

## TRIBUTE TO LIMERICK TOWNSHIP

**HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2001*

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Limerick Township in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania on its 275th Anniversary. Native Americans of the Delaware tribe were the original inhabitants of this area followed later by William Penn, who in 1682, purchased large tracts of land from the Native Americans. Early settlers from Wales, Germany, Holland, and France, soon began to settle here. Many important and prominent families began to arrive such as the Brookes, Evans, Kendalls, and the Ickes.

A petition to form the township of "Lymmerick" was filed in Philadelphia in 1726 and may still be found in City Hall. Education was of major importance to the citizens of the township. From the beginning many schools were constructed. There were eight one-room schools in the township in 1848 and that number continued to grow throughout the rest of the century. Currently there are four major schools within the township.

Limerick Township has been a farming community for much of its history. Development grew slowly though steadily until the construction of the Pottstown Expressway in 1985 which connects Philadelphia with King of Prussia.

As one of the oldest townships in Montgomery County, Limerick Township is now home to 18,000 residents, a nuclear generating station, an airport, and several golf courses. It is one of the fastest growing areas within Montgomery County.

I am proud to represent such an extraordinary township. This anniversary should serve as a lasting tribute to the men and women who built Limerick and now make it their home. Their dedication has made this township the wonderful place it is.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK  
OF JOHN L. NINNEMANN**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand here before you today to honor a man that has made significant contributions to the artistic community, John L. Ninneman. John has not only created a legacy with his photography, but he has also shaped the future with the minds he has taught at Adams State College.

John is currently the Dean of Arts and Sciences at Fort Lewis College. He started his extensive education at St. Olaf College; he then went on to earn a Master's at North Dakota University. After completion of his Master's Degree, John received his Ph. D. at Colorado State and his Post-doctoral training at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. With his vast knowledge John became an accomplished research immunologist. His time spent in Colorado created a love for the State, and John eventually returned to Colorado to become a professor at Adams State College. John proved to be a

great professor, and was loved by both students and fellow professors. During his time there he served as Chair of Biology, and Dean of the School of Science, Math and Technology. In the little spare time that the John had he developed a love photography.

John started what would be an illustrious career in photography by documenting one-room schoolhouses in and around the San Luis Valley. He then began to photograph the rock canyons and mesas in the Four Corners Region. His photography has won numerous awards, and helped make others aware of the beauty in Colorado that needs to be preserved. John's artistic ability does not stop with his photos; he is also a talented violinist who performs with chamber groups, and at fundraisers. It seems that John's talent and ability is boundless.

The contributions that John has made to the artistic community of the State of Colorado, not to mention the nation, is why I believe, Mr. Speaker, that John Ninneman is worthy of the praise of Congress. The black and white photos that he has taken will live forever as a reminder to all how beautiful the United States is to all that view them. I thank John for sharing his amazing talents with the public.

"RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACT OF 2001"  
("REEA")**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2001*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, this week I introduced the "Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Act of 2001" ("REEA"). This bill is a blueprint for the House Science Committee as we develop legislative priorities for the renewable energy and energy efficiency programs at the Department of Energy (DOE). The Committee's role in the national energy debate is unique, because we are required to envision the future energy needs of our country, and determine the direction of DOE's research, development and demonstration (RD&D) programs. As the Ranking Member on the Science Committee's Energy Subcommittee, this bill is my statement on our priorities.

We must establish a more level playing field for renewable energy sources, so we can reduce our reliance on coal and fossil fuels. We must encourage the development of 'green industries' through increased emphasis on energy efficiency technologies. We must expand those energy sources that will contribute to a more sustainable, long-term energy future. Increased federal investment in renewable energy sources and energy efficiency technologies is smart public policy because for every dollar invested in current DoE sustainable energy programs, the benefits total \$200.

My vision for our energy future is that by the year 2020, twenty percent of our energy will be generated from renewable sources. Environmental groups agree, because we cannot continue to focus our priorities on limited fossil fuel sources. Unfortunately, our federal commitment to the RD&D programs that will help us meet this goal has declined significantly since 1980. This bill is a bold effort to reverse this funding scenario by outlining a robust

R&D program and fund an aggressive energy efficiency agenda.

The comment I've heard most often from the renewable energy community is that a critical element of any successful R&D program is a stable funding stream that gradually increases over time. That's why over the next five fiscal years, "REEA" authorizes total funding for DoE renewable energy programs at \$3.735 billion, and energy efficiency at \$5.185 billion with an additional \$300 million for NASA to work on aircraft energy efficiency. If Americans are to have a secure energy future, with reliable, clean and environmentally-friendly energy sources, we must invest in renewable energy sources and make great strides in energy efficiency, so we can reduce our overall energy consumption. This means increasing support for wind, solar, geothermal and biomass energy sources.

We must also ensure that promising renewable energy and energy efficient technologies, like hydrogen fuel cells, are given commercialization assistance so that individual consumers can afford to use them. My bill establishes a competitive grant program at DoE so that private sector entities can help advance development of new technologies. Many creative and entrepreneurial individuals need only access to financial assistance to demonstrate the successful application of their renewable energy or energy efficiency technology. That's why this bill directs that at least fifty percent of the \$1 billion provided for such assistance goes to small businesses and startup companies.

Mr. Speaker, for too long we have overlooked renewable energy sources when setting our energy priorities. Now is the time for a responsible energy policy that makes significant investments in clean energy sources to supplement current energy supply. We must ensure that we prevent a repeat of the energy shortages Californians and West Coast residents now face. "REEA" will be a big step toward protecting our environment, and guaranteeing a better future for our children.

IN SUPPORT OF THE LOW INCOME  
FAMILIES FLOOD INSURANCE  
ACCESS ACT**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2001*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as we witnessed the damage wrought by Tropical Storm Allison after it wept through Texas and up the East Coast, the importance of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) really hit home. Thousands of my constituents suffered substantial flood damage to their homes and businesses, but some of these losses were mitigated because they had federal flood insurance.

Unfortunately, not all my constituents who needed flood insurance could afford to purchase a policy. Because of a recent redraw of Houston's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) many of my low-income folks were brought into the 100-year flood plain, but could not afford the insurance. As a consequence of my constituents' experience, I rise today to introduce the Low Income Families Flood Insurance Access Act.

This legislation helps bridge the insurance gap between those that can afford a flood policy and those that cannot. The bill would provide discounted flood insurance over a five-year term for low-income homeowners or renters whose primary residence is placed within a Special Flood Hazard Area (flood plain) by a redraw of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). If their property is worth no more than \$75,000, they would be eligible to receive a 50% discount on their flood insurance premiums for a five-year period.

It also provides for limited retroactivity if their residence is placed within the floodplain within two years of the enactment of the legislation; otherwise, the five years would begin upon the placement of the property within the flood plain. I hope that this legislation will not only increase participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), but make its program more affordable for the economically disadvantaged. It provides an incentive for those who are most vulnerable to huge losses in floods to get the protection they need at a price they can afford.

The NFIP plays a crucial role in lessening the impact of a major flooding disaster, but to make the program operate most effectively we need greater participation. I believe my legislation will extend the helping hand associated with flood insurance down to those people in greatest need of assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that we can speed this bill through the 107th Congress.

#### AMERICAN SCHOLARS OF CHINESE ANCESTRY

SPEECH OF

#### HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2001*

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support for H. Res. 160, which calls upon the Government of the People's Republic of China to immediately and unconditionally release Li Shaomin and all other American scholars of Chinese ancestry being held in detention. I join in asking President Bush to make the release of these scholars, who include U.S. citizens and permanent residents, a top priority in our dealings with China.

These Chinese American scholars have been accused of spying but no evidence has been produced by the Chinese government. The detainees have even been denied the basic right of meeting with their families and lawyers. Dr. Li Shaomin, Dr. Gao Zhan, Wu Jianmin, Tan Guangguang, and Teng Chunyan have been unjustly imprisoned and denied due process. We must insist on their immediate release.

The harassment and persecution of intellectuals is yet another attempt by the Chinese government to stifle any freedom of expression among its people. China's leaders should be ashamed of its government's abysmal record of human rights abuses but instead remain indifferent to the condemnation of the world community. The Chinese government regularly violates the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which it signed in October 1998.

We must make sure that the Chinese government understands that it will pay a price for

flouting international norms of behavior. This is why I support rescinding Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China and going back to an annual review. I would hope, moreover, that China's human rights record will be a factor in the International Olympic Committee's choice of which country will host the 2008 Olympics.

I urge all my colleagues to send a strong message to the Chinese government by unanimously passing this important resolution.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF DR. MARK JOHNSON

#### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2001*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Mark Johnson, who will be recognized by the New Jersey Medical School's Family Practice Residency Program for his outstanding achievements in the fields of family medicine and medical research. Dr. Johnson will be honored on Friday, June 29, 2001, at a private reception at the Landmark II in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

Mark Johnson graduated from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where he majored in Black Literature. He furthered his studies by graduating from the University of Medicine and Dentistry at New Jersey's Medical School in Newark, New Jersey. After graduating from medical school, Dr. Johnson spent his family practice residency at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, Alabama. In addition, he was a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he received his Masters Degree in Public Health.

Dr. Johnson's notable career as a family physician and medical researcher has earned him widespread praise from his peers and colleagues. The American Medical Association has recognized him on four separate occasions for his diligent work and exceptional endeavors, by presenting him with the Physician's Recognition Award. New York Magazine designated him one of the best doctors in the State of New York in 1999 and 2000.

Currently, Dr. Johnson is the Chair of the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Medicine and Dentistry at New Jersey's Medical School in Newark. Prior to his tenure at New Jersey's Medical School, Dr. Johnson taught at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the University of South Alabama, and Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Mark Johnson for his distinguished service and commitment to family medicine.

#### GINA UPCHURCH RECEIVES COMMUNITY HEALTH LEADER AWARD

#### HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2001*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my congratulations to Gina

Upchurch, one of 10 recipients of the 2001 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader Award. Ms. Upchurch has earned this honor for her pathbreaking work with the Senior PHARMAssist Program based in Durham, North Carolina.

Each year, the Community Health Leadership Program recognizes ten individual who have found innovative ways to bring health care to communities whose needs have been ignored or unmet. Ms. Upchurch was selected for this prestigious recognition from a field of 577 nominees.

As founder and executive director of Senior PHARMAssist, Ms. Upchurch created a model to help seniors on limited incomes purchase expensive medications. PHARMAssist monitors the medications of their clients to help prevent life-threatening interactions and provides financial aid to those on limited incomes. The program has helped more than 2,600 seniors get the medications they need and has educated over 800 older adults about safer usage of medication.

The counseling and support provided by PHARMAssist works. A recent study conducted by the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill found that emergency room visits and over-night hospital stays had decreased by almost a third for seniors who had been in the program for at least one year.

Ms. Upchurch graduated from UNC with degrees in pharmacy and public health. She served in the Peace Corps in Botswana before returning to North Carolina to write her master's thesis, a policy analysis which recommended a program to provide health care to seniors throughout the state. This laid the groundwork for what eventually became Senior PHARMAssist. She now oversees a \$500,000 budget and has written a manual to help other communities establish a similar program.

Gina Upchurch has improved health care and helped those in need in our community. I am proud to recognize her achievements today.

#### DIRECT AIR SERVICE BETWEEN LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AND WASHINGTON'S REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORTS

#### HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2001*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I have been joined by a bipartisan group of my colleagues in introducing legislation to preserve direct air service between Washington's Reagan-National Airport (DCA) and Los Angeles International Airport (LAX).

This legislation is necessary because the Department of Transportation (DOT) decided to eliminate this critical service last Friday. Instead of permitting American Airlines, which purchased TWA, to have the TWA slots to continue to fly this route, the Department awarded them to Alaska Airlines, which will use them to start nonstop service between Washington and Seattle.

The Department's decision disappointed tens of thousands of Californians and other passengers who have come to rely on this route and its connections to Bakersfield, Fresno, Monterey, Oakland, Palm Springs, San