

Accounting. He later founded the accounting firm of Comodromos Associates, P.A. with his brother Michael. He has remained the President and managing partner of the firm, which is based in Paramus, NJ, ever since.

Andreas's immense success in America has not diminished his love and appreciation for the land in which he was born, which is why he continues to work for justice and peace in Cyprus. He has held several positions on the Board of the Cyprus Federation of America and served as its President for two consecutive terms. He was also elected to the National Council of the Order of Saint Andrew.

Andreas was a recipient of the 1996 Ellis Island Medal of Honor for outstanding contributions to America and distinguished community service. He is currently serving as President of the Cyprus-U.S. Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Council of Hellenes Abroad (SAE), North and South American Region. He continues to reside with his family in Kinnelon, New Jersey.

Nicholas Bouras is being honored with the Humanitarian and Philanthropic Award for his many contributions to various humanitarian and philanthropic efforts. Mr. Bouras was born in Pontiac, Michigan and was raised in Chicago, Illinois. In 1942 he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps and served in combat in the European Theater of Operations during World War II. During his service he flew 42 combat missions in B-26 and A-26 medium bombers as a lead bombardier and navigator until the end of the war in Europe. He was discharged with the rank of major and awarded the distinguished Flying Cross, eight Air Medals and five Battle Stars.

In 1955, he graduated from the School of Commerce at Northwestern University, located in Evanston, Illinois. Beginning in 1940, Mr. Bouras worked for the United States Steel Corporation for nearly two decades. In 1960 he began his own steel construction company with his lifetime partner, Anna K. Bouras. He continues to work as the owner and president of Bouras Industries, which now has locations in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and South Carolina and approximately 750 employees.

Mr. Bouras is also the founder of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Westfield, New Jersey. He is also a member of the Archdiocesan Council and a member of the Executive Board of the Archdiocesan Council of America for which he also serves as Secretary. He is a member of the National Board of the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle and also serves as its Executive Vice President.

In 1999 he too received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and a year later was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Subcontractors Association of New Jersey. Ernst and Young awarded him the 2000 entrepreneur Award and in 2001 he was presented with the Hellenic Heritage Achievement Award by the American Hellenic Institute. On May 19, 2001 he was awarded a Doctorate of the Humanities by the Hellenic College of Holy Cross. In March 2001 the American Hellenic Institute of Political Affairs Committee (AHIPAC) honored him for his outstanding contributions to the Hellenic Community.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Cyprus Federation of America, Inc. and its distinguished guests for their tremendous accomplishments, and tireless efforts for human rights and justice for Cyprus.

HONORING ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, as the United States expanded westward and Colorado's western slope was essentially untouched wilderness, Episcopalian clergy decided to place the first church in the region at Lake City, Colorado. 125 years later, this church is celebrating its founding and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the congregation's dedication and perseverance since its inception.

The Right Reverend John Franklin Spalding, Episcopal Bishop of Colorado, and Reverend C.M. Hoge conducted the original sermons and confirmation processes for the church in 1876. After many trips and openings of other church organizations, Bishop Spalding recalled that the church at Lake City was the first church in Western Colorado. Following the efforts of Bishop Spalding and after relocating to numerous sites throughout the town, the Episcopal services were finally housed at a former carpentry shop and one-room schoolhouse in 1877.

Lake City has the honor of hosting four churches and St. James Episcopal Church most resembles its original design. A Gothic-style 1910 Estey organ still fills the sanctuary with its unique tones. The balance between traditional architecture and contemporary needs has not escaped the congregation and accordingly they have adjusted their facility to accommodate modern-day advancements. New propane heaters have been installed and a new foundation has been poured along with beautiful stained glass windows.

Despite the small size of the church, with an average attendance of 40 people during the summer and 10 throughout the winters, the setting is conducive to intimate teachings and reflection. Mr. Speaker, the St. James Episcopal Church has withstood many tests of time and continues to provide a place of worship for the Lake City area. It is truly a great landmark and I would like to congratulate the congregation on their successes and extend my warmest regards and wish them the very best in years to come.

TAIWAN'S UNITED NATIONS MEMBERSHIP

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, Taiwan, a thriving democracy, a strong advocate of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and a bastion of economic strength, deserves membership to the United Nations on behalf of its 23 million citizens. With the election of its President—Chen Shui-bian—in a free and fair election last year, Taiwan continues to strengthen its democracy by improving safeguards for human rights and contributing to the international community.

Since his election, President Chen has continually sought to resume dialogue with the

Chinese mainland regarding eventual reunification. Despite this effort, Taiwan's efforts to participate in international organizations has often been thwarted for political reasons beyond Taiwan's control. It is unreasonable for the people of Taiwan to be excluded from full participation in international institutions due to threats from mainland China. Denying Taiwan membership in the United Nations and other international organizations, such as the World Health Organization, obstructs access to important international resources.

For the past several years, both Houses of the U.S. Congress have consistently introduced and passed legislation relating to Taiwan's meaningful participation and membership in the United Nations. This important legislation restates our support and our commitment to the progress of Taiwan's democracy.

We believe that Taiwan's full and equal membership in the United Nations and other international organizations is long overdue. The rationale of the world community in 1971 was that they were righting one wrong in giving China a seat in the United Nations. Now it is time to right the wrong created at that time, namely the U.N. disenfranchisement of Taiwan's citizens.

In order to strengthen the prestige and authority of the United Nations, it is now necessary to grant the people of Taiwan United Nations membership.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the House floor during Thursday's roll call vote on H.R. 2833.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of this bill to promote freedom and democracy in Vietnam.

BROWN VERSUS BOARD OF EDUCATION

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, the United States Constitution guarantees liberty and equal opportunity to the people of the United States. Historically, however, these fundamental rights have not always been provided.

In the early beginnings of U.S. history, education was withheld from people of African descent. In some states it was against the law for African Americans to learn to read and write. Later, throughout America's history, the educational system mandated separate schools for children based solely on race. In many instances, the schools for African American children were substandard facilities with out-of-date textbooks and insufficient supplies.

However, on May 17, 1954, in the landmark case aimed at ending segregation in public schools—Brown versus the Board of Education—the United States Supreme Court issued a unanimous decision that “separate