

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PHYLLIS MARCHAND RECEIVES HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD

#### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Phyllis Marchand who will receive the Human Relations Award given by the Central New Jersey Chapter of the American Jewish Committee. She receives this award for her outstanding commitment to the Princeton community and the American Jewish Committee.

Ms. Marchand is in her fifteenth year as an elected official in Princeton and her sixth year as the Mayor of Princeton Township. She has led in state affairs as President of both the New Jersey League of Municipalities and the New Jersey Association for Elected Women Officials. Ms. Marchand has been recognized as "Elected Official of the Year" by the NJ Municipal Managers Association and has received the Humanitarian Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews. Ms. Marchand has served as President of the Mercer County Hispanic Association and serves on its board as well as that of the Mercer Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction.

A graduate of Skidmore College, Ms. Marchand has been a professional book indexer working on Collier's Encyclopedia, The Papers of Woodrow Wilson and The Samuel Johnson Letters. She is a member of the Princeton Jewish Center, the American Jewish Committee and a life member of Hadassah. During her 35 years in Princeton, she has served on the boards of Hadassah, The Jewish Center, UJA and B'nai B'rith.

Ms. Marchand has made significant contributions to the Princeton community in particular and New Jersey as a whole. I urge all my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Ms. Marchand's dedication and commitment to public service.

### A BILL TO REPEAL THE LIMITATION ON THE USE OF FOREIGN TAX CREDITS UNDER THE ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX

#### HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague from New York, Mr. RANGEL, together with a bipartisan group of our colleagues, in introducing a bill which would eliminate a fundamental unfairness in the application of the U.S. tax law to taxpayers that have income from foreign sources.

The bill would repeal the present-law limitation on the use of foreign tax credits under the alternative minimum tax that has the effect of subjecting taxpayers to double taxation on for-

ign income. This bill is identical to the one introduced in the 106th Congress, except for advancing the effective date by a year.

A U. S. citizen or domestic corporation that earns income from sources outside the United States generally is subject to tax by a foreign government on that income. The taxpayer is also subject to U.S. tax on that same income, even though it is earned outside the United States. Thus, the same income is subject to tax both in the country in which it is earned and in the United States. However, the U. S. allows taxpayers to treat the foreign taxes paid on their foreign source income as an offset against the U.S. tax with respect to that same income. The basic principle of this foreign tax credit is simple: to provide relief from double taxation.

When it comes to the alternative minimum tax (AMT), this basic principle of providing relief from double taxation falls by the wayside. The AMT was enacted to ensure that individuals and businesses that qualify for various "preferences" in the tax rules nevertheless are subject to a minimum level of taxation. However, the foreign tax credit provisions of the AMT operate to ensure double taxation. Under these AMT rules, the allowable foreign tax credit is limited to 90 percent of the taxpayer's alternative minimum tax liability. Because of this limitation, income that is subject to foreign tax is subject also to the U.S. AMT. The result is double (and even triple) taxation of income that is used to support U.S. jobs, research and experimentation and other activities.

There is no rational basis for denying relief from double taxation to that class of taxpayers that are subject to the AMT. Accordingly, the bill being introduced will eliminate the 90 percent limitation on foreign tax credits for AMT purposes. With the elimination of this limitation, relief from double taxation will be provided to taxpayers that are subject to the AMT in the same manner as it is provided to those taxpayers that are subject to the regular tax.

Concern regarding the unfairness of the AMT limitation on the use of the foreign tax credits is not new. Indeed, the House in 1995 passed a provision repealing the 90 percent limitation as part of a complete package of AMT reforms. Overall reform of the AMT, for individuals and businesses, remains a high priority. This bill to eliminate the 90 percent limitation on foreign tax credits for AMT purposes represents an important step in that direction. We urge our colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this legislation.

### TRIBUTE TO JOHN BRATTON DAVIS

#### HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Judge John Bratton Davis. On Monday, April 2, it was my pleasure to partici-

pate in a very moving ceremony renaming the building housing the United States Bankruptcy Court in Columbia, South Carolina in honor of Judge Davis.

Mr. Davis was born in Hartsville, South Carolina in 1917. After graduating from the University of South Carolina and the University of South Carolina Law School, he took graduate work at Harvard Law School. He served in the South Pacific Theater of Operations, first as an executive officer and later as naval aide to the Commander of the New Hebrides Island Group. After service to his country, Mr. Davis began the practice of law with Graydon, Grimball, Graydon, Faulkenberry, Sawyer, and Suber. He remained in the private practice of law until 1969, when he was appointed as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of South Carolina.

In 1986, Judge Bratton Davis was appointed Chief Justice of the Bankruptcy Court, a post he held for fourteen years. He has served as Chairman of the State of South Carolina Development Board, Vice-President of the Richland County Bar Association, and President of the Navy League of South Carolina. In addition, Mr. Davis has served on the Board of Directors of the South Carolina National Bank, Security Federal Savings and Loan Association, and University of South Carolina Educational Foundation.

Committed to his community, Mr. Davis served as State Vice-Commander of the American Legion, Co-Chairman of the March of Dimes Campaign, President of the Richland County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and President of the Columbia Kiwanis Club. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Columbia Chapter of the American Red Cross and the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Active in his church, Mr. Davis is a Vestryman at Trinity Cathedral.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Judge John Bratton Davis for his many years of unselfish service to God and country.

### IN HONOR OF MAYOR GERALD GILKEY

#### HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Mayor Gerald Gilkey on his 42 years of public service to the Lamar city government. Mayor Gilkey retired from public life on April 16th, 2001. His exceptional career with the City of Lamar began in April 1959, with six years as a councilman in Lamar city government. In 1965, he was elected mayor, a position to which he would be re-elected 17 times; serving an astounding total of 36 years.

Mayor Gilkey has diligently served the people of Lamar, Missouri for over three decades. His dedication to public service and to the community of Lamar is to be commended. The

• 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.

Mayor has worked tirelessly to ensure that Lamar continues to grow. Under his dedicated leadership, the city developed a 45 acre city park that includes a multiple outdoor sports complex, walking trails and picnic areas. Recently, Mayor Gilkey led the effort to build Southwest Missouri's first aquatic park located in the Lamar City Park. A \$1.3 million water treatment plant was built due to the Mayor's leadership. Mayor Gilkey was instrumental in guiding the construction of an 800 seat, state of the art, "Thiebaud" auditorium that is used by the community, area schools and organizations.

Mayor Gilkey is the recipient of numerous awards including the Lamar Chamber of Commerce, "Man of the Year" in 1990; in 1982 he shared "top newsmaker" with the city council. In 1994, he was honored with the "Outstanding Community Service" award from the Lamar Rotary Club. In 1997 at the Home-maker Cooking Show, he was awarded Lamar Democrat's MVP. Mayor Gilkey's presence can also be found throughout the Southwest corner of Missouri. He has served on countless boards and committees where his visionary representation helped influence the growth and improvement of the area.

On June 18, 2001, Gerald and his wife Betty will celebrate their 59th wedding anniversary. Mayor Gilkey has had a great partner and in 1961, Gerald and Betty purchased what is now the Gilkey Automotive Group, and their son, Steve, is now the general manager.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that we will miss an inspirational member of the Lamar community with Mayor Gilkey's retirement from public service. I am sure that I speak for many when I say that his tireless work will not soon be forgotten and that we are all thankful. I would like to personally wish him well in this new stage of his life and know that he will continue to be a presence in Lamar, Missouri. I am certain that my colleagues will join me in honoring this remarkable man.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES THE OPENING OF THE SOUTH BRUNSWICK YMCA

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the opening of the South Brunswick YMCA. Over the past five years, volunteers from South Brunswick and surrounding communities have pooled their collective resources to take this project from concept to completion.

YMCA is an international not-for-profit community service organization brought from London, England to Boston in 1851. From Boston, YMCAs quickly spread across America. At this time many facilities started opening their doors to boys and men of all ages. Some YMCAs were started to serve specific groups such as railroad and factory workers. After World War II, women and girls could enjoy the full benefits of membership and participation. Today, half of all Y members are female.

The South Brunswick YMCA has brought families from across Southern Middlesex County together to assist in the development of a family-oriented, multifaceted facility driven

by a well trained, dedicated and nurturing staff. The YMCA was founded on the commitment to provide a community-based facility to address the health, recreational and social service needs of the community.

The South Brunswick YMCA addresses local community needs through organized activities. Some of the programs offered by the YMCA include swimming lessons, exercise classes for people with disabilities, job training, support groups, water fitness, child care, and dance classes.

Although much has changed over the years, YMCA's mission is the same—to provide the tools needed to build strong kids, strong families and strong communities, and reinforce the values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.

WISHING SAN LUIS A HAPPY 150TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to wish Colorado's oldest town a happy 150th birthday. Nestled in the Sangre de Cristo mountains is the small town of San Luis, which was founded in 1851. Since then it has been home to many families over the last century and a half.

On April 5, 1851, San Luis de la Culebra was founded by Carlos Beaubien and established by settlers from northern New Mexico. According to Governor Bill Owens, San Luis' "rich and beautiful heritage" is attributed to its food, music, language, celebrations and historic buildings.

Under the protection of a group of soldiers from the War Department, the settlers built homes and began to plant. The town continued to grow and in 1861 when Colorado was made a territory, San Luis became the county seat of the newly established Costilla County.

As part of the celebration, Governor Owens proclaimed April as the Oldest Town in Colorado Month, and April 5 as the Oldest Town in Colorado Day. The proclamation refers to San Luis' founding on April 5, 1851, following the pattern of land grants. Carlos Beaubien then gave the people of San Luis the grant of La Vega, a common grazing area which is the last remaining true commons in the United States.

Specifically, the proclamation acknowledges the San Luis Museum and Cultural Center, the Stations of the Cross Shrine and Los Caminos Antiquus Scenic and Historic Byway.

Mr. Speaker, we are all proud of the rich heritage the city of San Luis has established over the last 150 years. And it is with great pleasure that I ask this Congress to recognize San Luis and wish them a happy birthday.

A BILL TO AMEND THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986 TO PROVIDE A SPECIAL RULE FOR MEMBERS OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES AND THE FOREIGN SERVICE, AND OTHER EMPLOYEES, IN DETERMINING THE EXCLUSION OF GAIN FROM THE SALE OF A PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE

**HON. AMO HOUGHTON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with several of my colleagues in introducing our bill, which would address an inequity caused by a change in the Internal Revenue Code in 1997. The proposed change would simply adjust an oversight and bring fairness and equality to the Code by recognizing the unique circumstances of the members of the Foreign Service, the Uniformed Services and U.S. business persons who are working abroad. The bill is the same as the one introduced in the 106th Congress, except that the applicability to business persons provision has been added. The bill is retroactive to May 1997, when the change occurred.

The Code was changed in 1997 to provide a benefit to taxpayers who sell their principal residence—a change more generally beneficial than the prior law. Where the prior law provided for rollovers of capital gains and a one-time exclusion, the new law requires that the owner(s) occupy the principal residence for at least two years of the previous five years from the date of sale to qualify for the full exclusion.

However, members of the Foreign Service and the Uniformed Services, as well as certain business persons posted abroad by their U.S. employers, may not be able to take advantage of the generous change enacted in 1997. The problem arises from the fact that we post our Foreign Service abroad for years at a time, and we move the military from post to post in the U.S. and abroad. The same problem can arise for business persons who are moved abroad for longer and more frequent periods than in the past. With the globalization that is occurring, and affecting most economies, it is essential that our multinational companies compete on a worldwide basis. Globalization is certainly a major factor in our economy. In 2000, exports and imports for the U.S. totaled about \$2 trillion—over 20% of our economy.

The problem arises because it is difficult for these individuals to fit into the mold we created in the 1997 law change. This result occurs because their posting abroad and at home is controlled by others. The bill would alleviate this problem for Foreign Service and Uniformed Services members by suspending the five year period for ownership and principal use for any periods during which the taxpayer was under official orders to serve at a duty station away from his or her home. This change would retain the 5 year look-back and the 2 year principal residence rules, but would address the unfairness issue applicable to members of the Foreign Service and Uniformed Services. The bill would also address the issue for business persons by suspending for up to five years, the five year principal residence test for an individual relocated abroad by his or her employer.

The proposed correction of this problem is not new. In fact, the Taxpayer Refund and Relief Act of 1999, H.R. 2488, which was passed by both the House and the Senate included provisions to correct the problem for all three groups. Unfortunately, the bill was vetoed for reasons unrelated to this proposal. Recently, we in the House have been focusing on tax bills that benefit and directly affect the American people—and this bill does just that. We urge our colleagues to join in cosponsoring this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE BROWN

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend and former student Charlie Brown of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Mr. Brown was recently named a recipient of the J. Willard Marriott Award of Excellence for 2001.

Mr. Brown is the Community Relations and Supplier Diversity Manager for Marriott Vacation Club International on Hilton Head Island. He is a consummate team player, noted for assisting anyone in need and being the first to lend a helping hand. Mr. Brown has become legendary for always being the first to arrive after a hurricane to assist with evacuations and to see where he can be of the most help.

Committed to his community as well as his job, Mr. Brown helped to establish the Hilton Head Medical Center Community Relations Work Group in 1997. He worked toward the start of this group after seeing a need for more open lines of communication between the minority community and the Hilton Head Medical Center and Clinics. Mr. Brown has also been instrumental in seeing the vision of a Minority Business Council on Hilton Head move from the talking stage to fruition.

Selflessly devoting his time, Mr. Brown serves on the boards of the Hilton Head Island Community Foundation, Hilton Head Island American Heart Association, Beaufort County First National Bank, and the NAACP/Housing Initiative Project. In addition, he is the chairman-elect of the Hilton Head Chamber of Commerce and the chairman of the Island Recreation Center Fastlane Track Club.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me and my fellow South Carolinians in honoring Mr. Charlie Brown. He is a wonderful example of commitment to career and community alike and is well-deserving of the Marriott Award of Excellence.

HONORING THOSE WHO MAKE  
SENSE OF YESTERDAY'S EVENTS

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, in 1961 work began between two Germanies on a concrete wall 28 miles long which would divide a people and become the physical symbol of the division between two great world powers.

In 1961 the international manned space race began in earnest with Russia beating the

United States to the first major goal by placing Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin into orbit.

In 1961 the robust air carrier TWA became the first airline to offer in-flight movies on international flights.

In 1961 the former African colony of Tanganyika became an independent country

In 1961 President John F. Kennedy was inaugurated as the nation's youngest President.

And in 1961 two young historians and academics began their teaching careers at Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, Missouri.

Forty years later the Berlin wall exists only in scattered pieces around the world and Germany once again stands as a single nation. American and Russian astronauts today jointly man the International Space Station. TWA has merged into American Airlines and Tanganyika has joined with Zanzibar to become Tanzania. President Kennedy was felled by an assassin's bullet. What has remained unchanged is that Drs. Harlie Gallatin and Frank Cunningham are still helping students at what is now Southwest Baptist University not only learn the details of history, but understand how events of past decades, centuries and millennia effect our lives today.

I rise today to commend these two men who are scholars in every sense of the word, dedicating their lives to their discipline and their students. Near the beginning of their careers as a student and near the end as University President, I benefitted from their scholarship as well as their example in commitment to Faith and family.

Through the years thousands of young people have not only learned about the heritage of our nation and world, but have developed a deep love and respect for history. Many of those students now make significant contributions to the betterment of our nation and world as civic and governmental leaders, educators, scientists, ministers and at least one congressman.

At the end of this academic year Dr. Gallatin retires as Chairman of the Department of History and Political Science at the University where he has worked tirelessly to develop faculty, curricula, and students. He has seen the school grow from a junior college to a four year institution and finally to a University. Dr. Cunningham although retiring from the full-time faculty in 1996 continues to remain active in the department as Emeritus Senior Professor of History.

Today, I want to thank these two men for their commitment both to the discipline of history and to their sharing a respect for and insight into history with all those young lives they have touched over the past four decades. Both these men repeatedly went out of their way to help struggling students understand difficult concepts, and learn to examine significant events with a discerning eye. They helped students view historic events without having to reject their religious faith. They have not invested their lives in vain.

My colleagues in this chamber often wrestle with the issues of history: how our actions will impact future generations and how we will be viewed. I know they join me in thanking Drs. Gallatin and Cunningham for their work in helping us to use the events of yesterday to craft solutions challenges of tomorrow.

THE REWARDING PERFORMANCE  
IN COMPENSATION ACT

**HON. CASS BALLENGER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am reintroducing the "The Rewarding Performance in Compensation Act" which will help workers to share, financially, when their efforts help produce gains for their company in productivity, sales, fewer injuries, or other aspects of performance. The Rewarding Performance in Compensation Act would amend the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) to specify that an hourly employee's regular rate of pay for the purposes of calculating overtime would not be affected by additional payments that reward or provide incentives to employees who meet productivity, quality, efficiency or sales goals. By eliminating disincentives in current law, this legislation will encourage employers to reward their employees and make it easier for employers to "share the wealth" with their employees.

The pressures of worldwide competition and rapid technological change have forced most employers to seek continuous improvement in productivity, quality, and other aspects of company performance. Employers often seek to encourage and reward employee efforts to improve productivity, quality, etc. through what are called "gainsharing" plans—linking additional compensation to measurable improvements in company, team, or individual performance. Employees are assigned individual or group productivity goals and the savings achieved from improved productivity, or the gains, are then shared between the company and the employees. The payouts are based directly on factors under an employee's control, such as productivity or costs, rather than on the company's profits. Thus employees directly benefit from improvements that they help to produce by increasing their overall compensation.

Unfortunately, employers who choose to implement such programs for their hourly employees can be burdened with unpredictable and complex requirements by the FLSA, which clearly did not envision these types of "pay based on performance" plans.

For example, if a bonus is based on production, performance, or other factors, the payment must be divided by the number of hours worked by the non-exempt employee during the time period that the bonus is meant to cover, and added to the employee's regular hourly pay rate. This adjusted hourly rate must then be used to recalculate the employee's overtime rate of pay. The employer is then responsible to pay the difference between the old overtime pay rate and the new recalculated overtime pay rate. For other types of employees, such as executive, administrative, or professional employees who are exempt from minimum wage and overtime, an employer can easily give financial rewards without having to recalculate rates of pay.

Simply put, this legislation would amend the FLSA to allow employers to give non-exempt hourly employees gainsharing or performance bonuses without making employers go through the cost of recalculating hourly and overtime pay. This would give hourly non-exempt employees the same access to bonuses and

gainsharing programs that exempt employees receive.

Performance bonuses and gainsharing programs are a way for employees to share in the success of the company they work for. Whether exempt or non-exempt, all employees should have the same opportunity to receive bonuses for their hard work.

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HONORING HAROLD ELAM

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to honor a pillar of the Grand Junction community. Harold Elam is one of the leading citizens of Western Colorado. Throughout his life, Harold has made the Western Colorado a better place to live. For that, I would like this body to pay tribute to him.

Harold currently owns Elam Construction, which has been a business staple in Western Colorado for a very long time. Under Harold's leadership, the company has been very civic minded, both on a local and state level. Elam Construction has helped out numerous citizens and organizations in Grand Junction and throughout the State of Colorado. "Harold is so generous that he has made the local area and the state a better place to live," said Caroline Suplizio, a friend of Harold's and a leader in the community herself.

Harold gives generously to a number of important organizations, like Mesa County School District 51, Mesa State College, Canyon View Park and the Grand Junction Symphony. He sponsors wonderful events such as the Elam Symphony Classic as well as the Elam Tennis Classic.

Harold has been the recipient of many awards, including the 1999 National Award for Community Involvement, and the "Quality in Construction Award" given by NAPA. He has also been named the honorary Conductor of the year for his outstanding philanthropic contribution to the community symphony and the State of Colorado. This year, the Grand Junction Symphony is honoring Harold as the "Philanthropist of the Year". A fitting tribute to an outstanding man.

Mr. Speaker, Harold Elam has been an incredibly generous member of our community. His generosity has been a tremendous boon and for that I would like to recognize him and thank him with this Congressional Tribute.

Harold, your community, state and nation are proud of you, and we're all grateful for generosity, service and positive leadership.

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RECOGNIZING THE WEST SIDE  
MAGNET SCHOOL, TROUP COUNTY,  
GEORGIA

**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, although the magnet school concept is not new to the public school system, West Side Magnet School of the Troup County School Sys-

tem in the Seventh District of Georgia has accomplished a goal that most would find challenging. The school was ranked first (with an 87.3 score) of 35 schools in the nation, given exemplary status, and received national recognition from the Getty Trust and National Arts Education Consortium. It was one of only six southern schools chosen to be tested for a period of five years the goal: see what new curriculum combinations result when arts are combined with school reform.

Principal Nancy Stevens says the school's accomplishments are a direct result of support from the school system and the arts community, which includes arts support from the Chattahoochee Valley Art Museum, LaGrange College, the opera guild, and The LaGrange Symphony.

The study found the top scoring schools shared the following characteristics: "strong", and supportive leadership either from the principal or key staff, an openness for learning," and support for arts "both in the school and the community." The study and its findings will be published in 2002.

I hope all Members of the United States Congress will join me in recognizing the hard work of everyone who has contributed to making the West Side Magnet School a success.

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TRIBUTE TO LOWELL SELVIN

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a unique individual who is a champion for social justice, a leader in his community, and a trailblazer in the business world.

Lowell Selvin proves time and again, through his words and deeds, that one person can truly make a difference. On May 5, 2001, Congregation Kol Ami of Los Angeles will honor Lowell with its Shomer Tzedek (Guardian of Justice) Award for his untiring commitment to progressive social empowerment and to causes greater than himself.

While the many endeavors Lowell Selvin is involved in are far too numerous to mention, a few highlights help illustrate the vision, energy, and compassion of this remarkable man.

In business, after successfully merging and integrating PlanetOut and Gay.com, Lowell became Chief Executive Officer of PlanetOut Partners, the largest gay and lesbian online services company in the world. In this capacity, Lowell uses his two decades of business acumen, honed by advising some of America's leading corporations, to provide the LGBT community with a platform to network, grow, and conduct commerce with business partners around the world.

In his community, Lowell is on the board of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center and guided this groundbreaking agency's strategic planning process in its formative years. With his help, this organization is now the largest agency of its kind in the world.

Lowell is on the National Advisory Board of Wendy's Hope, a group devoted to supporting lesbians with cancer. Working in collaboration with Feed the Children, Lowell also founded Arbonne Children's Trust. In addition, he helped found Congregation Kol Ami.

It is my honor to recognize the achievements of my constituent, Lowell Selvin, and to join with Congregation Kol Ami in acknowledging his contributions and on-going commitment to social justice and the betterment of his community.

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COLONEL THOMAS M. ("MITCH")  
DOCKENS

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend a soldier, patriot and exceptional leader, Colonel Thomas M. ("Mitch") Dockens, the Commander of the Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD), who will receive the prestigious 13th annual John W. Macy, Jr. Award co-sponsored by the Secretary of the Army and the Army Civilian Personnel Alumni Association.

This award recognizes excellence in the leadership of civilians and accomplishment of mission through the civilian work force. Col. Dockens' exceptional leadership of the CCAD work force is recognized for the period of July 15, 1999, through December 31, 2000; but his excellence and leadership will always be recognized and appreciated in South Texas where his good works are legendary. Col. Dockens has been an extraordinary leader of the United States Army's only depot-level rotary wing (helicopter) repair facility in the world.

Col. Mitch Dockens is a uniquely qualified officer to lead a civilian workforce. He knows how to bring people together; he can speak to management and labor, and is respected by both. He knows how to produce the best product for the fighting men and women at the best price for the U.S. taxpayer. The mutual respect he has fostered at CCAD is the secret weapon of this one-of-a-kind asset in the United States Army. He and his lovely wife Lynne, who treats the base as extended family, have reinforced the morale at CCAD.

The Corpus Christi Army Depot, with 2,654 civilian employees, is the largest industrial employer in South Texas and is responsible for the repair, overhaul and maintenance of a wide variety of rotary wing aircraft and related engines and components for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and friendly foreign nations.

Let me give you one example of Col. Dockens' leadership. Last year, when defective transmission gears threatened the CH-47 and Apache helicopter's flight safety, the Army looked to the private sector to inspect and replace the defective parts. However, the Army found no private sector firm capable of completing the work within the Army's established time frames. The potential contractors had too much commercial work that they were contractually obligated to complete before they could address the Army's safety issue. With the fleets grounded, CCAD was the only available repair source able to meet the Army's time frames. In fact, CCAD completed the work on the Apache helicopter fleet before the potential private sector source said it could even begin the repair.

The award Col. Dockens will receive is named for John W. Macy, Jr., a distinguished public official who served four presidents and

led the efforts to recognize outstanding individuals in the Army in the field of civilian personnel management.

Col. Dockens' first assignment was the 18th Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg. As he moved up through the ranks in the Army, he commanded a host of operations before coming to CCAD. Just prior to his service at CCAD, he attended the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, PA, and served as Chief, Material Readiness Division, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics.

His awards include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, (5th Leaf, the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service, Overseas Ribbon, Saudi Arabia Kuwait Liberation Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, NATO Medal. He is a Senior Army Aviator and is Airborne and Air Assault qualified.

Col. Dockens was named the Macy award winner on April 13, 2001, and will receive the award in an official presentation from Acting Secretary of the Army, Dr. Joseph Westphal, at a Pentagon ceremony on Thursday, May 3, 2001. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending this military leader of a civilian workforce and honor him for his work and his outstanding leadership.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PENNINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Pennington Public Library. In 1876 a dozen local women took it upon themselves to found a library within the village of Pennington. With a late-Victorian zeal for self improvement, the group organized the Ladies' Library Association of Pennington and forever changed the history of this small town.

The Pennington Public Library began with a single bookcase and a purchase fund of \$49. In 1889, the library boasted approximately 1,200 volumes. Today, the library has over 3,700 cardholders that enjoy over 23,000 books, 60 magazines, six newspapers, and one computer, complete with Internet capability.

Libraries are true community centers. They create environments where students can do their homework, townspeople can gather, families can interact, seniors can learn new skills, and job seekers can find advice. They are masters at building partnerships, linking everyone from day care centers, garden clubs and 4H clubs to Head Start and junior colleges, to extend their reach throughout the community.

Although much has changed over the years, Pennington Library's mission is the same—to supply useful and profitable reading for the community and implant in the minds of our youths an everlasting desire for information. Today, a dedicated group of volunteers continue to carry out this 19th-century mission.

For over 125 years the Pennington Public Library has remained an integral part of the Hopewell community. I urge all my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the Library's

steadfast dedication to serving the growing needs of our community.

HONORING THE WORK OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S COLORADO DISTRICT OFFICE

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the men and women of the Small Business Administration's Colorado District office for all that they do to help small business owners live the American Dream.

In July of 1953, Congress passed the Small Business Act, which created the Small Business Association. Their function was to "aid counsel, assist and protect, insofar as is possible, the interests of small business concerns." In 1964 the SBA created the Equal Opportunity Loan Program to aid poverty. SBA's programs now include financial and federal contract assistance, management assistance, and specialized outreach to women, minorities, and armed forces veterans.

Over the past ten years, the SBA has helped almost 435,000 small businesses nationwide get more than \$94.6 billion in loans. In Colorado alone, they have assisted nearly 17,000 customers in 2000 and contributed to the economy by helping to create and retain over 9,000 jobs. They contributed more than \$319.8 million in loan guarantees, and almost \$4.13 billion in government contracts.

In 2000, the Mi Casa Women's Resource Center expanded into Colorado Springs to assist women interested in starting their own business. This is an outstanding example of the type of ventures that SBA supports in Colorado and throughout the United States.

Mr. Speaker, small business in Colorado would not be as it is today if it were not for the Small Business Administration's dedication and help that they offer for people to live the American dream. For that, my friends at the SBA deserve hearty thanks and congratulations.

THE ARTISTS' CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICAN HERITAGE ACT)

**HON. AMO HOUGHTON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague from Maryland, Mr. CARDIN, together with a bipartisan group of our colleagues, in introducing the "Artists' Contribution to American Heritage Act of 2001". The bill would alleviate an unfairness in the tax law as it applies to charitable donations of property by the taxpayer/creator and significantly enhance the ability of museums and public libraries to acquire important original works by artists, writers and composers, and ensure the preservation of these works for future generations. The proposed legislation is the same as we introduced in the 106th Congress, except for advancing the effective date by a year.

Since 1969, the law has provided that the creator of the artistic property is only allowed a charitable deduction equal to the cost of the materials that went into the property. For example, an established artist who donates a painting to the local museum is allowed a deduction for the cost of the canvas, brushes and paint, etc. used to produce the painting. Of course, these amounts are de minimus. There is no real tax incentive to contribute such works of art for the public to enjoy. In fact, the tax law works in the other direction. It makes more financial sense to the creator to sell his or her work. If a collector or art buff buys a painting that appreciates over time, because the artist becomes well-established or was a known and collected artist when the painting was purchased, the collector is allowed a deduction for fair market value when the painting is contributed to the local museum. This is the fairness issue.

There has not always been such disparate tax treatment. Before 1969, the artists/taxpayers received the same treatment—the deduction was based on fair market value. The law was changed, primarily because of the perception that some taxpayers were taking advantage of the law through less than accurate valuations of their charitable gifts.

After the change in 1969, gifts of donor generated art work (paintings, manuscripts, compositions, artistic and historically significant correspondence and papers) to qualifying charitable organizations and governmental entities dropped significantly. Creators were more likely to sell their works than to contribute them. Tom Downey, a former colleague of ours, introduced similar legislation in 1985. In his floor statement he noted that Igor Stravinsky had planned to donate his papers to the Music Division of the Library of Congress the month the 1969 tax change was signed into law. Instead, the papers were sold to a private foundation in Switzerland. Now, 16 years later the situation has not improved. It is time to change our law to encourage rather than discourage such contributions.

There have been significant changes in the valuation process since 1969. All taxpayers making charitable contributions of art work (other than donor generated art work) are required to: (a) provide and/or retain relevant information as to the value of the gift, (b) provide appraisals by qualified appraisers or, in some cases, (c) subject them to review by the IRS's Art Advisory Panel, depending on the dollar amount of the contribution. These changes would apply to creator-donated property under our proposal.

In addition to the valuation safeguards already in the law, our proposal would add additional protections to prevent abuse. These include the following: (a) limiting the value of the deduction to the amount of income the creator received from similar property and/or similar activities, (b) providing that the deduction can only be claimed in the year of contribution, i.e. the carry over rules do not apply, (c) limiting the deduction to property created at least 18 months before the contribution, (d) limiting the deduction to gifts related to the purpose of the institution which receives it, and (e) excluding contributions of property (letters, memos, etc.) created by taxpayers in their role as employees or officers of an organization.

The benefit to the nation when artists are encouraged to contribute their work during their lifetime cannot be overemphasized. It allows the public, historians, scholars and others

to learn from the artist his/her aesthetic aims for the work; how it was intended to be displayed, performed or interpreted; and what influences affected the artist.

Our proposal represents an important step in providing some tax incentive, with needed safeguards, for the creators and moves toward putting them on the same footing as collectors who contribute similar property. Most importantly, it could make the difference in a decision by the creator/donor to contribute some of their created art works to a museum or public library, rather than sell them in the marketplace. That way important works are preserved in the public domain and we all benefit. We urge our colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this legislation.

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TRIBUTE TO TRACY YOUNG  
COOPER

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Tracy Young Cooper, a teacher at C.A. Johnson High School in Columbia, South Carolina. Ms. Young was recently named South Carolina's "Teacher of the Year."

A 29-year-old Columbia native, Mrs. Cooper is a product of Richland School District I schools where her parents were well known educators. She earned a bachelor's degree in English hoping to one day work in broadcast journalism. After attending graduate school, she instead chose to follow in the footsteps of her parents, Mary and Bobby Young of Columbia, and pursue a teaching career. She has been teaching for four years.

Mrs. Cooper, the first African-American to win South Carolina's teaching award in 11 years and the fourth since 1969, initially taught English and reading, and is currently a curriculum-resource teacher. In that position, she aids her principal with administrative duties, but spends most of her time working with colleagues, including serving as a mentor to first-year teachers.

Mrs. Cooper is a graduate of Columbia High School and earned her bachelors degree in English from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. She holds a master's of arts in teaching from the University of South Carolina and is working toward her doctorate degree in education at my alma mater, South Carolina State University.

Mrs. Cooper is truly an ambassador for education. Last year, she spent 3 weeks in Japan as a participant in the prestigious Fulbright Memorial Teacher Fund Program, which works to bridge the cultural gap between the U.S. and Japan. I commend Mrs. Cooper and wish her the best as she continues to promote the teaching profession and expand her efforts to improve the quality of life of South Carolina's children. Mr. Speaker, please join me and my colleagues in congratulating Mrs. Tracy Young Cooper as South Carolina's 2001 "Teacher of the Year."

STOCKTON LADY TIGERS

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, the counties comprising the Seventh Congressional District of Missouri are quickly becoming a center of sports excellence for women's teams. Not only are we home to the Lady Bearcats of Southwest Missouri State University which reached the NCAA Final Four this past week, but also the state's 2-A High School Champions. The Lady Tigers of Stockton Missouri used their talent and hard work to turn personal tragedy into a commitment for achievement and success.

In late September, 2000 17 year old Rachael Budd died of injuries suffered in a car crash. Rachael was a member of the girls basketball team and a leader on the court, in the classroom and among her peers. Additionally, the team lost two other starters to serious injuries that sidelined them for the entire season.

The Stockton Girls High School Basketball team of 2001 was built around five seniors on the 14-member squad. They never lost to a 2-A school en route to a 25-win season capped in March by overwhelming Notre Dame of Cape Girardeau in the state finals. The team dedicated their final game to the memory of Rachael Budd.

Along the way the Stockton girl's coach Tony Armstrong earned "coach of the year" honors and his daughter Jenna Armstrong was named to the First-Team All State squad.

Girls high school sports in America have achieved a place of great pride. They have given young women a new platform for competition and achievement allowing them to showcase their talent, hard work and vision. Their teamwork brings communities together and forges new personal friendships.

I know that my colleagues join me in commending the spirit, the competitive excellence and the community support that have shaped the girls basketball program at Stockton High School.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE REWARDING  
PERFORMANCE IN COMPENSATION ACT

**HON. CASS BALLENGER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am reintroducing the "The Rewarding Performance in Compensation Act" which will help workers to share, financially, when their efforts help produce gains for their company in productivity, sales, fewer injuries, or other aspects of performance. The Rewarding Performance in Compensation Act would amend the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) to specify that an hourly employee's regular rate of pay for the purposes of calculating overtime would not be affected by additional payments that reward or provide incentives to employees who meet productivity, quality, efficiency or sales goals. By eliminating disincentives in current law, this legislation will encourage employers to reward

their employees and make it easier for employers to "share the wealth" with their employees.

The pressures of worldwide competition and rapid technological change have forced most employers to seek continuous improvement in productivity, quality, and other aspects of company performance. Employers often seek to encourage and reward employee efforts to improve productivity, quality, etc. through what are called "gainsharing" plans—linking additional compensation to measurable improvements in company, team, or individual performance. Employees are assigned individual or group productivity goals and the savings achieved from improved productivity, or the gains, are then shared between the company and the employees. The payouts are based directly on factors under an employee's control, such as productivity or costs, rather than on the company's profits. Thus employees directly benefit from improvements that they help to produce by increasing their overall compensation.

Unfortunately, employers who choose to implement such programs for their hourly employees can be burdened with unpredictable and complex requirements by the FLSA, which clearly did not envision these types of "pay based on performance" plans.

For example, if a bonus is based on production, performance, or other factors, the payment must be divided by the number of hours worked by the non-exempt employee during the time period that the bonus is meant to cover, and added to the employee's regular hourly pay rate. This adjusted hourly rate must then be used to recalculate the employee's overtime rate of pay. The employer is then responsible to pay the difference between the old overtime pay rate and the new recalculated overtime pay rate. For other types of employees, such as executive, administrative, or professional employees who are exempt from minimum wage and overtime, an employer can easily give financial rewards without having to recalculate rates of pay.

Simply put, this legislation would amend the FLSA to allow employers to give nonexempt hourly employees gainsharing, or performance bonuses without making employers go through the cost of recalculating hourly and overtime pay. This would give hourly non-exempt employees the same access to bonuses and gainsharing programs that exempt employees receive.

Performance bonuses and gainsharing programs are a way for employees to share in the success of the company they work for. Whether exempt or non-exempt, all employees should have the same opportunity to receive bonuses for their hard work.

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HONORING THE LATE JAMES PAGE  
KYLE

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay respects to one of Western Colorado's leading citizens. James Page Kyle, who passed away on March 30. He was 83 years old. Many people through out Western Colorado benefited from Jim and

the work he did. Jim was a devoted husband and father. In November of this year, Jim and his wife Evelyn would have celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Jim attended the University of Kansas, Ottawa University and Central Missouri State Teacher's College before joining the Army Air Corps during World War II, where he served for six years. He later retired from the USAF Reserve as a Major. After WWII, Jim settled in Grand Junction where he managed Independent Lumber Company branches in Grand Junction, Palisade, Meeker and Cortez until he started his own contracting business, Kyle Sales Company in Cortez.

Besides his business, Jim managed the Cortez Chamber of Commerce and was associated with the development of the Telluride Ski Corporation. In 1974, Jim returned to Grand Junction where he was the Land Use Administrator for Mesa County. After he retired, Jim felt the need to work again so he became a seasonal Park Ranger at the Colorado National Monument.

During his spare time he was involved with the Church of the Nativity Episcopal Church, the Retired Officers Association, Past Presidents of Rotary International, and was a patron of the arts.

Mr. Speaker, Western Colorado has lost a very hard working and dedicated citizen, which is why I would like to recognize him with this CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

NATIONAL NURSING HOME WEEK  
IN CARTERSVILLE, GEORGIA

**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the population of Americans residing in our nation's nursing home facilities today represents two generations of citizens who worked hard to build the strong and prosperous society we now enjoy. These are the generations of our parents and grandparents; our neighbors and friends.

I am proud to say the residents of long-term care facilities in Georgia's Seventh District will be recognized during National Nursing Home Week, an annual event celebrated at Starcrest Long-Term Care Facility in Cartersville, Georgia.

During the week of May 13, 2001, the community of Cartersville will honor those citizens residing in nursing facilities with festivities, including a Community Beautification Project and a family and friends reception. The celebration's theme, "Love is Ageless," embodies the overarching goal of National Nursing Home Week: to increase awareness and appreciation of these very special citizens.

National Nursing Home Week at Cartersville's Starcrest Long-Term Care Facility is an event designed to give back to those Georgians who have already given mightily for two generations. I join in recognizing this exceptional community celebration.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
JUDGE REYNALDO G. GARZA

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the service of the Honorable Judge Reynaldo G. Garza, a patriot from South Texas who has served our community and our country for 40 years on the federal bench. This weekend, Judge Garza will be honored for his nearly half-century of service.

Judge Garza practiced law in Brownsville before enlisting in the United States Air Force during World War II. He resumed his law practice after the war and was appointed to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas in 1961 by the late President John F. Kennedy. He was the first Hispanic jurist to be appointed to the federal bench in South Texas. By 1974 he was the Chief Judge for the Southern District of Texas. Just five years later, President Jimmy Carter appointed him to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Judge Garza's deep devotion to education has always been a common thread running throughout his life and service. In front of young audiences, he recalls what his father told his children on his death bed. His father told them he did not leave them wealth, but he did leave with a good education, something that no one could ever take away. Judge Garza has also said many times, "I do not worry about an educated man in my court for he knows how to take care of himself. I do worry about the uneducated one who is the victim of unscrupulous people who are always trying to take advantage."

Judge Garza sought political office twice before becoming a Federal Judge. In 1941 he was elected to the School Board of the Brownsville Independent School District, and in 1947, he was elected City Commissioner of the City of Brownsville. He served on the Texas Education Standards Committee and the Committee of Twenty-Five on Education Beyond the High School, which resulted in the creation of the Coordinating Board of Colleges and Universities. He also served as a member of the Select Committee on Higher Education.

His interest in international affairs is evident by his service on the Latin-American Relations Committee of the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce, and on the Valley Chamber of Commerce. He is also one of the original members of the International Good Neighbor Council. He is an active member of our community, serving as President of the Brownsville Rotary Club, director of the United Fund of Brownsville, treasurer of the Cameron County Child Welfare Board, and a member of the Advisory Board of the Rio Grande Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

This talented jurist has a talented family. He and his lovely wife Bertha have five children: Reynaldo Jr., David, Ygnacio, Bertha Elizondo and Monica. They are attorneys, accountants, teachers and public servants. Judge Garza's family is a reflection of his work ethic and love of country.

I ask the Members of the United States House of Representatives to join me today in commending Judge Reynaldo G. Garza, a pioneer in our community, as we commemorate his 40 years of service in our federal judiciary.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 20TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE GULF OF  
THE FARALLONES NATIONAL  
MARINE SANCTUARY

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 20th Anniversary of the creation of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GNFMS) and I rise today to pay tribute to this very unique marine Sanctuary off of the San Francisco coast. The Sanctuary includes 1,235 square miles of wetlands, intertidal, and deep sea resources and is home to a diverse population of fish, invertebrates, algae, marine mammals and seabirds. Throughout the year, The sanctuary is either the #1 or #2 spot in the world for numbers of endangered blue and humpback whales. In addition, the Sanctuary is the home for 33 species of marine mammals, including whales, dolphins and porpoises. In 1991, the area was designated by the United Nations as a United Nations biosphere reserve giving it global importance and status. It is situated in one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world.

Management of this vibrant marine sanctuary has been led by an extraordinary individual named Ed Ueber. Ed has served as chief manager and steward of the Farallones since 1990. On the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the GNFMS, I join the people of the Bay Area in extending our heart felt appreciation to Ed Ueber for his extraordinary work on behalf of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. As Manager, Ed has made it his mission not only to protect and preserve our nation's marine life but to bring ocean life to everyone's lives. Ed has succeeded in building public support and enthusiasm for the national marine sanctuary. His efforts to involve the public has led to the creation of the Nation's first sanctuary support organization—the Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association.

Ed has also created an extensive volunteer program—the Beach Watch Program which enlists volunteers for beach and offshore monitoring. These volunteers actively participate in the monitoring of beaches and marine life, including, seals, birds and whales. In 1993, the Beach Watch Program graduated the first 40 volunteers. In 1997, the Sanctuary Education Awareness and Long-term Stewardship (SEALS) program trained volunteers in harbor seal monitoring and interpretation. In 2000, there were 260 volunteers collecting data, responding to oil spills, educating the public, and entering data.

In the Bay Area, we are blessed by the Marine Sanctuary and its steadfast steward, Ed Ueber. Ed serves the Sanctuary and the people of the Bay Area in the most exemplary way through his careful management of the resources and his special gift of sharing the importance of protecting this precious marine environment.

Congratulations to Ed Ueber and the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary on its 20th Anniversary!

COMMEMORATING ARMENIAN  
GENOCIDE

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, on April 24, we commemorated the 86th anniversary of one of the most harrowing events in modern day history—the beginning of the Armenian Genocide. From 1915 to 1923, over one and a half million Armenians were killed by Turks in inter-communal warfare.

Hundreds of Armenian leaders, writers and professionals in Constantinople were rounded up, deported and killed. Five thousand of the poorest Armenians were butchered in the streets and in their homes. Men, women and children were driven into the desert between Jerablus and Deir ez-Zor to die of starvation, disease and exposure. In 1915, the New York Times reported that families were burned alive in wooden houses or chained together and drowned in Lake Van.

To this day, the human rights abuses and atrocities that were committed against the Armenians by the Turks remain disturbing and continue to have a tremendous impact on the stability of this region.

During a campaign speech in February 2000, President Bush stated, "The Armenians were subjected to a genocidal campaign that defies comprehension and commands all decent people to remember and acknowledge the facts and lessons of an awful crime in a century of bloody crimes against humanity. If elected President, I would ensure that our nation properly recognizes the tragic suffering of the Armenian people."

It is important to remind the President of his pledge. As a Member of the Congressional Armenian Caucus, I joined my colleagues in signing a letter to President Bush addressing the need to uphold his promise to recognize the Armenian Genocide as what it was—genocide. We cannot let this statement become an empty campaign promise.

Mr. Speaker, the Congress of the United States remembers the Armenians. It is time for the world to deal honestly with this senseless genocide and redress this tragedy. I urge my colleagues to join me in condemning the genocide and honor the memory of 1.5 million innocent victims.

HONORING L. COOK JEWELRY

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, for 73 years Coloradans have celebrated special events and occasions by buying that special piece of jewelry from L. Cook Jewelry on Main Street in Grand Junction. After 26 years of running the store, the Dan and Connie Rosenthal are retiring, leaving scores of memories and a legacy of service behind. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their years of service to the community and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

"Main Street is losing one of its highest-quality stores," said former state Senator Till-

man Bishop of the oldest business on Main Street. "It's really an institution to our community. I've been buying gifts from there since even before we moved here from Denver. There's a lot of history there. It was always a great gathering place."

Dan and Connie are closing the store as they feel the tug of retirement's strings. Dan has been in the store every Christmas season of his life. Both of them look forward to getting out and enjoying life together and with their daughter. "It's very sad to saying goodbye, but we're going out on top," said Mr. Rosenthal. "We are really going to miss all of our customers."

Much of L. Cook's success has come from the same kind of relationships for 73 years. Tillie recalls spending time in the store discussing fishing and hunting with Dan's father. "People would gather here all day long to discuss their hunting and fishing war stories," said Tillie.

Mr. Speaker, although the community is losing a fine jeweler and a good friend, Dan and Connie have earned well the right to slow down a little bit, a move that will turn give them more time to spend with each other and their daughter. As they do, I want to wish them all the best in the future and say thanks for the service to our community.

Dan and Connie, yours was a job well done.

TRIBUTE TO BILL GEORGE

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mrs. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bill George, an extraordinary American and one of our nation's most respected business leaders on the occasion of his retirement as CEO of Medtronic Inc.

I have had the privilege of knowing Bill George and working with him. In fact, were it not for his leadership, the landmark FDA Reform bill which became law in 1997 would not have been the successful effort it was.

As Chief Executive Officer of one of the world's leading medical technology companies, Bill George has displayed remarkable leadership and unparalleled vision. During his tenure, Medtronic has revolutionized its mission, transforming from a manufacturer of pacemakers to a diversified medical technology company with scientific, manufacturing, education, and sales facilities in 120 countries worldwide. Bill George plotted the course that has taken the company from revenues of \$750 million to more than \$5 billion, meeting analysts' earnings expectations time and again. The company now employs 25,000 people and has consistently won the praise of investors, analysts and employees. Medtronic has been ranked by Fortune Magazine as one of the "Best Companies to Work for in America," and first among its "Most Admired Companies."

Through its Foundation, Medtronic has also fulfilled its mission to restoring people to full lives through full health. Under Bill George's stewardship, the Medtronic Foundation has been recognized by Business Ethics Magazine for its demonstrated leadership in ethics and social responsibility. The Foundation has reached out to patient groups in exceptional

ways, last year alone, offering \$12 million in grants to non-profit organizations in communities worldwide.

Bill George's decision to leave the company comes at a time when Medtronic is well-poised to tackle the challenges of a new millennium, and to build upon its rapid developments in medical technology, computer technology, drug therapy and gene therapy. And there is perhaps no one better suited to launch the company's new vision than Art Collins.

Art Collins has already played an integral part in Medtronic's success. As Chief Operating Officer and former President of the Board of Directors, Art Collins has helped to expand the company's global presence. He joined Medtronic in 1992, serving as Corporate Executive Vice President and President of Medtronic International with responsibility for all Medtronic operations outside the United States. He brings a unique perspective and a creative vision to his new post.

Mr. Speaker, I speak on behalf of the millions of patients worldwide who have benefited from Medtronic's work in paying tribute to Bill George. He is a gifted leader, a proud American and a decent man. He's made our country better with all he's done and I shall always be grateful to know him and to have worked with him.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL SHANNON,  
JR.

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to a friend and constituent of the sixth district whose devotion to his family was paralleled only by his dedication to the labor community.

Born in New York City and raised in the Lafayette section of Jersey City, Michael J. Shannon, Jr. moved to South Amboy, New Jersey in 1968 where he continued to reside with his family.

Michael began his career working his way from shop steward to chief steward at the Maxwell House coffee plant in Hoboken. Facilitating the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union Local 56 as an organizer, business agent, and officer, Michael was ultimately elected local vice president. In addition to these services, he also served as vice president of the Monmouth-Ocean Counties Central Labor Council (AFL-CIO) and was a member of the Rutgers University Trade Union Consulting Council. Because of his dedication and commitment to the labor community, Michael is being honored with the Tenth Annual Partnership Award from the Monmouth County Workforce Investment Board. This award is being presented to recognize Michael's outstanding achievement as a leader in organized labor.

Michael was also a committed husband and father to his wife Patricia and two children, Bridget and Michael. He served our country as a corporal in the Marine Corps and received an honorable discharge in 1962. With community involvement being an important part of his life, Michael was a third degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council 426.

It is my sincere hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Michael J. Shannon, Jr. for his inexhaustible enthusiasm and many achievements in the progress of organized labor and his community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE AGRICULTURE EDUCATION FREEDOM ACT

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Agriculture Education Freedom Act. This bill addresses a great injustice being perpetrated by the Federal Government on those youngsters who participate in programs such as 4-H or the Future Farmers of America. Under current tax law, children are forced to pay federal income tax when they sell livestock they have raised as part of an agricultural education program. Think about this for a moment. These kids are trying to better themselves, earn some money, save some money and what does Congress do? We pick on these kids by taxing them.

It is truly amazing that with all the hand-wringing in Congress over the alleged need to further restrict liberty and grow the size of government "for the children" we would continue to tax young people who are trying to lead responsible lives and prepare for the future. Even if the serious social problems today's youth face could be solved by new federal bureaucracies and programs, it is still unfair to pick on those kids who are trying to do the right thing.

These children are not even old enough to vote, yet we are forcing them to pay taxes! What ever happened to no taxation without representation? No wonder young people are so cynical about government!

It is time we stopped taxing youngsters who are trying to earn money to go to college by selling livestock they have raised through their participation in programs such as 4-H or Future Farmers of America. Therefore, I call on my colleagues to join me in supporting the Agriculture Education Freedom Act.

STILL A NATION AT RISK

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today marks the eighteenth anniversary of "A Nation at Risk." The sobering report on declining student performance in American public schools was first published in 1983 by the National Commission on Excellence in Education (NCEE). Its impact on the American education empire has been tragically negligible.

Created in 1981, the NCEE was appointed by then Secretary of Education T.H. Bell and was comprised of university presidents, high school principals, teachers, a former governor, and school board members. The commission's purpose was to "help define the problems afflicting American education and to provide solutions," according to its chairman, David Pierpont Gardner.

In its report entitled "A Nation at Risk: The Imperative for Educational Reform," the NCEE noted the United States, which once enjoyed "unchallenged preeminence in commerce, industry, science and technological innovation, is being overtaken by competitors throughout the world." Eighteen years later, the United States is still a nation at risk.

Last October, a subcommittee of the U.S. House attributed the nation's stagnant student achievement to the government's failure at prioritizing student performance and its reluctance to reward results. America's poorest children are too often trapped in schools that can't teach. Moreover, the Congressional "Education at a Crossroads" report exposed rampant waste, fraud and abuse within the U.S. Department of Education. While states and local schools are held to strict standards for use of federal funds, the Department cannot account for hundreds of millions of dollars.

Despite the NCEE's early warning that America's education system is at risk, little has changed. The government's monopoly on public school services remains unchallenged. Except for poor children in a few courageous communities, real school choice is a privilege for only the rich.

Yet while state and local schools receive billions more in federal spending, they are constrained by new burdensome regulations, unfunded mandates and paperwork requirements which divert scarce resources from classrooms. Today there are more than 760 education-related programs administered by 39 federal agencies at a cost of \$120 billion a year, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

The federal government's first big offensive into local school management occurred in 1965 with the passage of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Since that time, federal policy has consistently expanded its bearing on America's classrooms and has tied the hands of state legislators and local school board members, despite the U.S. Constitution's suggestion of state and local primacy of authority. Results have been pathetic.

For example, the federal government's most massive program, Title I, was designed to improve the academic level of poor and underserved students. Federal investments totaling \$118 billion since 1965 have left 19% of Title I schools still failing to make adequate annual achievement gains, officially classified as "in need of improvement."

In testimony before Congress, Colorado's state schools chief, Dr. William Moloney explained the government's failure: "ESEA has remained, as always, a neutral phenomena based on inputs rather than results, more on accounting than accountability, an entity always more interested in what you were rather than what you were doing."

Eternally hopeful for their children's futures, taxpayers have shown remarkable patience with the government's education monopoly. So have Republicans. Since capturing the majority in Congress, the GOP has substantially outspent Democrats pumping billions into government-owned schools. In 1983, the average expenditure per student was \$3,300, while the average today tops \$8,000. Still, American students trail their international peers considerably.

According to the 1999 Third International Mathematics and Science Study Repeat (TIMMS-R), American students have not im-

proved in the areas of math and science since the first TIMMS test in 1995. The comparison included students in 38 industrialized countries. According to the Center for Education Reform, American 8th graders are outranked by 18 other nations in math and by 17 others in science.

President George W. Bush has boldly called on Congress to "leave no child behind." He outlined his desire to empower parents, emphasize local control of schools, send dollars to the classroom and improve basic academics. Incredibly, Congress has so far drafted a 900-page-thick bill, translating Bush's sensible objectives into sizable new programs, fresh mandates, scant choice, and an outrageous 11.5 percent increase in federal education spending over last year.

Before another year of dust begins to settle on "A Nation at Risk," President Bush and the Congress should reassess Washington's education spending and regulatory frenzy. Republicans should stake their majority on free-market solutions to school reform, dramatically shrink the bureaucracy, and give real decision-making power—money—to parents of school-aged children.

America's schoolchildren deserve to be treated like real Americans; like they matter. So long as Republicans look to the federal education empire to rebuild the nation's academic prominence they do nothing to distinguish themselves nor maintain the public trust. They will only become part of the problem further betraying America's children to languish in a nation at risk.

HONORING WORLD WAR II  
VETERAN C.U. "PEG" O'NEILL

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute and give thanks to a Colorado resident who risked his life for our country in World War II. C.U. "Peg" O'Neill joined the U.S. Army in 1943. He became a C-47 pilot, and was stationed in England.

Peg flew 11 missions into war-torn Europe. "We could see the German anti-aircraft fire coming straight at us," said Peg in an article from the Montrose Daily Press. "We lost four planes out of our squadron of 18 planes that night." Peg's first mission began in England on June 5, 1944, were 1,000 C-47 cargo transports flew to the coast of France. The paratroopers mission on D-Day, was to disrupt German communications, secure bridges, and incite confusion, chaos and panic. This was a far cry from his days working at the Hartman Brothers Auto Dealership in Montrose.

Peg participated in the battle for Nijmegen Bridge. During the famous mission for the "bridge to far", Peg survived a mid-air collision with another allied plane trying to catch cover from anti-aircraft fire. "The Germans had opened the sea gates and had flooded the fields," said Peg of his first mission. "I had 14 men from the 101st Airborne to drop. The lightest man weighed 258 pounds in full field gear. Some of them never got out of the swamps. They were drowned."

Peg returned to the dealership after the war with several medals, and most of all, his life

and his health. Peg earned the Air Service Medal with seven bronze stars and the prestigious Presidential Citation, which was awarded to his squadron for its valor on the eve of D-Day.

Mr. Speaker, men like Peg O'Neill deserve our thanks and praises for the life threatening situations they were in during World War II. Peg's story is only one of many stories from our World War II soldiers. We owe them our thanks now and in the future.

#### TRIBUTE TO KENT KRUKIEWITT

### HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, recently, Mr. Kent Krukewitt was named a Master Farmer by *Prairie Farmer* magazine. I rise today to congratulate Mr. Krukewitt on this prestigious nomination. Kent represents the fourth generation of his family to farm in Champaign County. Not only does he farm approximately 1,800 acres, he is also a leader in the local campaign to get farmers online, connected with the world and to information that can help them conduct business and communicate with landowners. Kent's eventual goal is to create a secure link on his extensive Web site that allows landowners to dial in and find out information regarding their fields. There are very few members of a community that serve their fellow citizens with the ambition and sacrifice that Kent has displayed over the years. Kent a current co-chairman of the CCNet Ag Task Force, ditch commissioner, and active member of the Homer United Methodist Church has also served as past president of the Champaign County Farm Bureau, Illini FS director, member of the Champaign County Zoning Board of Appeals, and member of the Homer School Board. I am proud and honored to have such a dedicated and influential person in the 15th District.

#### RECOGNITION OF MAGGIE WALKER

### HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to one of our nation's most distinguished women. Maggie Walker, a native of Richmond, Virginia, will be recognized for her vast accomplishments as the country's first African American female bank president on April 26, when she will be inducted into the Junior Achievement National Business Hall of Fame.

Maggie Walker was born in 1867 and grew up in a rented house in downtown Richmond. Her stepfather died when she was a young girl, leaving her mother to raise two children, and Ms. Walker helped support the family by taking in laundry. In describing her childhood, Walker once said: "I was not born with a silver spoon in my mouth, but instead, with a clothes basket almost upon my head."

At the age of 14, Ms. Walker joined the Independent Order of St. Luke, a fraternal insurance society created for African Americans to help the sick, bury the dead, and promote

humanitarian causes during the post-Civil War period. She quickly moved up through the Order's ranks, and by 1899 she held a national leadership position in the organization. Ms. Walker greatly contributed to the success of the St. Luke Penny Savings Bank and by 1920, the bank had financed 645 African American homes.

Ms. Walker eventually became the President of the St. Luke's Penny Savings Bank, a post she held for almost 30 years until poor health led to her retirement in 1932. Ms. Walker's bank later merged with two others to become the Consolidated Bank and Trust Company. This bank still operates in Richmond and is the oldest continually operating African American bank in the country. The bank carries on some of Walker's goals by teaching children the value of money and providing loans to African Americans for home ownership.

Throughout her life, Walker worked closely with other groups and organizations to benefit women and her race. She was a member of the Virginia State Federation of Colored Women's Club and the Executive Committee of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs. She helped organize the Richmond Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and participated on its National Board of Directors. She was also affiliated with Virginia Union University, the National Negro Business League, the Richmond Community Hospital, and the Commission on Interracial Cooperation.

This year Maggie Walker will be inducted into the National Business Hall of Fame. The Junior Achievement National Business Hall of Fame was established in 1975 to recognize those individuals who have made outstanding contributions to free enterprise and society. The criteria for selection includes a demonstration of business excellence, courageous thinking and acting, inspired leadership and community mindedness. Since its inception, the Hall of Fame has welcomed 195 laureates. Their achievements are honored in a permanent exhibit in the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry.

Mr. Speaker, Maggie Walker was able to achieve unparalleled success in a society that was governed by prejudice, in a business dominated by men, and in a poor community where poverty was accepted. Her efforts improved the lives of countless Americans, helped revitalize an impoverished community, and allowed many people to realize the American dream of home ownership. She truly embodied the spirit of the American entrepreneur and I commend Junior Achievement for their recognition of this distinguished Virginian.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE SARAH PATRICIA McCAMMAN

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of Sarah Patricia McCamman, who died suddenly at her home on Tuesday, April 17. She was the sister of John McCamman, my Chief of Staff, who has been with me since I started my career here in the House of Representatives.

Sarah was born in Bakersfield, California on November 27, 1951 to Gertrude Wachob and Kenneth Taylor McCamman. She was a Kansas City, MO resident for the past 26 years.

She was a graduate of University of California at Davis with a Bachelor of Science in Dietetics and Nutrition, and earned a Masters Degree in Dietetics and Nutrition from the University of Kansas.

Sarah was a pediatric nutritionist at the Kansas University Medical Center where she was the Director of Training and Nutrition in the Child Development Center. Sarah trained medical personnel to teach mothers breastfeeding techniques and taught parents of developmentally disabled children how to provide nutrition support.

Sarah was recognized as Young Dietitian of the Year of the Kansas and Missouri Dietitian Association (1978 & 1981) and was awarded the US Public Health Service Medallion in 1986. She was listed in Outstanding Young Women of America (1977). She published numerous articles and training materials associated with lactation management education and promotion and lectured nationwide. Sarah was on the non-profit Board of Directors of Open Options for many years, and was key to the development of the Southern Road group home.

In addition to her many professional accomplishments, Sarah traveled widely in Asia and Central America, and particularly enjoyed exotic and challenging destinations. Sarah was active in Chinese adoptive groups and in ensuring the continued interest of her adopted children in their native culture. Sarah and her daughters were active members of the All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church.

She is survived by her two young daughters, Kai Li (7) and An Mei (3) McCamman; her partner Rick Zbinden; her mother, Gertrude Wachob McCamman formerly of Ventura, CA and now of Kansas City, sisters Claire Westdahl of Atlanta, GA, Jean McCamman of Oakland, CA; brother John McCamman of McLean, VA. She was devoted aunt to Meaghan, Sarah and Michael McCamman of Virginia and Steven and Jon Westdahl of Georgia. Sarah leaves behind many friends and associates.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in offering the McCamman family are sincerest thoughts and prayers as they cope with the loss of their beloved sister, aunt, mother, and friend.

#### HONORING THE "CITIZENS OF THE YEAR," THE BACON FAMILY

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay special tribute to the "Citizens of the Year" in Grand Junction. Herb Bacon, his wife Laura May, and their four children, Steve, Andy, Linda Reid, and Amy Hill were presented the award by the Grand Junction Civic Forum for their involvement in nonprofit organizations. Clearly, the Bacons are highly deserving of this great honor.

Through the Bacon Family Foundation, Herb and his family have been heavily involved in numerous nonprofit organizations, wonderful

causes like the United Way, St. Mary's Hospital, Mesa State College, First United Methodist Church and the Grand Junction Rotary Club. "We asked community leaders all over town who they would nominate for this award, and Herb Bacon topped almost every one of their lists," said Kristy McFarland, the project director for the Civic Forum, in a recent Daily Sentinel article.

The foundation was formed in memory of Herb's parents E.L. and Oma Bacon and his brother and sister-in-law LeRoy and Wilma Bacon. Helping others is in their blood. It has been part of their family's values for generations. Three generations of the Bacon family are involved with the foundation, including the grandchildren of Herb and Laura May. "Families have the ability to leave a legacy no matter what their station in life. It's important to remember that they have an obligation to leave the world a little better than how they found it," Herb said in eloquent terms.

Mr. Speaker, for years the Bacon family has been making our community a better place to live, and for that I want this Congress to say thank you for all that they do. These great Americans have left an indelible mark on their community and for that, Mr. Speaker, the Grand Valley is grateful.

#### COMMEMORATING ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2001*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as I have every year at this time, in a proud but solemn tradition to remember and pay tribute to the victims of one of history's worst crimes against humanity, the Armenian genocide of 1915 to 1923.

In 1915, 1.5 million women, children, and men were killed, and 500,000 Armenians were forcibly deported by the Ottoman Empire during an eight year reign of brutal repression. Armenians were deprived of their homes, their dignity, and ultimately their lives.

Yet, America, the greatest democracy in the world, has not made an official statement regarding the Armenian genocide and it is my hope that the Congress will have the courage to bring the resolution to the floor of the House for a vote.

It's fundamental that we learn from our past and never let this kind of tragedy happen again. Opponents have argued that passage of a resolution would severely jeopardize U.S.-Turkey relations.

A resolution is not an indictment of the current Turkish government nor is it a condemnation of any former leader of Turkey. The United States and Turkey can and will be able to continue its partnership should the Congress adopt this important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, as the only Member of Congress of Armenian and Assyrian descent, I am very proud of my heritage. Like many Armenians, I learned from my grandparents of the hardship and suffering endured by so many at the hands of the Ottoman Empire. That is how I came to this understanding and this knowledge and why I bring this story to the House of Representatives.

I am very proud of the contributions which the Armenian people have made to our great Nation. They've distinguished themselves in the arts, in law, in academics, in every walk of life and they continue today to make significant contributions in communities across our country today.

It's essential to not only publicly acknowledge what happened, but also understand that we are teaching present and future generations about the Armenian Genocide.

We need to bring this legislation to enlighten our young people and to remind ourselves that wherever anything like this occurs around the globe that we, as Members of the United States Congress, and as citizens of this great Nation, must raise our voices.

#### CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF ADVOCACY AND FELLOWSHIP FOR PEOPLE WITH BLINDNESS

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to a outstanding organization in the sixth district that has been dedicated to promoting fellowship among the blind and visually impaired in the community for fifty years.

In 1951, a small group of about half a dozen people with blindness or visual impairment met to form the Monmouth County Association of the Blind. That same year, a building at the corner of Belmar Boulevard and Allenwood Road was purchased to serve as the home base of operations and named the Clubhouse of the Association. Twenty years later, in 1971, the Association was formally incorporated and recently received non-profit status.

The Association has several goals all of which are interconnected: to bring together the blind and visually impaired adult residents of the county to work, to promote equity within our society for the blind or visually impaired, to heighten awareness of legislative action pertaining to blindness or visual impairments, and to create a sense of community and increase sociability among members.

Currently, the Association offers training in computer skills and also provides Braille lessons, training in daily living skills, and self help discussion sessions, in addition to educational and informational sessions on services and programs available to members. To help foster this, the Association works in tandem with the New Jersey Commission for the Blind, along with other New Jersey organizations in the field of blindness.

During the past fifty years, the Monmouth County Association for the Blind has helped hundreds of people with blindness or visual impairment to enjoy a higher standard of living. The Association has also played a key role in improving the understanding of the public on treating and helping those who are blind or visually impaired in a positive and helpful manner. As the senior population swells, we will continue to see an increasing amount of blind or visually impaired seniors, bringing new challenges. Thankfully, the Monmouth County Association for the Blind seems well prepared.

It is my sincere hope that my colleges will join me in honoring the Monmouth County Association for the Blind for their service to the blind, the visually impaired, and the general public.

#### INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION RELATIVE TO THE REPEAL OF THE SELECTIVE SERVICE ACT AND RELATED PORTIONS OF THE US CODE (APRIL 26, 2001)

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing legislation to repeal the Selective Service Act and related parts of the US Code. Also, I am placing the attached article from the Taipei Times in today's CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I fear that this source is not widely read among many in this body or our nation, so I am hopeful this action will serve to bring this letter to a much wider audience. The person who writes this letter is a law student in Taiwan. His arguments against conscription are similar to those offered by people in the United States who oppose the draft. The student argues that conscription is a violation of civil liberties, a costly and ineffective system that harms society and the economy as well as the rights of the individual conscripted, and a system that harms national defense rather than helping it. While we do not currently have conscription in the US we do have draft registration and each argument against the draft is equally applicable to our current selective service system and the registration requirement. I urge my colleagues to seriously consider the arguments against conscription raised in this article and cosponsor my legislation to repeal the Selective Service Act.

[Taipei Times on line edition, Thurs. Apr. 26, 2001]

#### CONSCRIPTION IS HARMING TAIWAN

By Chang Yung-chien

Some time ago, the media reported on would-be conscripts scrambling to grab a place in the "alternative service" to military conscription. There is now an uproar over President Chen Shul-blan's future son-in-law, who escaped doing his term of military service because he had gout. The issue of military service has again struck a sensitive chord in Taiwan's society.

Why do so many people feel disgruntled? This writer has always advocated a volunteer military recruitment system. But this seems to be a politically incorrect view in a country that faces external threats. The difficulty of getting enough recruits and the increased burden that would be imposed on government coffers are the usual reasons given against a volunteer system. I find these reasons totally incomprehensible.

Military recruitment is a public policy matter. It needs to undergo an analysis for cost-effectiveness. Why do we have "reserve officers" and "alternative service" systems?

We have them precisely so that skilled people can be more valuable for the country if they are pulled out from the ranks to serve as platoon leaders or as cheap labor for high-tech companies. Once this point is clear, then the alternative service system will seem quite strange. Someone with a PhD in electrical engineering would be working in a high-tech company anyway if he were not

doing alternative service. The only difference is that he would be getting a reasonable salary for his work. The conscription system forces conscripts to provide the same service for less pay. By comparison, an outstanding female with a PhD in electrical engineering can get paid according to her market value because she does not have to do military service. NVhy should we use a conscription system to provide cheap labor to corporations?

Moreover, society as a whole has paid an enormous invisible price for the conscription system. Friends of mine waited almost a year to be conscripted—doing nothing (of course, two years of military service are also spent doing nothing). Still more people see their lifetime plans interrupted. They waste the most creative time of their lives writing military reports that do not help the nation's economy or the people's livelihood.

How many people have left the country before conscription age just to evade those two years, and come back only after they are too old for conscription? How many people have cut their fingers, damaged their eyesight, or otherwise harmed their bodies? How can it be beneficial to the country? How many mutinies have we had in the armed forces?

Our president, who can carry his wife to and from her wheelchair every day, did not have to do military service because of a problem with his "hands." And the president's future son-in-law is busy running in and out of the National Taiwan University Hospital every day and yet does not meet the physical conditions to serve as a medical officer. These and countless other examples may all be legal, but when a question about "fairness" enters the public mind, a feeling of being exploited arises spontaneously.

I would also like to ask: Why can't I finish my studies before serving my country? Even if I have to serve two years as a conscript, I will be of far more use to the country providing legal services to ordinary citizens than just do drills and jogging. How much more of its human resources can Taiwan afford to waste?

As for the question of not finding enough recruits, this should not be a problem as long as the Ministry of National Defense offers competitive salaries. If serving in the military simply means loafing around, then such service may be worth less than NT\$10,000 a month. But there should be no such "profession." If being a soldier is a high-risk profession, there should be a high salary to compensate for that risk. That may increase expenditures for the government, but it must be remembered that only people who can freely enter various professions on the job market can maximize their value.

Unless we believe that the average productivity of conscription-age males is worth less than NT\$10,000 or so per month (the monthly salary of an ordinary soldier), we cannot but agree that society as a whole would gain more wealth without conscription than the government coffers have to lose. Such losses might even be offset by increased government revenue from taxes on the gains made by those conscription-aged men who would be working in society instead.

No talk about "honor" solves any problems. Everyone sets out from a rational, self-interested standpoint. What the state should do is maximize the benefits for society as a whole, not limit its thinking to military service. Maintaining a conscription system certainly does more harm than good. Those who wear the badge "being a soldier is a good experience" should ask themselves whether they would be willing to do it again.

HONORING MILDRED HART SHAW

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I now ask that Congress take a moment to pay its respects to a leader in the Grand Junction community. Mildred Hart Shaw passed away on March 25, 2001 at the age of 91. Mildred has been a model citizen of the Western Slope since 1933. For her life of service to Colorado, I would now like to honor her.

For 45 years Mildred's byline appeared in the Daily Sentinel. When she first started out in the media, women reporters were traditionally assigned births, deaths and weddings, but she soon changed that. She started at the Sentinel as the society editor and a copy editor. She finally convinced then publisher Walter Walker to let her cover breaking news stories. Eventually she covered everything from politics to crime, earning the reputation of a talented and ethical journalist.

She is described by her friends as determined, civic minded and thoughtful. "She was an intelligent, independent woman," said William Robinson. "She was a great supporter of the soul of Grand Junction. She enjoyed life and she enjoyed having people around her who enjoyed life."

Mildred was active in a whole array of community affairs. She was a strong voice for then Mesa College to become a state college. She served on the Mesa County Art Center board of directors, she was a member of the executive board of the Gifted Child Committee and was chairman of the Civil Defense Committee for Grand Junction during World War II. She also started the Sub for Santa program in Mesa County. Because of her love of books, also Mildred served as the director of the Junior Great Books Program for District 51 for 11 years.

Mr. Speaker, Mildred Hart Shaw will truly be missed by her family, friends, and peers, but her memory and service to the community will be forever etched in our minds. Clearly, western Colorado is a better place for having known Mildred.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF RICHARD A. AUSTIN TO THE  
STATE OF MICHIGAN

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of the finest public servants the state of Michigan has ever known. This past Friday, my dear friend Richard Austin passed away. Richard was a man of elegance, grace, dignity, honor, compassion and great intellect. The citizens of Michigan have suffered a tremendous loss.

Richard was Michigan's longest serving Secretary of State, having diligently served Michiganders for nearly two and a half decades, from 1970 to 1994. He was a pioneer in many areas, from breaking the color barrier by being the first African-American to hold state-

wide office to his numerous original innovations while serving as Secretary of State. He was a model public servant, the embodiment of dedication, service, commitment and trust.

At a time when citizens' faith in our institutions was low, he made the public sector work, and in doing so, gave government a good name. Austin's reforms and innovations during his long service saved the people of Michigan time and money, earning him a reputation as a friend to the taxpayer. More importantly, he streamlined state services and eliminated red tape.

Before Austin's reforms, renewing your driver's license or getting new tags for your license plates could be an all day affair replete with frustrations and long lines. Richard understood those frustrations and worked to make government work for the average citizen, to eliminate the hassles, duplication and inefficiency that are so often associated with state services.

That commitment to protecting the taxpayer and serving public interest came from his training as an accountant. Before being elected as Secretary of State, Richard was Michigan's first African-American CPA. Richard was fiscally conservative and treated the taxpayers' money as if it were his own. Indeed, the reforms and innovations he implemented saved the state and the taxpayers of Michigan hundreds of thousands of dollars.

But one achievement of Richard Austin's outshines all others, including his money-saving reforms, and that is the creation of the "Motor Voter" law. 8

Voter registration was near and dear to Austin's heart, and he considered it to be the most important function of his office. His passion grew out of his association with the civil rights movement and the long struggle for voting rights that he witnessed and that was a part of his being.

Richard was raised in Alabama and experienced the ugly face of racism, disenfranchisement and bigotry first hand. In Michigan, he battled the subtle racism and prejudice of the North. But Richard did not let the forces of hate or intolerance deter him. He persevered, he broke down walls and ultimately overcame, becoming the first African American to hold statewide office in Michigan.

When Richard was sworn in, voter registration was at the top of his agenda. In his mind were the memories of the lives lost during the Freedom Rides and the voter registration activities in the South and Mississippi. He remembered the black Americans who fought and died for the right to cast a ballot.

Richard Austin knew the disenfranchisement and intimidation that for so long was a part of our history. And thus did Austin appreciate and understand the importance of the vote, and how precious it is. That it is the foundation of our democracy, that "one man, one vote" is the cornerstone of American freedom, that every man and woman was equal inside the voting booth and that liberty, freedom and justice are predicated on access to the ballot box.

Richard thought long and hard about how to eliminate barriers to democratic participation, how to make it easier to vote, and how to encourage and increase voter registration. Austin's solution was the Motor Voter Act. Motor Voter was Austin's brainchild, and it was a very simple concept: register voters in the same office where you register drivers. Austin

championed the idea and saw it signed into law in Michigan in 1975.

To his continuing credit, Michigan's experiment was so successful, it served as the model for the federal government when it passed the nationwide act in 1993—a full 18 years after Michigan. It is an association, an accomplishment and a legacy that has bettered this great nation, and it is a fitting tribute to one of Michigan's finest public servants.

Richard is in a better place now. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Ida, and their daughter. He will be sorely missed by all. Good bye Richard and God Bless you.

INTRODUCING THE REPETITIVE  
FLOOD LOSS REDUCTION ACT OF  
2001

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation, the Repetitive Flood Loss Reduction Act of 2001, to reform the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) at a very critical time. The Bush administration has proposed the most severe NFIP reduction policy seen in years. According to the FY 2002 budget, "flood insurance will no longer be available for several thousand 'repetitive loss' properties," but does not provide a definition. My proposal reforms the program by improving pre-disaster mitigation and facilitating voluntary buyouts of repetitively flooded properties and defines such properties as those with cumulative losses exceeding fair market value. I am confident that an effective pre-disaster mitigation and buyout program will both reduce costs to taxpayers, protect residents in flood-prone areas, and avoid writing off thousands of families' most valuable asset—their home.

I have long championed removing repetitive loss properties from the NFIP, and I drafted my legislation in consultation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Harris County, Texas, Flood Control District, one of the nation's most experienced and most innovative flood control districts. I consider this legislation to be a superior alternative to the Administration's proposal, and I look forward to working with the Administration, my colleagues, constituents, and other interested parties so that fair NFIP reform can be reached.

The need for this legislation was underscored by the 1999 Higher Ground report by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) that the NFIP has made flood insurance payments exceeding the value of the properties involved to thousands of repetitively flooded properties around the nation. This report, found that from 1978 to 1995, 5,629 repetitively flooded homes had received \$416.4 million in payments, far in excess of their market value of \$307.5 million. My state of Texas led the nation in the volume of such payments, with more than \$144 million, or \$44 million more than the market value, paid to 1,305 repetitively flooded homes. The Houston/Harris County area, which I represent, had 132 of the 200 properties that generated the largest flood insurance payments beyond their actual value.

These include one property in South Houston that received a total of \$929,680 in flood insurance payments from 17 flooding incidents, and another property near the San Jacinto River that received \$806,591 for 16 flooding incidents, about seven times the actual value of the home.

Other areas of the country with large numbers of such properties include New Orleans and Orleans Parish, LA; St. Charles County, MO; Jefferson Parish, LA; East Baton Rouge Parish, LA; and Puerto Rico. Altogether, according to the NWF report, although repetitive loss properties represent only two percent of all properties insured by the National Flood Insurance Program, they claimed 40 percent of all NFIP payments during the period studied.

Since its creation in 1968, the NFIP has filled an essential need in offering low-cost flood insurance to homeowners who live inside 100-year flood plains, and the program has helped to limit the exposure of taxpayers to disaster costs associated with flooding. Insurance minimizes risk and liability; it goes hand in hand with economic growth. However, the NWF report clearly points out the need to improve the NFIP to address the problem of repetitive loss properties.

Furthermore, continued losses to the NFIP has increased the call by some of my colleagues, and now the Bush Administration, to increase premiums and reduce the federal subsidy for all homeowners in the flood plain, not just those that suffer from repetitive flooding, in order to reduce federal budget outlays, or to drop homeowners who have filed limited claims against the NFIP. The latest Administration NFIP proposal drops undefined "repetitive loss properties" out of NFIP after the next claim. Under the Bush proposal, a homeowner who filed a single claim, regardless of the size, would be dropped from the program. Without long-term comprehensive reform of the NFIP, I am concerned that in the future Congress may follow through with the Administration's proposal or other proposals to double or triple flood insurance premiums for all flood-prone homeowners, as was proposed in 1995 and 1996.

While the Administration is pushing people out of the NFIP, it also proposes to reduce the federal share of hazard mitigation grants from 75% to 50%, reducing funds available for flood prevention by \$83 million. The administration also proposes to eliminate FEMA's Project Impact, which helps communities protect themselves from the devastating effects of natural disasters. In addition, the 2002 budget cuts the Army Corps of Engineers by \$600 million. Of that cut, \$451 million comes from Construction General funds, which fund flood control and navigation projects. A policy of reducing flood prevention efforts while reducing insurance will compound the safety risk and financial pain for homeowners in the floodplain.

Instead of stripping away homeowners' flood insurance, my legislation takes a three-pronged approach to addressing this issue: a comprehensive pre-disaster mitigation program; an enhanced repetitive substantial loss property buyout program with consistent criteria and procedures; and improved coordination between FEMA and local governments:

Pre-disaster mitigation: The legislation directs the FEMA director to carry out a program to mitigate repetitive flood losses by providing financial assistance in the form of grants to the States, local governments, and

local flood management agencies for planning and carrying out activities designed to reduce expenditures from the NFIP. Eligible mitigation activities include elevation, relocation, demolition, floodproofing, and acquisition by States and communities of properties and structures located in flood-risk areas. Grants would be provided on a cost-shared basis, with the Federal government providing no more than 75 percent of the total cost of the mitigation activities, as is the case with traditional watershed management programs.

Repetitive Loss Property Buyout Program: The legislation authorizes the FEMA director, upon determining that an insured property is a repetitive substantial loss property, to offer to purchase the property at fair market value (including structures) at the time of the offer. This offer would remain open as long as the property is covered by the NFIP. The State or local flood management agency may coordinate and carry out the purchase at FEMA's direction. Any property so acquired would have to be used in a way compatible with open space, recreational, or wetlands management practices, providing both environmental and flood management benefits. The legislation establishes a firm damage standard of repetitive flood losses in excess of 125 percent of the value of the property (or structures) to become subject to and receive priority for buyout offers. It also provides incentives for acceptance of buyout offers by establishing increased NFIP premiums and deductibles for owners of substantial repetitive loss properties who decline buyout offers.

Intergovernmental Coordination: The legislation directs the FEMA director, in consultation with regional flood plain administrators, to develop and periodically update a list of repetitive flood lost properties, which will provide a consistent data base for all levels of government. This consistent approach to assessing, ranking, and reporting of repetitive loss properties will result in better targeting of assistance to areas of greatest need.

This legislation authorizes the appropriation of \$100 million for fiscal year 2000 to carry out the pre-disaster mitigation and repetitive flood loss property buyout program. I believe this is a cost-effective investment that will reduce the financial exposure of the American taxpayer by better protecting or removing the highest risk properties from the National Flood Insurance Program.

HONORING COLORADO MOUNTAIN  
COLLEGE'S "COMMUNITY AD-  
JUNCT FACULTY OF THE YEAR"

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to ask that this Congress recognize and say thank you to Colorado Mountain College's "Adjunct Faculty of the Year" Marcia Hund. Marcia was selected from 1,000 community faculty members for her ability to teach and for her understanding of students. For that, Marcia deserves the recognition of this body.

Marcia teaches the fundamentals of math, and is an instructor in the CMC's Rifle Center Learning Lab. And after school she volunteers

as a tutor for Literacy Outreach, teaching adults otherwise unaffiliated with CMC how to read. Marcia is also involved with the students as a faculty advisor. She has worked on CMC's Adjunct Faculty Pay Plan Committee, and has been an active member in the National Association of Developmental Education. "We are very excited that Marcia has been chosen as the college's adjunct faculty of the year," said Dean Harry Silver in a recent Glenwood Springs Post Independent article. "Marcia epitomizes our adjunct faculty."

Marcia came to CMC 14 years ago as a science and ecology teacher. She soon began teaching developmental classes. "Students will come after failing, sometimes again and again in school, and see success as an impossible dream. The wonderful part is for me to see them succeed and see that they can learn," said Marcia.

Marcia's supervisor Karen Dunbar says she has the ability to present information to the students in a kind and gentle manner. "I really do love working with adults who have had problems in school in the past . . . It's more than a job for me, it's something I feel is a valuable contribution, and I'm good at it."

Mr. Speaker, for the last 15 years Marcia Hund has helped out numerous students trying to finish their education, and for that she deserves the thanks of Congress. I know she will continue to do an outstanding job with her students. For that, we are all grateful.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GLENS FALLS NATIONAL BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

**HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a historic institution in the 22nd District of New York. The Glens Falls National Bank and Trust Company is the oldest bank in Warren County.

In 1851, the bank was founded by a dozen pioneering businessmen from the local lumber, limestone, and insurance industries. Under the leadership of its first president, Benjamin Burhans, the bank recorded more than seventeen thousand dollars in deposits in its first month alone.

Despite times of turmoil, such as the Civil War, the Great Depression and the two World Wars, Glens Falls National Bank was able to not only prosper, but grow as a dedicated establishment to downtown Glens Falls and the North Country. Although the bank currently has 23 branches, 350 employees, and over one billion dollars in assets, this landmark has been committed to remaining independent and local.

Glens Falls National is a true pillar of the North Country. The bank and its employees donate money, time, and hard work to more than 300 charitable and community causes including Glens Falls Hospital, the United Way, and the Adirondack Balloon Festival.

Mr. Speaker, as a proud resident of the 22nd Congressional District of New York, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Glens Falls National Bank and Trust Company.

COMMEMORATING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR DISASTER

**HON. CURT WELDON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, fifteen years ago today, the small town of Chernobyl, Ukraine was the scene of the world's greatest nuclear accident in history. The aftermath of Chernobyl brought untold devastation to thousands of families in northern Ukraine. Radiation from blowing winds was spread as far away as the Scandinavian countries, even to coastal areas of southern Alaska and northern California. Even by most conservative experts, Chernobyl unleashed more radiation than 90 Hiroshima-sized bombs. Most of this fallout blanketed heavily populated areas of northern Ukraine and southern Belarus.

Studies have shown thyroid cancer has skyrocketed among children exposed to the radiation. Stillbirths and birth defects in Ukraine have doubled, while the rate of infant mortality is twice the European average. Unfortunately, the effects of radiation exposure, including latent cancers, do not emerge in the body until ten to twenty years later. In effect, the next five to ten years will be crucial as humanitarian efforts mount to respond to the devastation inflicted over a decade ago.

Although all Chernobyl nuclear reactors have been closed, the community is still suffering. Let us not forget the silent disease affecting the citizens of Ukraine.

COMMEMORATING ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2001*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to participate once again in the annual remembrance of the Armenian genocide today, 86 years after this terrible tragedy which claimed the lives of over 1.5 million Armenians between 1915 and 1923.

The Armenian Genocide began in 1915 with the rounding up and killing of Armenian soldiers by the Turkish government. After that, the government turned its attention to slaughtering Armenian intellectuals. They were killed because of their ethnicity, the first group in the 20th Century killed not for their actions, but for who they were.

By the time the bloodshed of the genocide ended, the victims included the aged, women and children who had been forced from their homes and marched to relocation camps, beaten and brutalized along the way. In addition to the 1.5 million dead, over 500,000 Armenians were driven from their homeland.

It is important that we make the time, every year, to remember the victims of the Armenian genocide. We hope that, by remembering the bloodshed and atrocities committed against the Armenians, we can prevent this kind of tragedy from repeating itself. Unfortunately, history continues to prove us wrong. That is

why we must be so vigilant in remembering the past.

It is important to continue to talk about the Armenian genocide. We must keep alive the memory of those who lost their lives during the eight years of bloodshed in Armenia. We must educate other nations who have not recognized that the Armenian genocide occurred.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Armenian-Americans—the survivors and their descendants—who continue to educate the world about the tragedy of the Armenian Genocide and make valuable contributions to our shared American culture. Because of their efforts, the world will not be allowed to forget the memory of the victims of the first 20th Century holocaust.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE LINDSEY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. George Lindsey and the University of North Alabama for their efforts in organizing and participating in the George Lindsey/UNA Television and Film Festival. This film festival is in its fourth year and has become an international affair showcasing and rewarding excellence in film and video endeavors. The cultural and educational benefits for UNA, the Shoals and the entire state of Alabama are immeasurable.

Dr. Lindsey, a 1952 alumnus, is known throughout the country for his role in The Andy Griffith Show. Lindsey also became a staple character on television and film fill many a page. However, Lindsey has not let his fame and fortune cloud his commitment to good will. Instead, Lindsey has used his success and talents to improve the lives of those around him. He has raised more than one million dollars for the Special Olympics and started the George Lindsey Aquatic Center at the Alabama State Hospital for the Mentally Retarded. His generosity and dedication to the University of North Alabama are legendary.

Along with Bobbie Hurt, Bill Jarnigan, Robert Potts, and Lisa Daniell of UNA, Lindsey had a vision for a festival that would provide aspiring artists, especially those from the state of Alabama, the opportunity to showcase their art while learning from professionals how to strengthen their work. They have succeeded beyond their greatest expectations bringing in such speakers as Tom Cheronos, director of Seinfeld and Academy Award-winning actor Ernest Borgnine and launching the careers of several of the participants.

As this year's festival gets underway, I wanted to express my deepest appreciation to Dr. Lindsey and UNA for encouraging the future leaders of the film industry. I also want to thank them for helping share with the world the wonderful things that are going on at UNA. On behalf of the United States Congress and the people of the 5TH district of Alabama, I share my congratulations with UNA for the success of the George Lindsey/UNA Television and Film Festival and I wish them many, many more years of fruitful collaboration.

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE  
MARITIME SECURITY PROGRAM

**HON. DUNCAN HUNTER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Merchant Marine Panel of the House Armed Services Committee, I rise today to address a matter under the jurisdiction of my panel which is of the utmost importance to the national security and the maritime capability of the United States, namely the need to reauthorize the Maritime Security Program (MSP).

The MSP program was established by the Maritime Security Act of 1996. The program was designed to maintain the continued presence of an active, privately-owned, U.S.-flag and U.S.-crewed merchant shipping fleet that would provide sustained sealift capability in time of war or national emergency. That Act phased out the operating differential subsidy program, provided reduced payments to vessel operators who agreed to make vessels and associated intermodal assets available to Department of Defense (DOD) upon request, and authorized \$100 million annually for MSP program funding. Without the MSP program, U.S.-flag vessel owners would have been forced to shift their operations to foreign flags with foreign crews in order to remain internationally competitive. This would have been detrimental to our national security interests.

The MSP has proved very successful. Today, 47 U.S.-flagged commercial vessels, crewed by U.S. citizens, participate in the MSP program. These vessels are engaged in the foreign commerce of the U.S. and are enrolled in DOD's Emergency Preparedness Program to ensure that such vessels and associated worldwide intermodal transportation and management assets are incorporated into DOD sealift plans and programs, and are immediately available to meet military sealift requirements. Without the MSP the cost to DOD would be substantial—approximately \$800 million annually would be required by DOD to provide similar sealift and related system capacity on its own for the rapid and sustained deployment of military vehicles, ammunition and other equipment and material.

Authorization for the MSP is for a ten-year period up through September 2005. To ensure the continued operation and viability of a maritime security fleet of privately-owned, militarily-useful U.S.-flag vessel operators, Congress needs to move forward with the reauthorization of the MSP. This would provide the industry with the timely assurance they need that the MSP program will continue beyond the year 2005.

Additionally, I am concerned over rumors that U.S. citizenship requirements for this program could be modified. I strongly believe that reauthorization of the MSP program must ensure that current United States citizenship requirements continue to apply for operators of U.S.-flagged, U.S. crewed commercial vessels. The MSP program now requires that priority be given to MSP vessel operators that are owned and controlled by United States citizens (such operators are commonly known as "Section 2 citizens" under section 2 of the 1916 Shipping Act). Such U.S.-ownership and U.S.-control requirements are critical to the continued viability of the MSP program and must be preserved.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on this vital effort to enhance the national security of the United States while ensuring that critically important U.S.-ownership standards are maintained.

DESIGNATION OF THE LEE H.  
HAMILTON FEDERAL BUILDING  
AND U.S. COURTHOUSE IN NEW  
ALBANY, INDIANA

**HON. BARON P. HILL**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to introduce H.R. 1583, a bill to name the Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in New Albany, Indiana, after my friend, mentor, colleague and the former Congressman of southern Indiana's 9th district, Lee Hamilton. I would like to thank State Representatives Bill Cochran and Jim Botorff of the Indiana General Assembly for urging Congress to designate this building in honor of Lee.

Lee Hamilton served the people of southern Indiana with distinction for 34 years in the United States House of Representatives. In the course of his long career, he established himself as a leader in international affairs, serving as the chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee, the House Intelligence Committee and the Iran-Contra Investigation Committee. Lee was an honorable, forthright and trustworthy member of Congress whom we could always count on for a calm voice of reason as our nation dealt with foreign policy issues throughout the Cold War.

Lee Hamilton served as my Congressman from the time I was 12 years old until he retired in 1998. Lee's common sense leadership in Congress helped make southern Indiana a better place for Hoosier families to live and work for over thirty years. No matter how important he became out in Washington, we always knew he was working hard for us.

When Lee retired from Congress in 1998, Washington Post columnist David Broder wrote, "Hamilton is a throwback to the old days of the House and not just because he still has the crew cut he wore when he came to Washington as a small-town Hoosier lawyer in the Democratic landslide of 1964. He is an exemplar of the common-sense, instinctively moderate model of legislator that used to be common in Congress but is increasingly rare today."

Lee currently serves as the Director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC and the Director of The Center on Congress at Indiana University. He has received numerous public service awards including the Paul H. Nitze Award for Distinguished Authority on National Security Affairs, the Phillip C. Habib Award for Distinguished Public Service, the American Political Science Association Hubert Humphrey Award, the Indiana Humanities Council Lifetime Achievement Award, and the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress' Statesmanship Award.

I believe it is only fitting that we designate the Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in New Albany as the Lee H. Hamilton Building to pay tribute to his limitless dedication and service to the people of southern Indiana.

A TRIBUTE TO RAY GEORGE,  
DARE DEPUTY FOR MONTEREY  
COUNTY, CA

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Deputy Ray George of the Monterey County Sheriff's Department and their Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program. As you may know the DARE program helps bring a multi-faceted approach to staying away from drugs in the classrooms of 5th and 6th graders around the world. Deputy George is one of three full-time deputies assigned to the Monterey County DARE program, and it is for his recent fund-raising efforts that I wish to honor him here.

Mr. Speaker, the Monterey County DARE program, currently under Deputy George, Deputy Vince Hernandez, and Deputy Karen Gentile, was founded in 1993 by Deputy Fabian Barrera. In the past 8 years, they have coordinated with the local police departments through the county, as well as the schools to bring their courses that aim at helping young people face drug abuse in their lives. Some of the key topics they try to bring to their students include: building self-esteem; the consequences of drug use; decision making skills; recognizing and resisting peer pressure; techniques to say no; and ways to deal with stress.

Deputy George recently organized a black-tie fund raiser in Monterey, and his hard work was made clear with the success of this event. Everyone present that evening, myself included, felt that these deputies help bring a crucial message to our communities. Their dedication to this cause is commendable, and I would like to especially honor Deputy George for his commitment to excellence. The service of local officials such as these are an asset to our nation, and I thank the Speaker for this chance to honor them.

TRIBUTE TO BILLY DEFRANK LES-  
BIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY CEN-  
TER

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center of San Jose. On April 28th, the DeFrank Center will celebrate 20 years of service to the Santa Clara Valley.

The DeFrank Center opened on Keyes Street in downtown San Jose in 1981. Services in what was then a 2 room storefront included a hotline, counseling, and a switchboard. Today, the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Center serves a large and diverse community. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people of all ages and backgrounds find resources here that are not available elsewhere. Each month over a thousand people visit the DeFrank Center's headquarters, and many more call the switchboard. Over 140 meetings, workshops, health programs and special events take place at the DeFrank Center each month.

I am proud of the caring staff and corps of volunteers whose dedication has built the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center. It is because of their hard work that the DeFrank Center is "a place to call home," and I thank them for their 20 years of service to our community.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district on Tuesday, April 24, 2001, and I would like the record to indicate how I would have voted had I been present.

For rollcall vote No. 85, the motion to instruct on budget conferees, I would have voted "aye."

For rollcall vote No. 86, to pass a suspension bill, I would have voted "aye".

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HONORING CYRIL LAMBERT ON  
HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional leader in the Third Congressional District of Illinois. I would like to honor Cyril "Barry" Lambert on his retirement from the Village of Summit's Board of Trustees and salute his many years as a dedicated Village Trustee. He is retiring from service to the Village on May 7, 2001, which also happens to be his 74th birthday.

Barry started his career as Village Trustee over 33 years ago, and is the longest serving elected official in the Village of Summit's history. During his political career he has taken an active role in the community and has chaired many committees, including the Police and Fire Committee, the Community Development Committee and the Street and Sanitation Committee.

Mr. Lambert is a veteran of World War 11, and served in the United States Navy. He is a member of the V.F.W. Post 6863, and the American Legion Post 735. He is active at St. Joseph's Church in Summit, and participates in the Holy Name Society there. He is also a member of the Summit Senior Citizens.

Barry is well regarded in the community for his personable character, honesty and integrity. He and his wife, Mary, are the parents of Evelyn, Donna, Barry, Mary Beth and Nancy, grandparents to Christopher, Nicole, Rose and Sarah, and great-grandparents to Christopher.

Mr. Speaker, as Barry leaves behind a long and rich history at the Village of Summit's Board of Trustees, I would ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this great man.

A TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF  
REVEREND LEON H. SULLIVAN

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Rev. Leon H. Sullivan. Rev. Sullivan was a giant of a man who leveraged the economic power of black Americans for social change from urban Philadelphia to the continent of Africa.

As the pastor of the Zion Baptist Church in North Philadelphia where he served for 38 years, he was towering force. His booming voice spread a message of love of God and selfhelp for his people.

Rev. Sullivan, who founded the nation's largest community-based job training program, was regarded as a leader by world leaders. Presidents and corporate heads sought his advice. In 1991, he was awarded the Medal of Freedom by President George Bush. U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan says Rev. Sullivan showed the world what one person can do.

Early on in his life, Leon Sullivan was confronted by racism. At the age of 9, while attempting to buy a soda at a drugstore in his hometown in Charleston, West Virginia he was informed he could not sit at the counter. Subsequently he told interviewers that this was a life transforming moment that instilled in him a lifelong commitment to confront injustice.

Rev. Sullivan was known throughout the world because of the establishment of OIC centers in the U.S. and in 17 African nations; the sponsorship of the Sullivan Principles that helped to dismantle South African apartheid; and, his leadership in civil rights. But he was also known and will be remembered for his ability to reach and touch and make a difference in lives of the people of his community.

His death leaves a void in Philadelphia, the nation and the world. His legacy is monumental.

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IN TRIBUTE TO J. HANDEL EVANS

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to J. Handel Evans, who came to my congressional district five years ago to found Ventura County, California's first four-year public university, and then retired as California State University, Channel Island's first president after a resounding success.

The obstacles Handel faced were enormous. The campus was formerly a state psychiatric hospital. The buildings needed to be refurbished, the school needed a sound financial foundation to augment funding the state would provide, and it needed the support of the state's budget writers.

With skill and patience, Handel built teams and coalitions to achieve his—and our community's—goal.

One example of his skill and perseverance stands out. Last year, the university's ability to open on time was endangered because of a

budget battle with the governor. Gov. Davis was withholding a \$10 million state budget earmark for CSU Channel Islands because of a dispute over another CSU campus.

Handel reacted by enlisting every state elected official in the area—from both political parties—and others to pressure the governor to release the funding. Without the funding, the university would have been unable to hire faculty and other staff necessary to run a university.

Gov. Davis released the funds, and the university will open on time.

How important is it to launch a new university with such skill and perseverance? It is crucial if you want to attract top professors to instruct our young men and women. The school will open with 23 instructors. When the call went out for applicants, 2,300 responded. That's a huge number when one considers our nation still enjoys nearly full employment and the nation faces a teacher shortage.

CSU Channel Islands will help with that problem as well.

Once opened, the Channel Islands campus will serve public schools and educators by providing continuing education to current and future teachers. With annual student enrollments in California projected to grow at a steady rate of about 80,000 per year, it is estimated that nearly 300,000 additional qualified teachers will be needed in California classrooms over the next 10 years. CSU Channel Islands will help my community, the state of California and our nation meet teacher demand.

Those teachers will provide quality education to our children. Our children will then be better prepared to compete in an ever-changing economic environment.

Handel has handed the reins of the university to Richard Rush, formerly president of Minnesota State University at Mankato. He has the background and skills to continue building on the foundation Handel has laid.

And, Handel and his wife, Carol, have decided to remain in Camarillo, near the university. I know he will continue to be involved in its continued growth.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in thanking J. Handel Evans for launching what will be known as a top-notch teacher's university and wish him and Carol a long and healthy retirement.

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CONGRATULATING WEST MICHIGAN GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor eight dedicated young women from West Michigan for receiving the Girl Scout Gold Award, the Girl Scout's highest honor. The award recognizes these outstanding young women for their accomplishments in leadership, community service, career planning and personal development.

Obtaining the Girl Scout Gold Award involves an extensive commitment, and requires the recipients to earn four interest-project patches. The patches include the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership

Award, the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, as well as designing and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award project in cooperation with an adult Girl Scout volunteer.

The honorees and a brief summary of their accomplishments for the Girl Scout Gold Award follow: Kyle Johnson, a senior at Zealand School, created a web page for Zealand Community Education; Noorain Khan, a Forest Hills Central junior, designed an Islamic Education Youth Director position; Tonya Leeuw, a freshman at Grand Valley State University, utilized her love of gardening by landscaping a portion of the front of the new Byron Community Ministries building; Lauren Magnifico, a junior at Grandville High School, organized the registration records of the Grandville Little League program; Kandace Heinz and Heidi Porter, juniors at Thornapple-Kellogg High School, designed a German cultural event booth for last year's Middleville Heritage Days, and Andrea Dinley, a senior at Byron Center High School, developed a program titled Colorguard Basic Mini-Camp and Video.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to recognize the achievements of this select group of young women who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in their scouting duties. The hard work and determination they have exhibited during their pursuit of the Gold Award will serve as valuable lessons as they enter adulthood. I ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this special and dedicated group of young achievers.

**SHEDD AQUARIUM CELEBRATES  
ITS OCEANARIUM'S 10TH ANNI-  
VERSARY**

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the John G. Shedd Aquarium as it celebrates the tenth anniversary of its world-renowned Oceanarium. Shedd's Oceanarium is the largest indoor marine mammal habitat in the world. More than 18 million visitors from Illinois and around the world have gained a better understanding of the environment and marine mammals by visiting the Oceanarium.

Shedd Aquarium is an international leader in aquatic education as well as animal husbandry, care and training. The Aquarium spearheads numerous conservation initiatives, both locally and abroad, participating in animal rescue efforts and performing in-house studies ranging from sensory biology to animal health. Shedd will commemorate the Oceanarium's anniversary with a year-long celebration filled with exciting activities and never before offered behind the scenes glimpses, the unveiling of a new marine mammal show, chances to meet one-on-one with animal-care specialists and an opportunity to eat breakfast with the dolphins.

The Oceanarium has contributed to the body of knowledge about marine life and enhances public understanding and appreciation of aquatic life and conservation. Shedd's participation in the North American Cooperative Beluga Breeding Program allows scientists to study the behavior of beluga whales and other animals that can't easily be studied in the wild,

gaining a better understanding of whale biology and behavior. After seeing the beluga whales up close visitors to the Oceanarium gain a greater appreciation of the special nature of marine mammals and how humans impact their survival in the wild.

On April 27th, Shedd launches a new presentation, "Totally Training". The "Totally Training" experience gives visitors to the Oceanarium the unique opportunity to watch marine mammal presentations evolve daily as the dolphins and other animals learn new behaviors. Shedd's marine mammal presentations educate by showing natural behaviors of animals—such as dolphins porpoising (jumping). After each presentation, Shedd's expert marine mammal trainers will be available to talk to guests one-on-one.

Mr. Speaker, Shedd Aquarium's "Oceanarium Turns 10" celebration highlights a decade of achievements in conservation and education. Since its doors opened in 1991, the Oceanarium has been changing the way Chicagoans and the world think about the environment and marine mammals.

**CONGRATULATING THE BEVERLY  
HIGH SCHOOL BAND AND CHORUS**

**HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud a group of 180 students in my Congressional District who visited Washington, DC yesterday morning to entertain gatherers at the Lincoln Memorial. The Beverly High School Band and Chorus deserves to be commended for the hard work and practice it takes to perform at such a high level, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them.

In addition to a wonderful experience here yesterday, these students have learned many valuable lessons from being part of this talented and impressive group. Clearly, for a band and chorus to be successful, it must work as one. Teamwork is a lesson these students have learned well, and it will be one that they carry with them as they encounter new challenges in the years ahead.

Practice and perseverance have become second nature to the members of this organization. These are cornerstones of living, and these students already have a strong grasp on these concepts at a young age.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, each one of these students, as well as their teachers and chaperones, have found joy in this adventure that began in the Sixth Congressional District of Massachusetts and ended in glory at the Lincoln Memorial. They have made all the people in the Commonwealth proud of their work, and they have provided examples of leadership to all they know. I wish them all the best of luck in their future endeavors, and I am confident that the lessons they have learned will not be forgotten.

**50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN  
OF SPRING LAKE, NORTH CARO-  
LINA**

**HON. ROBIN HAYES**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the town of Spring Lake, North Carolina on May 5, 2001. The entire town will be celebrating at the Golden Anniversary Parade, which is to be one of the biggest parades in the town's history. Over 100 entrants, including antique cars, high school marching bands, and floats and cars sponsored by local businesses and civic groups, will participate in the parade. An Arts & Crafts Bazaar, petting zoo, and a fireworks finale will round out the celebration.

In addition to the revelry and excitement of the parade, a new 50-acre industrial park, the first in the town of Spring Lake, will be dedicated and shall be open for business soon. Also joining members of the town that day will be senior officials from Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base, along with members of several veterans' organizations, to dedicate the first-ever military memorial in Spring Lake.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the all-American town of Spring Lake, North Carolina on its 50th anniversary, and I would ask all of my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the hard-working, patriotic men and women who make Spring Lake such a great place to live and work.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION AND  
STATEMENT REGARDING SOUTH  
SUBURBAN THIRD AIRPORT**

**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in Springfield, Illinois on April 24, 2001 in order to testify on the merits of the proposed South Suburban Third Airport before the Illinois House Aviation Committee. As a result, I was unable to cast votes for Roll Call votes numbered 85 and 86. Had I been able to be present for votes, I would have voted nay on Roll Call vote number 85, the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H. Con. Res. 83, The Congressional Budget for Fiscal Year 2002. I would have voted yea on Roll Call vote number 86, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 428 as amended, concerning the participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

Mr. Speaker, I missed these votes because I believe that the development of the South Suburban Third Airport is vitally important to Illinois economy and the Nation's aviation infrastructure. I testified in support of developing the proposed South Suburban Airport and Governor Ryan's appropriation request of \$15 million for land acquisition. If the State of Illinois is to remain economically competitive, the air capacity must be increased. Governor George Ryan's decision to move forward with land acquisition shows bold leadership to achieve both.

Seventeen years ago, the Federal Aviation Administration ordered the States of Illinois,

Indiana, Wisconsin, and the City of Chicago to evaluate the region's future aviation needs and to determine possible solutions. The Chicago Area Capacity Study was formed by Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Chicago to look for a new site. That study concluded in 1988 that Chicago needed a supplemental airport to relieve overcrowding at O'Hare and Midway. Subsequent studies found there was a need for additional capacity by the year 2000, and that the supplemental capacity should be located at a new South Suburban Airport.

As we now know, the results of that study accurately foretold the future. In 2000, Chicago hit aviation gridlock as the runways, airspace and ground transportation network near the airports reached capacity. Today, peak travel times to and from O'Hare and Downtown often exceed one hour. Remote parking access to or from the terminals can often take 35 to 45 minutes.

The gridlock at O'Hare and Midway not only affects Chicago and its suburbs, but the entire state and nation. When air capacity is limited, airlines focus on the most profitable routes (international route) and ignore less lucrative business (short-range domestic routes). As we have seen, the process of dumping short lower-profit flights in favor of long, higher profit ones has already begun at O'Hare. In the past two years, O'Hare eliminated service to 13 Midwestern markets, but added service to more than 20 foreign cities. This shift has hurt the downstate Illinois economy and limited transportation options for its residents.

Chicago's capacity problems are well-documented. Numerous studies, including ones by the USDOT, the FAA, IDOT and the City of Chicago, conclude that Chicago needs new runways. The question is where.

The Greater Rockford Airport was once considered a possible third airport site. While Rockford is very important to the northern Illinois area, the Illinois Department of Transportation eliminated it as a third airport site in the 1988 study for the following reasons: It was deemed to be too far—97 miles—from the Chicago Business District. Rockford is 50 miles past Elgin, which is at the edge of the Chicago urbanized area. The Peotone site abuts the edge of suburbia and is 35 miles from Downtown Chicago. The Rockford market area for obtaining origin and destination passengers was too small for a major commercial airport. In comparison, the Peotone site has 2.5 million people living within a 45 minute drive. According to the latest census data, Will County is one of the fastest growing areas in Illinois. Two rivers border the Greater Rockford Airport, thus hampering any growth possibilities for longer runways. Additionally, the expanded airport boundaries and accompanying noise contours would severely impact many Rockford residents.

Gary Indiana Municipal Airport also has been considered. However, Gary has very little room to grow. Expanding Gary to a size comparable to the Peotone site would require relocating the Indiana Tollway, the Calumet River, 47 miles of railroads, 1,000 acres of wetlands, several toxic landfills, and about 24,000 residents. The \$20 billion cost of expanding Gary would make it virtually impossible for an airline to charge reasonable fares, whereas, the cost of the Peotone site would result in ticket prices comparable to O'Hare.

The Proposed South Suburban Airport would be safer due to its parallel-runway de-

sign and ability for future growth. Further, the South Suburban Airport is less expensive than other options. The cost of an inaugural South Suburban Airport is approximately \$560 million, compared to \$1.5 billion for building one runway at O'Hare. The third airport can also be built sooner than adding an additional runway at O'Hare. The airport can be operational in 4 to 5 years, but it would take 8 to 15 years to design and build an additional runway at O'Hare. The South Suburban Airport would be cleaner than the existing airports as it would be sufficient in size to absorb noise and air pollution. It has road and rail access, but less ground congestion.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to clarify why I missed Roll Call Votes on April 24, 2001 and to further explain the importance of the proposed South Suburban Airport.

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#### THE IMPORTANCE OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT

**HON. JOE BARTON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of National County Government Week, I rise today to speak on the importance of county government and to highlight the numerous contributions county governments make in the everyday lives of citizens. Today, counties fill an especially challenging role as they continue to meet the complex demands of modern society.

In Texas, we have 254 counties that serve the needs of more than 18 million Texans. The responsiveness of county government to the needs of the community is a long-standing tradition in Texas. Texas law mandates, with certain exceptions, that all county courthouses be centrally located so that each citizen can travel to the seat, vote, and return home in a day. Most county seats fall within five miles of the county's center.

The structure of Texas county government has its roots in the "municipality," the local unit of government under Spanish and Mexican rule. These large areas, embracing one or more settlements and rural territories, are the foundation of the governmental organization of our present day counties. The Texas Constitution declared counties as the functional agents of the state, or as an "arm of the state." Unlike cities, the areas of responsibility authorized to counties are specifically spelled out in laws passed by the Legislature.

Texas counties range in size from less than 100 residents to more than three million. Major responsibilities include county development planning; building and maintaining roads and recreational facilities; and in some cases, county airports; constructing and operating jails; operating the judicial system; maintaining public records; collecting property taxes; issuing vehicle registration and transfers; and registering voters. Counties also provide law enforcement, conduct elections and provide invaluable health and social services to indigent members of the community. In this way, the county structure, more than any other form of government, plays a central role in the everyday functions of communities.

At the heart of each county is the commissioners court. These members of the court

collectively conduct the general business of the county and oversee financial matters. Each Texas county has four precinct commissioners and a county judge who serve on this court. Functions of the county, run by individuals employed by the commissioners court, include such departments as public health and human services, personnel and budget, and in some counties, public transportation and emergency medical services. Elected officials, found in most counties, include county attorneys, county and district clerks, county treasurers, sheriffs, tax assessor-collectors, justices of the peace, and constables.

In the last twenty years, a growing number of federal and state responsibilities have been delegated or mandated to the local level, confirming the importance and necessity of local county governments in Texas. Each day, counties deliver a long list of services and work to respond to the ever-changing needs of our dynamic state.

Counties across America provide solutions at the local level that help bring communities together. I believe this traditional form of local county government, which fulfills a multitude of services to communities, is truly indispensable to its citizens.

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#### NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of National County Government Week, I rise today to honor the contributions and achievements of our county governments.

We have the opportunity this week to reflect upon the importance of our county governments and show our appreciation for our county officials. As a former mayor, I am very familiar with the role of county government and the need for government at all levels to cooperate in order to best serve Americans, and I appreciate the hard work done at the county level.

I have the privilege of representing the three South Florida counties of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach. These county governments serve a diverse population. This population is truly a microcosm of our state and our country. The needs facing these communities can be found in other parts of the country as well. County government has been successful in addressing these needs, and we in Congress can learn a lot from them.

The backbone of county government is the people who provide the vital services that are essential to our health, safety, and well-being. The school teachers, the social workers, the firefighters, the police, and others who are devoting their lives to public service help form the fabric of our government.

County government is the government closest to the people. It is often the face of government to most of our population. It is our obligation as Members of Congress to help support county governments all across the country in order that they may more effectively serve Americans.

INTRODUCTION OF BILL TO MAKE  
LEAF TOBACCO AN ELIGIBLE  
COMMODITY FOR THE MARKET  
ACCESS PROGRAM

**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues from other tobacco producing states to introduce a bill to put an end to discrimination against tobacco farmers. For almost eight years, hard-working, God-fearing, taxpaying tobacco farmers have been denied access to the funds provided by the federal Market Access Program, commonly known as MAP.

More than \$90 million in MAP funds are available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to promote U.S. agricultural products overseas. Under MAP, agricultural industry trade associations, cooperatives, and state or regional trade groups each year are invited to submit proposals to USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) to conduct approved foreign market development projects for various U.S. agricultural, fishery and forestry products. Examples include consumer promotions, market research, technical assistance, and trade servicing. MAP funds have been used to promote a wide range of products from sunflower seeds to catfish and cotton to hops for use in making beer.

Since 1993 USDA has been prohibited from using MAP funds to promote tobacco leaf sales overseas. This is patently unfair, and it is time for this discrimination to end. The future of American agriculture is tied to international trade. Currently, 25% of farmers' gross income comes from exports. The futures of thousands of Tar Heel tobacco farm families depend on exports, and I am not going to stand by and watch other commodities benefit from federal funds to access these markets while tobacco farmers are left out in the cold.

It is high time that tobacco is treated like the legal product that it is, and this legislation is a step in the right direction. I call on President Bush, Secretary Veneman, and my colleagues to support this bill and give our struggling tobacco farm families an opportunity to not just survive, but thrive.

COMMEMORATING ARMENIAN  
GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

**HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2001*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I join with my colleagues in commemorating the 86th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Along with the Armenian-American community in my district and with people of goodwill throughout the country, Congress today is observing the death of 1.5 million Armenians from the years 1915–1923.

As we gather today, many of my constituents over the weekend participated in solemn services held in the memory of the martyrs of the Armenian Genocide. Whether at St. Leon Armenian Apostolic Church in Fair Lawn,

Saints Vartanantz Armenian Apostolic Church in Ridgefield, or at Saint Thomas Armenian Apostolic Church in Tenafly, thousands of Americans of Armenian descent will be joining together in Northern New Jersey this evening to ensure that the world does not forget the first crime against humanity of the 20th century.

And so let me offer my solidarity with those remembering the Armenian Genocide today. And let me also emphasize that we should today not only remember the martyred, but as well, the survivors of the Armenian genocide. Though few survivors of the Armenian Genocide are still living today, those who endured the horrors of 1915, are heroes for all time.

Today, the people of Armenia and her Diaspora are proudly looking to rebuild their country. From the ashes of despair born of the genocide, and from the ravages of seven decades of Communist rule, Armenians the world over are striving to secure a safe and prosperous future for Armenian and Nagorno-Karabagh.

As Armenian-Americans rebuild their homeland, and as they seek to secure an economically prosperous state, founded on firm democratic principles, I will stand by them.

Let me conclude my brief remarks today by encouraging the young people of America to never forget the tragedy and lessons of 1915. Because as George Santayana once remarked, 'Those who forget history are condemned to repeat it.' And if no clearer evidence of these prescient words are necessary let us remind one another today that before commencing the Holocaust, Hitler himself stated, 'Who today remembers the Armenians?'

As a Jewish-American and being ever mindful of the Holocaust, I join with my colleagues today in observing the Armenian Genocide. And I promise to stand firm against the shameful efforts of those who today seek to deny the Armenian Genocide.

COMMEMORATING ARMENIAN  
GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2001*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my colleagues to remember a dark chapter in history and to honor and remember the 1.5 million Armenian Christians victims who lost their lives at the hands of the Ottoman Empire during 1915 to 1923. I would like to thank the Co-Chairs of the Armenian Caucus, the gentlemen from New Jersey, Representative FRANK PALLONE and the gentlemen from Michigan, Representative JOE KNOLLENBERG for organizing this special order commemorating the 86th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide—of one of the greatest tragedies of history and the first genocide of the 20th century.

Today, I join with Armenian-Americans in my congressional district, the Armenian-American community throughout the United States and the Armenian community abroad in mourning the loss of so many innocent lives. It is important that we remember and learn from history, because if we ignore the lessons of the past, we are destined to repeat history.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, in the Preface to the Encyclopedia of Genocide, published in 1999 by the Institute on the Holocaust and Genocide in Jerusalem, writes: "It is sadly true what a cynic has said, that we learn from history that we do not learn from history. And yet it is possible that if the world had been conscious of the genocide that was committed by the Ottoman Turks against the Armenians, the first genocide of the twentieth century, then perhaps humanity might have been more alert to the warning signs that were being given before Hitler's madness was unleashed on an unbelieving world."

The facts of the Armenian Genocide are clear and amply documented as demonstrated by official reports and accounts by the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau, Sr. In a July 1915 report to the Department of State, U.S. Ambassador Morgenthau, Sr., reported: "a campaign of race extermination is in progress under a pretext of reprisal against rebellion." In describing the events in the Ottoman Empire during 1915 to 1923, Henry Morgenthau stated "I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this. The great massacres and persecutions of the past seem almost insignificant when compared to the sufferings of the Armenian race in 1915."

As we gather on this day to remember the past and mourn those who lost their lives, their homes, their families and their freedom, let us pledge to do all that we can to ensure that the Armenian Genocide is properly recognized and remembered to prevent such atrocities from occurring in the future.

U.S. MARINE OFFICERS' GOLDEN  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, this week, fifty veterans and retirees are gathering in Washington to celebrate the Golden Anniversary of their commissioning as officers of the United States Marines. Although their officers' class (11th SBC) was a relatively small one at a little over 200 members, their backgrounds portray a remarkable tapestry of Americana. They came from hometowns in 34 States of the Union, the District of Columbia, and the Territory of Guam; and, they earned their baccalaureate degrees came from over 100 colleges and universities throughout the land.

In 1951, against the backdrop of a raging war in the Korean Peninsula, they volunteered to serve and took the oath to support and defend the United States of America. And defend it they did, sustaining their share of combat casualties, both wounded and killed in action. One of their members, Sherrod E. Skinner, was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously; another, John Word, received the nation's second highest combat award, the Navy Cross. Others still, received the medals and decorations for heroism and valor shown on the awards list.

Although only a relatively few members of the class became career officers, many served and retired from the Marine Corps Reserve while pursuing careers in law, education, religious ministry, athletics, engineering, business, and politics. Among those who went into

politics is someone well known to many of us, my predecessor, General Ben Blaz, who was elected to the Congress after retiring from the Marines. As a former Member of Congress, Ben will be escorting his comrades to this chamber where deliberations and decisions were made that committed them to combat in Korea and Vietnam.

There is a marvelous irony in my having the privilege to call my colleagues' attention to the contributions that these courageous men of the Corps have made to our country, both in war and peace. During the Spanish-American War, a young man from Gastonia, North Carolina joined the Marines and was part of the contingent that was sent to Guam to formally occupy the island. He was so enchanted by the island and, I hasten to add, its lovely *senoritas*, that he chose to stay in Guam. In time, he married a native girl and started a family. His name was James Underwood. He was my grandfather.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for extending me the honor of paying tribute to these veterans and retirees of the Corps and to salute them, in behalf of our grateful nation, on the Golden Anniversary of their commissioning as officers of Marines.

(Roster of members/wives of deceased members of the 11th SBC Marines celebrating the 50th Anniversary of their commissioning as Officers of Marines, May 3-5, 2001):

Robert Altick, Al Bailey, Robert Beezer, Gene Benbow, Charles Bentzen, John Bickley, Ben Blaz, Ted Brothers, Charles Clifford, John Connor, Frank Delaney, and Bill Diederich.

Tom Fallon, Dale Faust, Marshall Figgatt, Benis Frank, Ced Gifford, Bill Gilwee, Fred Grube, (Mrs.) Don Helgeson, Maurice Heartfield, Bill Keating, John Keck, and Paul Kortepeter.

Bill Kyle, Tom Lamb, Bob Land, Bob Lavine, (Mrs.) James Lindsey, John Lussenhop, Andy McDonald, Harold Marshall, Joe Molitoris, Gene Moyers, (Mrs.) Dick Norlin, and Larry O'Nele.

Herb Oxnam, Dick Paschal, Jordan Peck, Hank Pruitt, Tom Qualls, Stan Rauh, Chayne Stinemetz, Dick Stone, Noval Stephens, Speros Thomaidis, Peter Walker, and Stan Wilson.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, due to recent death of a close friend I was unable to attend votes this week. Had I been here I would have made the following votes:

Rollcall No. 85—"Yes," No. 86—"Yes," and No. 87—"No."

#### NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

### HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud member of the Congressional Autism

Caucus to remind my colleagues that the month of April is National Autism Awareness Month, and that tomorrow, Mississippi, and many other states will recognize April 27th as National Autism Day. The ribbon that I wear is the International symbol for autism, symbolizing the complexity of the disorder. The different colors and shapes represent the diversity of the people and families living with autism, while the brightness of the ribbon signals hope—the hope to be found through increasing research, resources and awareness.

This month gives us a unique opportunity to celebrate the progress we have made in understanding Autism, and the goals we must continue to fulfill. This century we have come a long way in overturning the misconceptions of what autism is. We know that autism is a developmental disability that over 400,000 people in the United States are estimated to have. We know that it is four times more likely to be diagnosed in boys as in girls. We know that there are many degrees of severity of autism, but that all autistic people tend to exhibit deficient social behavior, language and cognitive development. What we still don't know though, is what causes Autism.

Last year, Congress passed landmark bipartisan legislation, the Children's Health Act of 2000, which was signed into law last October. Within this legislation were major provisions for the creation of five regional "centers for excellence" for research into autism, administered the National Institute for Mental Health, as well as education programs on autism for the community. The bi-partisan spirit of cooperation, fueled by the thousands of involved parents, teachers, and doctors in the autism community, enabled us to do what we were intended to do in Congress; to provide a voice and resources for those most in need of advocacy.

So, what do we do now? As Congress looks forward to debating education legislation, we should be vigilant in our support for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. In 1975, the U.S. Congress passed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, also known as IDEA, mandating that local school districts provide appropriate education to students with special needs. Understanding that this could be a costly endeavor, Congress agreed to fund up to 40 percent of the average per pupil expenditure. However, to date, Congress has only provided States with about 14 percent of the funds promised.

I have listened to countless parents of children with disabilities in my district talk about the struggles and challenges they have in getting their schools to properly educate their children. The years of frustration parents have endured in attempting to get their children appropriate assistance is disgraceful. Parents, particularly those of children who have special needs, should have strong partnerships with their schools. Instead, due to an often appalling lack of resources, our parents and teachers sometimes find themselves having adversarial relationships. This helps no one, least of all the child, whom our schools seek to educate.

National Autism month reminds us to reflect on our responsibility to do a better job of keeping the IDEA promise. As members of Congress, we should celebrate how far we have come in meeting the needs of children with disabilities, but remember that our job is far from over, and our goals far from being fulfilled.

TRIBUTE TO HON. DOUGLAS "TIM" JAMERSON—A GREAT FLORIDIAN AND A GREAT AMERICAN

### HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Douglas L. "Tim" Jamerson, the former Florida Education Commissioner, Labor Secretary, and state legislator who died of cancer this past Saturday at age 53.

I will not recount his incalculable, enormous contributions, other than to say that without Doug Jamerson, Florida would be much less than it is today. Without Doug Jamerson Florida would not be one of the greatest state's in this union.

Mr. Jamerson understood that he was the first African American to serve as Florida's Commissioner of Education. He understood that gave him an obligation beyond his own race. He understood that Floridians would be looking at what he did very carefully, but he also understood that his role was that of doing what he could to improve education in a far more universal sense. Through his many efforts—as Education Commissioner, Labor Secretary, and State Legislator, guidance counselor and friend, he improved the quality of life for millions of Floridians, many more who were not Black, and not the least of them women.

Doug Jamerson, throughout his life, reminded us that Florida is a state of opportunity, and America is a country of great promise, but that that promise and opportunity has not yet been totally fulfilled. Doug reminded us all that we all have a duty to help our state and our nation fulfill its true promise.

The words of the great poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in his eulogy to Charles Sumner, apply equally to Doug Jamerson. Wadsworth said:

Were a star quenched on high for ages would its light still traveling downward from the sky shine on our mortal sight so when a great man dies for years beyond our ken the light behind lies upon the paths of men.

Douglas Jamerson is a uniquely special individual who was a thoughtful and a principled public servant whose life will serve as a reminder of everything that we must all strive to become. He has taught us all, that its not how many years you live, but what you accomplish in the years you have. Doug Jamerson accomplished much in his 53 years.

HONORING SUSAN MUSGRAVE AND THE LOS ALAMOS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, when a deadly fire devastated Los Alamos, New Mexico, and surrounding communities in May, 2000, Susan Musgrave, the executive director of the Los Alamos Chamber of Commerce stepped up to the challenge of helping the community recover and rebuild. There are

hundreds of unsung heroes from the Cerro Grande fire, and Ms. Musgrave is one of them.

The intense Cerro Grande fire forced local residents to evacuate and essentially closed down Los Alamos for eight days. When residents were allowed to return on May 15, they found the fire had left more than 420 people homeless and destroyed a number of local businesses. To help the town get back on its feet, the Chamber took the lead in coordinating relief and rebuilding efforts.

I can attest that Ms. Musgrave and others met with me and my staff during this time to see what they could do and to continue to provide us with assistance. Within five days after the fire, in conjunction with local banking institutions, the Chamber had established a loan fund for Los Alamos businesses. These businesses could apply for a six-month loan up to \$25,000 with a 7.5 percent interest rate. The Chamber paid the interest expense on the loans for six months.

Through this effort, more than \$640,000 in loans were made available to 37 companies in Los Alamos. Businesses were able to take care of short-term financial needs and stabilize the effects of lost revenue after being closed for almost eight days. A Web site for construction contractors interested in helping Los Alamos rebuild was on line within a week of the disaster.

Thanks to generous donations from member businesses and individuals, the Chamber was able to extend help to others with an immediate need for funds, including renters and homeowners without insurance. By May 20, gifts in the amount of \$1,000 were distributed to 97 families who had lost their homes. As the fund grew, the Chamber was able to make a second distribution in the amount of \$500 to the same individuals. The Chamber's total contribution topped \$142,000. In addition, 12 college students who lost their homes were each given \$1,000 towards their recovery needs.

The Chamber also helped spread the word that Los Alamos was once again "open for business" through an innovative advertising campaign. The Chamber underwrote 80 percent of the costs for member businesses who took out advertisements to let the community know their businesses were up and running again. The Chamber set up a similar advertising campaign with the State of New Mexico's Economic Development Department as a means to successfully bring tourists back to the area.

The Chamber's good deeds did not go unnoticed. Ms. Musgrave was named New Mexico's Chamber Executive of the Year 2000 by the New Mexico Business Journal and the Association of Commerce and Industry. The award recognized her exceptional and exemplary services to the Chamber and the community.

Thanks to the Los Alamos Chamber of Commerce's strong leadership and coordination, Los Alamos recovered quickly. And, the Chamber has earned respect and gratitude from its member businesses and the local community.

Additionally, since then the recovery began, Ms. Musgrave has continually been a leader in seeking to correct the technical setbacks that have faced victims of the Cerro Grande fire. She has kept me informed of the concerns of local businesses and the community in gen-

eral. Her actions led to my introducing legislation in the House of Representatives, H.R. 1095, intended to make claims of the fire tax-free.

The Chamber has also contacted me on issues that are not fire-related. I am proud to serve as a member of the Small Business Committee and, as a result, work on matters vital to the Chamber. For example, we have worked together on daycare issues facing employees of the Los Alamos National Laboratory and other equally important items.

Mr. Speaker, Susan Musgrave is not only a wonderful asset for the Chamber of Commerce, but she is a true champion for the state of New Mexico. I am proud to know her, and I thank her for her continued service.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JOEY  
RAMONE

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent of mine and an icon in the music world who recently passed away. Joey Ramone, lead singer of the Ramones died after a long battle with cancer on Easter Sunday. Born Jeff Hyman in Forest Hills, Queens, he changed his name to Joey Ramone at age 23 and began stirring up the music world with what was to become known as punk rock. The Ramones were at the leading edge of the punk rock movement in the early to mid-1970s and spoke to a generation of adolescents looking to find their way through that decade.

Many of my colleagues here in Congress may not be familiar with the music of the Ramones, or the impact they had on many in my generation and on music in general. The Ramones were everything a classic rock and roll band were not. They played short, simple songs. And they did it loudly. They abhorred convention but compared to many of the bands today, they did it with style. Irony, sincerity and humor ran through many of their simple lyrics. They poked fun at the latest fad, and often themselves, in a way that caused adolescents everywhere to nod their heads in agreement.

The Ramones lasted an impressive 22 years. Their music helped spawn musicians who would go on to create their own styles of rock and grunge and rap-rock. At the heart of the Ramones was Joey, a notoriously shy, gangly, nice guy, who until his death, loved to visit the local clubs in New York and listen to the music he helped create.

I would like to submit for the RECORD a story from the April 22, 2001 edition of the New York Times which summarizes well, the life of Joey Ramone:

A STAR OF ANTI-CHARISMA, JOEY RAMONE  
MADE GEEKS CHIC  
(By John Leland)

FROM his home in Queens last week, Monte Melnick remembered a time the Ramones stopped for gas in rural Texas. It was the early days of punk rock, and the woman at the gas station gave the band the once-over: matching leather bomber jackets and ripped jeans, dopey mops of hair, four guys taking the surname Ramone. Mr.

Melnick, who was the tour manager, feared there might be trouble. Instead, the woman smiled at him indulgently. As Mr. Melnick, 51, recalled, "She said, 'It's really nice, you taking care of these retarded boys.'"

Joey Ramone, the gawky, geeky, lovable-loser singer of the Ramones, died last Sunday of lymphatic cancer, never to be underestimated again. His real name was Jeffrey Hyman; he was 49.

As the music world celebrates the 25th anniversary of punk, the band's imprint—its goofy fury and delinquent humor—echoes not just in the music of latter-day punks like Green Day and Blink 182, but in the strain of self-aware, loser comedy that has become the dominant adolescent rattle: "The Simpsons" and "South Park," pro wrestling and MTV's blithely moronic "Jackass."

Mickey Leigh, Joey's younger brother, who played in a band called the Rattlers, described the Ramones as a reaction to the Queens streets where the band members grew up. "The humor was inherent to Forest Hills, a Jewish neighborhood, and to the small circle of rejects and misfits that we were," said Mr. Leigh, who, like his brother, was bar mitzvahed. (Several other Ramones were not Jewish.) "We were always on the outside, rejected by the girls—not by all girls, but by the pretty ones, who preferred guys with cars. Our protective shell was to shock people."

Picked on in Forest Hills, Joey made himself a star of anti-charisma, fronting a band whose legend drew on failure as easily as success. When my friends and I heard the Ramones in the late 1970's, as under-achieving college students, we formed our own band—awful, but even at our loudest, always knowing. I like to think we were post-awful.

A set by the Ramones was a furious race to the finish line, blurring bubble-gum riffs and cartoon pathologies: "Now I Wanna Sniff Some Glue," "Teenage Lobotomy," "I Wanna Be Sedated." What you came away with depended in large part on how you took the joke.

"We thought punk rock was going to be the biggest thing ever," said John Holmstrom, 48, a cofounder of Punk magazine, which coined the name for the music. "We thought we were mainstream. It was a shock to everyone at CBGB when one by one it didn't happen."

Charlotte Lesser, Joey's mother, always got the joke. Ms. Lesser ran an art gallery and is a commercial artist. At CBGB, the Bowery dive where the band got started, people used to call her Mama Ramone, she said, adding: "CBGB struck me as too narrow, too crowded, and it had the worst bathrooms you ever saw. But I always saw the whole thing as a funny show."

The Ramones emerged just when the radical thrust in pop music was turning in on itself Hip-hop whittled down disco; punk trimmed rock 'n' roll to its loud essentials.

Writing about the Ramones and CBGB in The Village Voice in 1975, James Wolcott observed, "No longer is the rock impulse revolutionary—i.e., the transformation of oneself and society—but conservative: to carry on the rock tradition." For all their locomotive mayhem, the Ramones were preservationists. Even the name harked back, to the days when Paul McCartney, as a Silver Beatle, called himself Paul Ramon.

I think the impulse had much to do with age. Lou Reed, punk's eminence grise, born in 1942, was able to sing of a girl whose life was saved by rock 'n' roll. For Mr. Reed, whose childhood began before rock, the music bred transformation, both personal

and societal. Joey Ramone, born in 1951, arrived as the shutter was closing on this perspective. Punk was a last loud call to embrace these moments of transition, when the world before rock became the world after.

For later punks, these moments were only hearsay. By the time Kurt Cobain, born in 1967, took up the legacy of the Ramones, the music could aspire to be alternative, but not revolutionary.

In his engagingly lurid memoir, "Lobotomy: Surviving the Ramones" (1997), Dee Dee Ramone observed, "A Ramones story can't really have a happy ending." To the end, Joey lived in a one-bedroom apartment in the East Village, originally decorated by his mother but long since submerged in his accumulated clutter. On good days he walked around the neighborhood in an odd, obsessive-compulsive fashion, always walking past a curb, then back to touch it before moving on.

He became fixated by the stock market; the last great song he wrote, said his friend Arturo Vega, the band's artistic director, was a love song to Maria Bartiromo, the CNBC business anchor.

Last week, fans turned the doorway of CBGB into a shrine and filled Internet message boards with tributes—a testament not just to Joey but to the eternal loneliness of adolescence.

Mickey Leigh continued to ponder the deceptive complexity of the Ramones' music. "The intelligence was well disguised," he said. Then he paused. "Maybe there wasn't that much intelligence." But there was, and warmth as well. And for a still-growing legion of misfits, there is community. As Joey sang, in a signature line culled from the movie "Freaks," "Gabba gabba, we accept you, we accept you, one of us."

#### RE-OPEN PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

### HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, nearly six years ago, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin ordered Pennsylvania Avenue closed to vehicular traffic in front of the White House. The Secretary did so with the powers granted to him as head of the Secret Service, which allow him to "temporarily" shut down any road in the District of Columbia to protect Presidential safety.

As anyone who has been stuck in the gridlock while trying to drive across town certainly knows, that "temporary" blockade still exists. And it exists much to the detriment of our nation's capital, where unsightly concrete barriers make us look like a city under siege, as well as to the detriment of the city of Washington, D.C., which has suffered serious economic consequences as a result.

It's high time to re-open Pennsylvania Avenue and return Pierre L'Enfant's grand boulevard—America's Main Street—to its proper role as an uninterrupted link between the White House and the Congress and as a vital east-west artery for the District of Columbia.

The National Capital Planning Commission is now evaluating what impact the security measures around the White House, the national memorials and Federal buildings have on our nation's capital. The first subject they will be tackling is Pennsylvania Avenue, and the Commission expects to make a rec-

ommendation on the Avenue to the President by July.

I am today introducing a Sense of the House resolution urging the Commission to adopt a plan that restores vehicular traffic—and, with it, a sense of democratic openness—to Pennsylvania Avenue.

I do so with the support of ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON and other members of the local congressional delegation—TOM DAVIS and JIM MORAN—and other colleagues who share our concern about the closure of one of America's most famous avenues. D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams and the City Council are fully behind our efforts to re-open the Avenue as well.

To be sure, the security of the President remains paramount to us. But we cannot build a glass bubble around the White House. I am convinced there are prudent steps we can take—including slightly reconfiguring the road and using pedestrian bridges to block truck traffic from the stretch of Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the White House—that will allow us to re-open the road while protecting those who live, work and visit the White House.

#### EXTRA MILE AWARDS

### HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to salute the recipients of the "Extra Mile" Awards given by the VNACare Network, Inc. The Extra Mile Award for Caregivers recognizes the dedication of family caregivers who go the extra mile in caring for a loved one. These individuals inspire with their never-ending energy, devotion, and compassion. The Extra Mile Award for Staff is presented to employees who go above and beyond expectations. Their dedication to the VNACare Network makes life easier for those in the office and improves the quality of life for patients and their families.

The Caregiver Award is being given to Gilda Ryan of Ipswich, Massachusetts for the constant care and love she gives her daughter Julie. Staff working with her say this 80-year-old dynamo is a fearless advocate, loving caregiver and her tenacity throughout these past 20 years has allowed her daughter to receive the absolute best care available. She is a true model to nurses and home health aides alike in character and caregiving. Leo Lavigne of Hudson, Massachusetts is also receiving the award for taking care of his wife Frances. His caring and careful attention to her complex medical problems has prompted the staff to say that he may need to be recruited to alleviate the nursing shortage. Richard Law of Worcester, Massachusetts is being recognized for his steadfast, hands-on, loving, and devoted care of his late wife Mary during her last days. He stayed strong—even though his heart was breaking—so that Mary would not feel like a burden to her family. Alan Basmajian and Family of Burlington, Massachusetts are recognized for their courage, commitment, honesty, and love during the last days of their wife and mother, Linda. Her goal of seeing her daughter graduate from eighth grade was realized with incredible support from her family.

The Staff "Extra Mile" award is being given to Kathy Cronin-Reardon of Gloucester, Mas-

sachusetts for her extraordinary caring and compassion. Her workweek does not consist of 40 hours; she works countless extra hours going unrecognized and even unpaid at times for the sake of the families and patients that need her in difficult times. Laurine Frykberg of Worcester, Massachusetts is being recognized for her willingness to help both patients and staff alike. She is credited with bringing the term "flexibility" to a new level, covering New Year's Eve staff shortage with a smile dressed in her evening attire. Sandra Stone of the Wattertown, Massachusetts office is an exceptional Home Care Aide who adapts readily to changing department needs with an outstanding commitment to patients needing coverage. Her quiet calmness and professionalism soothes the anxious—both patients and family members. Ana Rodriguez is being recognized for her exemplary work as a Home Care Aide Scheduling Coordinator. Not only has she been a cohesive factor in uniting the office staff, but also she is praised by family members and clinicians for her positive, enthusiastic, and consistent efforts. Finally, Marion Ray is being recognized for her record in the performance of her main responsibility of timely billing and collection of accounts, her ability to manage a large staff with great skill, and her diligence, work ethic and "can do" attitude.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to recognize these outstanding individuals, and to thank them for all they have done to improve the lives of the people of Massachusetts.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE BRONX SHEPHERDS RESTORATION CORPORATION

### HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, once again it is an honor for me to recognize The Bronx Shepherds Restoration Corporation on its twenty second anniversary. Following is a congratulation letter I wrote to the Executive Director for their continued service to the people of my congressional district.

MR. THEODORE JEFFERSON,  
*Executive Director, Bronx Shepherds Restoration Corp., Bronx, NY.*

DEAR TED: On the auspicious occasion of the 22nd Anniversary of The Bronx Shepherds Restoration Corporation I want to be amongst the first to once again congratulate you on the outstanding job you do. Your programs have greatly enhanced the lives of the people of our district and your continued commitment to them gives us all hope.

The Bronx Shepherds Restoration Corporation has served as an exemplary model for other agencies seeking to serve neighborhoods such as ours. I believe that as role models you will continue to impact upon more organizations, and in this way in the very near future the development of our Bronx Community will amaze those that did not think such stability and prosperity possible.

Your organization has always provided the support services necessary for individuals to develop into active members of society. Bronx Shepherds Restoration Corporation's record of helping residents find affordable housing, education, and better health care

for our senior citizens is both invaluable and impressive.

Once again, congratulations to the Bronx Shepherds on the occasion of your 22nd anniversary. I remain ever grateful for your work in helping our community resolve the many dilemmas that we encounter. I look forward to the continued growth and development of your Corporation and wish you and your staff every success.

HONORING HILLSBORO HIGH SCHOOL OF NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

**HON. BOB CLEMENT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my alma mater Hillsboro High School of Nashville, Tennessee for significant accomplishments in the "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" Program. I am proud to announce that these fine students are representing the state of Tennessee in the national finals of this program on April 21–23 right here in Washington, DC.

More than 1200 students from across the nation will participate in this national event. I know these young scholars from the 5th Congressional District have worked diligently to reach the national finals and through their experience have gained a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

I would like to commend these students and their teacher, Mary Catherine Bradshaw, on this success. These students include: Sherrell Bean, Maria Borea, Amanda Cox, Allysia Chamberlain, Doriada deLeon-Chamorro, Elizabeth Dohrman, Kali Edwards, Adam Finch, Annalise Frank, Jenny Hansen, Chase Hasbrook, Titiana Howell, Aubrey Hunt, Kate Hunter, Enin Hutchenson, Elliot Layda, David McDaniel, Clay Morgan, Dalila Paquiot, Sarah Payne, Riya Perkins, Casey Raetxloff, Ben Rigsby, Julie Schneider, Niti Snighdha, Emily Tarpley, Kathy Tek, Kelly Tek, Shannon Turbeville, Vanja Trubajic, and Savannah Welch.

"We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition is modeled after hearings in the United States Congress.

These hearings consist of oral presentations by high school students before a panel of adult judges. The students' testimony is followed by a period of questioning by the simulated congressional committee. The judges probe students for their depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge. This year's national finals will include questions on James Madison and his legacy in honor of the 250th Anniversary of his birth in 1751.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the "We the People . . ." Program has provided curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide.

The class from Hillsboro High School is currently conducting research and preparing for the upcoming national competition in Wash-

ington, DC. I wish these young "constitutional experts" the best of luck at the national finals and I look forward to seeing them when they visit Capitol Hill.

TRIBUTE TO HENRY P. BECTON

**HON. MARGE ROUKEMA**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Henry P. Becton, Director Emeritus of Becton Dickinson (BD). On May 3, 2001 Henry Becton will be honored by the American Diabetes Association (ADA) for his "legacy of discovery in diabetes care".

It is estimated that 300 million people will be affected by diabetes by the year 2005. Currently, in the United States alone, the total annual cost of diabetes is staggering at an estimated \$98 billion. Nearly 16 million Americans have the disease and many more are undiagnosed. We desperately need more education and research. BD has been instrumental in furthering efforts to treat and cure diabetes. I am proud that the ADA has chosen to honor Henry and BD as partners in their fine work.

BD has a long history of supporting the development of products and services to people with diabetes. In fact in 1924, BD began to manufacture all-glass syringes for insulin injection. New diabetes initiatives include platforms for enhanced insulin delivery, our inhaled liquid insulin program and the blood glucose monitoring platform.

Some other facts about BD's work with the ADA include:

BD worked in partnership with the ADA to increase awareness of diabetes and promote National Diabetes Awareness Month (now marked each November).

BD is a member of ADA's Banting Circle, denoting participation at the highest level of corporate sponsorship. (The Banting Circle is named for the discoverer of insulin.)

BD provides free products and programs for the 20,000 children who attend ADA summer camps each year. Many BD people volunteer at the camps; others bike, walk and jog to raise funds for diabetes programs and research. In each BD "getting started kit" provided to new diabetes patients and new-to-insulin patients, BD also includes information about the ADA to introduce patients to the organization.

Many BD employees have supported ADA programs by serving in leadership positions throughout the ADA. BD has and continues to offer professional workshops in conjunction with the ADA for healthcare professionals and families as well as patients dealing with the disease.

Henry Becton has been a tireless advocate for advancing diabetes research and treatment. Henry epitomizes the care and commitment with his own lifelong spirit of volunteerism and action. In fact, even today Henry sits on the BD corporate contributions committee where he continues to shape BD's charitable programs. For instance, he was a member of the committee in 1994 that established the Diabetes Care Fund to support non-profit public education initiatives, research activities, and programs to benefit people with diabetes.

Throughout a century of growth, Becton Dickinson's commitment to raising the quality of health care worldwide has remained constant. I can testify to the high standards of personal character and integrity that Henry Becton has brought to the business community and philanthropic and civic communities of northern New Jersey. I congratulate Henry Becton and wish him many years of continued success.

AFFORDABLE STUDENT LOANS

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Affordable Student Loan Act, which I am introducing today. Student loans—like Pell grants and work-study jobs—are essential to providing all Americans with the opportunity to earn a college degree.

Now more than ever, a college education is one of the best investments of a lifetime. In the workplace, a college degree is worth 75 percent more than a high school diploma, or \$600,000 over a career.

Our children should pursue their academic dreams, but the loan burdens we ask them to shoulder are increasingly troubling. Student loan volume has more than doubled over the last seven years to \$35 billion a year.

The average student loan debt at four-year public colleges is \$12,000. At four-year private colleges, it is \$14,300. College graduates with high loan debts may think twice about entering public service, be more likely to default, and delay the purchase of their first home.

To make matters worse, the Federal Government needlessly raises the cost of student loans by charging a fee of up to 4 percent of the loan principal. Students borrowing \$1,000 actually receive as little as \$960. However, they will still be expected to repay the full \$1,000, plus interest.

Nearly all of these fees—up to 3 percent on guaranteed student loans and up to 4 percent on direct student loans—are origination fees, enacted in 1981 to reduce the deficit. Because their only purpose is to raise revenue, the fees are often called "the student loan tax." They do not pay for administrative costs or serve any program purpose.

Nor are the fees necessary to limit the federal cost of student loans. For example, on direct student loans, the Federal Government will "earn" more than \$5 for every \$100 in loans made this year, even after paying for all administrative and default costs. If Congress eliminated on all fees, students would still pay a surcharge—rather than receive a subsidy—on loans through the Direct Student Loan program this year.

Students who borrow guaranteed loans also pay up to 1 percent insurance fee into reserve funds to pay future default costs. Because these reserve funds are larger than necessary to pay for defaulted loans, the large majority of guaranty agencies waive this fee.

Finally, eliminating the fees will benefit all students. Over the last two years, the Department of Education reduced interest rates and fees on its direct student loans to match terms available from banks on federally guaranteed

student loans. The lower rates will save students over \$1 billion over the next five years, reduce defaults, and treat students in both the direct and guaranteed loan programs fairly.

In response, a group of financial institutions sued Education to make direct loans more expensive for students and drum up business for their own student loans. The legislation I am introducing today will promote stability in the loan programs by resolving this dispute and benefiting students in both programs. It will leave students and schools free to choose among the programs based upon the quality of service they offer.

Now is the time to end the student loan tax. The Affordable Student Loans Act will save the typical student roughly \$400 on their loans and make college more affordable for students in both loan programs. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

THE MEDICAID OBESITY  
TREATMENT ACT OF 2001

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, in honor of National Minority Health Month, today I am introducing the "Medicaid Obesity Treatment Act of 2001" to elevate the visibility of a national health epidemic that is wreaking particular havoc upon our minority communities. For too long, obesity has escaped adequate attention from both policymakers, scientists and the general public. With this bill, which will simply provide Medicaid coverage for medically necessary treatments for chronically obese beneficiaries, I hope to raise the level of attention to this devastating illness. The Medicaid Obesity Treatment Act of 2001 is the first legislation ever introduced in the Congress to specifically address the need to ensure access for all Americans to drug therapies designed to treat obesity and its related comorbidities, and I am proud to be its sponsor.

Obesity has truly become a national health care crisis. The National Center for Health Statistics reports that 60 percent of Americans over 20 years of age are overweight or clinically obese. Weight-related conditions represent the second leading cause of death in the United States, and result in approximately 300,000 preventable deaths each year.

According to the Surgeon General, the prevalence of overweight and obesity has almost doubled among America's children and adolescents since 1980. It is estimated that one out of five children is obese. The epidemic growth in obesity acquired during childhood or adolescence is particularly threatening to the national health because it often persists into adulthood and increases the risk for some chronic diseases later in life.

The prevalence of obesity in America is at an all time high, affecting every State, both men and women, all ages, races, and education levels. Disparities in health status indicators and risk factors for diet-related disease are evident in many segments of the population based on gender, age, race and ethnicity, and income. Overweight and obesity are observed in all population groups, but obesity is particularly common among Hispanic, African American, Native American, and Pacific Islander women.

Too many Americans, particularly urban residents, have inadequate access to fresh produce and healthy food products. Too many Americans have desk jobs that afford them little opportunity to maintain adequate physical conditioning. And for too many Americans today, the most plentiful, available and affordable food is often the least nutritious.

For years, obesity was considered a lifestyle choice. Now, however, it is increasingly understood to be an illness with serious health consequences. It is proven that overweight and obesity are associated with significantly higher mortality rates. Additionally, obesity substantially increases the risk of other illnesses, including breast cancer, colon cancer, ovarian cancer, prostate cancer, cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, type 2 diabetes, heart disease, stroke, gallbladder disease, arthritis, sleep disturbances and respiratory problems.

The costs of obesity on the public health system are truly staggering. The total cost, both in terms of health care and lost productivity, of obesity alone was estimated as \$99 billion in 1995. As it becomes more prevalent, obesity's toll on the national economy will only grow.

There is some promising news, however. Science has made great strides in recent years to both understand and combat obesity. Several new drugs offer great promise in the fight to prevent and treat obesity and its related comorbidities.

Unfortunately, however, coverage of these drugs is excludable under Medicaid due to an eleven year old provision that allows states to exclude weight loss drugs, even in cases where these drugs have the potential to save lives. This provision is based upon the outdated notion of obesity as a "lifestyle choice" and the notion of anti-obesity medication as cosmetic in nature. These notions, and the provision based upon them, are no longer valid scientifically, and must be stricken from the law. Medically necessary medicine for the treatment of chronic obesity should be covered under Medicaid like any other medically necessary drug. This is the purpose and goal of this bill.

Although this expansion in Medicaid coverage might incur some marginal cost to the overall program, requiring states to cover proven obesity medication may actually reduce Medicaid expenditures as a result of decreases in the costs associated with treating obesity-related comorbidities such as diabetes and heart disease. Given the numerous collateral benefits of reducing obesity, in addition to the underlying treatment of obesity for the disease that it is, it makes good sense and good public policy to provide Medicaid beneficiaries access to life saving antiobesity medicines.

Finally, as the Congress looks towards the formation of a prescription drug benefit for all Americans, we must be wary of simply importing the outdated notions implicit in Medicaid coverage definitions which might have the effect of denying access to medically necessary weight loss drugs. Any prescription drug benefit must provide coverage for medically necessary medications for chronic obesity consistent with its coverage of other medically necessary disease treatments.

Obesity is a growing epidemic across the nation which must be addressed with more than just words. This bill offers an important first step towards stemming the tide against

this preventable killer. During this year's observance of National Minority Health Month, I am pleased to introduce this bill to both highlight the epidemic of obesity, which strikes particularly hard in the minority community, and to do something substantive about it. I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

TAX LIMITATION CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.J. Res. 41, the Tax Limitation Constitutional Amendment, which would require a two-thirds majority vote in Congress to pass legislation increasing internal Federal revenues, except in time of war or military conflict. While I support a simpler, fairer and more efficient tax code, I cannot back this fiscally irresponsible proposal, which would unnecessarily tamper with the Constitution and undermine its principle of majority rule.

This resolution would deny Congress its legislative ability to address weaknesses in our current tax code and possibly close outdated and costly tax loopholes. Further, this constitutional amendment would prevent us from passing reconciliation bills, which reduce future deficits by making balanced spending cuts and raising revenues, unless there are tax cuts of equal size.

The philosophical battle over supermajorities was waged after the Articles of Confederation was enacted. During, this debate, our Founders became convinced that supermajorities were unfeasible and that a simple majority—our present system for the passage of tax bills—was the most practical. For centuries, our government has abided by this fundamental principle and concluded that our republic would be compromised if a two-thirds majority vote were required for revenue bills and other day-to-day legislative matters routinely before us.

We all want to protect hard-working families from tax increases, but requiring a two-thirds vote to raise revenues to pay for spending initiatives that we have already authorized would make funding our national priorities even more problematic. Furthermore, this constitutional amendment would make it extraordinarily difficult to extend the solvency of Social Security and Medicare and reduce our national debt. Finally, this legislation is largely unworkable, given the vagueness and ambiguity of its language. If Congress is truly concerned about guarding the American public from unwarranted tax increases, it should pass meaningful tax reform legislation, maintain a balanced budget, and trust American citizens to elect representatives who will legislate in their best interests.

For these reasons, I cannot support this proposed change to the Constitution. I strongly urge my colleagues to vote against this imprudent measure.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF RICHARDSON PREYER, FORMER MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

SPEECH OF  
**HON. EVA M. CLAYTON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, April 25, 2001*

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to say a few words about a North Carolina native son, the Honorable Lunsford Richardson Preyer. He died this month but left a legacy of dedicated, visionary and exemplary service to his family, community, state and nation.

He was born in Greensboro, NC in 1919 and lived and served during a difficult time in the history of our state and nation. Racial discrimination was widespread during his early life. African Americans were objects of legal, social and economic oppression. However, Richardson Preyer rose above the prevailing conditions and displayed remarkable moral integrity, tolerance and support for racial diversity and human rights.

After graduating from Princeton University and Harvard Law School, he returned home. Although an heir to a family fortune, he chose to engage in efforts to resolve conflicts between contending groups in society. He was well-suited to be a judge; he served as a state court trial judge and in 1961 was appointed to a lifetime position on the federal District Court. A few years later, he left this comfort zone seeking other opportunities to serve. In 1964, he ran unsuccessfully for Governor of North Carolina. He served several years as a bank executive and, in 1968, was elected and served the 6th District of North Carolina for six terms in the United States Congress.

Mr. Preyer was a gentleman and a scholar and a bold and courageous leader. He was given much and he gave much. It is fitting that we pay tribute to his life and legacy. He was a good man.

JESSIE ROBERSON—A GOOD CHOICE FOR A CRUCIAL JOB

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, one of the most difficult and most important jobs in the Federal Government is overseeing the cleanup of the vast complex of Department of Energy sites where plutonium and other nuclear weapons components were produced or processed.

Coloradans have a big stake in this because our State is home to a number of these sites, notably the Rocky flats site in the district I represent.

So, I rise to applaud the reported decision of President Bush to nominate Ms. Jessie Roberson, to the important position of Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environmental Management. I think it is an excellent choice.

I had the opportunity to work with Jessie when she headed the Rocky flats project in Colorado. I took an immediate liking to her—not just because of her professionalism and no-nonsense style, but also because she seemed to me to enjoy working hard, while maintaining a sense of good humor.

Her tenure at Rocky flats was highly successful. She led agency efforts to keep the commitment, first made by Energy Secretary Federico Pena, to give a high priority to finishing full cleanup and closure of rocky flats on a much earlier timetable than had previously been proposed.

I know I speak for all of my colleagues in the Colorado delegation in wishing her the very best as she undertakes important new responsibilities at the Department of Energy.

A recent editorial by the Denver Post put it right by calling Jessie Roberson a “top flight” pick. For the information of our colleagues, I submit that editorial for the RECORD:

[From the Denver Post, April 3, 2001]

ROBERSON A TOP-FLIGHT PICK

U.S. Energy Secretary Spencer Abrahams is getting some top-flight help in cleaning up the nation's Cold War legacy: Jessie Roberson, who headed the Department of Energy's Rocky Flats closure project in Colorado, is being nominated to manage DOE's entire environmental cleanup program nationwide.

Roberson will be the second Rocky Flats veteran to move into a key DOE post. Earlier, the White House announced it will nominate Robert Card for undersecretary of energy. Card previously headed Kaiser-Hill, the contractor doing the cleanup at Rocky Flats, the mothballed nuclear bomb trigger factory north of Golden.

The Rocky Flats crew led by Roberson and Card accomplished, in just three years of teamwork, more progress toward cleanup and closure than the facility had logged in the previous decade.

It's understandable that Abrahams would look toward the people who brought DOE past success to move the entire department toward its future goals.

Roberson is an excellent choice. She is a nuclear engineer who in 1996 was named the national Black Engineer of the Year for Professional Achievement in Government. That same year, she took the reins at Rocky Flats, where her personable but no-nonsense style got the flagging project on track.

In 1999, the Democratic Clinton administration tapped Roberson for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Board, which provides independent oversight at DOE nuclear sites on all issues affecting health and safety.

Now the Republican Bush Administration also has recognized the value of her 17 years of nuclear safety experience.

As assistant energy secretary for environmental management, Roberson will oversee the cleanup of all the country's Cold War atomic sites. Among them: Hanford, the toxic and radioactive nightmare in eastern Washington. Savannah River, the South Carolina reactor and processing plant that must be modernized. And Rocky Flats, the one place DOE has scored real progress toward cleanup.

With Abrahams at the top and Card in the No. 2 slot, Roberson will round out DOE's civilian management team.

The department's environmental management job, in fact, is one of the toughest positions in the federal government today. There likely isn't a better person around to tackle the task, however, than Jessie Roberson.

TAX LIMITATION AMENDMENT:  
H.J. RES. 41

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. J. Res. 41, the Tax Limitation Amendment 2001.

H.J. Res. 41 amends the U.S. Constitution to require that any bill, resolution or legislative measure that proposes to change Internal Revenue laws must have the approval of two-thirds of those voting in the House of Representatives and the Senate. This requirement would not apply when a declaration of war is in effect, or when the United States is engaged in a military conflict which causes an imminent and serious threat to national security as found by both Chambers and the President.

Mr. Speaker, in his famous McCulloch vs. Maryland opinion, Chief Justice John Marshall stated that “The power to tax is the power to destroy.” This amendment sets out to make it more difficult for the Congress to arbitrarily erase taxes, and presumably, makes the Federal Government more efficient and less bloated with unnecessary spending.

History has demonstrated that it is far easier for Congress to raise taxes to cover spending deficits than it is to reduce that spending to reasonable levels. This is all the more true today, now that the government is operating at a surplus. Neither party wants to be held responsible for any future return to peacetime deficit spending. Should such an event appear likely to occur, the temptation to raise taxes to cover any potential deficit would be overwhelming.

The enactment and ratification of this amendment would thus prevent a return to the situation which existed in this country 25 years ago. During the 1970s, middle-class families were struggling to get by under crippling high marginal tax rates, which, thanks to high inflation and bracket creep, reached deeper into the working class ranks with every passing year.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to fully support H. J. Res. 41, The Tax Limitation Constitutional Amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SUSAN DAVIS**

OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, on roll call No. 85 and 86, I was delayed due to aircraft mechanical problems. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on both.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on roll call No. 59 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

WALTER ARBIB

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I stand to recognize and salute a dear friend and a wonderful human being, Walter Arbib.

A resident and native of Israel before moving to Canada in 1988, Walter Arbib started his career as an Israeli tourist agent and took advantage of the normalized relations between Israel and Egypt for his business. As his work progressed and new horizons seemed to dawn, Walter came upon the idea of moving his work into the international relief area. Already, at this point, as co-owner of a number of SkyLink discount travel offices, Walter established his headquarters in Toronto, Canada and was the catalyst for a dream that has grown exponentially since that time. What began as a group of small travel offices has evolved into SkyLink Group which includes SkyLink Express, and air courier business; SkyLink Travel, a discount airline ticket agency; Sishost Corp., an Internet-based application hosting platform; and Dollar Rent-A-Car.

At a cursory glance, the SkyLink group of companies seems no more than an affordable, expansive travel group. However, Walter Arbib's vision has gone much further than simply affordable travel. SkyLink Aviation, Inc. is an internationally licensed operator of aircraft and helicopters which specializes in Air Sup-

port Project Management, Air Charters, Aviation Support, Aircraft Maintenance, Air Courier, Executive Aircraft, Flight Planning and Clearance Services. In short, SkyLink supplies much needed air support for humanitarian and other missions throughout the globe.

Walter's clientele has become as diverse as the United Nations (incidentally one of SkyLink's first contracts). Foreign governments, as well as the United States, have hired Walter Arbib and SkyLink to deliver food to refugees, evacuate workers, and fly into dangerous areas to provide aid and transportation. SkyLink owns approximately fourteen planes and four helicopters, but leases the bulk of its aircraft from a network of companies, sometimes as many as one hundred planes can be involved in any given operation in a matter of hours. Walter's company is always on call. If an emergency request comes through, SkyLink is prepared to act immediately.

Often, Walter doesn't even wait for a call before his aircraft are on their way to participate or spearhead disaster relief halfway across the globe. During severe flooding in Mozambique, SkyLink started to move their helicopters before Walter was even asked. His pro-active approach to work is a combination of good business sense and an understanding of the international need for an operation like SkyLink. Walter Arbib and SkyLink have received thankful letters and honors from many countries that are grateful for the service that he has provided.

SkyLink's work can sometimes deviate from the stated objective. The most illustrative ex-

ample occurred in 1994 when SkyLink was hired to bring aid to Rwanda, in the midst of war. During this operation, SkyLink's Operation Manager discovered nine hundred orphans with two aid workers struggling in abysmal working conditions. A decision was quickly made that SkyLink would donate its aircraft and manpower to the first wave of supplies, and would help set up an adequate shelter for the orphans. Back at headquarters, Walter stated matter-of-factly that he had heard this incredible story from his manager, and decided to lend a helping hand, because those children were in the middle of nowhere and the people in the field said that they were not leaving before they had a chance to help. Such devotion and goodwill is ever-pervasive in SkyLink under Arbib's leadership.

Walter Arbib has prospered because of SkyLink's extensive business ventures, but never lost sight of the main reason that this business is such a success on a number of levels. More often than not, the SkyLink symbol can be seen on the helicopters and planes evacuating refugees or bringing aid and supplies to needy citizens of other countries. While this has meant greater profits for Walter, it also fills him with a sense of pride that even in a business venture, comfort and aid can be brought to the needy throughout the world.

The international community is extremely grateful to this humanitarian whose work many times provides the difference of life or death for countless people in the path of danger.