

residents, particularly more highly-susceptible children. Veterinarians may often be the key in preventing the spread of such diseases in highly-populated, inner-city areas.

In response to the growing number of under-served areas that are lacking animal health care professionals, I am introducing the "Veterinary Health Enhancement Act for Under-served Areas" to meet the health care needs of these communities. Under this proposal, veterinary students will be provided scholarships and tuition debt relief if they choose to practice in under-served areas for an agreed upon period of time. The result of having veterinarians provide their services to these communities will improve animal health, will ensure that the risk of disease transfer from animals to humans is minimal, and will improve economic opportunities for agriculture producers who depend on livestock veterinarians.

This is non-controversial legislation that will provide benefits to the entire country. I urge my colleagues to show their commitment to communities throughout their respective districts which lack proper veterinary care by lending their support for the "Veterinary Health Enhancement Act for Under-Served Areas".

HONORING MRS. EDDIE LEE EDWARDS MCPHERSON ON HER BIRTHDAY

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and pleasure to rise today on behalf of a very special person who resides in my district. On Saturday, May 26th, Mrs. Eddie Lee Edwards McPherson will be celebrating her 80th birthday along with her friends and family. I would like to join with the many in congratulating her upon this significant milestone.

Eddie Lee was born to the late Samuel P. M. Rhodes and the late Florence Hagins Rhodes in 1921 in Bulloch County, GA; and was united in marriage to the late Joseph Sterling Edwards, Sr. with whom she was blessed with her six children, four daughters and two sons. She is currently married to Leroy McPherson who graced her with four stepchildren, three daughters and one son. Throughout her life, though, the Lord bestowed upon her the love of even more sons and daughters-in-law, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, as well as other embraced children.

Mrs. McPherson graduated from Savannah State College with a degree in Elementary Education. Throughout her career, Eddie Lee was given the opportunity to reach many young children at Perry Elementary, Viola Burroughs Elementary, C.B. Greer Elementary and Ballard Elementary. She has also served faithfully in the community and at local churches.

This remarkable lady is an encourager, a disciplinarian, a dear friend to many and an indomitable matriarch. Her faith, courage and kindness are an inspiration to all who have been touched by her. God blessed us when he gave us Mrs. Eddie Lee Edwards McPherson. May God bless her on her 80th birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, May 21, 2001, my plane was delayed in arriving due to bad weather. As a result, I was not present for Roll Call Vote #126, Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day and Roll Call Vote #127, the 245(i) Extension Act of 2001.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call Vote #126 and #127.

"A TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER JAMES F. STADER"

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding Marine Corps Officer, Major Stewart H. Holmes, who served with distinction and dedication for two and a half years for the Secretary of the Navy, Commandant of the Marine Corps and under the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (FM&C) as the Marine Corps Appropriations Liaison Officer in the Appropriations Matters Office. It is a privilege for me to recognize his many outstanding achievements and commend him for the superb service he has provided to the United States Marine Corps, the Department of the Navy, the Congress, and our nation.

During his tenure in the Appropriations Matters Office, which began in December of 1998, Major Holmes has provided members of the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Defense as well as our professional and associate staffs with timely and accurate support regarding Marine Corps plans, programs and budget decisions. His valuable contributions have enabled the Defense Subcommittee and the Marine Corps to strengthen its close working relationship and to ensure the most modern, well-trained and well-equipped marine forces attainable for our nation's defense.

Mr. Speaker, Stewart Holmes and his wife Deborah have made many sacrifices during his marine career, and his distinguished service has exemplified the Marine motto "Semper Fidelis." As they depart the Appropriations Matters Office to embark on yet another great Marine adventure, I call upon colleagues to wish them both every success.

HONORING RYAN PATTERSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor one of the bright young minds of western Colorado. Central High School junior Ryan Patterson, amazed people for the second year in a row at a science fair for creating a compact device capable of digitally translating sign language onto a small electronic readout.

Ryan is no stranger at science fairs. He was the winner of last years science fair and went on to win first place and nearly \$10,000 at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Detroit. In total, Ryan has won numerous science awards, \$192,000 in scholarships, \$15,750 in cash, two lap-tops, and two trips to Stockholm, Sweden, for the Nobel Prize ceremonies. Seventeen year-old Ryan recently won the top award in the International Science Fair in San Jose, California.

The device that brought young Ryan all this fame is a glove that translates American Sign Language into digital information that can be read on a portable screen. The device will assist those with speaking disabilities communicate anywhere without a translator. Ryan came up with this while in a Burger King. "I was in Burger King when I saw some people ordering their food in sign language with someone else translating for them," "So I thought something like this would help them become more independent by being able to communicate easier."

"For me, it's been an incredible journey," said John McConnell, a retired physicist. "I'm 70 years old and he's one of the greatest joys of my life." Tests for the device were promising enough that Ryan plans on seeking a patent and he hopes to manufacture it.

Mr. Speaker, Ryan has a bright future ahead of him, and I would like to congratulate him on behalf of Congress and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors. Ryan's family, classmates, and Western Colorado can be proud of Ryan for his accomplishments.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL MARITIME DAY 2001

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize today, May 22, 2001, as National Maritime Day. In 1933 the 73rd Congress passed Senate Joint Resolution 7 designating May 22nd as National Maritime Day. Since that time every President starting with Franklin Roosevelt has issued an annual proclamation declaring May 22nd as National Maritime Day. I am pleased that President Bush has continued that proud tradition again this year.

With yesterday's passage of House Concurrent Resolution 109, this body took a positive step toward recognizing the significant contributions of the United States Merchant Marine to our maritime defense and national security. This resolution acknowledges the critical role played by vessels of the U.S. Merchant Marine fleet in transporting equipment, supplies, and personnel to support the nation's defense and recognizing the historical significance of May 22nd as National Maritime Day. It encourages the American people and appropriate government agencies to recognize the services and sacrifices of the U.S. Merchant Marine through ceremonies. And it requests that all U.S. ships prominently display the American flag on this day. As a co-sponsor of this legislation, I am pleased to see its passage in the House.

It is fitting to honor the past and present members of the U.S. Merchant Marine. To this end, I introduced legislation in the last Congress to authorize additional federal funding