce, and a medal and citation for bravery by P.B.A. Local 141.

After being promoted to Sergeant and then to Lieutenant in 1985, James became Chief of the West Long Branch Police Department in 1991. During his tenure as the town's top law enforcement official, Chief Maletto supervised the institution of West Long Branch's D.A.R.E., Bike, and Explorer programs. Chief Maletto's tenure also saw the hiring of his department's first female officer.

Chief Maletto's other positions and accomplishments have included membership in West Long Branch's Fire Company No. 2, presidency of the P.B.A. Local No. 141, membership in the International and New Jersey state chiefs associations, as well as service as Regional Representative of the New Jersey Traffic Officers Association. Chief Maletto's efforts were also instrumental in the Court sanctioning of the Radar Unit as a reliable tool for gauging motor vehicle speeds.

James Maletto is truly a great asset to both Central New Jersey and our nation. I urge all my colleagues to join me today in recognizing his thirty-six years of dedication to law enforcement and in congratulating him on his upcoming retirement.

HONORING MARGE SHORTWAY

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call my colleagues' attention to Marge Shortway, a close friend of mine and one of the most prominent political and business figures in Hawthorne, New Jersey. Her dedication as a notable leader of the business community and the civic community has been widely reported throughout the district.

The former Marge Holmes met her future husband, Harry Shortway, in elementary school—she attended the White School House and later Franklin Elementary School. The couple married in March 1936, after both dropped out of high school to take hard-to-find

jobs in the middle of the Depression. She went to work in a Hawthorne hosiery mill while her husband worked as an inspector at the Curtiss-Wright Corp. in Wood-Ridge and volunteered as a Hawthorne Borough firefighter. The couple eventually raised 11 children—six boys and five girls—in their Hawthorne home. Marge is the proud grandmother of 39 and great-grandmother to 46.

Marge soon found herself working for her father-in-law, Tunis Shortway, who converted his former horse barn into a bar—appropriately known as "Shortway's Barn"—in 1933. The Barn was a true tavern in those days, with sawdust on the floor on Friday nights, and turtle races and arm wrestling brought in over the years to attract patrons. Marge was always there, working to help the family as a waitress, cook, bartender and manager.

Harry Shortway and his brother, Anthony "Tex" Shortway, took over the business after their father died in 1942. Harry bought out his brother in 1952 and continued to run the Barn as a bar until his death in 1981. At that point, Marge took over, adding more dining tables and re-establishing the bar as the family restaurant it is today.

As tavern or restaurant, Shortway's Barn has long been a Hawthorne landmark. Marge, herself, became a landmark and a revered leader in the community. Shortway's is such a prominent fixture of local life that it was the setting for several scenes in *Pride and Loyalty*, a criminal suspense thriller by local filmmaker Kenneth Del Vecchio.

Life in the large Shortway family centers around the Barn. The family has always held its holiday meals there—there were too many children, wives, husbands and grandchildren to fit into one house—and the staff has always been primarily family members. The tradition continues today with five of Marge's children working at the restaurant.

While best known as the owner of Shortway's Barn, Marge has been active in a variety of roles in the community. She has supported many charities and is a prominent member of the Chamber of Commerce. As a leader of the Hawthorne Republican Club and a member of the Borough Council for the past 12 years, Marge is considered by many to be the matriarch of the local Republican Party.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in thanking Marge Shortway for her many years of hard work and dedication to her community. She has been a leading citizen and a role model. We need more like her.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE BROKEN PROMISES RETIREE HEALTH COVERAGE ACT OF 2001

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I am reintroducing legislation today, entitled the Broken

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Promises Retiree Health Coverage Act, which would assist our nation's retirees who face the unexpected loss of health care benefits promised by a former employer.

Thousands of hard-working retirees have been forced to cope with sudden cancellations and reductions of their health coverage over the past several years. In my hometown of Milwaukee, 750 retirees were left high and dry when the Pabst Brewing Company shut down its operations and cancelled retiree health coverage in 1996. Although they went to court and finally won a nominal prescription drug benefit, the loss of promised health coverage was a serious blow to their financial security. This treatment is not what retirees should get in exchange for many years of loyal service to their employer.

More recent events in Milwaukee underscore the pressing need for this legislation. Earlier this month, a bankruptcy court judge's decision left an additional 490 Milwaukee-area retirees plus their spouses and dependents of bankrupt Outboard Marine Corporation without any employer-promised health insurance.

Unfortunately, reports indicate that this problem will only get worse. Last year, the number of large firms with 500 or more employees offering health coverage for pre-Medicare-eligible retirees fell from 35 percent to 31 percent. This alarming statistic proves that coverage loss is not an isolated incident, but part of a disturbing national trend. As I reintroduce this measure in the 107th Congress, I renew my commitment to providing meaningful support to the retired workers and their families across the nation who have or will experience the tremendous loss of retiree health coverage.

My legislation would establish a safety-net for retirees. First, the bill would require employers to give at least six months notice to retirees about their impending loss of health coverage so retirees may be more prepared to handle the coverage loss, and if possible, seek other insurance options. To ensure the cancellations or reductions are lawful, the U.S. Department of Labor must certify that any changes to retiree health benefits meet the requirements of the collective bargaining agreement. Second, the bill ensures that health care options remain for those retirees over 55 by allowing retirees to either buy into the Medicare program or buy into their former employer's current health coverage plan until they turn 65 and become eligible for Medicare. Lastly, the bill would allow retirees, who did not sign up for Medicare or Medigap when they turned 65 years old, to apply for the programs without late-enrollment penalties.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is critical to the retirement security of all American workers. I urge my colleagues to show their support for retired workers and their families by cosponsoring this bill.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF KARL
JOHNSON

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to ask that we all pause for a moment to remember Karl Johnson, a leader in the community of Grand Junction, Colorado who recently

passed away at age 86. Karl spent 32 years of his life protecting the citizens of Grand Junction as a police officer. It is this life of service to his community, state and nation that I would now like to honor.

From 1954 to 1974, Karl served as the chief of police. During his 20 years he closed the door on corrupt activities and brought respect back to his police department. "He ran a tight ship and no scandals and that wasn't true of those before him," said Frank Spieker, a former Mesa County district attorney. It was no easy task to keep the department scandal-free for two decades, but according to Bob Evers, he was the leading force in restoring integrity to his department.

At the time Karl was police chief, there wasn't a Police Academy in the state of Colorado. Karl worked with the FBI to put on training sessions of officers in his department and from surrounding agencies. "He was a bit ahead of his time in that respect," said Vincent Jones, the FBI agent based on Grand Junction at the time.

Chief Johnson's yeoman's work in the Police Department was just one of many ways he served his community, said Terry Farina, who worked with him as a district attorney. After his retirement from the police department, Karl went on to win a seat on the city council and spent a year as mayor.

Mr. Speaker, Karl was a man of great character whose leadership and integrity left an impact on the Grand Junction Police Department that can still be felt today. For that, we are grateful.

It is clear, Mr. Speaker, that Grand Junction is a better place because of Karl's service. Though he will be missed greatly, Karl will not soon be forgotten.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES OFFICER JACK BRYDEN

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Police Officer Jack Bryden of the Ewing Township Police Department, who was recently named Police Officer of the Year by the Kiwanis Club of Ewing. Throughout his nearly three decades of service to the people of Central New Jersey, Officer Bryden has made significant contributions to our community through his professional interaction with its many grateful citizens.

After 6 years of distinguished service in the United States Navy, aboard both the U.S.S. *George Washington* and the U.S.S. *T.A. Edison*, Jack Bryden was appointed to the Ewing Township Police Department in 1973. During his career in the Ewing Police Department's Patrol Division, Officer Bryden has served as a firearms instructor. He is now assigned as an information officer and often acts as citizens' first contact with the police department.

Officer Bryden's professionalism and valor above and beyond the call of duty have made him the recipient of volumes of commendation letters for outstanding performance. As a result of his willingness to assist the public in all aspects of his interaction with those he protects, Jack has also received a number of letters of appreciation from community members.

One of the crowning achievements of Officer Bryden's illustrious career was his aid in rescuing four people from a smoke-filled apartment and extinguishing of the potential blaze within, actions that demonstrate his courage in the line of duty. Jack was awarded the Ewing Police Department's Valor Award for his great bravery in the face of danger.

Clearly, Officer Jack Bryden is a great asset to both Central New Jersey and our nation. I urge all my colleagues to join me today in recognizing his dedication to law enforcement and to the people of my district.

CONGRATULATING BETTY
GALLINGHOUSE

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate our good friend and a distinguished American, Betty Gallinghouse of Oakland, NJ, on receiving the 2001 Distinguished Service Award from West Bergen Mental Healthcare, Inc., a mental health treatment facility in my hometown of Ridgewood, New Jersey. This award is given each year to an "exceptional community leader," and Betty certainly meets that definition.

Betty has been an outstanding and committed volunteer at West Bergen Mental Healthcare since 1990 and is currently a member of the Board of Directors and chairwoman of the Development Committee. She has given selflessly of her time and effort in order to help West Bergen realize its mission of providing counseling and psychiatric services for individuals and families in distress. Known for her unparalleled efforts to help wherever possible, Betty is the No. 1 cheerleader and advocate for West Bergen and its patients.

Last year, Betty undertook her most ambitious project yet—the House and Garden Color Showhouse at the Havemeyer Mansion in Mahwah. This month-long event raised almost \$100,000 for the mental health center and drew more than 10,000 visitors.

In addition to West Bergen, Betty has been actively involved in numerous community organizations, such as the Oakland Library, the Oakland Planning Board, the Oakland Parent-Teachers Organization, the Girl Scouts and many others. She is active at her church, Our Lady of Perpetual Help. She also serves as president of the Bergen County Women's Republican Club.

This is not the first time Betty has been honored for her devotion to others. Last year, she received the prestigious Bergen County Volunteer Center Service Award.

Betty is an officer with Proteus International, a venture banking and consulting firm in Mahwah. She and her husband, Bob, have two sons, two daughters and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating this dedicated community volunteer for her many years of unparalleled service to her neighbors, our community and our American way of life.

MESQUITE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
DISTRICT

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Mesquite Independent School District for their centennial anniversary on March 12. Since 1901, the leaders and educators have strived to create an outstanding record in education. They continue to work tirelessly to ensure academic excellence and accountability for students, teachers, and administrators. Enriching these efforts are the partnerships and strong support of parents and the community.

As a result, the students acquire important learning skills and a foundation of knowledge that will serve them throughout life. Mesquite ISD is one of the largest districts to achieve "Recognized" status as a result of President George W. Bush's education initiatives while he was Governor of Texas.

With 42 schools and over 30,000 students, it has exemplified how successful our nation's public school system can be. I congratulate Mesquite ISD for one hundred years of educational excellence.

TRIBUTE TO BILL AND CLAUDIA
COLEMAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize Bill and Claudia Coleman for their gracious donation to the University of Colorado. On January 16, 2001, University of Colorado president Elizabeth Hoffman accepted their donation, the single largest gift ever given to an American University. The gift, totaling \$250 million dollars, will be used to establish the University of Colorado Coleman Institute for Congenative Disabilities. The program will fund advanced research and development of innovative technologies intended to enhance the lives of people with congenative disabilities.

Cognitive disabilities are associated with a number of conditions, such as mental retardation and developmental retardation. "This will make CU the international center of excellence in developing adaptive assistance technologies, based on advanced biomedical and computer science research and computer science research, for people with congenative disabilities," Hoffman said.

Bill is the founder and chairman of BEA Systems of San Jose, California, and his wife Claudia, is a former manager with Hewlett Packard. An Air Force Academy graduate and former executive with Sun Microsystems, Bill said the idea for the donation came from a tour of CU's Center for LifeLong Learning and Design. Bill and Claudia are no strangers to congenative disabilities. They have a niece with the disability, and they understand the benefits and the promise new technologies offer.

The Coleman's plan to play an active role in the institute. They said the "incredibly strong"

team of researchers at CU played a decisive role in the decision to give the University the endowment. "We have witnessed the challenges this population faces everyday with problem solving, reasoning skills and understanding and using language," Bill said. "I passionately believe that we as a society have the intelligence and the responsibility to develop technologies that will expand the ability of those with congenative disabilities to learn, to understand and to communicate," he added.

Mr. Speaker, this is an unprecedented gift by both Mr. and Mrs. Coleman. Their generosity and vision will help countless Americans now and in the future. For that, they deserve the thanks and praise of this body.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on March 13 and 14, I was unable to cast my votes on roll-call votes: No 46 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 834; No. 47 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 223; No. 48 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 725 as amended; and No. 49 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 861. Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 46, 47, 48, and 49.

TRIBUTE TO CLARISSA WALKER
AND DOROTHY WOOLFORK IN
CELEBRATION OF WOMEN'S HIS-
TORY MONTH

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the historic achievements of American women this month, I wish to recognize two very special women from my Congressional district—Clarissa Walker and Dorothy Woolfork. For more than three decades, they have selflessly served the African-American community in Minneapolis through their work at Sabathani Community Center.

Ms. Walker—Sabathani's Family Resources Director—and Ms. Woolfork—a Sabathani civil rights activist—have tirelessly aided those in need in the south Minneapolis community that Sabathani Community Center serves. I admire both of these women for their selflessness in reaching out to others to enact true social change.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to tell you a little more about the life experiences that shaped Clarissa Walker and Dorothy Woolfork's beliefs, and helped them become the dedicated women of conviction they are today.

CLARISSA WALKER

A native of Kansas City, Missouri, Clarissa Walker settled in Minneapolis in 1955. Her service to the Twin Cities community began when she worked as an operating room technician at the University of Minneapolis Hospital.

In 1968, Ms. Walker was recruited to work for Sabathani Community Center as a youth

supervisor. She quickly moved up the ranks, serving in various positions—social worker/counselor, assistant director, acting executive director, and agency director of the Center. In 1971, she earned a bachelor's degree in sociology. Since then she has done some post-graduate studies in business management, and has become a licensed social worker. Ms. Walker has served in her current position as director of the Family Resource program since 1985.

Through the years, Ms. Walker has worked diligently to enrich the Sabathani community in a number of capacities. She has donated much of her time to several important agencies and causes, including the Minnesota Extension Advisory Committee; the Neighborhood Reinvestment Regional Advisory Committee; the Second Harvest Food Bank Board; the United Way First Call for Help Committee; the First and Secondary Market Loan Committee; the Neighborhood Housing Services of America Board; and the Project for Pride in Living Board. She has also served as President of the Southside Neighborhood Housing Services Board President, and has served on the Central Neighborhood Improvement Association; the United Way Budget and Allocation panel; the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee to the Mayor; and the Lake Street Partners Board.

DOROTHY WOOLFORK

Dorothy Woolfork was born in rural Arkansas in 1916. The daughter of sharecroppers, she was taught the value of hard work and the importance of voting—both values she brought to Minneapolis when she moved there in 1939.

Upon arriving in Minneapolis, Ms. Woolfork learned about a neighbor who was returning to the South to teach, because Minneapolis did not hire black teachers. This experience, along with the prejudices she witnessed growing up in the South, inspired her to learn more about the political process.

Characteristically independent, Ms. Woolfork believes strongly in the collaboration of community involvement and government to make positive societal changes. She has demonstrated this belief by serving on several boards, including the Civil Rights Commission; the Board of Equalization; the Bryant Village Initiative; the Bryant Neighborhood Organization; and South Side Neighborhood Housing, Inc. Furthermore, she served for fifteen years on the Council of Black Minnesotans and earned the Council's Martin Luther King Award. Ms. Woolfork served as the chairwoman for the Minneapolis NAACP for twenty years, and she has been recognized by the State of Minnesota and the City of Minneapolis for her volunteer work. She has also received the Harriet Tubman Award from the Bryant Neighborhood Organization, and several other accolades.

For over a generation, Clarissa Walker and Dorothy Woolfork have worked to open the "road less traveled" to other women seeking to enact positive societal change. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Women's History Month, we should salute these two exceptional women—ideal role models for women young and old across this country.

HONORING GULF WAR VETERANS
AND THEIR FAMILIES

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to those brave men who

fought in Desert Storm and the families who supported and prayed for them back at home. Families much like the Hart's from my district, who went without a father for almost two years. Steve Hart was not designated to fight in the Gulf Crisis, but rather volunteered to go overseas to protect American values and beliefs. Upon his return, he was welcomed back with a hero's reception as were all of our deserving soldiers. Perhaps the greatest reward was given to him recently, when his son wrote a tribute to him and his colleagues. I would like to submit that tribute, written by Steve's son David. I think it speaks for itself.

THE PRIDE OF AN ARMY SON

As a young adult blessed with the opportunity to have been born and raised in the United States of America, I feel it is essential for every American citizen to reflect on the fact that the many freedoms, which we enjoy, were bought with a price.

The Declaration of independence issued by our forefathers reflected centuries of struggle for freedom from England. From the battlefields at Lexington, Concord, and Yorktown, came our Constitution of the United States and a form of government that provides Americans freedom, opportunity, and justice under the law.

However, neither the victory at Yorktown nor the Constitution would have come about without the perseverance, dedication, and ingenuity of the American soldier.

Millions of Americans have put on this nation's uniform in war and in peace since those brave early Americans who fought for our freedom in the Revolutionary War. While our independence was won more than 220 years ago, it has been secured by those who have stood sentry over those ideals since.

It gives me great pride to acknowledge the fact that my Father is one of the many members of the United States Army who protect the way of life that sets our nation apart from the rest. One incident in particular epitomizes the privilege I celebrate to have been born into the military community.

My mind is drawn to 1990 and 1991 when my family (my Mother, brother and I) was separated for seven months due to my Father's deployment to the Persian Gulf for Operations Desert Shield and Storm. I recall not having my Father around to take me Trick-or-Treating during Halloween. I remember how solemn the normally joyous Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays were in 1990 because our family unit was disrupted. And my thoughts are brought back to how cavalier my friends were about the pending war with Iraq, with seemingly little regard for the death and destruction that accompanies war.

I am proud of my Dad, for he volunteered to go to the Persian Gulf. His section was not scheduled to deploy. Dad's job was supposed to stay at Fort Steward, Georgia and support the soldiers from behind the front lines. I remember him telling me that he "had to go." He likened the call to duty like being on the sports team and not getting playing time. He said he could not live with himself knowing that his friends and comrades were going to fight a war without him. Dad said, "there's plenty of time to accomplish things in civilian life; right now, my country needs me."

I remember how much I worried about my Dad being wounded or killed on the battlefield. I would always take refuge in the text of his many letters and his words during the few phone calls he was able to make. He told "me" to be brave, that everything would be all right and he would be home soon.

As the deployment wore on, my friends, as did much of America, experienced a renewed

sense of patriotism. During the height of the Gulf War, many in my neighborhood would show their support for the soldiers of Fort Steward and Hunter Army Airfield, and the entire country, by displaying flags. I saw flags on people's homes, on kids' lunch boxes, on neckties, and on marquees.

When our soldiers came home, there were marching bands, colorful parades and an admiring public. The people of Coastal Georgia and the nation lavished heartfelt thanks upon its returning soldiers, both for their victory and their sacrifice.

Although most of the men and women from Fort Steward did return safe-and-sound, many returned severely wounded or with emotional scars. Some did not return at all.

As our nation and its democratic ideals and institutions have evolved since colonial times, so, too, has our flag's message of freedom, equality, justice, and hope evolved to embrace all who choose the American way of life.

Our members of the Armed Forces know the loneliness of separation from family and friends, and the fear of dying in a foreign land, alone, far from home, away from their families. In serving America, they sweat, they bled, and they agonized. They have served for their devotion to duty and their love of this country and its ideals.

This is the sacrifice paid by the military and their families to maintain the way of life enjoyed by every United States citizen. The next time you take for granted your freedom of speech, your civil rights, your academic freedom, religious freedom, and the freedom of the press, remember, those freedoms were bought with a price.

DRAFT LAW ON RELIGION THREATENS FREEDOMS IN KAZAKHSTAN

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to voice concern about attempts underway in Kazakhstan to limit freedom of religion. Currently, several drafts of amendments to that country's 1992 law on religion are under consideration. In the view of the Keston News Service, one of the world's most respected organizations on religious liberty, the passage and implementation of these amendments would move Kazakhstan into the ranks of former Soviet republics with the "harshes climate for religious freedom."

Draft amendments to the religion law have surfaced in October 2000, as well as in January and February of this year. Oddly, they lack any indication of origin, which allows government officials to decline to comment on them. It seems clear, however, that the drafts in January and February did not include some of the most onerous and egregious earlier provisions, perhaps in response to criticism. Nevertheless, what remains is more than enough to evoke serious concern.

For example, Amendment 5 of the January and February drafts prohibits "the activity of religious sects in the Republic of Kazakhstan." Amendment 16 bans "the preparation, preservation and distribution of literature, cine-photo and video-products and other materials containing ideas of religious extremism and reactionary fundamentalism." Amendment 11 of the February version introduces the provision that the charter of all religious organizations "is subject to registration."

Furthermore, Amendment 6 of the February draft would permit citizens of Kazakhstan, "foreign citizens and persons without citizenship" to conduct missionary activity in Kazakhstan "only with the permission of the competent state organ." The drafts also introduce harsh penalties for conducting missionary activity without permission. January's version stipulates fines ranging between two and five month's wages, or up to one year corrective labor, or up to two months in jail. The February draft strengthens these draconian provisions: those convicted could be sentenced to two years of corrective labor, up to six months arrest, or deprivation of freedom for up to one year.

Amendment 10 of the February draft would give the state enormous power over religious practice by the people of Kazakhstan—the activity of foreign religious organizations on the territory of Kazakhstan, "as well as the appointment of leaders of religious organizations in the Republic by foreign religious centers must take place with the agreement of the corresponding state organs." Moreover, Amendment 11 requires Islamic religious groups to "present a document confirming their affiliation with the Spiritual Directorate of Muslims of Kazakhstan."

To quote Keston News Service, "Any requirement that registration be made compulsory would violate Kazakhstan's international human rights commitments, as would a ban on missionary activity and a requirement for state involvement in the selection of leaders for any religious group."

Because these drafts have been "unofficial," even local representatives of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Almaty have been unable to obtain any official texts. Nevertheless, on March 6, the head of OSCE center, Herbert Salber, communicated his concerns to the chairman of Kazakhstan's Senate (the upper chamber) of parliament. Mr. Salber described the drafts as having "masses of shortcomings" and running "counter to international legal norms."

Mr. Speaker, if these draft amendments to the religion law are passed, the effect could be to make only Islam and Russian Orthodoxy the permitted religions in Kazakhstan. Other faiths and religious organizations would be severely restricted if not actually outlawed.

It appears that attempts are being made to pass this legislation on March 16, 2001 without even a public reading. Mr. Speaker, I hope the Bush administration will join me in conveying to the leaders of Kazakhstan that we are deeply concerned by this initiative to turn the clock back and to limit the rights of religious believers in Kazakhstan.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DONALD G. CARLSON

HON. JOHN CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, our greatest asset as individuals is our good name, and few people in the United States Congress have earned as good a name as Donald G. Carlson. Today marks a very important occasion in the history of this great institution because this is the final day of Don Carlson's

thirty four years of public service to the United States House of Representatives.

Don Carlson's work as Chief of Staff for Congressman Bill Archer and for me has established a standard of excellence and integrity and dedication that we should all aspire to maintain. Since 1970, every challenge or problem encountered by the people of Congressional District Seven or their Congressman has been answered by Don Carlson. He has labored tirelessly and quietly to improve the lives of the people of our district and to strengthen the accountability and integrity of the Congress, and he has always worked to achieve these noble goals without any thought of thanks or recognition for himself. His service to his country and to this institution truly exemplify the noble ideal of selfless public service.

On behalf of Congressman Archer and all of the members of the Texas Congressional Delegation and the people of Congressional District Seven, I express here today in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD our profound and perpetual gratitude to Don Carlson for his unparalleled service to the United States Congress. His good works and his worthy example as a leader and role model will continue to influence the Congress for many years to come because he has touched so many lives here and inspired so many leaders here in so many ways. Don Carlson's good name is a priceless treasure here in the United States Capitol, and all of us who know him and love him will always be uplifted and inspired by the standard of service he established. We thank him from the bottom of our hearts for all he has done for this nation and this institution, and we wish him God Speed and good luck in his new endeavors alongside Chairman Archer.

TRIBUTE TO ANN HOLMES

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize Ann Holmes of La Jara, Colorado for her service to the elderly in her community. For 21 years Ann has dedicated her time to make sure the residents of the Conejos County Long Term Care Unit were comfortable and receiving top care. That is why I would like the 107th Congress to take a moment and recognize Ann for her work.

Ann worked in the district for five and a half years and recently decided it was time to slow down. Her dedication and hard work won her excellent ratings from the State Surveys. And because of these ratings the Conejos County Long Term Care Unit was able to participate in the ResQuip Program, which offers money for specific projects that will enhance the lives of area residents. Ann always put patients first.

The funds that came from the ResQuip Program were used to build a gazebo. One of Ann's goals, which she achieved, was to purchase a lift to transfer residents in comfort.

Ann also formed the Ethics Committee for the Conejos County Hospital. All of her staff members and residents will miss her tremendously. "It has been a privilege to work under her direction. I will miss her both professionally and personally," Julia King-Smith said.

Mr. Speaker, as Ann moves on to new pursuits, I would like to thank her for her remarkable work. In my opinion, Ann will long be remembered as a servant in the medical field, and for giving so much time to make sure that the elderly are comfortable.

For these things, Ann deserves the thanks and praise of this body.

W. JOE TROGDON POST OFFICE BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2001

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 821, a bill to designate a facility of the United States Postal Service as the W. Joe Trogdon Post Office Building. This legislation, which was cosponsored by every Member of the North Carolina Delegation, is a worthy and appropriate tribute to one of North Carolina's finest mayors.

Joe Trogdon was born on November 19, 1932 in Asheboro, North Carolina and is a graduate of North Carolina State University in my Congressional District. We honor Mayor Trogdon today because of his unique bond with the city of Asheboro. He grew up in Asheboro, was educated in its city schools, and with the exception of his college years in Raleigh and a brief stint in United States Army, he chose to live his life in the town where he was born.

Mayor Trogdon began his career in public service as a member of the Asheboro Planning Board in 1964 and then was elected to the city council in 1973. After ten years on the council he was elected mayor, a position he would hold for the next 18 years. During his tenure as mayor, he served on the North Carolina League of Municipalities Board of Directors and as chairman of the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments.

Trogdon is more than a mayor or member of the city council. He is an exemplary small businessman and father. As President of S.E. Trogdon & Sons, Inc., Joe continues to run the business his family started in 1928. He married the late Anne Peoples in 1955. Together they raised four children in Asheboro, and their family has now expanded to include six grandchildren. He is also a member of the Asheboro Jaycees, Kiwanis, and Rotary Clubs.

Mr. Speaker, in this age of mobility and change it is refreshing to recognize those who give their entire lives to their community. Joe Trogdon was a fixture in his community and a citizen in the truest sense of the word. He cared deeply for Asheboro. It is his hometown, the place where he was raised and where he chose to raise his own family and he served it well.

It gives me great pleasure to pay this fitting tribute to a great North Carolinian by naming the Post Office in Asheboro after that town's favorite son, W. Joe Trogdon. I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 821.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICAL PRIVACY PROTECTION RESOLUTION

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Medical Privacy Protection Resolution, which uses the Congressional Review Act to repeal the so-called Medical Privacy regulation. Many things in Washington are misnamed, however, this regulation may be the most blatant case of false advertising I have come across in all my years in Congress. Rather than protect an individual right to medical privacy, these regulations empower government officials to determine how much medical privacy an individual "needs." This "one-size-fits-all" approach ignores the fact that different people may prefer different levels of privacy. Certain individuals may be willing to exchange a great deal of their personal medical information in order to obtain certain benefits, such as lower-priced care or having information targeted to their medical needs sent to them in a timely manner. Others may forgo those benefits in order to limit the number of people who have access to their medical history. Federal bureaucrats cannot possibly know, much less meet, the optimal level of privacy for each individual. In contrast, the free market allows individuals to obtain the level of privacy protection they desire.

The so-called "medical privacy" regulations not only reduce an individual's ability to determine who has access to their personal medical information, they actually threaten medical privacy and constitutionally-protected liberties. For example, these regulations allow law enforcement and other government officials access to a citizen's private medical record without having to obtain a search warrant.

Allowing government officials to access a private person's medical records without a warrant is a violation of the fourth amendment to the United States Constitution, which protects American citizens from warrantless searches by government officials. The requirement that law enforcement officials obtain a warrant from a judge before searching private documents is one of the fundamental protections against abuse of the government's power to seize an individual's private documents. While the fourth amendment has been interpreted to allow warrantless searches in emergency situations, it is hard to conceive of a situation where law enforcement officials would be unable to obtain a warrant before electronic medical records would be destroyed.

Mr. Speaker, these regulations also require health care providers to give medical records to the federal government for inclusion in a federal health care data system. Such a system would contain all citizens' personal health care information. History shows that when the government collects this type of personal information, the inevitable result is the abuse of citizens' privacy and liberty by unscrupulous government officials. The only fail-safe privacy protection is for the government not to collect and store this type of personal information.

In addition to law enforcement, these so-called "privacy protection" regulations create a privileged class of people with a federally-guaranteed right to see an individual's medical

records without the individual's consent. For example, medical researchers may access a person's private medical records even if an individual does not want their private records used for medical research. Although individuals will be told that their identity will be protected, the fact is that no system is fail-safe. I am aware of at least one incident where a man had his medical records used without his consent and the records inadvertently revealed his identity. As a result, many people in his community discovered details of his medical history that he wished to keep private!

Forcing individuals to divulge medical information without their consent also runs afoul of the fifth amendment's prohibition on taking private property for public use without just compensation. After all, people do have a legitimate property interest in their private information. Therefore, restrictions on an individual's ability to control the dissemination of their private information represents a massive regulatory taking. The takings clause is designed to prevent this type of sacrifice of individual property rights for the "greater good."

In a free society such as the one envisioned by those who drafted the Constitution, the federal government should never force a citizen to divulge personal information to advance "important social goals." Rather, it should be up to the individuals, not the government, to determine what social goals are important enough to warrant allowing others access to their personal property, including their personal information. To the extent these regulations sacrifice individual rights in the name of a bureaucratically-determined "common good," they are incompatible with a free society and a constitutional government.

The collection and storage of personal medical information "authorized" by these regulations may also revive an effort to establish a "unique health identifier" for all Americans. The same legislation which authorized these privacy rules also authorized the creation of a "unique health care identifier" for every American. However, Congress, in response to a massive public outcry, has included a moratorium on funds for developing such an identifier in HHS budgets for the last three fiscal years.

By now it should be clear to every member of Congress that the American people do not want their health information recorded on a database, and they do not wish to be assigned a unique health identifier. According to a survey by the respected Gallup Company, 91 percent of Americans oppose assigning Americans a "unique health care identifier" while 92 percent of the people oppose allowing government agencies the unrestrained power to view private medical records and 88 percent of Americans oppose placing private health care information in a national database. Mr. Speaker, Congress must heed the wishes of the American people and repeal these HHS regulations before they go into effect and become a backdoor means of numbering each American and recording their information in a massive health care database.

The American public is right to oppose these regulations, for they not only endanger privacy but could even endanger health! As an OB-GYN with more than 30 years experience in private practice, I am very concerned by the threat to medical practice posed by these regulations. The confidential physician-patient relationship is the basis of good health care. Oftentimes, effective treatment depends on the

patient's ability to place absolute trust in his or her doctor. The legal system has acknowledged the importance of maintaining physician-patient confidentiality by granting physicians a privilege not to divulge confidential patient information.

I ask my colleagues to consider what will happen to that trust between patients and physicians when patients know that any and all information given their doctor may be placed in a government database or seen by medical researchers or handed over to government agents without so much as a simple warrant?

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues agree that questions regarding who should or should not have access to one's medical privacy are best settled by way of contract between a patient and a provider. However, the government-insurance company complex that governs today's health care industry has deprived individual patients of control over their health care records, as well as over numerous other aspects of their health care. Rather than put the individual back in charge of his or her medical records, the Department of Health and Human Services' privacy regulations give the federal government the authority to decide who will have access to individual medical records. These regulations thus reduce individuals' ability to protect their own medical privacy.

These regulations violate the fundamental principles of a free society by placing the perceived "societal" need to advance medical research over the individual's right to privacy. They also violate the fourth and fifth amendments by allowing law enforcement officials and government favored special interests to seize medical records without an individual's consent or a warrant and could facilitate the creation of a federal database containing the health care data of every American citizen. These developments could undermine the doctor-patient relationship and thus worsen the health care of millions of Americans. I, therefore, call on my colleagues to join me in repealing this latest threat to privacy and quality health care by cosponsoring the Medical Privacy Protection Resolution.

TRIBUTE TO THE SACRAMENTO
SYMPHONY LEAGUE

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to the Sacramento Symphony League. On March 14th, 2001, the League will host a luncheon to celebrate its 50th Anniversary. As the members gather to celebrate, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting one of Sacramento's finest organizations.

Fifty years ago, the Sacramento Philharmonic Association asked Mrs. Sheldon Brandenburger to organize a women's group to promote the activities of the orchestra. Thirty charter members entered into an active program of musical and financial support forming the Sacramento Symphony League.

In the ensuing years, the Sacramento Symphony has enjoyed unparalleled success. With the introduction of Harry Newstone as conductor in 1963-1964, the symphony began to draw large audiences. The standing room only

crowds helped the symphony gain recognition. In 1965-1966, the Sacramento Symphony was chosen by the Ford foundation to receive a five-year grant, which established a million-dollar endowment.

The orchestra's success continued until the Symphony Association filed for bankruptcy in September of 1996. In the wake of this unfortunate occurrence, the Sacramento Symphony League voted immediately to continue with the broader purpose of supporting classical music and youth education.

Today, the Sacramento Symphony League is once again flourishing. Through its "Music in the Schools" programs, the League has made a dramatic difference in Sacramento youth music education and participation.

The Music Ensemble Program provides ensembles to play in schools throughout the area for music education programs. The Docent Program provides teams to visit schools and present an educational puppet show with musical accompaniment. The Classroom Classics Program provides quality CD players and classical CDs for teachers to play in their classrooms. In addition, the League provides scholarships for student musicians and oversees an instrument restoration program for area schools.

Mr. Speaker, as the Sacramento Symphony League gathers to celebrate its 50th Anniversary, I am honored to pay tribute to an invaluable resource to the Sacramento community. The League's commitment to youth music programs has been commendable. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing the Sacramento Symphony League continued success in all its future endeavors.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO MR. CLARENCE SCHIEFER IN RECOGNITION OF HIS HEROISM

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize a true hero, Mr. Clarence Schiefer, who was recently recognized for donating 50 gallons of blood. The recognition will be presented at a reception held in his honor by the Sandusky County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Mr. Schiefer, from Fremont, OH, began donating blood at Heidelberg College many years ago. This retired school teacher, who served his country in the Navy during World War II, has spent more than 40 days of his life donating blood and platelets. His first 199 donations have been in the form of whole blood. Since then, Mr. Schiefer has been donating apheresis style, where a needle is placed in one arm and blood is processed through a Cobe Spectra Machine. This machine separates out blood platelets and returns the remaining blood to his body which allows him to donate more often because the body is capable of regenerating the donated platelets in about a day.

Mr. Schiefer's act of donating blood is an example of one of the most selfless acts of kindness and goodness. For more than 50 years, the American Red Cross has been a leader in blood collection, safety and development. In that time, their efforts have saved

countless lives. This incredible act of kindness allows a stranger to celebrate another birthday, give birth to a child or share another Thanksgiving dinner with family and friends.

It is fitting, during American Red Cross month, to acknowledge not only the selfless efforts of Mr. Schiefer but also the efforts of the Sandusky Chapter of the American Red Cross and Red Cross Chapters across this country. Since 1960, this chapter has collected over 120,000 pints of blood.

Mr. Schiefer, volunteers of the Sandusky County Chapter of the American Red Cross and Red Cross Volunteers across the country, my colleagues of the 107th Congress and I salute you. Your selfless acts of volunteerism are an example for future generations.

TRIBUTE TO VAL ALVARADO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a man of great courage and bravery, a man that this country owes a great debt to. On December 7, 1941, the Japanese attacked a sleeping Pearl Harbor, killing over 2,400 sailors. 60 years later, Val Alvarado of Montrose, Colorado recalls the events that brought the United States of America into the Second World War. Val, who was 18 years old at the time, served aboard the USS *Maryland*. Val's job was to load gun powder into the war ship's 16 inch guns. This was often referred to as the "no warning" tinder box of instant death.

Val and his shipmates were lucky to survive the strike on Pearl Harbor, but those of the neighboring USS *Oklahoma* were not. But if it were not for the fact that the *Oklahoma* was anchored next to them, Val would not be here today. In less than two hours, the United States lost 188 planes, 159 planes and had 18 U.S. warships sunk or seriously crippled. But more than that, the U.S. lost over 2,400 service men, and another 1,100 were injured. One of the service men who died was a close boyhood friend of Val's. "On the fifth day we had time to check on our buddies. I found out that my good friend Jimmy Robinson had been killed. . . . We both came from Montrose, we had gone to Morgan School in Montrose. Jimmy was the first man from Montrose to be killed in the war," Val remembered.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Val was transferred to the USS *McCalla*, whose war prowess is the stuff of legends. The *McCalla*, with Val in tow, returned to the Pacific where it would earn three battle stars.

During his time in the military, Val took part in the Armed Forces Olympics where he boxed in what the Armed Forces called the Nimitz Bowl. "I won the fight between all the army, marines, and navy in the Pacific theatre for my weight. I was pretty proud of that. . . . I was pretty happy about that," according to Val.

Mr. Speaker, over 50 million people died in World War II. It took the courage of 18 year olds like Val for America to eventually win the war. That is why I am asking that we take this moment to recognize and honor Val Alvarado for his service to this country, and to wish him good luck in his future endeavors.

Val is the embodiment of the values that characterized the "Greatest Generation". For his service in WWII, America is exceedingly grateful.

MINING CLAIM MAINTENANCE ACT OF 2001

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation aimed at giving the appropriate authorizing committee of the House an opportunity to do its job and resolve a matter that has had to be addressed by appropriations measures instead. In this regard, the legislation being introduced today would make permanent two provisions relating to the management of mining claims under the Mining Law of 1872.

First, the "Mining Claim Maintenance Act of 2001" would make permanent a provision first enacted into law on a temporary basis by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 and then reauthorized through 2001 by the Omnibus Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1999 requiring that holders of unpatented mining claims, mill and tunnel sites under the Mining Law of 1872 pay the Interior Department a \$100 per year maintenance fee in order to hold the claim or site, as well as pay a one-time \$25 location fee.

This provision is in lieu of the 1872 requirement that the holder of a claim or site conduct \$100 per year of "assessment work" in order to maintain the claim or site and the associated annual filing requirement under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

As with current law, provision is also made in this legislation to waive this requirement for holders of valid oil shale claims who must comply with a different regime as set forth under the Energy Policy Act of 1992, as well as for individuals holding 10 or fewer mining claims.

Since this provision has been in effect, speculation on public domain lands under the guise of the Mining Law of 1872 has been dramatically reduced. Indeed, in the year this requirement went into effect there were over 3 million mining claims located on the public lands. Today, there are about 253,000.

Further, as with the current practice, I would expect that the Appropriations Committee would utilize the receipts from the holding fee for the purpose of offsetting the cost of the Interior Department administering the mining law program.

Second, this legislation would make permanent a provision that was first included in the fiscal year 1995 Interior Appropriations Act placing a moratorium on the issuance of what is known as a "patent" for any mining claim and mill site claim except in those situations where "grandfather" rights may exist. The purpose of this provision is to eliminate the absurd practice embodied in the Mining Law of 1872 that allows corporations to receive a patent, which represents fee simple title, to public domain lands encumbered by valid mining or mill site claims at \$2.50 or \$5.00 an acre depending on the type of claim involved.

Mr. Speaker, both of these provisions have received overwhelmingly bipartisan support

when debated as part of the Interior Appropriations legislation over the past several years. I have wholeheartedly supported these actions, and would hope that the Appropriators will continue to include these provisions in the upcoming budget bills if the Resources Committee fails to act. Nonetheless, it is properly the duty of the authorizing committee, the Resources Committee, to address this issue.

These two provisions—the imposition of a maintenance fee and the end to patenting—are part of a larger issue relating to the need to reform the 1872 Mining Law. Unlike other extractive industries, such as coal, timber or oil and gas development, the hard rock mining industry enjoys a special status, provided under the 1872 Mining Law, that allows access and free use of our Nation's rich public domain lands.

As responsible stewards of the public domain and to meet our responsibilities to the American people, it is incumbent upon us to rethink and reform the Mining Law of 1872. To that end, in the near future I will again introduce comprehensive mining law reform legislation.

MILITARY MYTHS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, one of the most thoughtful analysts of the appropriate level for American military spending is Lawrence Korb, a former high ranking Defense Department official in the administration of President Reagan. Unlike many others who served in the Reagan administration and subsequently, Lawrence Korb does not believe that conservatives ought to suspend their skepticism about public spending simply because the requests come from the Pentagon. He has consistently applied his experience with defense matters, his keen intelligence and his knowledge of government to point out that we could fully defend our legitimate interests with a military budget smaller than the current one. Along with Dr. Korb, I am pleased that President Bush is refusing to be pressured into asking for billions of dollars in increased military spending before he and his staff have a chance to study the important issues that are raised by Dr. Korb and others. But I also agree with Dr. Korb that an accurate analysis of the defense budget requires discarding some of the points which President Bush himself made during the campaign.

In a recent article, Lawrence Korb set forward some of the principles that ought to guide such an investigation of our true defense spending needs. Mr. Speaker, I disagree with Mr. Korb's first point, to some extent substantively, and also in the way in which he has phrased it. The fact that most military people aren't on food stamps does not mean that it is acceptable for even a small number of them to be in that situation. We owe the men and women who volunteer to face danger on our behalf better than this, and I am very supportive of proposals to raise the pay levels. Given the disruption of their lives and the danger they face, I do believe that our military personnel are underpaid.

But while I disagree with Dr. Korb's first point, I am an enthusiastic believer in the rest

of his essay. I was particularly pleased when he noted the absurdity of trying to fix the relevant amount to spend on defense simply by looking at the percentage which a defense budget represents of the gross domestic product. According to this, if we have significant economic progress, we are required to increase military spending even if the threats against which we deploy our military have decreased. Mindlessness has never been on more graphic display.

Lawrence Korb's clear thinking is a very welcome antidote to the efforts being made by some to panic us into busting the budget on behalf of unnecessary military spending. I ask that his thoughtful article be reprinted here.

[From the Los Angeles Times, Mar. 11, 2001]

BUSH'S FIRST BATTLE: HIS OWN MILITARY MYTHS

(By Lawrence J. Korb)

NEW YORK.—His campaign rhetoric notwithstanding, President George W. Bush has taken a good first step by not increasing the defense budget he inherited from President Bill Clinton until he completes a top-down review of strategy. Such a review will come to naught, however, if the new president does not reject the six oversimplifications about the state of our armed forces that he embraced repeatedly during the campaign.

Military people are not overworked and underpaid and, despite campaign rhetoric, most aren't on food stamps. During the 1990s, an average of 40,000 military people were deployed in various "operations other than war." This represents less than 3% of the active force and less than 2% of the total force, counting reserves. A greater percentage of the active force was stationed in the United States than during the 1980s. Certain units like Army civil affairs battalions, which help restore order in foreign countries torn apart by civil wars, or Air Force search and rescue units were over-utilized. But that is a management problem, not a revenue problem. As for pay, most men and women in the armed services make more than 75% of their civilian counterparts. And, if the compensation levels of military people were adjusted to reflect the fair market value of their housing allowances, fewer than 1% would be eligible for food stamps.

The problem is that the military still uses an anachronistic "one size fits all" pay system that rewards longevity rather than performance. Also, the military employs a deferred-benefit retirement system that costs twice as much as a deferred-contribution plan, while providing the wrong incentives for retaining the right people for the appropriate length of time. For example, to justify the training investment, pilots need to be retained for 13 years, but infantrymen only five. Yet, no military person is vested in retirement until he or she serves 20 years.

The military does not need to be rebuilt; it needs to be transformed. In the 1990s, the Pentagon invested more than \$1 trillion in developing and procuring new weapons. But much of it was wasted on Cold War relics—\$200-million fighter planes, \$6-billion aircraft carriers, \$2-billion submarines, \$400-million artillery pieces—that will be of little use in the conflicts of the 21st century.

The military is more than prepared to fight two wars. In fact, it is becoming more prepared each day as the military power of the likely opponents in these two conflicts, Iraq and North Korea, dwindles. Yet, while the capability of these states declines, the Pentagon has been increasing its estimates of the forces necessary to defeat these enemies. Moreover, the necessity of maintaining the capability to fight two wars simulta-

neously defies logic and history. During the Korea, Vietnam and Persian Gulf conflicts, no other nation took advantage of the situation by threatening U.S. interests elsewhere.

Calculating the size of the defense budget by measuring it against the gross domestic product is nonsensical. Yes, the U.S. spends a smaller portion of GDP on defense than it did during the Cold War, but the U.S. economy has grown substantially since the collapse of the Soviet Union while spending by adversaries has markedly declined. Even counting inflation, the \$325-billion defense budget—which includes the military portion of the Energy Department budget—that Bush inherits from Clinton is about 95% of what this nation spent on average to win the Cold War. In fact, the last Clinton defense budget is higher than the budget that Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld prepared for the outgoing Ford administration 25 years ago, at the height of the Cold War.

Carrying out peacekeeping missions, like Bosnia and Kosovo, is not undermining readiness. During the 1990s, peacekeeping operations accounted for less than 2% of Pentagon spending, and readiness spending per capita was more than 10% higher in the 1990s than in the 1980s.

In order to meet their recruiting goals, the armed forces have not lowered their quality standards below those of the Reagan years. The force that Bush inherits from Clinton has a higher percentage of quality recruits—that is, high school graduates and individuals scoring average or above on the armed forces' qualification test—than at any time during the Reagan years. Most of the retention problems that the services are having are self-inflicted. For example, 80% of the pilot shortage in the Navy and Air Force is caused by the fact that, in the early 1990s, the military made a serious mistake by reducing the number of pilots it trained. Likewise, the shortage of people on Navy ships is because the people are not in the right place.

If Bush and his national security team abandon these myths, they will have a much better chance of developing a coherent defense program—and may even be able to cut defense spending to an appropriate level.

WE NEED TO KEEP RULES TO PROTECT FOREST ROADLESS AREAS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, the new Administration is reviewing a number of new rules and regulations proposed or adopted by the Clinton-Gore Administration last year.

I understand why a new Administration would want to undertake such a review. And there may be some areas where a change of course might be appropriate.

But there is definitely one set of new rules that should be retained as they stand—the new rules to protect the remaining roadless areas of our national forests.

Those rules make good sense as a way to protect natural resources, provide more diverse recreational opportunities, and preserve some of the undisturbed landscapes that make Colorado and other western States such special places to live and visit.

That is why the Mayor of Boulder, Colorado, has written to President Bush urging retention

of the roadless-area rules. It is why the Boulder City Council has adopted a resolution supporting those rules. And it is why I have written Secretary of Agriculture Anne M. Veneman, urging that the rules be kept in place.

For the information of our colleagues, I am including in the RECORD at this point my letter to the Secretary, the letter to the President from Mayor R. Toor, and the resolution of the Boulder City Council.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, March 13, 2001.

Hon. ANN M. VENEMAN,

Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY VENEMAN: I am enclosing a copy of a letter to the President from William R. Toor, Mayor of the City of Boulder, Colorado, regarding the new rules for management of inventoried roadless areas published in the Federal Register in January, 2000, and a resolution regarding those rules that was recently adopted by the Boulder City Council.

As you can see, Mayor Toor's letter and the City Council's resolution support these rules and urge their full implementation.

I join in that recommendation. I am convinced that these rules make good sense as a way to protect natural resources, provide more diverse recreational opportunities and preserve some of the undisturbed landscapes that are such a special part of Colorado and other Western states.

The new rules were developed through an extensive public process. They were the subject of both draft and final environmental impact statements. They were discussed at more than 600 public meetings and were the subject of more than 1.5 million public comments.

In my opinion, these rules reflect the highest standards of science-based public policy. Biologists tell us the inventoried roadless areas of the national forests are valuable for wildlife, and support ecosystem health and the full range of native species. They also are important sources of clean water for many communities like Boulder, in Colorado and other states, and provide a bulwark against the spread of invasive species, such as the many species of weeds that plague ranchers in our state and throughout the west.

And, above all, these special areas "possess social and ecological values and characteristics that are becoming scarce in an increasingly developed landscape," in the words of the final environmental impact statement.

The areas to be covered by the new rules were identified by detailed, on-the-ground studies that have been regularly updated and supplemented through the regular forest-planning process and additional studies focused on threatened and endangered species or other aspects of forest management.

For example, the Forest Service's latest Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest plan, developed with extensive public involvement, was completed in 1997. It identifies more than 300,000 acres of roadless areas—including some 40,000 acres in Boulder County alone. The new rules will apply to those areas and will simply mean that their roadless characteristics will be maintained. That forest is one of the closest to the Denver-metro area, so it is one of the most heavily used and affected. If we do not begin now to protect the unspoiled lands in that forest—and similar forests throughout Colorado and the West—we will lose forever the natural benefits and special qualities that they provide.

These rules will provide long-overdue protection for some of the most important parts

of our federal lands. People in other states may have different reactions, but in view of the importance of the national forests for our state and our country I think they deserve the support of every Coloradan and should be retained by the Bush Administration.

Sincerely,

MARK UDALL.

CITY OF BOULDER,
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER,
Boulder, CO, February 26, 2001.

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH,
The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR PRESIDENT BUSH, I am writing on behalf of the City of Boulder to voice our strong support for full and prompt implementation of the Roadless Area Conservation Rule published in the Federal Register on January 12, 2001 (66 Fed. Reg. 3244).

On February 6, 2001 the Boulder City Council unanimously approved the attached Resolution asking you to reaffirm the commitment to designate more than 58 million acres of inventoried roadless areas. In particular, the City of Boulder has a great interest in the protection of roadless areas in the Arapahoe and Roosevelt National Forests because of their proximity to Boulder and association with other public lands which are vital to protecting high quality native ecosystems and recreational opportunities.

On behalf of the City Council and the people of Boulder Colorado, I respectfully request that you direct the Secretary of Agriculture to initiate the process for protecting the 58 million acres designated in the Roadless Area Conservation Rule.

Thank you for your support in this matter.
Sincerely,

WILLIAM R. TOOR,
Mayor.

RESOLUTION No. 875

A Resolution of the City Council for the City of Boulder, Colorado, in Support of the Executive Order Designating New Roadless Areas on United States Forest Service Lands.

Whereas, the City of Boulder strongly supports President Clinton's initiative to manage roadless areas on National Forest Land;

Whereas, the City of Boulder has a great interest in the protection of the Arapahoe and Roosevelt National Forests because of their proximity to Boulder and association with other public lands which are vital to protecting high quality native ecosystems and recreational opportunities;

Whereas, the City of Boulder supports the proposal to restrict certain activities in unroaded portions of inventoried roadless areas, as identified in RARE II and existing forest plan inventories;

Whereas, it is well known that road construction and use in wildlife habitat areas can contribute significantly to habitat fragmentation and stress on wildlife species;

Whereas, the initiative restricts road construction and establishes protective criteria for managing roadless areas that will have positive impacts for biodiversity and enhanced plant and wildlife protection;

Whereas, over the course of a 13 month period, the U.S. Forest Service received 1.7 million letters, faxes, e-mails and postcards in support of the Clinton Administration's forest initiative, providing the strongest possible protection to National Forest roadless areas;

Whereas, on November 13, 2000, the Forest Service released its Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) that supported the roadless area designation;

Whereas, on January 5, 2001 President Clinton signed the Record of Decision designating 58 and half million acres of public land as roadless areas;

Whereas, the Record of Decision has been suspended by President Bush;

Therefore, be it resolved that the City of Boulder reaffirms its commitment to full implementation of the Executive Order designating 58 and half million acres of public land as roadless areas in perpetuity; and that the City of Boulder calls upon President Bush to reaffirm the executive order and not delay implementation of the Executive Order; and directs that copies of this Resolution be sent to the elected representatives of the residents of this municipality, including the U.S. Representative(s), U.S. Senators, and the President.

Passed and adopted this 6th day of February, 2001.

WILLIAM R. TOOR,
Mayor.

RECOGNIZING MARGARET M. CARROLL, MILLVILLE, MA, AS THE RECIPIENT OF THE BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR'S JOHN H. CHAFEE AWARD FOR 2000

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Margaret M. Carroll and the announcement of her being named the recipient of the John H. Chafee Award, which was presented to her by the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission.

Ms. Carroll has given of herself generously over the years for the good of the Blackstone and Millville communities and this award appropriately recognizes her tireless efforts. Ms. Carroll served as a fine educator in the Blackstone-Millville school district for thirty-seven years. The many success stories of the students she taught serves as testament to her teaching ability. The many success stories of the students she taught serves as testament to her teaching ability. Also, Ms. Carroll has familiarized herself with the Blackstone River Valley to a level that is matched by no one. The river valley is forever in Ms. Carroll's debt for the dedicated service she has provided to it over the years. In addition to her efforts related to the river valley, she has volunteered throughout the Blackstone-Millville communities countless times and in various ways.

Mr. Speaker, I can think of no one more fit to receive the John H. Chafee award than Ms. Margaret Carroll. I personally congratulate her and thank her for her dedicated service.

THE GENERATOR TARIFF
SUSPENSION ACT

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce legislation that would suspend the duty on the importation of replacement steam generators used in nuclear power plants.

Steam generators are necessary for the operation of nuclear power facilities. However, because they are no longer produced in the United States, domestic electric utilities must import replacement nuclear steam generators. Despite the fact that there is neither a current nor any reasonable likelihood of future domestic manufacturing capability, a tariff is imposed on these imports. Prior to the conclusion of last year's Congress, a reduction in this tariff was included in the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act (H.R. 4868). Because a full repeal would have breached the limitation on revenue impact for the bipartisan miscellaneous trade bill, the original full repeal of the tariff was changed to a reduction to 4.9 percent.

This tariff should be removed. While providing no benefit to any domestic manufacturer, this expensive tax is borne directly by domestic consumers of electricity. The cost of the duty is passed on to the ratepayer through the state public utility commissions in rate-making proceedings. In short, the consumer pays this unnecessary tax directly and entirely. There is no domestic manufacturing industry to protect and the consumer derives no benefit from this tax. Except for raising a minor amount of revenue for the Treasury, this is a classic case of a tariff that serves no purpose other than to raise costs for consumers.

This tariff repeal legislation has enjoyed strong bipartisan support in both the House of Representatives and the other body. I ask my colleagues to join the effort again this year to eliminate this unneeded tariff by cosponsoring the Generator Tariff Suspension Act.

TRIBUTE TO SALVADOR LOPEZ

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize a very brave man who put his own personal safety at risk to protect the life of another. On March 5th Salvador Lopez saved a young 7 year old boy from serious injury or worse when the Postal Carrier rescued him from behind the wheel of a pickup truck that was fast heading toward a busy intersection. Mr. Lopez's gallant act deserves the recognition of this body. With this in mind, I would like to place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following article from the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, written by Alex Taylor.

It was a nice day for delivering the mail. The sun was out and the temperature was mild. Salvador Lopez was having a pretty pleasant day on the job as the postman in the area of North Seventh and Orchard Avenue on Monday afternoon . . . Shortly after 3 p.m., Lopez had to leap off the sidewalk when he saw a car veering toward him traveling in the wrong direction on Orchard.

Behind the wheel were two wide eyes just barely gaping over the dashboard. Apparently 7-year-old Nicholas Reyes thought it was so nice out he'd go for his first-ever drive through the neighborhood. 'I was going down the sidewalk delivering the mail when I heard a noise,' said Lopez. 'I looked up and saw the car coming at me. I could see by the boy's eyes in the car that something was wrong, it was just the look on his face. I jumped out of the way.'

After narrowly missing Lopez, Reyes turned to the right and was driving across Orchard. The vehicle he was driving headed toward a car stopped at the intersection. Lopez dropped his mail and dashed across the street to save the boy. He reached through the window and turned the wheel just before impact.

The car side-swiped the other car in the intersection, and was headed towards another vehicle when Lopez leaped back through the window and yanked on the emergency brake. He stopped the car just in time as it gently hit the next in line and came to a stop. Lopez estimated the boy had been idling along at about 5 mph to 10 mph.

The boy was taken to the hospital minutes later with minor injuries to his face. Lopez injured his ribs when diving through the window, but the injury was not serious . . .

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, Salvador risked his health to save the life of this young boy. He has made us all—particularly his wife Gloria, his children Yma, Sergio, Isabelle, and Mario, and his co-workers at the Post Office—very proud.

AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING
SQUADRON 77

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, during times of peace, there are unfortunately many who take our nation's armed forces for granted. In the process, not only do they forget the time-tested wisdom that preparing for war is the best way to avoid it, they also forget the contributions that military units make to the functioning of our republic.

One would be hard pressed to find a better example of this principle in action than Airborne Early Warning Squadron 77, or VAW-77.

VAW-77 performs a vital role in our defense structure, by providing the most valuable of all defense commodities: information. Its E-2C Hawkeye aircraft collect and synthesize the information our fighter and attack aircraft depend on to perform their roles. By performing this function, VAW-77's "Nightwolves" serve as the eyes and ears for surface ships and naval aviators during engagements and exercises.

Fortunately for our families, schools, and neighborhoods, the work of the Nightwolves goes beyond simply deterring America's military enemies from attacking our shores and national interests. During its five year existence, the squadron has deployed to the Caribbean ten times.

These deployments have resulted in the confiscation and destruction of several metric tons of cocaine and marijuana. These are drugs that will not be reaching America's streets due directly to the efforts of VAW-77.

We owe the men and women of VAW-77 a great debt for their service in this area, and I encourage others to join in thanking them for their dedication and success.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF MIKE
HARSHBARGER

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Mike Harshbarger who has retired from the Bourbonnais Fire Protection District after more than 31 years of service. Chief Harshbarger started with the Bourbonnais Fire Protection District on December 29, 1969 and retired on January 1, 2001.

Much has changed in firefighting since Chief Harshbarger started. Firefighting has become more complex and technical. Training levels have escalated and technology keeps changing. When the Chief first started, all he needed was a coat, gloves, and a pair of boots. Today, training is needed to deal with many modern hazards.

Chief Harshbarger has always subscribed to free thinking and is willing to listen to new ideas and suggestions. The Chief ran the fire department with the same philosophy as he ran his business, "Our customers, the people of the district, are first and foremost."

Chief Harshbarger rose to national recognition for his performance as head of the Amtrak rail crossing disaster scene on March 15, 1999. His work was chronicled in the August 2000, Readers Digest.

Chief Harshbarger lives in Bourbonnais Township with his wife Ellie. The Chief is the second generation in his family to serve with the fire department. His father, Lyle, was a long-time member of the fire department. On October 12, 2000, the Kankakee Elks Lodge #627 named the Chief "Citizen of the Year". No one in the 100 years of the Lodge has ever received this award.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to identify and recognize other institutions in their own districts whose actions have so greatly benefitted and strengthened America's communities.

IN HONOR OF DAVID OCEGUEDA
BRACKER

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to David Ocegueda Bracker as he retires from his position as the Executive Director of a non-profit group in my district, Arriba Juntos. For the past three and a half years, David has led this agency through a time of transition and expansion. During his tenure with Arriba Juntos, he has helped low-income residents of San Francisco receive the training they need to find employment or to advance their careers. His inspirational leadership has had a profound effect on our city.

David has dedicated his entire professional life to public service. After receiving his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Social work from San Francisco State University, David began his career by working for four years at the organization from which he is now retiring, Arriba Juntos. As a Project Manager for the Model Cities program, he implemented an employment training program and directed other social services programs.

After a brief stint as Associate Director of the Mission Neighborhood Health Center, he joined the U.S. Department of the Interior as an Area Director. In this capacity, he founded and led an employment training program in the Western U.S. that became nationally known and emulated for its effectiveness.

In 1980, he began working for the University of California, San Francisco. First in the Office of the Public Programs, then in the Chancellor's Cultural Diversity Task Force, and then in the Office of the Vice Chancellor, David spent twelve years with U.C.S.F. While there, he raised support for their health programs and represented U.C.S.F. in the health care community; he helped to design and implement U.C.S.F.'s plan to achieve full diversity on campus; and he secured corporate and foundation support for many projects, including a joint gerontological research project with Mount Zion Medical Center, a pediatric crack cocaine project, a campus capital improvement project, and the 1990 International Conference on AIDS.

After leaving U.C.S.F., he spent four years as the Executive Director of the Hearing Society for the Bay Area before becoming the Executive Director of Arriba Juntos. At Arriba Juntos he has presided over a time of great transition as the agency has adapted to respond to the nation's welfare Reform effort. Where many have been content to reduce the Welfare Reform effort. Where many have been content to reduce the welfare rolls, David has fought to ensure meaningful employment for those losing benefits. He has been concerned not with saving money but with saving lives. David's concern for those around him and his emphasis on helping people better their own lives have earned him the respect and appreciation of the community.

It has been my distinct pleasure to know and to work with David Bracker. He is a caring and able man whose many talents will be missed at Arriba Juntos. I know, however, that he will continue to serve our community in new and creative ways.

I join Arriba Juntos in thanking David for his time there as Executive Director, and wish him, his wife Kathy, and his daughter Megan all the best in their future pursuits.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TAX
RELIEF ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2001

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3, because I believe the product is fiscally irresponsible and the process rushed to the point where we are voting on 10-year tax cuts before we even have a 1-year budget in place. Congress is now making budget and tax decisions that will directly affect our families and our nation for the next 10 years and beyond. It is crucial that we make informed, fiscally responsible decisions on the budget and taxes, because the choices we make today could lock in our national priorities for the future.

I will support fiscally responsible tax cuts this year including reducing the estate tax and the marriage penalty as well as expanding

child tax credits. I believe we must also fulfill the moral obligation we have to our children to reduce our \$5.7 trillion national debt and a responsibility to protect Social Security and Medicare for our seniors. The question is not whether Congress will pass a tax cut this year—we will. The question is how large is the tax cut and will it be fiscally responsible and fair to all families, including middle and low-income working families?

These are difficult questions that must be answered satisfactorily before tax cuts are approved. Perhaps if these questions were asked and answered back in the 1980s, our country could have avoided the huge budget deficits that contributed to the \$5.7 trillion national debt.

In 1981, President Reagan and Republicans and Democrats in Congress passed a huge tax cut into law. They predicted the then \$55 billion a year deficits would become a surplus in 1984, 3 years later. What actually happened is that instead of having a surplus in 1984, the federal deficit exploded to \$185 billion.

As a consequence of that tax cut, the national debt tripled in the 1980s—and now stands at \$5.7 trillion. Last year Americans paid \$223 billion in taxes, just to pay the interest on the national debt. On average, that would approximately be \$800 in taxes for every man, woman and child in America.

Marvin Leath, my predecessor, said that the 1981 tax vote was his "worst vote" in 12 years of Congress. In 1990, President George Bush chose to reverse his previous pledge to oppose new taxes. Why? By 1990, the federal deficit had skyrocketed to \$220 billion each year, with no end in sight.

President Bush, Republicans, and Democrats passed a tax increase in 1990 and it cost President Bush dearly, but not as much as the budget deficit would cost average Americans. By 1993, projections were that deficits would further explode to over \$300 billion each year. Another tax increase in 1993 plus tough budget rules resulted in deficit reductions that lowered interest rates.

Those lower interest rates made it cheaper to buy a house or car or build a business. That, plus the new high tech economy that increased productivity of American workers, resulted in the longest sustained economic growth period in American history.

And, after 29 straight years of deficits, in 1997, we had the first balanced budget since Neil Armstrong set foot on the moon in 1969. So, we spent the 1990s stopping the deficit binge of the 1980s, but where does that leave us now?

The Congressional Budget Office and other government economists predict we will have a \$5.6 trillion federal surplus over the next 10 years. (FY 02–FY 11). The promise of surplus has led President George W. Bush to propose a 10-year, \$2.4 trillion tax cut. But do we really have the money needed to provide this tax cut, pay down the debt and protect Social Security and Medicare? Before we take the step of spending a surplus we may not have, let me ask you two questions. One, is there anyone in this chamber that would bet his or her family's entire net worth on the belief that a federal government economist's 10-year projections on the American economy will be 100 percent correct? Two, just how real is the \$5.6 trillion surplus projected by 2011?

The projected surplus is \$2.2 billion once you subtract the \$3.4 trillion held in the Social

Security, Medicare, and other trust funds that Congress has pledged not to touch. The proposed tax plan costs \$2.4 trillion once you add the additional interest costs, tax break extensions, and the retroactive tax cuts. Over 10 years the country will be looking at a \$200 billion budget deficit and that's before other priorities are paid for. The tax cut plan assumes an overly optimistic 3 percent annual economic growth rate over the next 10 years. If the growth rate is off by just 4/10 of 1 percent, then the surplus will be reduced by \$1 trillion over 10 years. From 1974 to 1995 the economy grew an average of only 1.5 percent annually—half the rate assumed in the tax cut plan.

What if we proceed and cut taxes at this level and the economists are wrong? First, we'll see a return to budget deficits and interest rates will go up making it more expensive for families to make large purchases such as buying a home or starting a business. A larger national debt means more taxes to pay interest on the debt and less money to provide for priorities such as national defense and veterans, education, prescription drugs and protection Social Security and Medicare. Finally, the true cost of these tax cuts hits just as baby boomers are retiring and the Social Security and Medicare trust funds are running at a deficit.

We have more options than the House leadership would have us believe. The first option is the one we are looking at now: passing a \$2.4 trillion, 10-year tax cut and hoping the rosy economic forecasts are correct and that spending cuts can be made.

The second option is to pass a smaller tax cut now, make spending cuts and then see if the surplus is real. Once the surplus is guaranteed, then it will be time to pass more tax cuts.

I will be guided by several principles on the tax cut question. I will do what I believe is right, not just politically popular at the moment. I will listen to the citizens of Central Texas before making a final decision. I will try to look at the numbers honestly—without the hype and false promises.

I will support fiscally responsible tax cuts this year, but we also have a moral obligation to our children to reduce our \$5.7 trillion national debt and a responsibility to protect Social Security and Medicare for our seniors.

FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR FAITH BASED ORGANIZATIONS

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend to my colleagues the following articles by Joan Ryan of the San Francisco Chronicle and Patty Fisher of the San Jose Mercury News. I found these articles to be thoughtful examinations of the complex question of federal support for faith-based groups.

[From the San Francisco Chronicle]

WITH A HAND ON THE BIBLE

(By Joan Ryan)

Even as a Christian I felt uneasy when George W. Bush said during his campaign that Jesus was the most influential philosopher on his political beliefs.

The feeling returned during Bush's inauguration when he again wandered, either carelessly or purposefully, into the dangerous ground between church and state.

Inaugurations traditionally mention God in the context of a higher power recognized by most of the world's religions. But Bush's hand-picked pastors mentioned Jesus in both the invocation and prayer. One pastor punctuated the point with the unequivocal proclamation, "Jesus the Christ (is) the name that's above all other names."

Now comes news that Bush wants to disburse billions in public funds to religious groups that provide social services. The groups would compete for the money, and Bush's new "Office of Faith-Based and Community-Based Initiatives" would choose the recipients. All religions would be eligible, Bush said.

Everyone who believes that certain religious groups will be getting significantly more of this money than others, say, "Amen."

Bush has already shown that he won't fund groups that don't adhere to his particular set of moral beliefs. In his first full workday as president, he announced he was yanking funds to overseas organizations that use their own money to provide abortions or abortion counseling. These organizations were not breaking the laws of their countries or of ours. Bush's decision was based solely on his own particular brand of morality.

And Bush's call for a review of the FDA's approval of the abortion pill, RU-486, was not based on science or health but, again, his own brand of morality.

This is the problem with blurring the line between church and state, as Bush is doing. We begin to create a de facto national religion based on the values of those in power. These values might be perfectly respectable ones. They might even have the power to transform lives, as Bush's religious program in a Texas prison has. (Compared to non-participating inmates, inmates in the two-year indoctrination in biblical teachings and Christian behavior have shown a drastically lower recidivism rate once released from prison.)

It's difficult to argue that the world wouldn't be a better place if everyone adhered to so-called Christian values.

But who should interpret how those values will be applied to public policy? Ralph Reed? Jesse Jackson? The pope? All adhere to the same Bible, but each man's vision of government based on the book's teachings would be vastly different—and would feel like a tyranny to those who disagreed.

The infusion of religion into government is at the very heart of the revolution that created America. The colonists rebelled not only against the Church of England but also against the Puritanism and Calvinism that forced the citizenry to conform to particular religious views of face the government's wrath.

What Bush risks doing is establishing the legitimacy of one religion over all others, and this is just what our founding fathers didn't want. Yet there hasn't been much of an outcry. Perhaps people figure it's better to have a president who thinks he's the national deacon than one who thought he was the national Don Juan.

All would agree that the president should be guided by high morals. And one would hope that, if he is deeply religious, he could harness the power of his faith for the public good. But when Bush laid his hand on the Bible two Sundays ago, he didn't promise to uphold the teachings of Jesus.

He promised to uphold the Constitution of the United States.

[From the San Jose (CA) Mercury News, Jan. 28, 2001]

GOD AND GEORGE W. BUSH COULD FACE A FIGHT, EVEN WITH CHRISTIANS, IF HE TRIES TO MAKE RELIGION MORE PUBLIC

(By Patty fisher)

I can think of only one topic that is controversial even though almost all Americans agree on it.

God.

Of course, when it comes to God, about the only thing we agree on is that God exists. And even proclaiming that publicly makes us nervous.

By many measures, the United States is one of the most religious countries in the world. Not only do 94 percent of those surveyed in a recent Harris poll believe in God, but 89 percent also believe in heaven. The country is also overwhelmingly Christian, with 81 percent describing themselves as Christians and even a greater number—86 percent—professing belief in the resurrection of Christ.

A separate poll taken after the election by Public Agenda, a non-partisan organization, found that 70 percent of Americans want religion to be more influential in society. Concerned about the moral decline in this country, 69 percent of those surveyed said religion is the key to strengthening family values and improving moral behavior.

With those numbers, George W. Bush might expect little opposition to his efforts to expand the presence of religion in opposition to his efforts to expand the presence of religion in public life. The numerous references to God and Jesus Christ during the inauguration ceremony, his declaration of a national day of prayer as soon as he took office, his plan to allow religious groups to get federal grants for providing community services—all this should be wildly popular.

And yet, I suspect Bush is going to encounter stiff opposition to any attempt to make religion more public during his presidency. Not only from Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, atheists and agnostics, but from Christians as well.

I was raised a United Methodist and get to church almost every Sunday. But as I watched a Methodist minister give the benediction at the inauguration, calling on all who believe in Jesus to say "Amen," I cringed. My 11-year-old daughter, who was watching with me, put my thoughts into words.

"What about the Jews who are watching?" she said. "What about all the people who don't believe in Jesus? What are they supposed to do?"

A lot of them wrote letters of outrage to newspapers.

One letter writer, Roy Gordon of San Jose, is Jewish and grew up in England. He is disturbed by what seems to be a trend away from the ecumenism that has made him feel comfortable in this country.

"I respect President Bush's religious beliefs and expect that they make him a better person and president, but they are not mine nor are they those of a very large number of other Americans," he wrote. "This occasion was for the whole nation, but I felt left out at the end."

Gordon went on to say: "Respecting diversity does not end with a few Cabinet secretaries; it is an inclusive attitude that has to affect every aspect of our relationships with each other."

Activist attorney Alan Dershowitz put it more bluntly in the Los Angeles Times:

"The plain message conveyed by the new administration is that Bush's America is a Christian nation, and that non-Christians are welcome into the tent so long as they agree to accept their status as a tolerated

minority rather than as fully equally citizens."

I doubt that Bush intended to offend non-Christians at the inauguration. In his speech, he made a point of mentioning synagogues and mosques. But he appears not to understand an important piece of Americans' complex attitude toward religion, which is: Just do it—and please don't talk about it.

A majority of Americans think children should be raised with a religious faith and want politicians to be religious, according to the Public Agenda poll. But they really don't think it's OK to discuss religion at work or at parties. A majority would support a moment of silence in public schools, but not a spoken prayer. More than 60 percent agree that "deeply religious people are being inconsiderate if they always bring up religion when they deal with other people." And nearly three-quarters of those polled said that politicians who talk about their religious faith are "just saying what they think people want to hear."

When Bush talked on the campaign trail about how his faith helped him stop drinking, I suspect he was not merely being a fisher of votes. People whose lives are changed by faith like to talk about it. Alcoholics Anonymous began in the Methodist Church.

But now that he is the president, he must be careful not to push his faith on others. He must not make the mistake of thinking that there is such a thing as the "religious" position on an issue. Just because I call myself a Christian doesn't mean I agree with Bush on abortion or the death penalty.

One reason religion is so much stronger in the United States than in Europe, I suspect, is our tradition of religious tolerance and separation of church and state. As long as the state is not forcing a particular religious view, faith flourishes.

The president needs to remember that while 94 percent of Americans believe in God, fewer than half voted for George W. Bush. Americans will support his efforts to bring morality back into public life, as long as he doesn't think he has God on his side.

A TRIBUTE TO ROGER LIPELT UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE MINNESOTA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACHES HALL OF FAME

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, Roger Lipelt is a teacher and coach who has had a positive influence on generations of Minnesotans, teaching young people the values of hard work, character, leadership and integrity while working toward a common goal.

Mr. Speaker, Roger Lipelt of Wayzata, Minnesota, one of my very best friends, will be inducted into the Minnesota High School Football Coaches Association's "Hall of Fame" on Friday, March 16.

Roger was the highly successful head football coach at Wayzata High School for 22 seasons before retiring in 1998. But if you asked him what he did during those seasons, he would tell you he was first and foremost a teacher. Roger represents the best and the brightest among educators. He's also one of the most successful high school football coaches in Minnesota history. Roger's legendary coaching career stretched over three and a half decades. His teams captured 17

conference and two section titles. His career record was 209 wins and 107 losses.

Roger Lipelt has been named recipient of virtually every coaching honor possible. Those awards were won not only because of Roger's superior coaching skills but because of his unique ability to motivate his players in a positive, uplifting way. Roger Lipelt has also been highly successful coaching both wrestling and tennis. His Wayzata High School tennis teams won two Minnesota state titles. "Coach of the Year," Minnesota All-Star Football head coach, and Hall of Fame at his alma mater, Hamline University, are just a few of the awards Roger Lipelt has received. But to simply recite Roger's remarkable coaching credentials is to not take the full measure of this great man.

Roger Lipelt truly cares about people and his community. His record of public service is as inspiring as it is long. Besides the countless young people he has helped in immeasurable ways, Roger has reached out to less fortunate people in his own backyard and across the globe in Peru.

Over the past dozen years, Roger has been deeply involved in helping the people of Peru. I have accompanied Roger to Peru twice and have seen, firsthand, the difference he has made in the lives of Peru's most impoverished people. Roger has spent countless hours with young abandoned children at CIMA Orphanage, the teenage youth leaders at Bridge House, and the poorest of the poor at Flores de Villes.

Roger Lipelt has been a friend to many families in Peru. He has facilitated numerous relationships that have been helpful in many ways. Through his efforts, 26 Minnesota families are now supporting 26 Peruvian families of Lima's "Shantytown," or Flores de Villes. Roger's group in Minnesota is known as Amigos del Peru which consists of Minnesotans who are contributing money and other resources to help the most impoverished people of Peru. Through Roger's leadership, a community health clinic has also been established at Flores de Villes.

Just like the young students whose lives Roger impacted at Wayzata High School, Roger Lipelt is now changing lives a continent away.

Mr. Speaker, Roger Lipelt is an amazing humanitarian and a legendary football coach. Please join me in honoring this great Minnesotan on his induction into the Minnesota High School Football Coaches Association's Hall of Fame. Roger is truly most deserving of our special recognition.

HONORING MS. BARBARA MELTON OF WHITE HOUSE, TENNESSEE ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Barbara Ann Garland Melton of White House, Tennessee, on the occasion of her retirement after thirteen years as Library Director for the White House Inn Library.

Barbara Melton's foresight and vision as Library Director are to be commended. As the

very first Library Director for the City of White House beginning in 1987, Ms. Melton upgraded the library reading selection, computer access catalog, and expanded staff, adding special programs for children, summer reading, adult education and genealogy.

The first library housed 5,500 books. Today, under Melton's direction, the library has 16,000 volumes and circulated more than 55,000 in 2000. With White House as one of the fastest growing cities in Tennessee, Melton's challenge to improve the once small town library was significant. However, she rose to the challenge with excellence and enthusiasm.

Melton also acted as curator for the White House Inn Library museum, which houses numerous artifacts, news articles, and photographs chronicling the history of White House, Tennessee. The museum is located on the upper level of the facility and is often utilized by historians and genealogists thanks to Melton's hard work.

Barbara Melton was certified as a Public Library Manager in 1997, as a graduate of the Tennessee Department of State and the University of Tennessee. Further, she graduated from the University of Tennessee Municipal training program as Municipal Generalist in 1997.

Melton's efforts have not gone unnoticed by her peers. In 1998, the White House Chamber of Commerce named her White House Citizen of the Year. In fact, I was honored to participate in that special presentation recognizing her for all that she has accomplished for the citizens of White House.

In addition to Melton's outstanding work for the City of White House, she is devoted to her husband of 39 years, Ted K. Melton, daughter Paula Eller, son-in-law Christopher Eller, and granddaughter Savannah.

I congratulate Barbara Melton and thank her for laying a successful foundation promoting literacy for all citizens of White House, Tennessee, as Library Director, and wish her the best in her retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF FINANCIAL SERVICES "CONSUMER BILL OF RIGHTS" LEGISLATION

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, today I and number of my Democratic colleagues are introducing eleven bills that would significantly expand the protections in current law for consumers of financial services. Taken together, our bills provide a "Consumer Bill of Rights" in the financial services sector and an aggressive consumer policy agenda for the 107th Congress.

Consumers confront unfair and deceptive practices that can only be described a "predatory" in connection with almost every financial decision that affects daily lives. We see predatory practices in connection with the homes we buy, with the automobiles we buy or lease, with the credit cards we use for everyday purchases and with the short-term credit we need to stretch our paychecks. Most disturbing, we are seeing predatory practices in connection with the most intimate and confidential aspects of our personal lives and our financial privacy.

The financial marketplace has changed significantly in recent years, but not all the changes have been positive for consumers. Two broad trends, in particular, greatly concern me. The first involves the growing segmentation of financial services into two separate and unequal financial services structures—one for middle and upper income individuals that involves traditional regulated and insured financial institutions; a second for lower-income households that involves higher cost services from less-regulated finance companies, check cashing firms, payday lenders and other quasi-financial entities. Millions of American families are being relegated to a substructure of subprime credit and high-cost services from which few will escape.

The second trend involves the growing acceptance and adoption by traditional financial institutions of the predatory ethics and abusive practices of what was considered, until recently, the fringe elements of the financial services sector. Where once the local bank epitomized integrity, confidentiality and customer service, today the practices of some of our traditional institutions are nearly inseparable from the non-regulated lender that pushes unaffordable debt and preys on consumers' misfortune. The practices once the province of the loan shark are now common placed in the market for credit cards, second mortgages, auto financing and other short-term debt.

These changes have been gradual, but their effect is unmistakable. Some of our Nation's largest and most respected financial institutions now see few problem in acquiring a widely denounced predatory mortgage company or having their name associated with chains of pawn shops and check cashing outlets.

The growing complexity of today's financial marketplace, by itself, should prompt Congress to consider additional measures to protect consumers. But these trends toward market segregation and predatory ethics now demand that consumers have additional rights and greater protections against unfair and abusive financial practices.

The eleven bills we are introducing today seek to address the most widespread and abusive practices confronting consumers in today's market for consumer credit and basic financial services. I will soon separately introduce with a number of my Democratic colleagues a twelfth bill that addresses a variety of unaddressed concerns involving financial privacy and commercial use of personal financial information.

Two of the bills we are introducing today deal with abuses in an area that has come to epitomize predatory financial practices—the problems of high cost mortgage refinancing, home equity loans and home improvement loans. We have witnessed the growth of an entire industry of high-cost "subprime" commercial lenders that systematically target homeowners with low incomes or damaged credit for deceptive offers of high-cost credit. These practices seek to place borrowers more deeply in debt, strip away their accumulated equity and force many homes into foreclosure. Our bill, the "Predatory Lending Consumer Protection Act of 2001," would expand the protections in current federal law to prevent loan packing, mortgage flipping, excessive fee financing and other practices that make abusive loans profitable. A second bill, the "Equal

Credit Enhancement and Neighborhood Protection Act of 2001," addresses the fair lending issues involved in predatory mortgage lending. It would add new federal protections to combat the discriminatory steering of racial groups to high cost loans and reverse redlining in subprime credit, and it would increase mortgage reporting requirements to help identify high-cost loans and patterns of discriminatory lending.

Two of the bills also address another area of widespread abuse—consumer credit cards. U.S. News reported earlier this week that Americans now charge more on credit cards than they spend in cash and that the average cardholder now carries a balance of more than \$4,400. The bill entitled "Consumer Credit Card Protection Amendments of 2001" addresses a variety of abuses that are common to most credit cards—inadequate disclosure of interest rates and terms, hidden fees and charges, inappropriate solicitations to minors, and penalties for practically every consumer action, including paying late, not making the minimum payment and even paying off monthly balances in full. The second bill, the "Credit Card Predatory Practices Prevention Act of 2001" addresses more systematic fraud in subprime credit card solicitations which target people with low incomes or damaged credit. It provides more specific strict prohibitions than current law against abusive sales practices, bait and switch tactics and billing schemes intended to generate interest and penalty payments.

Another important bill addresses the growing problem of "payday" loans, which involved short term extensions of credit at annual interest rates of 450 percent to 600 percent. Since payday lenders use consumers' personal checks to secure credit advances, they hold enormous leverage over the consumer in collecting debts by threatening the loss of check writing privileges and even prosecution for writing bad checks. The "Payday Loan Consumer Protection Amendments of 2001" would end this practice by prohibiting any extension of credit based solely on a check or other instruments drawn on federally insured accounts.

Automobile leasing is another area of growing consumer abuse that is addressed by the legislation. The potential abuse in complex lease transactions begins with the misrepresentation of lease payments and terms in lease advertisements. Today's lease advertisements have the single purpose of enticing consumers into dealerships where they can be confined into signing almost any lease deal. The "Consumer Automobile Lease Advertising Improvement Act of 2001" would standardize the information in lease advertisements and assure that consumers receive more detailed and accurate information, earlier in the process, to permit them to comparison shop for the best lease deals.

Additional bills seek to update and modernize two of our nation's most important consumer protection statutes. Key protections of the Truth in Lending Act, stated in dollar amounts in the late 1960s, have not been updated and, consequently, have been eroded by inflation and changing market practices. The "Truth in Lending Modernization Act of 2001" updates these provisions and adds new protections to assure that TILA's important rescission and civil liability protections remain

available for consumers. The "Truth in Savings Enhancement Amendments of 2001" extend the civil liability protections of the Truth in Savings Act, which will sunset on September 30, 2001, and make other changes to strengthen enforcement against deceptive practices in connection with consumer savings accounts.

Let me briefly describe the final three bills we are introducing. The "Unsolicited Loan Check Consumer Protection Act of 2001" would prohibit use of negotiable or "live" checks in credit solicitations. These solicitations unfairly encourage desperate consumers to take on unaffordable debt and raise unnecessary liability concerns for lost or stolen checks. The "Consumer Affordable Transaction Account Act of 2001" would require all insured banks, thrifts and credit unions to advertise and provide low-cost basic checking account services for lower-income consumers without banking accounts. The bill builds upon the basic banking account programs already required by New York and other states. My final bill, the "Consumer Banking Services Cost Assessment Act of 2001," extends authority for the Federal Reserve Board's annual survey of banking service fees and expands the survey to include credit unions and all fees associated with credit cards.

Mr. Speaker, recent reports indicate that American consumers are drowning in a sea of debt. While family income has stagnated, household debt has risen by more than one-third and the equity families hold in their homes is lower than it was a decade ago. These conditions create desperate consumers and encourage abusive credit practices. And the conditions will only worsen if our economy falters.

With the Truth in Lending Act of 1968, Congress recognized that consumers have a basic "right to know" the full and accurate costs of all financial services. The complexity of today's financial marketplace now demands that consumers have new rights and greater protections against unfair and abusive practices. The eleven bills that we are introducing today offer a broad program of reform that can restore consumer protection and customer service as the guiding principles of financial services policy.

The meager attention the Congress has given to consumer protection over the last several years has been the result of Democratic prodding. We will continue to prod until these important issues get the attention they deserve. I urge the support of my colleagues for this important legislation.

THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA,
REPORT TO THE NATION 2000

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I had the distinct pleasure to join you and a group of young leaders from the Boy Scouts of America as they presented their 2000 report to the U.S. House of Representatives. I was honored to meet with these young leaders and heroes. To further record their visit to the Capitol and efforts of the past year, I am submitting a copy of their report to follow my remarks for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

REPORT TO THE NATION 2000, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

In 2000, the Boy Scouts of America celebrated its 90th anniversary and the addition of its 100-millionth youth member. Nearly five million youth had the opportunity to participate in the programs of the BSA during the past year, thanks to the efforts of more than 1.48 million committed adult volunteers. All of this is made possible through support from tens of thousands of chartered organizations and community groups throughout the nation.

For our youth members and participants, Scouting is about outdoor adventure and having fun with friends. But Scouting is much more. Scouting is a values-based program designed to instill self-discipline, self-confidence, self-reliance, and self-worth—qualities that last a lifetime.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

The Boy Scouts of America has long been recognized as the nation's foremost leader in values-based youth development. Though we tend to view our movement through statistics that highlight our strengths and accomplishments, the real focus of Scouting is the powerful impact it has on a single youth and his or her family. In a time of declining ethics and shifting morals, we remain steadfast in our purpose: to instill positive values in young people that enable them to mature into adults of strong character.

OUR PROGRAMS

Cub Scouting. As a result of a national marketing program, Cub Scouting, for boys ages 7 to 10, served 2,114,420 youth members in 2000. Enhancement of age-appropriate programming has resulted in greater opportunity for youth to participate in Cub Scouting's contemporary family activities. Reflecting the increased emphasis on and expansion of day, resident, pact, and family camping opportunities, more than 41 percent of Cub Scouts participated in an outdoor activity.

Boy Scouting. Membership in Boy Scouting, for 11- to 17-year-olds, reached 1,003,691 in 2000. Eagle Scout, the highest rank a Scout or Venturer can achieve, was attained by 40,029 young men. The number of Scouts who experienced a long-term camping expedition reached its greatest level ever in 2000 with 58.2 percent of all Boy Scouts and Varsity Scouts participating in these educational outdoor adventures.

Venturing. This high-adventure program for young men and women ages 14 to 20 has enjoyed continuous growth since its introduction in 1998. Built around an advancement program with the Venturing Bronze, Silver, and Gold awards, Venturing grew to 233,858 members—a 15.7 percent increase. The number of Venturing crews increased 12.1 percent in 2000 to 17,684.

Learning for Life. Participation in this classroom- and workplace-based character education program continued to increase in 2000, growing 3.2 percent to 1,589,988 participants. More than 17,000 organizations nationwide used Learning for Life to help young people develop life skills, positive attitudes, values, and career awareness. New Jersey selected Learning for Life as a program of merit to be used in that state's new character education initiative.

Scoutreach. Scouting's coordinated effort to reach out to more urban and rural young people focused on the Hispanic market in 2000. New Spanish marketing materials and training aids were developed along with a number of bilingual publications designed to

make Scouting programs more accessible to Hispanic youth and their families. The esteemed Whitney M. Young Jr. Service Award was bestowed upon 148 volunteers—the largest number of recipients in the history of the award.

AWARDS

The National Court of Honor presents the prestigious Silver buffalo Award to distinguished citizens for exemplary national service to youth. In 2000, recipients of Scouting's highest commendation included Charles L. Bowerman; M. Anthony Burns; Robert M. Gates; Roger R. Hemminghaus; Louise Mandrell; C. Dudley Pratt Jr.; Thomas E. Reddin; Frank G. Rubino, M.D.; Alfred S. Warren; Togo D. West Jr.; and Edward E. Whitacre Jr.

The BSA's National Court of Honor awarded the Honor Medal With Crossed Palms to six Scouts and Scouters who demonstrated unusual heroism and extraordinary skill or resourcefulness in saving or attempting to save a life at extreme risk to self. Other awards for lifesaving and meritorious action were presented to 234 Scouts and Scouters.

The Young American Awards recognizes excellence in the achievements of young people ages 15 to 25. The 2000 recipients were Julius D. Jackson, Carl F. Regelmann, Svati Singla, Alison L. Smith, and Christopher K. Sokolov.

AMERICA'S PROMISE—THE ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH

In 1997, the Boy Scouts of America pledged 200 million hours of service to America by our youth membership by the end of 2000. We are pleased to announce that we have surpassed that objective by completing more than 214 million hours. As part of this effort, members of Scouting's national honor society, the Order of the Arrow, performed more than 2,000 hours of service in Yosemite National Park. Scouts in New Orleans participated in Good Turn fairs in which they performed services for the community including removing graffiti and restoring playgrounds. The BSA's involvement in this worthwhile effort represents its commitment of service to our nation as expressed in the Scout Oath and Law.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Strong leadership has always been a hallmark of Scouting. In this tradition, this past year our National Executive Board selected Roy L. Williams as the Chief Scout Executive. In May, Williams will introduce a strategic plan for 2002-2006 that targets five issues critical to the future of the Scouting movement. Those issues are traditional membership and unit growth, total financial development and stewardship, marketing and strategic positioning, leadership, and Scoutreach. By addressing these key issues, the BSA will ensure that its values-driven programs will be around for generations to come, and will continue to reach out to share America's values with today's youth, tomorrow's leaders.

ROY L. WILLIAMS,

Chief Scout Executive.

MILTON H. WARD,

President.

TRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY HOME
HEALTH AND HOSPICE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise before you today to recognize a group of

people committed to protecting and enhancing human dignity. Community Home Health and Hospice, located in my hometown of Flint, Michigan, is a private nonprofit organization that has been serving patients throughout Genesee County and other surrounding communities for 20 years.

Since 1981, Community Home Health and Hospice has been the only local community based program providing health care to home-bound patients and home care for those facing the end of life. They provide physicians, nurses, home health aides, social workers, chaplains, and many volunteers who selflessly donate their time and resources to give physical, emotional, and spiritual support to patients as well as their families. They also supply physical, occupational, and speech therapy, dietary counseling, transportation, and bereavement support.

Community Home is licensed by the State of Michigan and is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation for Health Care Organizations. They are also certified by Medicare, Medicaid, and Blue Cross Blue Shield. Their building, a \$3.5 million 19,000 square facility, ensures that the terminally ill receive comprehensive, cost-effective healthcare, and that they are granted the opportunity to live the remainder of their lives in a familiar and comfortable home-like setting.

Mr. Speaker, Community Home fully understands the hardships families face when a loved one nears the end of their life. In many situations, patients and their families would prefer to face the end of life at home, and the decision to seek outside care is truly difficult. However, I am happy that there is a place like Community Home Health and Hospice, where they may live in comfort and dignity.

THE HAMMOND SPORTS HALL OF
FAME

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to announce that the Hammond Sports Hall of Fame's 15th Annual Induction Banquet will be held tonight, March 15, 2001, at the Hammond Civic Center, in Hammond, Indiana. Eleven individuals, all of whom attended high school in Hammond, Indiana, will be inducted into the Hammond Sports Hall of Fame. The new members of the Hall of Fame include: Mike Bradburn, Bob Bradtke, Allison Buell, Donald Clark, Ray Cross, Rudy T. Folta, Terry Irk, Hal Morris, Kurt Nondorf, Frank P. Staucet, and Bob Wilson, Sr.

Mike Bradburn, a current resident of Chester, California, graduated from Hammond Morton High School in 1963. While at Morton, Bradburn was an outstanding athlete, participating in football, wrestling, and track and field. In football, what this speedy, hard-driving fullback lacked in size, he made up for in grit and determination. He played on the Governors' 1961 state championship squad and earned all-state honors the following season. He continued his football career at Northwestern University, from where he graduated in 1957.

An outstanding basketball and baseball player at Bishop Noll, Bob Bradtke graduated

in 1956. Prior to moving to Lansing, Illinois, where he currently resides, Bradtke coached at Bishop Noll, Whiting and Gavit. As a basketball player at Bishop Noll, he was an all-state guard that teamed up with Oscar Robertson and fellow Hammond Sports Hall of Famer Frank Radovich on the Indiana all-star squad that played the Kentucky all-stars. On the baseball diamond, Bradtke played virtually all positions. He continued his career in college as a basketball player at Notre Dame, where he was a two-year letter winner before graduating in 1960.

Current resident of Hammond, Indiana, Allison Buell, became the first female athlete from a Hammond high school to qualify for the state finals in a field event. Buell was an outstanding high jumper and long jumper at Clark High School, where she graduated in 1988. While in college, Buell competed in the high jump at Cornell University, before transferring to Columbia College, from where she graduated with honors in 1996. As a junior, this Clark valedictorian placed third in the high jump at the state meet, then returned home to help the Lady Pioneers softball team win a sectional title the next day.

The late Donald L. Clark had an outstanding wrestling and football career. After graduating from Clark High School in 1952, Clark attended Purdue University and joined the wrestling team. In 1957, Clark graduated from Purdue with academic honors he then embarked on an outstanding career in education and coaching. As wrestling coach at Hammond High, he directed the Wildcats to back-to-back state championships in 1962 and 1963.

Longtime Hammond, Indiana, resident Ray Cross, will also be inducted into the Hammond Sports Hall of Fame. While at Hammond High, Cross played running back and defensive back on their 1960 state football championship team, earning Chicagoland All-Star Team honors, as well as a scholarship to West New Mexico University. Cross was a versatile player and signed as a free agent with the Atlanta Falcons of the National Football League, but his career was cut short by a knee injury. He then returned home, where he embarked on a teaching and coaching career, leading Eggers Middle School football, basketball and track teams to numerous city championships.

Rudy Folta, a current resident of Chicago, Illinois, won eight varsity letters as a football quarterback, basketball guard, and baseball shortstop for the Hammond Tech Tigers before graduating in 1957. After graduation, Folta continued his football career at Wabash College, where he captained the Little Giants in 1960.

Current Griffith, Indiana resident Hal Morris enjoyed a school record setting and state championship career as a high school sprinter at Clark High School. After placing fifth in the state track and field finals his sophomore and junior years, he won the 220-yard dash in the state finals in 1946. He also placed second in the state that year in the 100-yard dash.

Terry Irk, currently of Bainbridge, Indiana, was a 1971 Gavit graduate. While at Gavit, he was active in football, basketball and golf. As a versatile football player, Irk played quarterback and safety and his play earned him all-conference and all-area honors, as well as a scholarship to the University of Evansville.

Kurt Nondorf of Houston, Texas, was a standout in football and track at Hammond High School. After graduating from Hammond

High, he continued competing in both sports as an Ivy Leaguer at Yale.

Frank Staucet of Slingerlands, New York, graduated from Catholic Central, now Bishop Noll, in 1941. After a season of college baseball at St. Joseph's College and three years representing his nation in the armed forces, he embarked in 1946 on a 10-year professional baseball career. Playing primarily shortstop for Albany, New York of the Eastern League, he compiled a career minor league batting average of .261, including a .300 mark his final season. He was a league all-star in 1948, 1949 and 1950.

While attending Clark High School, current Highland, Indiana resident Bob Wilson, Sr., was an exceptional football, basketball, and baseball player. He went on to achieve prominence in the sport of bowling. Wilson has won numerous titles in various bowling competitions, including the ABC's National Team Championship in 1979.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Mike Bradburn, Bob Bradtke, Allison Buell, Donald Clark, Ray Cross, Rudy T. Folta, Terry Irk, Hal Morris, Kurt Nondorf, Frank P. Staucet, and Bob Wilson, Sr. for being inducted into the Hammond Sports Hall of Fame. Their service, dedication, and success have left an indelible mark on Hammond, Indiana and Indiana's First Congressional District.

IN RECOGNITION OF GUAM'S
EXEMPLARY JUNIOR ROTC UNITS

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to offer words of praise and commendation for the three student cadet units of the U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program on Guam. These deserving units, based at George Washington High School in Mangilao, Southern High School in Santa Rita, and Simon Sanchez High School in Yigo, have all been recently bestowed the designation of "Honor Unit with Distinction" following formal evaluation on the part of senior ROTC officers. This recognition is the third consecutive time that Guam's units have been awarded high marks of excellence from Cadet Command.

As part of the formal tri-annual certification process, officers from the U.S. Army ROTC Cadet Command, Fourth Region Headquarters, in Fort Lewis, Washington, recently conducted thorough on-site inspections of Guam's Junior ROTC units. Rigorous review of several critical areas, including cadet participation and performance, records and administration, public affairs and recruiting, training management, supply and logistics and school support were undertaken during this extensive inspection process. Cadets were responsible for briefing the inspection officers. Their performance was scrutinized and examined based on the Army's standards. The results yielded superior rating for the cadets, indicating that they executed their briefings well and were solid in drill and ceremony, curriculum knowledge, supply room inspection, and management.

This news is further testament to the success of the Junior ROTC program and the

positive impact it has on the young men and women who choose to participate. Every year, Mr. Speaker, I am fortunate enough to have the opportunity to meet with the cadets and cadre of Guam's Junior ROTC units here in Washington. They make their annual journey each Fall to visit our Nation's capital city and learn about the legislative process. I have witnessed first-hand their remarkable growth and enjoy engaging in dialogue with them about their educational experiences.

Mr. Speaker, it is with these thoughts in mind and in proud recognition of their accomplishments, that I offer a whole-hearted congratulations to the young men and women of Guam's U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) program. Their accomplishments and efforts are to be lauded and appropriately acknowledged. I am honored to have been invited to speak at their upcoming Military Ball this Saturday, the 17th of March. I accepted their invitation without hesitation and look forward to personally meeting each one of the cadets and cadre to share in celebration of their success.

These distinguished cadets deserve our praise, our thanks, and our continued support. May the Junior ROTC Program continue to motivate young people to be better citizens. Mr. Speaker, I commend the Junior ROTC cadets and cadre on Guam. We on Guam are proud of their achievement. They have set the example for other units throughout the Nation to emulate. I urge them to keep up the good work and always remember the values instilled and skills acquired through participation in this invaluable program.

TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICAN
CHEMICAL SOCIETY

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the American Chemical Society and its more than 163,000 members on their remarkable achievements in chemistry throughout history. ACS was founded 125 years ago. In 1937, Congress charged ACS with advancing the chemical sciences and to promote research, education, and high standards of professional ethics. ACS members have played key roles in expanding the frontiers of knowledge, advancing medicine and industry, and creating products—from aspirin to the Hula Hoop.

Advances in the sciences have given us limitless possibilities to increase our knowledge, to share new discoveries, and to make life better for people across our country and around the world. Chemistry contributes to the safety and quality of our food, the fuel-efficiency of our cars, the speed of our computers, and the effectiveness of our medicines and vaccines. Those achievements wouldn't be possible without the vision and innovation of scientists and engineers.

We must do a better job teaching our children science and mathematics and motivating them to choose careers in these fields. The workforce of the future must be ready to tackle the complex challenges of an increasingly global society. ACS members are passionate about their mission to help educate Americans

in science and technology and introduce everyone—young and old—to the wonders of scientific discovery.

The members of ACS, the world's largest scientific society, will continue to be in the forefront of research and development and science education in a challenging new century. America will benefit from their new discoveries and advances in technology. I join Americans and all people across the globe in celebrating the extraordinary accomplishments of the American Chemical Society and its members on its 125th anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF LA TRIBUNA
NEWSPAPER

HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly special occasion, the 39th anniversary of La Tribuna newspaper. This momentous event in my state's journalism community will be recognized at a gala banquet to be held Friday, March 16, 2001.

In 1962, large numbers of Hispanic immigrants began relocating to New Jersey. At that time, few newspapers were being published in their native language. La Tribuna was one of the first news sources committed to keeping the Spanish-speaking community in touch with its government and the rest of the world.

For thirty-nine years, La Tribuna has shone light on daily events affecting the Hispanic community. Part of the foundation of the United States Constitution is freedom of the press. La Tribuna brings this ideal to life for the Hispanic community on a weekly basis through the paper's commitment to truth and fairness. Whenever and wherever news happens, La Tribuna is at the forefront of articulating events in a concise, non-nonsense manner.

Under the direction of publisher and editor Ruth Molenaar, La Tribuna has grown to be a well-respected member of New Jersey's news community. The people of my District, and New Jersey, are fortunate to have Ms. Molenaar and her staff, including Lionel Rodriguez, providing fair and accurate news coverage. They have been a reliable voice for the Hispanic community for almost two generations.

In recognition of the impact La Tribuna has had on the community, the City of Newark will name a street after the newspaper. The corner of Ferry Street and Niagara Street will be named La Tribuna Street.

It is an honor to have La Tribuna operating in my District. Its efforts have helped our nation's Hispanic community to blossom and flourish. I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this remarkable organization for all it has done for the Hispanic community.

CELEBRATING CAMP FIRE BOYS
AND GIRLS' ABSOLUTELY IN-
CREDIBLE KID DAY

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the birthday of the Camp Fire Boys and Girls' Absolutely Incredible Kid Day. Each year, on the third Thursday in March, the day is set aside to help adults communicate better with kids. As part of the celebration, adults are encouraged to send letters of love and appreciation to young people in their lives to show them how much they mean to them. Now in its fifth year, more than 450 million people have been touched by Absolutely Incredible Kid Day.

Absolutely Incredible Kid Day can make a positive impact that will last a lifetime. The campaign has received the critical acclaim of child and family care experts, award winning authors, noted psychologists, and adults and kids everywhere. Celebrities such as Oprah Winfrey, Jim Carrey and Cindy Crawford have also given their support to Absolutely Incredible Kid Day.

In my hometown of Grand Rapids, Michigan the Campfire Boys and Girls West Michigan Council has put an enormous amount of time and effort into this celebration. In addition to having adults write letters to kids they know, the organization is also encouraging adults to write letters for distribution to at-risk youths throughout Grand Rapids. The Council has also organized an extensive public awareness program complete with posters, stickers and stationary to spread the word about this special and important day. I applaud them for making this day a top priority.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues, moms and dads, grandparents, aunts and uncles, teachers, mentors and other adults alike take time out of their day today to let a young person know how much they appreciate them. Let them know you care and help make a positive difference in their lives today and everyday by writing a letter of love and support. You'll be glad you did and so will the reader of the letter!

CENTRAL ASIAN REPRESSION AND
MISMANAGEMENT ARE THE
PROBLEM NOT THE SOLUTION
TO COMBATING ISLAMIC EXTRE-
MISM

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, those of us who follow events in Central Asia are alarmed by the growing influence of Islamic extremism in Central Asia. As my colleagues are aware, an Islamic insurgency has taken root in the Fergana valley area where the borders of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan meet. Reports indicate that this insurgency is being supported and fueled by the fiercely Islamic Taliban in Afghanistan.

So far, Kazakhstan has not been directly affected by this insurgency. However, because

of its oil and mineral wealth, Kazakhstan is the crown jewel of the region and is thus another likely target of Islamic extremist groups. Kazakhstan's democratically challenged regime has taken note of the alarming developments in its neighbors to the south and has taken steps to strengthen its defenses. That's the good news. The bad news, however, is that President Nursultan Nazarbayev has apparently stepped up his repression, and it has been reported that he is plundering his oil and mineral rich country by siphoning hundreds of millions of dollars into foreign bank accounts. As a result, President Nazarbayev is said to be the eighth richest person in the world.

The people of Kazakhstan are not as blind. They can easily see that they inhabit a rich country, and they are justifiably beginning to ask why so little of their country's great wealth seems to be trickling down to them. The people are also not blind to sham elections, the stifling of press freedom, and the jailing of opposition leaders that have come to characterize the country's political life. I have been told that more and more people in Kazakhstan are losing hope, and are more willing to give Islamic extremists groups, who claim that they will eliminate the corruption of the current regime, a chance to govern.

In the March 3 issue of the Economist, there is an excellent article on Kazakhstan's security situation. At the end of the article, the author states "Government repression and mismanagement help to nourish extremism and terrorism in Central Asia. An effort to improve social and economic conditions and freedom of expression might make Kazakhstan less fertile ground for militant zealots." I wholeheartedly agree with this premise, and I ask that the full text of the Economist article appear immediately after my remarks.

Mr. Speaker, some people in Washington may be tempted to urge U.S. support for the Nazarbayev regime because it claims to be a bulwark of defense against Islamic extremism. But according to the information that I have been receiving, it is the Nazarbayev regime itself that will likely fuel the growth of Islamic extremism. Democracy, a free press, and respect for human rights are the keys to protecting a country like Kazakhstan from the influence of Islamic extremists groups. The United States must stand with regimes in Central Asia who share these key democratic values, not those regimes and leaders who subvert them.

[From the Economist, Mar. 3, 2001]

IN DEFENCE

When the Soviet Union broke up ten years ago, the leaders of Central Asia's newly independent states felt safe from possible attacks on their region. Their main concern was to promote order, economic reform and the assertion of power for themselves and their families. They were jolted out of their complacency by bomb blasts in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, in February 1999 and an attack by Islamic militants in Kirgizstan in August. Last year Islamists again attacked both countries.

Although Kazakhstan was not directly affected by these attacks, they have alerted the country to look to its defenses. President Nursultan Nazarbaev has set about making Kazakhstan's armed forces capable of dealing with what he believes are the main threats to the state; terrorism as a result of religious extremism, and organized crime.

He is strengthening defences in the south, in the mountainous border regions from

which an Islamic incursion might come. He wants his soldiers to be more mobile. Sniper groups are being formed. Villagers with local knowledge of the terrain are being recruited as guides. The country's defence budget has been more than doubled this year to \$171m, or 1% of GDP. Soldiers' pay is to go up by 30-40%.

One difficulty is the Kazakhstan's borders were not clearly defined in Soviet times, so it is difficult to decide what is a "border incursion". Kazakhstan has 14,000 km (8,750 miles) of borders with neighboring states. It has agreed on its border with China, but it is still negotiating with Russia, Kirgizstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. Bulat Sultanov, of Kazakhstan's Institute of Strategic Studies, worries that "our border troops cannot carry out any operations because there is no legal basis for them."

Last year, Uzbek border guards entered southern Kazakhstan and claimed a stretch of land. Since then, there have been several brushes between Uzbeks and Kazakhs, mostly villagers unclear about which country they are living in. All this is a distraction from the task of making the south of Kazakhstan more secure.

Then there is Afghanistan. Although Kazakhstan is not a direct neighbour, the fiercely Islamic Taliban who control most of Afghanistan are a worry to all of Central Asia. They are believed to provide training for extremists, among them the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), which wants to set up a caliphate in the Fergana valley, where Kirgizstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan meet. The IMU was said to be behind the attacks in Kirgizstan and Uzbekistan in the past two years and is thought to be preparing another assault before long.

Most of Kazakhstan's military equipment dates back to the Soviet period. Replacing, say, old helicopters used in the border areas will be expensive, but necessary. In January a Mi-8 helicopter crashed in the south, injuring the defence minister, Sat Tokpakbaev, who was aboard. Another helicopter crashed near the Chinese border two weeks ago, killing six people.

Kazakhstan will receive arms from Russia worth \$20m this year as part of its annual payment for the use of a space-rocket site at Baikonur. It is due to receive over \$4m from the United States to improve border security. The government might also consider some nonmilitary measures. Government repression and mismanagement help to nourish extremism and terrorism in Central Asia. An effort to improve social and economic conditions and freedom of expression might make Kazakhstan less fertile ground for militant zealots.

RECOGNIZING MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY FOR WINNING THE NORTHEAST CONFERENCE MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP AND GOING TO THE NCAA TOURNAMENT

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work of the Monmouth University Hawks men's basketball team who won the Northeast Conference basketball title recently with a 67-64 victory over St. Francis of New York. Mr. Speaker, this victory rounds out a "Cinderella" season that saw the Hawks reclaim the top spot in the Northeast Conference

and earns them an automatic bid to the "big dance."

The 12th Congressional District of New Jersey has a proud tradition of sending teams into battle during March madness. This is Monmouth University's second NCAA tournament bid. As the field begins to fill out I salute the courage and determination of the Monmouth Hawks and wish them great success and a full dance card.

Men's Basketball 2000-01 Roster

Listed by number, position, height, weight, class, hometown, and highschool/college, as follows:

4 Rahsaan Johnson, G, 6'-0", 195, Jr., Washington, D.C., Gonzaga/Allegheny College.

5 Tom Kaplan, G, 6'-4", 190, Fr., Tel Aviv, Israel, Elitzur Rishon Le Zion.

10 Jason Kray, G, 6'-5", 215, Fr., Point Pleasant, N.J., Christian Brothers Academy.

11 Steve Birdgemohan, F, 6'-8", 225, Jr., North Brunswick, N.J., North Brunswick.

12 Phil Bonczewski, F, 6'-8", 220, Fr., Plymouth, Pa., Wyoming Valley West.

13 Cameron Milton, G, 6'-3", 185, Jr., Philadelphia, Pa., Franklin Learning Center.

20 Demitry Courtney, G, 6'-1", 165, Sr., Trenton, N.J., Notre Dame.

21 Jay Dooley, F, 6'-6", 210, So., Rumson, N.J., Rumson-Fair Haven.

24 Gerry Crosby, F, 6'-5", 205, Sr., Twinsburg, Ohio, R.B. Chamberlin/Monroe CC.

25 Kevin Owens, C, 6'-10", 225, So., Haddonfield, N.J., Camden Catholic.

33 Nick Barnes, C, 6'-9", 260, Fr., Mount Airy, MD., The Newport School.

45 Russ Anderson, F, 6'-7", 210, So., Chester, N.Y., Don Bosco Prep.

Head Coach Dave Calloway.

Assistant Coach Mark Calzonetti.

Assistant Coach Ron Kray.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE VOSSMEYER

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my esteemed colleague from Missouri's 3rd District, the Democratic Leader, Mr. GEPHARDT, to honor a loyal friend, devoted father, remarkable public servant, and esteemed political and civic leader whose love of life will live on in the memory of all those lives he touched. Steve Vossmeier died March 9, just five days before his 57th birthday. Citizens of the City of St. Louis, his beloved Central West End neighborhood, and the Great State of Missouri mourn his passing.

Steve loved the law and he loved people. He was a popular political figure who used his wit and humor to cajole and prevail upon others to accept his point of view. He was a force to be reckoned with because he researched the situation thoroughly, asked tough questions of opponents, and loved to galvanize those of like mind around a challenge then execute a winning strategy. His love of sports, particularly Cardinals baseball, was legendary and shared enthusiastically with family and friends. An invitation to partake of Steve's culinary skills was a treasured occasion that brought the best minds together around his table and provoked conversations which extended well into the night.

Mr. Vossmeier served the United States Senate as the legislative Assistant to Missouri Senator Thomas F. Eagleton from 1969 to 1972. Steve accompanied Senator Eagleton and two other Senators on a fact finding mission to Vietnam in 1970. His interrogation of military personnel after their "canned" presentations uncovered significant admissions that the war was not going as well as public pronouncements had indicated. In response he drafted major portions of the War Powers Act. His strongly held beliefs in the democratic process motivated him to serve as an election observer for the first democratically conducted elections in Czechoslovakia after the fall of communism.

Mr. Vossmeier was elected a Missouri State Representative of the 86th District in 1972, and held that office for ten years. His first election was one of the biggest upsets in the state. He ran against a well known labor union official who outspent him by a margin of more than 4 to 1. His campaign utilized innovative techniques and new technology not previously employed in Missouri elections. At the close of each session, he prepared a comprehensive newsletter on the successes and failures, and those newsletters were quickly imitated almost verbatim—with his approval—by legislative colleagues of both parties. Steve was aided in these elections and constituent communications by Sandy Rothschild, a close friend from Washington University undergraduate days.

During his tenure in the Missouri House he championed a number of measures that benefited women. Her sponsored several measures to protect rape victims from spurious attacks by defense attorneys and to balance the playing field for both sides in domestic relations disputes. He sponsored public records reforms and legislation to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. He helped numerous women in their campaigns for public office. This list includes State Representative Sue Shear, Lt. Governor Harriet Woods and Dee Joyce Hayes, his former wife, who he helped a decade after their divorce in her successful effort to become St. Louis Circuit Attorney. As Chairman of the House Governmental Review Committee, Steve reformed many of the antiquated and ineffective procedures used by State agencies and modernized the State's mental health laws.

Steve served the City of St. Louis as a Member of the Board of Electors. This body examined a series of problems confronting the St. Louis region, recommending various reforms. In the St. Louis community he remained a political activist fighting for good government and preservation of historic neighborhoods. His opinion on a broad range of issues was sought by numerous federal, state, and local officials, including former Missouri Congressmen Jack Buechner and Alan Wheat, as well as the sponsors of this Congressional Record Statement. He was always very generous with his time and consistently demonstrated concern for issues of public interest. Steve practice law in St. Louis full time with the firm he co-founded in 1979, Newburger and Vossmeier. His principal partner was David Newburger, who he met while Mr. Newburger taught law at Washington University. His primary area of practice was civil litigation and domestic relations.

Steve has a son, Robert Stephen Vossmeier, and a daughter, Rebecca Sarah

Vossmeier. "Becca" is the child of his current marriage with M. Celeste Vossmeier. He loved his children dearly. They were with him during his last days, as were friends mentioned herein joined by Richard Callow, Betty Neill, and Paul Steinmann. We include an article from the Sunday, March 11 edition of "The St. Louis Post-Dispatch" where a number of his friends reflect with Jo Mannies on their memories of Steve.

Mr. Speaker, please join us in sending condolences to Steve's family in their time of grief. We will honor him by gathering March 19th from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the courtyard at Bar Italia in his neighborhood per his wishes that friends celebrate his life. In Marc Connelly's profound 1930 play, *The Green Pastures*, has characters suffer as they fight to save their families and countryside from oppressors. They discover God's love through suffering. We are glad that Steve's suffering is over and he has found God's love. We doubt that he will ever stop fighting the good fight.

EX-STATE REPRESENTATIVE STEVE VOSSMEIER, PROMINENT FIGURE IN DEMOCRATIC POLITICS, DIES AT 56

(By Jo Mannies)

Former state Rep. Steve Vossmeier, a St. Louis lawyer prominent in Democratic politics and local civic affairs, died Saturday of cancer at his home in the Central West End. He was 56.

His close friends included some of the state's top political figures, including former Sen. Thomas F. Eagleton, for whom Mr. Vossmeier worked in the late 1960s and early '70s; former Rep. Jack Buechner, a Republican who practiced law with Mr. Vossmeier for several years; and Rep. Karen McCarthy, D-Kansas City, an old ally in the state Legislature.

"He was involved in politics because of his abiding belief in the people and service to the people," said his friend and law partner, David Newburger.

Allies said that during his years in the Missouri House, from 1972-83, Mr. Vossmeier played a key role in reforming Missouri's mental health laws and in changing the state's rape laws so that they treated married women equitably.

"He was one of the state's first feminists," McCarthy said Saturday.

Friends said Mr. Vossmeier's sense of humor was a key reason why he was such a popular political figure. "He used his wit the way Old West gunfighters used their pistols," said political consultant Richard Callow, a close friend.

Mr. Vossmeier was born March 14, 1944, in St. Louis.

His political involvement began early. After graduating with a bachelor's degree from Washington University, he studied international affairs at George Washington University in Washington.

In 1968, Mr. Vossmeier joined then-Lt. Gov. Eagleton's campaign for the U.S. Senate. Following Eagleton's election, Mr. Vossmeier joined Eagleton's congressional staff.

"Steve Vossmeier was exceedingly bright. . . . He put in more hours per day than anyone else involved in the campaign," Eagleton recalled. "He was strongly against the Vietnam War. He simply couldn't believe the misinformation being put out by the Defense Department. He went with me on a trip to Vietnam in the early '70s. After we'd get the canned briefings by the generals and colonels he'd cross-examine them and turn up facts they'd left out."

Mr. Vossmeier's friends said he was most proud of his involvement in Eagleton's suc-

cessful effort to win congressional passage of the War Powers Act, which requires presidents to obtain congressional approval when waging war.

Mr. Vossmeier returned to St. Louis to run for the Legislature in 1972. McCarthy said he was part of an alliance on women's issues that included the late Rep. Sue Shear and then-state Sen. Harriett Woods.

"He was one to galvanize those of like minds around an issue," McCarthy said.

While serving in the state House, he also attended Washington University's School of Law, where he received his degree. In 1979, he co-founded the local law firm Newburger & Vossmeier.

"I have never known a lawyer more dedicate and devoted to his clients," Newburger said.

After leaving the Legislature, Mr. Vossmeier remained a political activist. A Democratic panel nominated him in 1985 to take over as chairman of the Missouri Democratic Party, but an internal dispute scuttled that plan. In the early 1990s, Mr. Vossmeier was involved in a now-defunct city-county effort called the Board of Electors, charged with tackling regional issues.

Among survivors are his wife, Mary Celeste Vossmeier; a son, Robert Stephen Vossmeier; and a daughter, Rebecca Sarah Vossmeier, all of St. Louis.

The funeral will be private. A memorial service will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. March 19 at Bar Italia, 4656 Maryland Avenue.

RECOGNIZING PRINCETON UNIVERSITY FOR WINNING THE IVY LEAGUE MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP AND GOING TO THE NCAA TOURNAMENT

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 15, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work of the Princeton University Tigers men's basketball team who won the Ivy League basketball title earlier this month with a 68-52 victory over the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this victory gives the Tigers their eight Ivy League Championship in 13 years and an automatic bid to the "big dance."

The 12th Congressional District of New Jersey has a proud tradition of sending teams into battle during "March Madness." This is Princeton University's 23rd Ivy League title. As the field begins to fill out I salute the courage and determination of the Princeton Tigers and wish them great success and a full dance card.

MEN'S BASKETBALL 2001-01 ROSTER

Number, Name, Position, Class, Weight, High School/Hometown:

- 3, Kyle Wente, G, So., 180, St. Anthony's/Effingham, IL.
- 10, Ed Persia, G, Fr., 180, Monsignor Kelly/Beaumont, TX.
- 12, Pete Hegseth, G, So., 170, Forest Lake/Forest Lake, MN.
- 15, Ahmed El-Nokali, G, Jr., 175, Chartiers Valley/Pittsburgh, PA.
- 22, C.J. Chapman, G, Sr., 175, Denver East/Aurora, CO.
- 23, Mike Bechtold, F, Jr., 190, Lebanon/Lebanon, PA.
- 30, Andre Logan, F, Fr., 210, Polp Prep/Brooklyn, NY.
- 32, Conor Neu, F, Jr., 200, Monte Vista/Danville, CA.

33, Nate Walton, F/C, Sr., 205, University/San Diego, CA.

34, Konrad Wysocki, F, Fr., 215, Greensboro Day School/Lollar, Germany.

35, Terence Rozier-Byrd, C, Sr., 225, Christian Brothers/Lakewood, NJ.

45, Heath Jones, C, Fr., 230, Pender/Burgaw, NC.

Head Coach John Thompson.

Assistant Coach Mike Brennan.

Assistant Coach Robert Burke.

Assistant Coach Howard Levy.