

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF LOUIS FINKEL

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bid farewell to Louis Finkel, my legislative director. Louis has been an invaluable member of my staff for almost six years. Replacing him will be a daunting task.

Louis has mastered every task and legislative priority I have assigned to him over the years. His hard work, loyalty and dedication have been instrumental in my work as a Congressman. I, along with every other member of my staff, will miss his contribution.

Louis' insight and analysis were key ingredients in every major legislative initiative with which I have been involved over the past six years. He has helped my efforts to finance a world class system of greenways and river trails in Middle Tennessee, expand and renovate the Stones River National Battlefield, restore environmentally sensitive wetlands, and begin a critically needed commuter rail system linking Nashville, Tennessee, with the surrounding suburban and rural populations.

Louis, like many bright and talented congressional staff members, is moving on to a career in public affairs. I'm confident his career there will be as successful as his career as a congressional aide. He undoubtedly will serve his clients as well as he has served me and my constituents in Middle Tennessee. I wish him well.

HONORING J&L VINEYARDS AS AG BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize J&L Vineyards as Baker, Peterson & Franklin, Certified Public Accountants' Ag Business of the Year. J&L Vineyards is honored for its contributions to the ag industry and the Central San Joaquin Valley.

J&L Vineyards was selected by a committee of representatives of the AgFresno Advisory Board, National Ag Marketing Association, and the BP&F Ag Department. The family business is owned and operated by Don Laub and his daughter Debbie Jacobsen. Don's wife, Clara; son, David, daughter Diane Tavares; and Debbie's husband, Ray are also involved with the company. What began in the late 1930's as a 20-acre raisin farm has expanded to ten varieties of table, raisin, and wine grapes on 1,050 acres. J&L Vineyards has also grown beyond the Laub family to include ten full-time employees.

It is J&L Vineyards' efficiency and innovation that has earned it this recognition. These

commitments can be seen by the business' integrated pest management, trellis design for table grapes, and higher yield with fewer inputs. Beyond agriculture and business, J&L Vineyards has exemplified a commitment to the community in which it has thrived. Family members have served on many boards including the Allied Grape Growers, California Foundation for Ag in the Classroom, California Women in Agriculture, and Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge J&L Vineyards as the recipient of the 2001 Ag Business of the Year. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this company and wishing it many more years of continued success.

HONORING THE COBB COUNTY, GEORGIA, CHAPTER OF KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, since 1953 one organization in particular has been striving to bring communities together, by developing proactive projects that encourage responsibility for environment enhancement and encompass the values of community pride. Keep America Beautiful has become an international organization that seeks to empower our citizens, by implementing programs ranging from litter prevention to improving entire cities through training, education, and action.

Keep America Beautiful has almost 500 local, state, and international affiliates in 40 states, and is continuing to grow every day.

I stand today, to recognize Keep America Beautiful's chapter in Cobb County, Georgia, as the winner of this year's affiliate award in the category for population of more than 500,001.

Cobb County has excelled with programs such as on-line litter reporting service, the Litter Line, where residents can report illegal dumps, excessive trash, or graffiti. This initiates a faster clean-up response time, and provides a useful tracking device for area officials. Keep Cobb Beautiful also stood out with its Cobb Trees program in which over 90 trees were planted at five different sites, incorporating over 150 volunteers.

I ask my fellow Members of the House to join me in congratulating, Keep Cobb Beautiful's progress and hard work. May the example they have set for the state of Georgia and the country as a whole continue to spread.

RICK BLANKENSHIP

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as a Floridian and a Member of Congress, I am thrilled to see that Mr. Blankenship is going to be the next Ambassador to the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. A community activist and advocate for children and local schools, I am certain he will serve our country honorably.

Mr. Blankenship's qualifications, which include over 20 years of experience in the private sector and years of work with Caribbean nations, make him a perfect fit for this position. His leadership in the area of international trade should benefit both countries, and his experience with air and port security will be a great asset at this critical time.

You know, the Bahamas is only 45 miles from the coast of Florida. My state has a special relationship with the island, as well as the Caribbean in general. And not only does the United States have close economic ties to the island, we also share ethnic and cultural ties, especially in education. And although many people outside the U.S. view us as "the ugly Americans" or "imperialists," I think that Mr. Blankenship could do a lot to improve our already friendly relations with the island. His concern for improving education and for children proves that he is a man that is concerned about people, and kids in particular. I know he will serve well as a link between our two countries.

I would like to close by once again congratulating Mr. Blankenship and wish him the best in his new position!

HONORING SOUTH SALT LAKE MAYOR RANDY G. FITTS

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Randy G. Fitts for his tireless efforts in representing the City of South Salt Lake.

Mayor Fitts served on the City Council of South Salt Lake from January 1978 to December 1989, and has been Mayor since 1992. He will retire on January 7, 2002, and his leadership and diligent work have been greatly appreciated.

Throughout his tenure as a public servant, Mayor Fitts focused on issues that would increase the quality of life for the residents of South Salt Lake.

Some of the projects he worked on include completion of the Jordan River Parkway, and the renovation of the historic Columbus School, by transforming it into a senior citizens

• 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.

center, community center, recreation center, and library.

Mayor Fitts proved to be a fiscal conservative, as well, with South Salt Lake receiving high bond ratings and awards from the Government Finance Officer's Association. He also succeeded in preventing the implementation of property tax increases.

Always active in regional efforts, he has served on many public boards and councils along the Wasatch Front, dealing with important policy issues such as transportation and public safety.

He is currently Vice-Chair of the Wasatch Front Regional Council, and a member of the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee.

He has also been President of the Salt Lake Valley Conference of Mayors and President of the Salt Lake County Council of Governments.

Mayor Fitts showed great courage and leadership in providing early public support at a critical time for light rail. Fortunately, Mayor Fitts had the vision to realize the importance of bringing mass transit to the Salt Lake Valley.

This vision continued after the North-South line from Salt Lake City to Sandy was completed. Three light-rail stops are located in South Salt Lake, and Mayor Fitts has sought to integrate the light-rail system into the community in a way that is both socially and economically beneficial.

The 3300 South Transit-Oriented Redevelopment Project is a key component of this integration. This project seeks to utilize high-density housing, commercial offices, as well as retail and community services around the light-rail station.

This project will stimulate economic growth while at the same time encourage further use of mass transit, thereby helping to prevent further sprawl in the Salt Lake Valley.

This project received the 2001 Best Achievement in Planning for Transit Oriented Development from the Utah Quality Growth Commission, as part of South Salt Lake's Light Rail Corridor Master Plan.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Mayor Fitts is well known for his sense of humor and wit. While he took his job seriously, he did not take himself too seriously. Which has always been the mark of an effective leader and public servant.

Therefore, I am proud to join with his many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Mayor Randy Fitts for his dedicated public service to the City of South Salt Lake. I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE LABORATORY SERVICES ACCESS ACT OF 2001

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, today I will introduce the Medicare Laboratory Services Access Act of 2001. I am pleased to be joined in introducing this important legislation by my colleague from Florida, Representative PETER DEUTSCH. Laboratory testing is an essential component of the health services we provide to our seniors. The health care needs of Medi-

care beneficiaries require them to have assured access to the full range of diagnostic laboratory tests. This measure would help ensure that the community laboratories that serve our nation's seniors have the resources necessary to continue to provide life-saving laboratory services. This legislation also seeks to remedy a financial burden imposed by new regulations requiring safe needles and related practices.

Laboratory tests facilitate early detection and accurate diagnoses which in turn result in more effective and less costly treatment. As a majority of the currently available tests to diagnose and treat diseases in the Medicare population involve taking and analyzing a specimen—or sample—from the beneficiary for laboratory analysis, health care providers rely on the accurate and timely collection of specimens to ensure adequate diagnosis and treatment. In fact, laboratory tests only account for 1.6% of the total Medicare budget but are used in 70% of medical decision-making. Yet, underpayment for specimen collection currently threatens the ability of community laboratories to continue to provide this much-needed service.

In 1984, Congress established a policy to provide for a "nominal fee" that was to cover the costs associated with collecting the sample on which a clinical diagnostic laboratory test was performed and paid for under the Medicare program. That fee was established 17 years ago at a rate of \$3.00 and has not been increased, even for inflationary factors since that time.

Our nation has seen amazing medical breakthroughs in technology while simultaneously the environments in which health care providers work has become more and more regulated. Further exacerbating the pressures on laboratories is that the available population of phlebotomists—the folks trained to draw blood—continues to shrink.

The combination of increasing costs, eroding reimbursement levels, fewer available health care workers with a growing population of Medicare beneficiaries threatens the Medicare program's ongoing ability to provide essential laboratory services, especially in rural areas and remote sites such as nursing homes. In January 2001, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) implemented new blood borne pathogen rules designed to improve worker safety. Yet, no additional funds have been provided to implement these requirements.

While I fully support new requirements for hospitals and other health-care facilities to identify and provide safer sharps systems as these policies help protect public health, we need to assist laboratories with these additional costs. This legislation would provide a modest increase in the specimen collection fee—an increase that would help offset the costs of these important new regulations and recognize inflationary increases over the past 17 years.

The Medicare Laboratory Services Access Act of 2001 increases the Medicare specimen collection payment for FY 2002 to \$5.25—the amount the payment would be today had it been indexed annually to the CPI-U. For subsequent years, the bill allows for an annual adjustment based on the CPI-U.

I urge my colleagues to join us in the effort to bolster our community-based system of care for Medicare beneficiaries. I am pleased

that my bill is supported by a number of national organizations, including the leading providers of clinical laboratory services. Groups endorsing this legislation include: American Association of Bioanalysts, the American Association for Clinical Chemists, the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, the American Clinical Laboratory Association, the American Medical Technologists, the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, the American Society of Clinical Pathologists, the American Society for Microbiology, Becton Dickinson, and Quest Diagnostics. This important measure will help ensure Medicare beneficiaries access to the quality laboratory services they need and deserve.

HONORING THE GOOD DEED OF JUSTIN BRAMEL

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the good deed of Justin Bramel, a Murfreesboro, Tennessee, eighth-grade student who helped his school bus driver in her time of need.

Justin's bus driver, Sally Brown, became sick one recent afternoon after finishing her route. Fortunately for Mrs. Brown, Justin spotted the bus parked on the side of a road. He realized something was wrong and investigated the situation. He found Mrs. Brown to be very ill.

Justin calmly used the bus transceiver to advise school officials about the situation and direct emergency personnel to the location. Thanks to Justin's concern and levelheaded actions, Mrs. Brown is now recovering and should be back to work soon.

I want to salute Justin for his quick actions and his concern for his fellow human being. People like Justin epitomize the spirit of this nation and make it a better place to live.

COMMEMORATING 2001 DINNER OF CHAMPIONS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 2001 Dinner of Champions being put on by the Central California Branch of the Mountain Valley California Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. The first of these annual events will honor racing legends Blackie Gejeian, Joe Boghosian, and the late Fred Gerhardt.

The Dinner of Champions made its national debut in 1972 and honors local public leaders and personalities for their efforts to champion the fight against multiple sclerosis. The National MS Society strives to reach out to those affected by the crippling disease and raise awareness for MS.

Mr. Gejeian's involvement in racing began in 1949 and he won championships all over the Central Valley. Blackie was presented the Most Popular Driver award four years in a

row. After his retirement in 1958, Blackie continues contributing to racing by promoting auto races including the Autorama for the past 40 years.

Mr. Boghosian was first exposed to racing in 1949. He earned many honors including the Northern California Championship. In 1965 he moved from California to Indianapolis. Joe actually built the engine that put Mario Andretti in the Indy 500 winner's circle in 1969. He is still building engines and anything else that needs reliable power today.

Mr. Gerhardt was involved in auto racing from the 1930's until his passing. He and his good friend, the late Bill Vukovich, raced hot rods and midget cars in the 1930's and 40's. Fred built his first Indy car in 1956 and continued fielding Indy cars through 1976.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to acknowledge and honor the efforts of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and these honorees. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating and thanking this organization and these racing legends.

BUNNY LOVE FOUNDATION

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the Bunny Love Foundation. An event will be held on December 5th in Dallas, to raise the level of awareness of efforts to eliminate domestic violence against children. Awareness will be accomplished through fundraising efforts, affiliations with prevention programs, and events designed to educate the public about the extent of the crisis.

The Bunny Love Foundation is a Dallas-based non-profit organization founded in 1997 by Anne Davidson with a mission of helping children in need. The Foundation's model for giving is extremely effective and can be used as a model for other charities because it addresses the needs of those affected not only on a local level, but nationally and globally as well. Ninety percent of the funds raised will go to children in Dallas through the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center, and 10% will be given to UNICEF specifically for the humanitarian effort for children in Afghanistan.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in recognizing the dedication and efforts of the Bunny Love Foundation and their partnership with the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center. The mission of this organization serves as a model for others to follow in the fight to eliminate domestic abuse.

BIOLUMINESCENCE

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my appreciation to the chairman for his recommendation of funding for bioluminescence measurement and signature detection in the Navy RDT&E account in this bill.

This is an evolving area of knowledge which has very important military applications.

Many of my colleagues know that plankton in the world's oceans give off light flashes when stimulated by movement in the water by objects such as ships, submarines and swimmers. This ever-present phenomenon represents a powerful detection tool for anti-submarine and mine warfare.

We can utilize this phenomenon for detection of opposing forces—but we must also be aware of it to protect our own operations. For example—it is my understanding that—a Navy SEAL team in Operation Desert Storm was forced to alter its landing site because of concern that bioluminescence in the intended landing area would reveal the team's presence.

At present—bioluminescence is detected and measured by a device developed at the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution in my district.

Because of the cost and size of this first-generation measuring equipment—only three have been produced. The funding I have requested and the Committee has approved would fund a program involving Harbor Branch scientists which would develop measuring equipment small enough to be launched from a rubber raft and inexpensive enough to be utilized in large numbers. Only such an expendable version offers the hope of accurately measuring bioluminescence in all the militarily-important regions of the world.

This is an important initiative which will take advantage of the expertise at Harbor Branch for the benefit of our military.

I again thank the chairman for recommending this funding and express my hope that this item will be preserved in conference.

THE CONSUMER AND RETAIL SALES STIMULUS ACT OF 2001

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, New York's economy is in deep trouble. We lead dozens of States in economic decline. Jobs are being lost. Small businesses are going under. Municipal governments are going back into debt. Fire and police budgets are strained.

How do we stimulate an economy that is sputtering before and staggered after the September 11 attacks? Some believe the answer to recession in handing \$25 billion in retroactive Federal corporate tax benefits to 13 Fortune 500 companies. Of course, there is no guarantee that largesse will work its way from corporate headquarters to working families on Long Island.

Others believe that the answer to recession is spending old fashioned Keynesian economics. But some spending proposals clearly overreach, and there is no guarantee that the spending will be targeted specifically to jumpstart the economy now, when we most need it.

The best way to stimulate the economy is to give immediate, tangible tax relief to American consumers: suspend sales taxes, and use federal resources to reimburse state and local governments. To insure that this tax reduction strategy does not lead to huge new deficits, such revenue loss from the Federal budget should be capped so as not to exceed the \$25

billion, the corporate alternative minimum tax rebate, passed by the House of Representatives earlier this fall.

Rather than enriching only the richest, a sales tax suspension is the quickest and broadest way to boost local economies for everyone, across the board. It will encourage consumer spending in our downtown villages and towns as well as our regional malls. And because it will be temporary, it will create an incentive to buy now. A reduction in the sales tax may not mean much for the CEO of a multi national company. But it would be a huge boost to working families. It might help them with their holiday purchases, or school supplies for their kids or even make the difference in buying a new home appliance.

This House has just approved a \$25 billion retroactive repeal of the alternative minimum tax for the richest corporations of America. If we can find the money for Enron and we can find the money for IBM, we should be able to find the money for people who have lost their jobs and their health insurance and their unemployment insurance and the small businesses who are being forced out of business in New York today.

The working families and small businesses on Long Island are hurting. They can not afford indefinite or problematic relief that might not kick in for years. Their need is immediate "The Consumer and Retail Sales Stimulus Act of 2001" addresses that need, it addresses it now.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3338) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the amendment offered by my good friend Congressman VISCLOSKEY.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation's steel industry is in a crisis situation. Since 1997, 26 companies have filed for bankruptcy. Since January first of this year, 13 companies have filed for bankruptcy, and 11 have ceased operations, including Laclede Steel, which is located in the congressional district I represent.

Steel is the basic component used in the construction of every military vehicle, ship, weaponry system, and small firearm used by the U.S. military. Steel is used to build our bridges and our railroad tracks. Both the electric power and oil and gas industries are dependent on steel. America needs a strong steel industry.

Earlier this year, I testified before the International Trade Commission and asked them to find that the domestic steel industry has been severely injured by the surge of foreign imports into American markets. Under section 201 of the trade laws, the International Trade Commission found that steel industry had been damaged by foreign imports. The section 201 process will give our steel companies time

to restructure and reorganize in response to the effects of the recent import surge.

Currently, there are nearly 2 million Americans who are directly or indirectly employed by the steel industry, or receive pensions and healthcare from current and former steel companies. Because of the current crisis situation in the industry, the \$1 billion that the steel companies spend annually on retiree health care is a significant impediment to the mergers and acquisitions that will need to occur for the steel industry to right itself.

This amendment would create a Steel Industry Legacy Relief Program to provide assistance to steel producers in meeting retiree health care costs. The program would be established in and administered by the Department of Labor.

The establishment of the Steel Industry Legacy Relief Program will go a long way in supporting our domestic steel industry in a time that we need it most. The steel industry is vital to our national defense, and especially now, we cannot afford to become dependent on foreign steel. I strongly support the establishment of this program in order to save the steel industry in this great Nation. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this amendment.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 28, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3338) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the rule to H.R. 3338, the Defense Appropriations bill. The rule precludes the House from considering the Obey amendment, which would provide needed increased funding for homeland security. While the underlying bill does increase funding for homeland security, it simply does not go far enough. It is homeland security on the cheap.

The rule precludes the Obey amendment, which, among other things, would provide \$150 million in grants for local firefighting units. In addition, the bill does not provide adequate funding to help local governments meet their increased police and emergency personnel needs since September 11th. This rule does not allow for increased funding for local law enforcement that is critical for the protection of Americans across the country.

Since September 11th, local governments have been carrying most of the burden of responding to the increased security and emergency needs of our citizens that include: periodic lengthened shifts, additional patrols at sensitive facilities and structures, and responding to the growing number of false alarms and hoaxes. This results in a higher rate of overtime for governments in order to pay for security and emergency personnel. These important responsibilities fall on local governments who had tight budgets prior to September 11th. Now they are even tighter.

The federal government must provide aid to local governments to insure that our first responders remain one of our strongest links.

Moreover, the bill does not provide any additional funds to increase port security. The Obey amendment would have provided an additional \$200 million in grants for port security upgrades. We must provide security measures at seaports to prevent the shipment of bombs and weapons of mass destruction through our seaports.

The bill does not provide increased funding to secure our vitally important Strategic Petroleum Reserves. The Obey Amendment would have provided \$5 million to secure our petroleum reserves. Several weeks ago, with the Administration's support, Congress passed a resolution urging the Secretary of Energy to fill the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to its full capacity. It defies logic for us to spend the money filling this vital reserve without securing the facilities that store the petroleum.

As we address threats on our homefront, we should also be fully prepared to fight an asymmetric war abroad. We must, therefore, take all steps necessary to reduce U.S. casualties, which requires minimizing incidents of friendly fire. The Automatic Acoustic Target Recognition programs, not fully funded in the bill, involves the identification of aircraft and vehicles by the background acoustic signature obtained from intercepted radio transmissions or proximate ground sensors. The program contributes to the detection of troop and vehicle movements, the proper identification of aircraft and vehicles to prioritize fire control and to prevent friendly fire casualties. When this bill goes to conference, I urge the conferees to do everything they can to save the lives of U.S. military troops and fully fund this program.

I urge my colleagues to reject the rule. We must not fund the war against terrorism on the cheap. We must recognize our needs at home and abroad and that means adequately assisting local first responders, securing our vital resources, securing our ports, and minimizing the loss of U.S. military personnel.

MAKING SURE PAINFUL STORIES
ARE TOLD JUST ONCE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is important for me to bring this informative article to the attention of the U.S. Congress.

[From the New York Times, Nov. 12, 2001]

MAKING SURE PAINFUL STORIES ARE TOLD
JUST ONCE

(By Donna Wilkinson)

Name: Collin County Children's Advocacy Center.

Founded: 1992, in Plano, Tex.

Mission: To help children cope with the trauma of abuse through a team approach—an alliance of law enforcement agencies, child protection services, legal and medical professionals—to investigate, treat and prosecute abuse cases.

Constituency: Children under 18. Collin County, including several suburban and rural communities outside Dallas, has a population of about 500,000. Last year, the center received 2,488 referrals of child abuse; since it opened, it has served 8,000 children.

Financing: Most of the \$1.4 million annual budget comes from charities, foundations and corporations: the United Way, Meadows Foundation, Jenesis Foundation, B. B. Owen Trust, Texas Instruments and State Farm Insurance. The rest is from the Guardian Angels Society, a local group of individuals and religious and civic organizations who pledge \$1,000 a year for five years.

The center was inspired by the ideas of Representative Bud Cramer, Democrat of Alabama, who, as a district attorney in Huntsville in the 1980's, found that children were being revictimized by a system that was intended to protect them. Often bounced from one agency to another, youngsters had to repeat painful experiences to police, doctors, social workers and others, compromising evidence and traumatizing them again. Representative Cramer had proposed creating one central place where children could tell their stories.

Besides filling that role, the center, which is located in a colorful 32,000-square-foot former supermarket, provides the children with immediate access to child protection services, law enforcement officials, district attorneys, sexual assault nurse examiners, therapists and community resource representatives who all work together under one roof.

Attending to young victims requires special considerations. "Almost 70 percent of the children we see are under the age of 7," said Jane Donovan, the center's community educator. "When you ask a child that age a story over and over, the story changes." To protect the integrity of testimony for evidence, each child is interviewed by a forensic specialist and videotaped.

What distinguishes the center is the partnerships among various services. "Traditionally, there has been some contentiousness between child protective agencies and law enforcement," Ms. Donovan said. "At our center, that just flat out doesn't exist."

The center is not a residential facility, but placement is arranged when a child's safety at home is in question.

"We talk to our kids about 'stranger danger,' but the reality is, 96 percent of the children we see know their abuser," Ms. Donovan said. "Our goal is to help children deal with the trauma of abuse by empowering them to become survivors rather than remain victims."

IN MEMORY OF JANE MAYER

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with great sorrow to pay tribute to a wonderful woman, a community activist and wife of internationally known writer, journalist and lecturer, the late Milton Mayer. His wife Jane died recently in Carmel, California where I live.

Jane Mayer was like a second mother to me and my sisters Francesca and Nancy. She was born in Joplin, MO, and grew up in Seattle, Washington before moving to Carmel where she lived for the past 50 years.

A dedicated activist she studied at the University of Washington before beginning a 10-year career in fashion where she became a lecturer and consultant. Appearing at Universities and Colleges across the country and numerous radio programs.

She married Robert Scully in 1940 and later in 1947 married Milton Mayer known to local

kids as Uncle Milty. Together they produced the Voices of Europe radio broadcasts, which included commentary of the events of the time by people throughout Europe. For many years they co-lead Great Books Discussion Seminars in both America and Europe.

Jane and Milton were life long civil libertarians and pacifists, fighting intolerance, bigotry, racism and overzealous nationalism. Jane was an activist for peace and disarmament during the Cold War, representing the American Friends Service Committee to the World Council of Churches and at many international peace conferences.

Jane Mayer adopted Carmel-By-The-Sea as the city to protect from commercial exploitation. She was a tireless advocate for the conservation of Carmel's unique character, becoming founding member of the Carmel Residents Association and member of the Carmel General Plan Committee, the Historic Preservation Committee and board member of the Cherry Foundation.

I grew up with her two sons Rock and Dicken Scully and knew her two step daughters Julie Mayer Vogman of Berkeley and Amanda Mayer Stinchecum of Brooklyn, N.Y.

Her son Rock Scully became the first manager of the Grateful Dead band and son Dicken a popular and respected psychologist. Both sons now live in Carmel, her husband Milton died in 1986.

Jane lived her life as a teacher of good—and in doing so empowered others to fight against the ignorance of intolerance and unjust laws. She taught by example and by introducing American youth to cross-cultural experiences. My one summer in Europe in 1958 along with her sons Rock and Dicken, Frank Wallace, Adrian Benett and Ann McConnel led us all, five years later to apply for the Peace Corps. That experience led me into public service and now a Member of this House. So it is with great sadness that I submit this tribute to Jane S. Mayer, truly a woman who made a difference in people's lives.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL J. DOOLEY

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Michael J. Dooley, a life-long friend to myself and Philadelphia, upon his retirement.

Mr. Dooley will retire after 22 years as Business Manager of the Local 454 Piledrivers Union. He served on the Metropolitan Regional Council of Carpenters in Philadelphia. Mike born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, received his schooling from distinguished Philadelphia establishments and used his education and experience to accomplish remarkable feats for fellow union workers.

Mike attended Saint Joseph's Preparatory School and graduated from Drexel University with a degree in Construction Management. He continued his education receiving a Master's Degree from Temple University in Vocational Education. Immediately after his studies, he began work in his Local Union as an Apprentice, climbing to Journeyman status, then Apprentice Teacher, then finally elected Business Manager of the Piledrivers Union in 1979.

During these past 22 years, Mike has been the Delegate representing his Union in Building Trade Councils. He has also been a Labor Trustee for the Carpenters Health and Welfare Fund and the Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Committee.

Mike sculpted his fellow union members into a focused, united, and vigorous body. This man negotiated the first ever Seven-Year Agreement for a Building Trades contract in the industry. Mike would be most proud of creating the Scholarship Program awarding \$335,400 to union members' sons and daughters.

With all of his accomplishments, Mike still maintains the greatest modesty. With his natural ability and education, obviously Mike could have gathered a sizeable purse over the years in a different career, but he chose to improve the lives of union members. There are show horses and work horses, and Mike has been the man to always pull more than his weight in work and accomplishes his tasks without asking for a thank you. He has only taken 4 weeks vacation in his 22 years of service.

The number of people he has assisted—myself included—quietly throughout the years may never be known, but is surely massive in number. Mike will head into retirement in the next month, accompanied by Lynn, his wife of 28 years.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention that Mike Dooley served his community and neighbors honestly and fully throughout his life. I salute him and thank him for his friendship.

ECO-TERRORISM

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to read into the RECORD a response I received yesterday to a letter my colleagues and I sent to national environmental groups, asking them to join us in publicly condemning eco-terrorism. A few days ago I read into the Record a letter from the Natural Resources Defense Council stating that "violence has no place in policy debate."

I would like to share with you statements from the Sierra Club. The following is their response:

DEAR CHAIRMAN HANSEN, I am surprised you have not seen the Sierra Club's denunciations of terrorist acts given our frequently and clearly stated position. The Sierra Club condemns all violent acts, including those in the name of the environment. As the enclosure documents, even the Earth Liberation Front that you mention in your letter has chronicled Sierra Club denunciations of their violent acts that appeared in various national and local news publications.

While nonviolent civil disobedience has a distinguished place in American history, the Sierra Club uses only lawful means to protect the environment. We can respect the decision of those who, by undertaking acts of nonviolent civil disobedience, put themselves at risk, but peaceful disobedience and violence are vastly different acts. No matter what the motivation, the Sierra Club does not condone any acts of violence.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ferenstein,
President.

HONORING NAT GEIER

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nat Geier, a distinguished citizen of Sunrise, Florida who has devoted himself to improving the South Florida community over the last three decades. Through numerous citizen campaigns, Mr. Geier was the engine of improvement in strengthening the Broward County community. It brings me great sadness to report that Nat Geier passed away on Saturday, November 24, 2001, at the age of 91.

Born in Poland in 1911, Nat immigrated to America at the age of nine. He left the New York City School system at age 13 to find employment in the garment business cutting material. The young man learned quickly, worked hard and rose up in the ranks. After a successful career in New York, Nat followed his dream to relocate to South Florida.

An early resident of the now well-developed area of South Florida, he always understood that homeownership is the anchor of all communities; it gives residents long-term investment in the quality of their surroundings. For this reason, Nat set out two decades ago to educate Broward residents of the importance of the "Homestead Exemption" rules, which encourage homeownership and community enhancement while functioning within the Florida tax codes. Nat's efforts brought the benefits of these rules to thousands of Florida homeowners and helped to build the strong and lasting communities thriving in Broward County today.

Upon retirement from the garment industry, Nat reinvented himself as a social and community activist. Understanding the importance of a earning a good, solid education Mr. Geier consistently supported Broward County Schools in their efforts to provide young residents with a quality education and opportunities for success. A shining example, Nat collected more than \$750,000 in grocery receipts in 1990 to help purchase a local high school's first computer. The same year, Nat was inducted into the Broward Senior Hall of Fame.

Throughout his thirty years in South Florida, Nat remained active in a number of citizen organizations including the Citizens Community Information Council, the Sunrise Consumer Affairs Committee, the Sunrise Code Enforcement Board and the Community Blood Center.

Mr. Speaker, Nat Geier was both well-loved and widely respected by all those blessed to have known him. He is survived by his son and daughter, Joel Geier and Caryle Perlman of Chicago; stepsons Leon Silverstein of New York and Jay Silverstein of Los Angeles; stepdaughter Ilene Silverstein of New York; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Nat selflessly served his community and his family was a source of admiration and great pride. Today we celebrate Nat's life, which serves as a wonderful example to all who follow in his footsteps.