

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### TRIBUTE TO TOM RYDER

#### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Tom Ryder, and all the great work he did as a member of the Illinois House of Representatives over the last 18 years.

Mr. Ryder was born in 1949, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Northern Illinois University, and received a Juris Doctor degree from Washington and Lee University. Then, in 1983, he was elected to the Illinois General Assembly as the Representative for the 97th District.

There he served with honor and distinction until his recent retirement on November 13, 2001. He was the Deputy Republican Leader of the House and Co-Chairman of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules. In addition to his leadership responsibilities, he sponsored and cosponsored many important pieces of legislation, such as medical malpractice reform and the deterrence of welfare fraud and abuse.

But his good works were not limited to the House floor—he was also a civic and community leader. Mr. Ryder was an active member of the Peace United Church of Christ, Chairman of the Jerseyville All-Weather Track Committee, founder of the Jersey Community High School Theatre Friends, former chairman of the United Way, and former co-chairman of the Jersey County Cancer Crusade Bike-A-Thon. He is truly a kind and industrious person.

Mr. Speaker, we need more men like Tom Ryder. Not only has he admirably served both his country and his community for almost two decades in the Illinois General Assembly, but he also plans to continue his service after he retires, as Vice President of External Affairs with the Illinois Community College Board. For all of these things, he deserves the gratitude and well wishes of these chambers. May God bless him and grant him fortune in all his future endeavors.

ORZELL BILLINGSLEY, CIVIL RIGHTS HERO

#### HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a great hero of the civil rights struggle in Alabama, Orzell Billingsley.

Mr. Billingsley was one of the lead lawyers for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955, the struggle which is known as the first act of the modern civil rights movement. This historic movement created the freedom in America which blacks now enjoy.

One of the first ten blacks admitted to the Alabama bar, he then began a series of legal representation during civil rights cases, and was instrumental in taking the movement into the courts.

When Alabama created its "Freedom Democrats," named the National Democratic Party of Alabama (NDPA), Mr. Billingsley was General Counsel for the Party, and was a delegate for the NDPA at the 1968 Democratic National Convention in 1968.

Deeply concerned with real democracy, Mr. Billingsley was instrumental in the creation of over 20 small towns incorporated in Alabama. That these black majority towns were incorporated during the difficult days of the civil rights era shows how important his contribution to freedom and democracy was.

One of his most important cases was that of Caliph Washington, who was in a scuffle in 1957 with a policeman when the policeman's gun accidentally fired. While the officer's wife collected insurance money following what was ruled an accidental death, Mr. Washington was nevertheless charged with capital murder by an all white jury.

Mr. Billingsley fought the conviction through four trials over the next 15 years, finally winning an acquittal for Mr. Washington and ending the era of all white juries in Jefferson County, Alabama.

Through all these years of heroic work, Mr. Billingsley often was unpaid for his services as an attorney, because his clients were impoverished. He simply went on with his life saving work, putting people and freedom before money.

Mr. Billingsley was nationally prominent, and was the recipient of calls from Presidents John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson during the civil rights crisis in Alabama.

Mr. Billingsley passed away on December 14, 2001. His work for freedom and justice will live on forever.

GIRL SCOUTS GOLD MEDAL  
RECIPIENT: LAURA MANZI

#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students: Laura Manzi. In February, the young women of her troop will honor her by bestowing upon her the Girl Scouts Gold Medal.

Since the beginning of this century, the Girls Scouts of America have provided thousands of youngsters each year the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. The

Gold Awards represent the highest awards attainable by junior and high school Girl Scouts.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipient of this award, as her activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Laura, and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young woman on her day of recognition.

HONORING ROBERT C. SHINN, JR.

#### HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, Robert C. Shinn, Jr., who served as the 11th Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) longer than any other commissioner in the DEP's 31-year history.

Bob Shinn also served as an elected official at the local, county and state levels for 26 years, where much of his effort was devoted to open space, Pinelands and farmland preservation, water supply and solid waste management issues.

Among his legislative accomplishments was authorship of New Jersey's Water Supply Critical Area Law, which gives the state the necessary authority to effectively manage threatened surface and ground water resources. He guided the passage of several key laws, including our state's Mandatory Recycling Act and the revision of the A-901 solid waste hauler screening program, and also authored the law regulating the handling and disposal of medical waste in New Jersey.

On the local level, Bob served as Township Committeeman and Mayor of Hainesport from 1968 to 1977. He served as Burlington County Freeholder from 1977 to 1985, and as Freeholder Director for two years. He was responsible for the formation of the Burlington County Pinelands Conservation Easement Advisory committee, and was instrumental in securing the first conservation easement in the Pinelands. To that end, he was elected vice-chairman of the New Jersey Pinelands Commission from 1979 to 1985.

Mr. Shinn was instrumental in developing Burlington County's Solid Waste Management Plan and its Environmental Complex, which serves as the county's multi-functional resource recovery facility as well as an environmental research and demonstration facility.

Bob Shinn has been a shining star in the annals of New Jersey's history, locally, on 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.

county level, and state-wide through his work with the DEP. His commitment and dedication to our state and its people will be sorely missed.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House floor during Thursday's rollcall vote on S. 1762, amending the Higher Education Act with respect to student loan interest rates. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of this measure.

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HONORING DR. DOUG LIGON, FINALIST FOR "COUNTRY DOCTOR OF THE YEAR."

**HON. JOHN S. TANNER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Doug Ligon, one of only four national finalists for "Country Doctor of the Year 2001." Dr. Ligon is a family doctor at Trinity Hospital in Erin, Tennessee, where his coworkers describe him as a big-city boy with a country heart.

Born and schooled in Nashville, Ligon attended Vanderbilt University and the University of Tennessee Medical School, then planned to stay in an urban area to work as a dermatologist. His plans would change, however, after he accepted what was originally to be a temporary job in the small town of Erin in Houston County.

Almost thirty years later, Dr. Ligon is still working in Erin. He says he could not leave, once he realized how much he was needed at Trinity Hospital, where he worked eighty hours each week as one of only a handful of doctors treating a five-county area. Dr. Ligon also acted as Houston County's medical examiner and county coroner, for which he would not accept pay, saying that the county needed that money more than he did.

Dr. Ligon says he appreciates getting to know his patients and their families over time, following the progress of babies he delivered, some of whom are grown now and have families of their own. He says working in a small town allows him to experience what being a family doctor is all about—getting to know his patients, treating them and being able to watch after their general welfare.

Dr. Ligon says his family has been supportive of his decision to remain in Erin. His wife Betsy is, in fact, the person responsible for nominating Dr. Ligon for the prestigious "Country Doctor of the Year" award, as a way to recognize him for the service he provides to the people of Houston County, Tennessee.

We know many medical professionals care deeply about what they do and the patients they see, but Dr. Ligon's years of free-hearted work have been invaluable to the people of Erin and the surrounding communities. He has proven time and time again that he is a leader among his peers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in thanking Dr. Doug Ligon for his years of selfless service and congratulating Dr. Ligon for his distinguished recognition as a national finalist for the title "Country Doctor of the Year."

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GIRL SCOUTS GOLD MEDAL  
RECIPIENT: STEPHANIE ROBEDEE

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students: Stephanie Robedee. In February, the young women of her troop will honor her by bestowing upon her the Girl Scouts Gold Medal.

Since the beginning of this century, the Girl Scouts of America have provided thousands of youngsters each year the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. The Gold Awards represent the highest awards attainable by junior and high school Girl Scouts.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipient of this award, as her activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Stephanie, and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young woman on her day of recognition.

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A TRIBUTE TO MATT GREENE OF  
BIRMINGHAM

**HON. EARL F. HILLIARD**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer a tribute to a fallen youth from my hometown of Birmingham, Matt Greene. Born Matthew James Greene, Matt was the youngest son of Ken and Barbara Greene and the brother of Michael and Laura. Matt was only 17 years old when he tragically died in the early hours of January 12, 2002, at his home in the presence of his family. He was only 30 days shy of reaching his 18th birthday of February 15, which he shared with his twin brother Michael.

Matt was an exceptional young man. He was handsome, tall and a little on the skinny side with a keen interest in having fun. He had a quick sly smile that melted the hearts of girls and guys alike. He always had a twinkle in his eye when he smiled, and had a zest for life that defied rhyme or reason. He was the Mas-

ter of his own destiny who loved to hunt and fish and reveled in telling a joke. He had great tolerance for all people and all beliefs and his one goal in life was to be loved and liked. He truly had no enemies or malice toward any people. He loved R.&B. music much to the amusement of his friends and frequently to the annoyance of his family, and especially his brother whose bedroom reverberated with the bass of Matt's music into the early hours of most mornings.

The death of Matt is very tragic because for just a few moments, Matt lost sight of his dreams, his future, his family and his friends. Matt forgot the past, denied the future and only focused on the NOW and the pain, which NOW contained. Matt died in an accident that no one had the power to prevent and for which no one should feel guilt. There is no one and nothing to blame, but the blinding light of pain, despair and misplaced loneliness. I say misplaced loneliness, for Matt had many friends, old and young, male and female, rich and poor, black and white. At Matt's funeral mass, over 1,200 people who loved him gathered together and prayed to God for Matt's eternal soul.

It has been said, "wishing on last night's star will not change tomorrow's dawn." However, instead of succumbing to the demons of anger and self-doubt, Matt's family and friends are turning instead to the balm of God's healing and understanding. All of Matt's friends will miss his crooked smile and his frequent requests of "Can you do me a favor, man?" His teachers and fellow students at his high school will miss his antics, and the Rite-Aid Pharmacy where he worked has lost a valuable team player and morale builder. Matt's family and loved ones miss his embrace, his kisses, his loyalty, and his unyielding love. Those people who love Matt have told me they will wait a lifetime to join him again. May the Congress, by these remarks, offer comfort and solace for Matt's family and friends.

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TRIBUTE TO THE DISASTER MORTUARY OPERATIONAL RESPONSE TEAM, REGION VI, OF LOUISIANA

**HON. RICHARD H. BAKER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the nine Louisiana residents who put fear aside and risked their lives to recover those lost on September 11, 2001, during the tragic attack on the World Trade Center.

The Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT), administered through USPHS and funded through FEMA, provides assistance upon request of local authorities in the event of a mass fatality incident. Regional VI consists of participants hailing from Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. This team was deployed to New York City several days after the terrorist attacks to assist the New York Medical Examiner. Subsequent to this assignment, Region VI was then transferred to the American Aircraft crash in Queens, New York.

Mr. Speaker, Deputy Commander Charles D. Smith, Jr., led Louisiana residents Anthony Buras, Jordan Charlet, Arbie Goings, Shelly

Roy, James Brett Smith, Mark Stewart, Dee Wilde and Mike Armanini, of the Disaster Medical Assistance Team, in their mission to recover those lost in the World Trade Center. Smith, who has been in New York for a total of two months, noted that "every member distinguished themselves on this difficult deployment and served the country and the National Disaster Medical System with honor . . . I am proud to report that the state was represented in a splendid manner."

At a time when tragedy was at its greatest, Region VI responded swiftly with deep compassion for those they had never met. Their effort represents not only the spirit of Louisiana, but the spirit of our nation as well.

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TRIBUTE TO LARRY W. WHITE

**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great American citizen, and I am proud to recognize Larry W. White in the Congress for his invaluable contributions and service to Arkansas and our nation.

Larry has spent over 30 years with the Arkansas Soil and Water Conservation Commission (ASWCC), and currently serves as Assistant to the Director for Conservation. His career began in 1963 with the Arkansas Geology Department, and he moved over the ASWCC in 1970 as a Land Resource Specialist.

I served on the Arkansas Soil and Water Conservation Commission from 1986 until 1993, including a term as chairman, so I can personally testify to Larry's professionalism, integrity, and outstanding skills and talents. But you don't have to take my word for it, because last year he was named Outstanding Conservationist by the Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts for "his lifelong contributions and accomplishments to state and national soil and water conservation."

Part of Larry's distinguished record includes participating in the development and biennial update of the Arkansas Conservation Strategic Plan, which led to a 300% increase in funding for conservation districts in 1997; providing leadership in instituting a plan for annual district program evaluations and competitive allocation of funds to districts; providing leadership in the successful implementation of an Emergency Watershed Protection Project that aided poultry farmers after catastrophic losses in 2000; serving as State Floodplain Management Coordinator for 16 years; serving on the Board of Directors of the Association of State Floodplain Managers for two years; and helping to create the Eastern Arkansas Water Conservation Project. He also represents ASWCC on the Arkansas Conservation Partnership and the National Watershed Coalition.

In addition to these conservation responsibilities, Larry also found time to serve on the Arkansas Mental Health Board, as well as the Professional Counseling Associates Board of Directors, including two years as its president. He lives in Lonoke with his lovely wife Annette, and with her he has three daughters, one step-daughter, two step-sons, three granddaughters, two grandsons, three step-grandsons, and one step-granddaughter.

Arkansas is a better place because of Larry White and I am proud to call my friend.

On behalf of the Congress, I extend congratulations and best wishes to this faithful public servant, Larry White, on his successes and achievements.

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A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE DR.  
WILLIAM R. FAIR

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great pioneer of medicine, the late Dr. William R. Fair, an accomplished cancer surgeon, who lost his brave battle with colon cancer on January 3, 2002. Dr. Fair was a tireless advocate for the scientific study of complementary medicine.

From 1984 until 1997, Dr. Fair held the position of chairman of urology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Dr. Fair was a fruitful researcher who developed surgical techniques and treatments for prostate cancer. In collaboration with his colleagues, specimens of his tumor were used to develop an experimental vaccine for his cancer. Unfortunately, Dr. Fair never had the opportunity to use it.

In 1995, Dr. Fair was diagnosed with colon cancer. In 1997, the cancer returned and according to his own words, "there was little chance of a cure." That's when he embarked on medical approaches outside the confines of conventional cancer treatments. He began a regime of exercise, meditation, herbal treatments and a change in diet. He noted that he felt better and the tumors did shrink, if only for a while. Dr. Fair embraced complementary medicine, which is standard therapy matched with unconventional treatment. This practice, as Dr. Fair used to point out, is different than alternative medicine. As a medical scientist, he tested his approaches and was adamant about holding unconventional therapies to the same high standard as conventional therapies. In 2001, Dr. Fair and his son helped found the complimentary medicine center called Health, which is located in New York City. Dr. Fair firmly believed that unconventional therapies extended his life and to quote him "even if they can't cure, they can certainly help heal." In fact, his own surgeon was astonished as to how long Dr. Fair survived after his 1997 recurrence of cancer.

Dr. Fair was a Member of the White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy. He received his doctor of medicine degree from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia and did his residency in urology at Stanford University. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, his son, his brother, Charles, of Norristown, PA, and his sister, Margaret Murtha, of Turnersville, NJ.

I strongly urge my Colleagues to take a closer look at the promise of Complementary Medicine in the treatment of disease, and the work that Dr. Fair brought to this area of discovery. Dr. Fair will be sorely missed.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF  
MYERS PARSONS

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that my cousin, Myers Browning Parsons Sr., has made to the Rutherford County community.

Mr. Parsons grew up in Rutherford County, as did I, and has spent most of his life giving back to the community that has given so much to him and his family. Fortunately, I lived near Mr. Parsons, grew up with his children and considered him a second father. A graduate of Christiana High School, Mr. Parsons excelled in basketball and football while attending the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he received the university's Athletic Award.

The World War II veteran has been a teacher, farmer and business owner, prospering in all three vocations. He also has been actively involved in many of the community's civic boards and organizations. Mr. Parsons has served on the Rutherford County Board of Education, the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and the Christy-Houston Foundation Board of Directors. He has coached Little League baseball, as well, and is a member of the Kiwanis Club.

For the past 26 years, Mr. Parsons has served as a Rutherford County road commissioner. And he is the chairman of the Rutherford County Equalization Tax Board, representing my hometown of Murfreesboro. This past year he served as the chairman of the Building Committee of the Oaklands Historic House Museum. He is also a member of the University of Tennessee's Institute of Agriculture Development Board.

Constantly striving to help his fellow man, Mr. Parsons has never shirked civic responsibility, even while recovering from lung cancer and a serious heart attack. He now pays close attention to his health and emphasizes the importance of receiving good health care and participating in a quality physical fitness program. As a tribute to his amazing fortitude, the Rutherford County Chapter of the American Heart Association will honor Mr. Parsons on Saturday, February 9, during this year's Heart Ball. I congratulate Mr. Parsons for his unselfish and untiring service to his community and the motivation he has stirred in others.

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GIRL SCOUTS GOLD MEDAL  
RECIPIENT: DANIELLE RUSSO

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students: Danielle Russo. In February, the young women of her troop will honor her by bestowing upon her the Girl Scouts Gold Medal.

Since the beginning of this century, the Girl Scouts of America have provided thousands of youngsters each year the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. The Gold Awards represent the highest awards attainable by junior and high school Girl Scouts.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipient of this award, as her activities are indeed worthy of praise. Her leadership benefits our community and she serves as a role model for her peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Danielle, and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young woman on her day of recognition.

ONE MAN STOOD ALONE AGAINST  
HATE

**HON. EARL F. HILLIARD**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Honorable Judge and State Representative Charles Nice, Jr.

In the hate-filled atmosphere in the all-white Alabama State legislature after the decision in 1954 known as *Brown vs. the Board of Education of Toledo, Kansas*, which ruled illegal the segregated school systems of America, Charles Nice was a Democratic freshman Representative from Birmingham. A resolution was introduced which condemned the Supreme Court for the decision, and an amendment to the Alabama constitution was introduced to which would abolish the public school system in any county which was "threatened" with integration.

Charles Nice was the only member of the legislature to have the moral courage to vote against the resolution and the amendment. Had John Kennedy written a book about state government as he did about federal, he would have included Charles Nice in that "Profiles of Courage."

He was not reelected, of course. But he did not quit or ameliorate his morality. Unbending before the gales of hate, he continued his commitment to public service by accepting appointment to the Circuit Court in 1974.

Soon, Alabama reinstated the death penalty, and Judge Nice presided over four capital cases in which the jury prescribed the death penalty. Again, Charles Nice withstood the storms of hate and vengeance and commuted the sentences to "life in prison without parole."

In a state in which it is common for a judge to give the death penalty to a convicted person whom the jury has recommended for life in prison, he was condemned and transferred to the Family Court of Alabama, where he could hear no capital cases. "At last," the system thought, "Charles Nice could do no good."

However, in this court any juvenile 15 years or older charged with a serious crime could be

transferred to adult court for trial as an adult and given the death penalty. Standing firmly on higher ground, Judge Nice refused to transfer juveniles to adult court. "No youth," he said, "should be given the death penalty."

Smearred in the media, he was defeated for reelection in 1998, but remained victorious in principle. This good man continued to be active in the Alabama Democratic Party until his death at 82 on December 5, 2001.

Standing against hate, he planted his feet firmly on higher ground. Now he is pressing on the upward way, going to even higher ground. He will be missed, but never forgotten. His service is printed upon the social system of Alabama. We are not as good as he would have us be, but we are better for his having been by here.

May he be ever honored by those who serve this nation and its highest principles.

LYNNE CHENEY SPEAKS AT  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY ON  
"TEACHING FOR FREEDOM"

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to share with our colleagues a speech delivered late last year at Princeton University by Lynne V. Cheney, the wife of the Vice President of the United States, about the importance of knowing history and teaching it well. An expert on education, Mrs. Cheney is a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and holds a doctorate degree from the University of Wisconsin.

"TEACHING FOR FREEDOM", ADDRESS BY  
LYNNE V. CHENEY, JAMES MADISON PROGRAM,  
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, NOVEMBER  
29, 2001

It's a great pleasure to be here this afternoon as part of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions. Professor George, you deserve congratulations for the excellence of this program's efforts, and let me praise Princeton University as well. By giving this program a home, Princeton is setting an example of how people of differing viewpoints can, in a university setting, debate important issues with seriousness and civility.

For someone who loves American history, this part of New Jersey is a remarkable place to be, a place rich with stories of our country's past. Next month, on Christmas night, it will be two hundred twenty-five years since George Washington cross the Delaware, and in a surprise attack on the Hessian mercenaries manning the British post at Trenton, managed to kill dozens and capture more than nine hundred while sustaining not a single fatality on the American side.

The wonderful painting by Emanuel Leutze of Washington crossing the ice-choked Delaware hints, but barely, at the significance of this victory. The men in the boat with Washington are dressed in a motley assortment of clothes. One does not imagine that Washington has a highly trained and disciplined force. But the men in the boat do not look nearly as ragged and miserable as the historical record suggests Washington's troops were. The painter Charles Wilson Peale, observing Washington's army in early Decem-

ber, as they were retreating before the advancing British, had been struck with horror at the sight of the sick, exhausted, and half-naked men. One soldier approached Peale. He was a man who "had lost all his clothes. He was in an old, dirty blanket jacket, his beard long, and his face so full of sores he could not clean it." Only when the soldier spoke, did Peale realize that it was his much-loved brother James.

These Americans, going up against superior numbers of British forces, who were better equipped and better trained, had, not surprisingly, spent most of the war thus far in retreat. And that is why Trenton mattered so much, because suddenly, in the depths of icy winter, there was a victory, and Washington was determined to build on it. He moved his troops back to Pennsylvania, waited until the commissary wagons could bring provisions, and then on December 30th, crossed the Delaware into New Jersey again and entrenched his troops near Trenton. Since the enlistments of most of his men expired at year's end, his first job was to persuade a significant number of them to stick with him, which he did with rousing speeches—and \$50,000 raised by Philadelphia financier Robert Morris.

Some of Washington's men may have regretted the decision to stay on when, on January 2, 1777, General Cornwallis and 5000 well-trained, well-equipped men advanced on Trenton from Princeton. Washington's pickets had to fall back across a creek. With shot and shell flying overhead, scores of men had to make their way across a narrow stone bridge, and while there was no doubt fear, there was no panic. At the end of the bridge, Washington, on horseback, had taken up a position where his men could see him, firm, composed, resolute. One of his men forever remembered pressing "against the shoulder of the General's horse" and touching Washington's boot.

Cornwallis was convinced that he had Washington, whom he called "the old fox," trapped, but Washington, leaving his campfires burning as a diversion, moved most of his men around the British left flank and headed for Princeton. The first encounter between an American brigade approaching Princeton and British troops leaving it to join their main force in Trenton did not go well for the Americans. Many were wounded and killed in a bayonet attack. The survivors fell back, bloody, dazed, confused, but Washington rallied them and after more troops arrived, led them himself toward the British. Displaying astonished bravery, he took his men to within thirty yards of the British lines and ordered them to fire. One staff officer was so sure Washington would be killed that he pulled his hat over his eyes to escape the sight, but when the smoke cleared, the General was unharmed. The staff officer wept in relief. Washington clasped his hand and then led the charge after the fleeing British.

As I'm sure everyone living near Princeton knows, this story has a pretty dramatic ending. The British took refuge in Nassau Hall, which the Americans then fired upon. The result was not only to persuade the British to surrender, but, legend has it, to decapitate, with a well-fired cannonball, a portrait of King George the Second.

Now, I tell this story in part because it is a wonderful story, and it is an important one as well. Demoralized as Washington and his countrymen were, news of these victories, James Thomas Flexner has written, "traveled across America like a rainstorm across a parched land, lifting bowed heads everywhere." But I also tell this story because it

makes the point—as so many of the stories of our country's beginnings do—that this nation was not inevitable. The founders had the odds stacked very much against them. No one had ever thrown off a colonial power before. No one had ever established representative government over a vast expanse of land. The Americans were going up against the mightiest military force in the world, and so much of the success they did experience depended on individuals, particularly on Washington, whose legendary bravery—so inspiring to his men—might easily have gotten him killed.

During one battle in the French and Indian War, he had two horses shot out from under him, one bullet had gone through his hat and three ripped through his uniform. A few years later, in 1757, when two detachments of Virginians mistakenly began firing upon one another, he rode his horse between the firing troops and used his sword to knock the gun barrels skyward. Fourteen men were killed, but Washington was untouched. If it had turned out otherwise, who would have commanded our troops in the Revolutionary War? Who could have lent similar prestige to the Constitutional Convention? Who could have been trusted to be the first president—and to give up power at the proper time?

We are very lucky that things turned out as they did, and so is the world. Jefferson believed that the American Revolution would set the ball of liberty so well in motion that it would roll round the globe, and he was right. Inspired by what happened here, people in other parts of the world began to struggle for freedom and many of them succeeded. But freedom, as the study of our history shows, is not our inevitable heritage, nor is it humankind's. This realization should make our freedom all the more precious to us, all the more worth defending. Were we to lose it, liberty might not come our way again.

The concern I would like to bring before you tonight is that we haven't done a very good job of teaching our history. We haven't given young people the knowledge they need in order to appreciate how greatly fortunate we are to live in freedom or, indeed, to have much insight at all into the American past. A 1989 survey of college seniors showed that more than half did not understand the purpose of The Federalist papers. One out of four was unable to distinguish Karl Marx's words from the ideas of the United States Constitution. A 1999 survey of elite college seniors—that is seniors at schools like Princeton and Yale and Stanford—showed that only one out of five knew that the words “government of the people, by the people, for the people” came from the Gettysburg Address. Forty per cent did not know that the Constitution established the division of power between the states and the federal government. To the question of who was the American general in command at Yorktown, the most popular answer was Ulysses S. Grant.

Now one cannot attribute this lack of knowledge solely to a failure of colleges and universities. Indeed, the questions asked on these surveys are the kinds of things we should expect high school seniors to know. But surely a contributing factor to the lack of knowledge highlighted by the survey is that no one—not a single one—of the fifty-five elite colleges and universities whose students were polled required a course in American history.

I have been concerned about lack of historical knowledge for well over a decade, long enough so that I understand that the institu-

tional reforms that would help remedy the problem are difficult to achieve. One important reason that American history is not required is because if it were, faculty members would have to teach it—and there is very little professional incentive for them to do so. Advancement in academia comes from publishing, and there is little market in academic journals for articles on subjects that are broadly conceived. What is wanted are specialized articles that are compatible with teaching specialized courses. In not wanting to take on general education, people in accordance are doing what people in every profession tend to do: avoiding activities for which there are few if any professional incentives.

Changing the reward system of higher education is likely to take a very long time—and that's the optimistic view. So, too, is it likely to take a long time for every state in the union to put in place history standards—and the tests to match them—that will ensure that youngsters in grade school, middle school, and high school gain essential knowledge of our nation's past. The fact that the improvement of historical education in our schools and colleges and universities won't happen overnight is no reason to quit the struggle. I certainly intend to keep working on it—and applauding the efforts of groups like the National Association of Scholars and the American Council of Trustees and Alumni that have spoken out forcefully in favor of well-rounded general education. But we should recognize that until long-term efforts succeed, American history will remain largely mysterious to many graduates of our finest institutions. They will continue to place Ulysses S. Grant at Yorktown—unless we come up with extracurricular ways to encourage them to know the men and women and events and ideas that have shaped this country.

I began thinking about this when I read there were teach-ins on our campuses, not very well attended events, according to what I've read—and little wonder. They fit an old paradigm when this country was involved in a war with which large numbers of Americans disagreed, in which many, rightly or wrongly, thought vital American interests were not at stake. None of that applies now. This is not a war in which we get to choose whether or not to fight. Thousands of Americans were killed on the very first day of conflict here at home. We don't have the luxury of not getting involved.

It's time for gatherings of a new kind, it seems to me, in which we remind ourselves of exactly what it is we are defending, in which we talk about exactly what it is we have at stake. Let us talk to one another about freedom, asking, perhaps as a start, why the founders—Jefferson and Madison, in particular—were so determined that government would have no role in determining how people worship. We might take the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom for our text. Jefferson wrote it, Madison got it through the Virginia legislature. In this remarkable time in which we live, any of us can get it off the Internet and see that for Jefferson the issue was not just religious freedom, but intellectual freedom. “Truth is great,” he wrote, “and will prevail if left to herself. She is the proper and sufficient antagonist to error, and has nothing to fear from the conflict, unless by human interposition (she is) disarmed of her natural weapons, free argument and debate. Let us engage in conversations in which we explore how the clash of ideas has benefitted this country and how the ability to follow a thought wherever it

may lead has brought the flourishing of invention and business and art.

We might also meet to talk about valor and use as one of our resources the web site of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. There are so many stories of heroism on it, so many stories of men throwing themselves on grenades or exposing themselves to enemy fire in order to save those near them. The honor roll of heroes is in the thousands now, but reading through it is a reminder of the enormous sacrifices that have been made for the sake of freedom. And listen to just some of the names: John Ortega, Joshua Chamberlain, Abraham Cohn, Daniel Inouye, Joseph Timothy O'Callahan, Joe Nishimoto, Mitchell Red Cloud, Jr., Riley Pitts, Roy Benavidez, Jack Jacobs, Gary Gordon, Randall Shughart. Our liberty has depended on the valor of Americans whose forebears came from every part of the world. Let us remember their bravery with awe and talk about the inspiration we should take from it, not just to be brave ourselves in the much smaller ways our lives are likely to demand, but also to recognize what they so heroically illustrated: that great deeds are not the province of any particular race, creed, or class. Let us talk about how our nation has grown better and stronger as this realization has become ever more central to our national life, and let us talk about the growing we still have to do.

I have been thinking of these gatherings as teach-ins for freedom, but they needn't take place just on campuses. Public libraries would be a good place for them—and so would homes. Indeed, in their private lives millions of Americans have shown their hunger to know more about our nation's history. They buy Stephen Ambrose's books. They watch TV series like the HBO production of *Band of Brothers*. Edmund Morris's *Theodore Rex* is unlikely to make it onto many college or university reading lists, but books of this kind and their older equivalents—I think of Daniel Boorstin's *The Americans*—can be entryways into our nation's past for young adults as well as their parents.

In the weeks since September 11, I've had some very well-credentialed, relatively recent college graduates confess to me how little they know about American history. “Is there a ‘History for Dummies’ book?” one asked, half-jokingly. There may well be, but my recommendation would be to start with some of the thoughtful, well-written books that have received wide acclaim. David McCullough's *John Adams* would be first on my list for the amazing job McCullough does of simultaneously conveying the significance of Adams' accomplishments and the warmth of his humanity.

As for the children, let us continue the efforts to improve history instruction in our schools, but while we work on that, let us also tell them the stories that might otherwise go untold. At our Thanksgiving table we talked to our grandchildren about the pilgrims and how hard it was to cross the ocean to an unfamiliar land and how the difficulty of their voyage was a measure of how much they wanted to worship God as they chose and have their children grow up in a way they thought was right. At our Christmas table, we will, to be sure, talk about the baby born in Bethlehem and the angels who sang and the shepherds and kings

who came to visit him. But we will also remember George Washington and how, on a dark December 25th he led his improbable army across an ice-choked river to give a people struggling for independence hope that they might one day be free.

Thank you very much, Professor George, for having me here this afternoon. James Madison told us, in words that I understand are now inscribed in Corwin Hall, that a well-instructed people alone can be permanently a free people. The gatherings you have here at Princeton under the auspices of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions contribute to our instruction—and to our freedom.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF  
JOHN “CHIP” ROBERTS

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of John “Chip” Roberts, Director of the Colorado Division of State and Veterans Nursing Homes.

John “Chip” Roberts retired on January 15, 2002. He served older Americans for nearly twenty-two years. For the past eleven years, Chip worked for the Colorado Department of Human Services as Director of the Colorado Division of State and Veterans Nursing Homes. Previously, he worked in the private sector as both a nursing home administrator and a regional director. As Division Director of the Colorado State and Veterans Homes, Mr. Roberts oversaw the operations of five State nursing facilities totaling 582 beds. Four of the State homes provide skilled nursing care to military veterans and their spouses and widows. Under Mr. Roberts’ leadership, the State homes program made numerous improvements in service delivery. Chip was always quick to credit the dedicated staff at each facility for the overall success of the program.

Since 1997, in response to legislation authorizing the construction of a new State veterans home at the former Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in Aurora, Colorado, Chip was deeply involved in the design and development of the new 180 bed facility. Throughout the project, Chip continually encouraged the need to be highly flexible in the design in order to allow for the future health care needs of the residents. In addition, to skilled nursing care, the Fitzsimons facility will offer dementia services and adult day care.

During his years of service to the State of Colorado, Chip’s dedication to veterans and their families was readily apparent. He made frequent presentations to publicize the State and veterans homes programs and to inform various organizations of the services available. He has been steadfast in his commitment to “serve those who have served.”

Chip and his wife of twenty-seven years, Judith, are looking forward to retirement with the shared desire to continue serving others, especially in their local church and the city of Arvada. The Roberts’ have one daughter, Vanessa, a recent graduate from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Besides volunteer service, Chip is looking forward to enjoying the great Colorado outdoors: hiking, hunting, and fishing. I wish them Godspeed.

IN COMMEMORATION OF INDIA’S  
REPUBLIC DAY

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise today in commemoration of India’s Republic Day. As the adoption of our constitution and declaration of Independence in the 18th Century are among the most important days in the history of the United States, so too is January 26, 1950 in India. In the Central Hall of Parliament in New Delhi, India joined the community of democratic nations by adopting its Constitution that embodied many of the principles, including equality and secularism, put forth by our own founding fathers.

It gives me great pleasure to celebrate this event, as this is not simply a day for Indians, but for Indian-Americans as well. The streets of my district in Jackson Heights, New York will be filled tonight with thousands of my constituents honoring this important day.

The bond that India and the United States share is not simply rooted in the democratic foundations, but also in democratic practices. Allying the world’s oldest democracy with the world’s largest democracy is a natural fit. I believe that India’s Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee said it best when he spoke of the adoption of India’s Constitution: “There is one great test for a Constitution, for any system of Governance. It must deliver and it must be durable. Our Constitution has stood this test. And one reason it has been able to do so is that it embodies a mastery balance: between the rights of the individual and the requirements of collective life; between the States and the Union; between providing a robust structure and flexibility. Our Constitution has served the needs of both India’s diversity and her innate unity. It has strengthened India’s democratic traditions.”

The shared history and common conception for the future of our relationship has allowed our nations to cooperate in times of prosperity and assist each other in times of tragedy. This year’s Republic Day is bitter-sweet as it also commemorates the one-year anniversary of the devastating earthquake that struck India on January 26, 2001. The earthquake, centered in India’s state of Gujarat and measuring 7.9 on the Richter scale, killed more than 20,000 people. During those difficult times, we were there for India both in spirit and in practice. Shortly after the earthquake, the United States Congress adopted a Resolution expressing condolences for the victims and support for providing assistance. I am proud to report that Congress also responded to my efforts in increasing the funding for the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, specifically targeting the efforts in India.

Just as we came to the aid of India, they were among the first to condemn the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001. Since that horrific day, high-level contacts between the U.S. and India have increased, reflecting the close cooperation between the world’s two largest democracies in the struggle against international terrorism. Unfortunately, the scourge of terrorism is another characteristic that our countries now have in common.

The December 13, 2001 attack on India’s Parliament hit very close to home. As nine police officers and a Parliament worker were killed we were forced, once again, to redefine the scope and definition of the war on terrorism. This attack sought to destroy the heart of India’s democracy, but will fail in that endeavor.

The common interests of the United States and India transcend the boundaries of the international war on terrorism. There has been ever-increasing cooperation in dealing with the proliferation of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, preserving stability and growth in the global economy, protecting the environment, combating infectious diseases and expanding trade.

As a member of the Indian Caucus with a growing Indian constituency, my interest in the region has grown exponentially during my time in Congress. I have to say, however, that nothing was more eye-opening than my visit to India a few weeks ago. To get a true sense of the interests of the people and the government on the ground was invaluable, and will surely help me represent the views of my constituents more completely in the future.

With that, I wish to salute India for fifty-one years of work in pursuit of preserving democracy. It is my honor to join you as you continue that journey into the new millennium.

KAHLI RIES: A YOUNG PATRIOT  
FOR A BETTER FUTURE

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Kahli Ries of Mayville, Michigan, upon the occasion of her winning the 2001–02 statewide Voice of Democracy Program speech-writing contest sponsored by the Department of Michigan Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its Ladies Auxiliary.

At a time when our country is engaged in a war against terrorists who threaten our American way of life, it is especially gratifying to honor Kahli for displaying in the words she has written a brand of patriotism to which all citizens should aspire. In her award-winning essay, Kahli expresses the hopes and dreams of our nation’s younger generation and she calls on her peers to take the responsibility to shape a better future. Her simple yet powerful words are reassuring to those of us in older generations that the future is in good hands.

Kahli, a ninth-grade student at Mayville High School, stands as a shining example of why America has time and again come together in times of crisis and risen to even the most difficult challenges. In her speech, Kahli has reached back in our history to capture the same sense of freedom and responsibility that our forefathers and many patriots since our founding have relied upon to build a better future for their descendants and others who followed.

Let me share an excerpt of her essay: “I hope America will be a place where not only we will be physically safe and morally safe, but our freedoms will be preserved as well. I see a place where people won’t be afraid to walk down the streets or open their mail. I believe in our country and our dedication to our

rights and values. And I believe that we, as a people, will never give those up."

Kahli's parents, Dave and Tammy, must swell with pride to have such a talented daughter exhibit her deep and sincere love of her country in a public forum. While it is certainly heartwarming to see that displays of patriotism have become more common since September 11, we should all join Kahli in hoping that "this feeling of patriotism that has been reborn in this country will last and stay in our hearts forever."

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I am proud that young people such as Kahli Ries and her family reside in the Fifth Congressional District of Michigan. The recognition that Kahli has received from the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10884 and its Ladies Auxiliary of Mayville and from the Department of Michigan Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is indeed a fine honor for this outstanding young woman. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Kahli Ries and in wishing her continued success in spreading her patriotic message to our fellow citizens.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING BENEFITS OF MENTORING

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 23, 2002*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this resolution calling for the establishment of National Mentoring Month.

I am honored to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, the oldest and largest mentoring organization in the United States. Big Brothers Big Sisters will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2004. During the past century, Big Brothers Big Sisters has provided the foundation for the mentoring movement. Today, Big Brothers Big Sisters reaches over 210,000 children in over 500 locations in the United States, with the goal of reaching one million children by 2010.

Mentoring is dependent on highly committed volunteers. Volunteers in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program and in other high-quality mentoring programs across the United States devote many hours each week and become role models for children. As the resolution points out, research has proven the tremendous contribution that these volunteers make in the overall positive development of the children with whom they are matched.

Mentoring changes lives, but it is not an easy service to provide. I think it is so important that Congress acknowledge the tremendous contribution being made by today's volunteer mentors, and challenge everyone to make a difference in the lives of America's children.

GIRL SCOUTS GOLD MEDAL  
RECIPIENT: RACHEL SINK

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students: Rachel Sink. In February, the young women of her troop will honor her by bestowing upon her the Girl Scouts Gold Medal.

Since the beginning of this century, the Girls Scouts of America have provided thousands of

youngsters each year the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. The Gold Awards represent the highest awards attainable by junior and high school Girl Scouts.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipient of this award, as her activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Rachel, and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young woman on her day of recognition.

RECOGNIZING STUDENTS AT THE ANTIOCH UPPER GRADE SCHOOL IN ILLINOIS' 8TH DISTRICT

**HON. PHILIP M. CRANE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize students at the Antioch Upper Grade School in Illinois' 8th District. Today, as our brave men and women in uniform are deployed throughout the world to protect and defend the freedoms we all hold so dear, we are more aware than ever before of the cost of the freedom.

The students at Antioch Upper Grade School have also been reflecting on the cost of freedom. Samantha Wise, the 8th grade social studies teacher at Antioch Upper Grade School, had each of her students write an essay entitled "Is Freedom Really Free?" Ms. Wise submitted the essays in the local VFW essay contest, and three students won. Joe Barlow won first prize representing the Village of Antioch, and third place in the 5th District for the VFW. Justin Kaminsky and Anthony Baschetti, were also runners-up for the Village of Antioch.

All of the students and their teacher should be commended for their work. It makes me proud to see schools like the Antioch Upper Grade School showing their patriotism.

THE VETERANS HEALTH CARE ITEMS PROCUREMENT REFORM AND IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2002

**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, the procurement of medical and surgical items is a major expenditure for the Department of Veterans Affairs. During fiscal year 2001, for example, VA reported spending more than \$1.3 billion for medical and surgical supplies and equipment. The procurement of medical and surgical supplies and equipment by VA is also an activity in need of significant reform and improvement. To achieve these reforms, I am today introducing "Veterans Health Care Items Procurement Reform Improvement Act of 2002." I

urge my colleagues to support and promptly enact this important legislation.

A major provision of the "Veterans Health Care Items Procurement Reform and Improvement Act of 2002" directs the Department of Veterans Affairs, when procuring medical/surgical supplies and equipment, to buy these items from the Federal Supply Schedule (FSS) or from national contracts negotiated by VA. By requiring most VA health medical/surgical supplies and equipment to be purchased from the FSS or national contracts, VA can better leverage the tremendous purchasing power of its annual budget in excess of \$1 billion for medical/surgical supplies and equipment. When enacted, this legislation is expected to reduce VA procurement costs by tens of millions of dollars annually.

This legislation also provides for certain limited exceptions to the centralized procurement requirement. For example, it allows emergency purchases of medical/surgical supplies and equipment from other than FSS or national contracts and permits purchases of needed items not listed on the FSS. Other limited exceptions should facilitate greater financial savings from—and greater use of—important initiatives such as VA/DOD sharing and small business procurement.

In a May 15, 2001 assessment entitled, "Evaluation of the Department of Veterans Affairs Purchasing Practices", the VA Office of Inspector General (OIG) reported, "The Department of Veterans Affairs is not leveraging its buying power to obtain the best prices for items purchased." Among the recommendations of the OIG were, "VA facilities be required to purchase items that are on national contracts, such as FSS, and that the FSS and other national contracts be mandatory sources of medical/surgical supplies and equipment" and local procurement contracts be specifically prohibited with very limited exceptions.

This measure will provide strong encouragement to vendors who wish to do business with VA to list their health-care items on part 65 and 66 of the Federal Supply Classification as appropriate or as part of a National contract. This legislation will eliminate existing inefficiencies from the current acquisition system that allows for multiple, locally-negotiated contracts with national vendors and distributors. Despite the enormous volume of health care items procured by VA, these local contracts often do not provide VA purchasers with the best price offered by vendors to other buyers.

In addition, this bill strengthens the contractual management and oversight tools of the Department of Veterans Affairs. It makes pre- and post-award contract audit clauses mandatory for almost all types of procurement contracts for health-care items. This will enable procurement officers, supervisors, the VA Office of the Inspector General, and the GAO to review the true value and cost of an item and assure compliance with contract provisions. In fiscal year 1997 when audit clauses were more common, audits accounted for the recovery of over \$35 million dollars—last year with audit clauses less common the total recovery was less than \$12 million dollars.

Other important provisions of this legislation will require most VA procurement contracts to include a price reduction clause. With the inclusion of a price reduction clause, when a vendor offers a health-care item at a lower price to another buyer in a commercial contract, VA will benefit from the purchase price reduction and receive the new lower purchase price for a health-care item it has previously agreed to purchase from the vendor.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support "The Veterans Health-Care Items Procurement Reform and Improvement Act of 2002," and seek its quick approval by Congress on behalf of our nation's veterans and taxpayers.

GIRL SCOUT GOLD MEDAL  
RECIPIENT: AYLSSA WESCOTT

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students: Alyssa Wescott. In February, the young women of her troop will honor her by bestowing upon her the Girl Scouts Gold Medal.

Since the beginning of this century, the Girls Scouts of America have provided thousands of youngsters each year the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. The Gold Awards represent the highest awards attainable by junior and high school Girl Scouts.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipient of this award, as her activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Alyssa, and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young woman on her day of recognition.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE  
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

**HON. HENRY J. HYDE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, last year marked the 225th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, arguably one of the most important documents ever written. The National Lawyers Association Foundation has honored this anniversary by producing educational materials for elementary school students, a project that I believe is worthy of recognition. I therefore submit the following for your review:

EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ON THE LEGAL AND  
HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DECLARATION  
OF INDEPENDENCE

In 2001, our nation celebrated its 225th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. By signing this document the Founding Fathers pledged their lives, fortunes and sacred honor to the causes set forth in the Declaration of Independence.

In order to help American children appreciate and understand the significance of the Declaration of Independence, the National Lawyers Association Foundation, a not-for-profit group has developed an educational program for third, fourth, and fifth graders. This program consists of an entertaining 6-minute video that helps them understand the clear, ringing language in the Declaration. The video introduces students to the concept of the self-evident truths, that all persons "... are created equal, and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of Happiness—that to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from consent of the governed."

The video helps teachers explain why the Declaration of Independence was written to explain why we sought our freedom from England, that unalienable rights are rights that cannot be taken away from us; and that self-evident truths are principles that will always be true; for example, that all people are created equal.

A lesson plan accompanies that video and encourages the students to think about a situation that they feel is unfair and write their own Declaration of Independence to understand concepts regarding what rights they feel entitled to, why they feel they deserve these rights, and compare them to what the feelings of our Forefathers must have been when they wrote the Declaration of Independence. Students are also encouraged to display knowledge of when the Declaration of Independence was signed.

The National Lawyers Association Foundation is making the video, lesson plan, as well as replicas of copies of the Declaration of Independence requested by elementary school teachers in school classes, public and private, available at no charge, as long as funds are available. The video and lesson plan is also available to any interested individuals or organizations such as home schoolers, lawyers, bar associations and public service groups who desire to use the video and lesson plan for a nominal fee. Replicas of the Declaration of Independence are also available to the public for a nominal fee as long as funds are available.

The National Lawyers Association Foundation also plans to continue the project to make videos and books regarding the Declaration of Independence available to students in the upper grades, as well as making available to all citizens, copies of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. The National Lawyers Association Foundation has been told over 65,000 students across America have benefited from the materials provided by their volunteer efforts. The National Lawyers Association Foundation serves a need of the American public and the world to appreciate how the Founding Fathers of this nation created and established that there are no classes of people in America and all people are endowed with the same unalienable rights by their Creator.

The language in the Declaration of Independence has been quoted and spoken about by many of our American presidents and also needs to be in the hearts and in the vocabulary of our American citizens. The National Lawyers Association Foundation is working to make the words of the Declaration of Independence valued by all Americans and help serve the need for the principles of the Declaration of Independence to be spoken and honored, not only to America, but to the world at large.

URGING THE GOVERNMENT OF  
UKRAINE TO ENSURE A DEMOCRATIC,  
TRANSPARENT, AND  
FAIR ELECTION PROCESS LEADING  
UP TO THE MARCH 31, 2002,  
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

**HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this resolution, which urges the Government of Ukraine to ensure a democratic, transparent, and fair election process leading up to the March 31, 2002, parliamentary elections.

I would first like to thank my colleague, Louise Slaughter, for her hard work in initializing the development of this important resolution. I am appreciative of her leadership on issues relating to Ukraine, and I am pleased to have worked so closely with her in crafting this legislation. I would also like to thank my House International Relations Committee colleagues, Elton Gallegly and Chris Smith, for their contributions to this resolution, and to acknowledge their commitment to a meaningful democratization process in Ukraine.

The importance of Ukraine's March 31, 2002 parliamentary elections—the third parliamentary elections since gaining independence over ten years ago—should not be underestimated.

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, Ukraine has worked to achieve a more western, democratic approach in its governance, and the upcoming elections mark an historical crossroads for a country undergoing dramatic democratic transformation. Significant challenges remain—restrictions on basic democratic freedoms are alarming; its nuclear plants are in need of clean-up; the media suffers from blatant harassment and government corruption runs rampant.

Ukraine has also come a long way in just a decade. Its economy grew more than six percent last year. It not only voluntarily gave up the third-largest nuclear arsenal in the world, but has also consistently, with the U.S. assistance, sought to eliminate its stockpile of strategic missiles. Basic political reforms have begun in earnest.

The resolution we have introduced today acknowledges the democratic reforms that Ukraine has achieved, but it also sheds light on the vast improvements Ukraine must make in order to become a full-fledged democracy. The resolution encourages the Government of Ukraine to implement basic tools in order to ensure free and fair elections including a transparency of election procedures, access for international election observers, multiparty representation on election commissions and equal access to the media for all election candidates.

Now more than ever, as Ukraine strives to realize a more robust democracy, it needs the encouragement of the United States as well as its scrutiny. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important resolution when it comes before them on the House floor.

“CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF FURNACE CREEK INN”

### HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Furnace Creek Inn, which has provided an oasis of hospitality in the midst of one of the most inhospitable places in the world: Death Valley National Park. The inn, which among other amenities has the first golf course in the California desert, is marking its 75th year in February.

The harsh beauty of Death Valley has been recognized since 1933 when it was designated a National Monument. Within its boundaries are America's lowest point—280 feet below sea level at Badwater—and mountains that rise more than 11,000 feet. While prospectors found gold and silver nearby, the real treasure of the area was borax, which is still mined in the Mojave Desert today for uses ranging from detergents to oven-to-table glass to termite protection for lumber.

Many Americans are familiar with the 20-mule teams that hauled the precious mineral 165 miles to the nearest rail line for the Harmony Borax Works, built by W.T. Coleman in 1882. The works were moved in 1889 to Daggett, but borax mining was resumed in Death Valley in the 1920s by the Pacific Coast Borax Company.

Noting the success of Palm Springs Desert Inn as a resort, Pacific Coast Borax decided to enter the tourism business, and the Furnace Creek Inn opened on February 1, 1927. Los Angeles architect Albert C. Martin designed the mission-style structure set into the low ridge overlooking Furnace Creek Wash. Adobe bricks were hand made by Paiute and Shoshone laborers. A Spanish stonemason named Steve Esteves created the Moorish-influenced stonework, while meandering gardens and Deglet Noor palm trees were planted. The inn had 66 rooms by the time it was completed in 1935, along with a spring-fed swimming pool that has views of the surrounding mountains and valley.

Tourism to Death Valley at the time surged in 1933 with the designation as a national monument. This meant that new, paved roads to and throughout the monument would be constructed, thus heralding automobile and tourist access to the site. In 1994 the area was designated a National Park, making it the largest park in the continental United States.

Mr. Speaker, thousands of guests have experienced the stark grandeur of Death Valley in elegance at the Furnace Creek Inn. The current owner, Amfac Parks and Resorts, Inc., has completely refurbished the Inn and its amenities, preserving this unique hotel for future generations. Please join me in commending them and congratulating them on this historic occasion.

GIRL SCOUT GOLD MEDAL  
RECIPIENT: KRISTEN VEECK

### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students: Kristen Veeck. In February, the young women of her troop will honor her by bestowing upon her the Girl Scouts Gold Medal.

Since the beginning of this century, the Girl Scouts of America have provided thousands of youngsters each year the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. The Gold Awards represent the highest awards attainable by junior and high school Girl Scouts.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipient of this award, as her activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Kristen, and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young woman on her day of recognition.

### ELIMINATE VICTIMS FUND COL- LATERAL COMPENSATION RE- QUIREMENT

### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to revise the victim's compensation fund to eliminate the offset clause which unnecessarily penalizes those men and women who prepared for their future through pension funds, life insurance policies, and other related investments. I believe that such a clause is not in accordance with the spirit of the original legislation which seeks to compensate every victim's family in an impartial manner.

On Thursday January 17th, I joined many of my constituents at the family rally in New York City to call on special master Feinberg to amend the final interim rule under which the fund is currently operating. At the rally, I was pleased to announce that Mr. Feinberg has indicated that he will be accepting comments on the fund for the next several weeks until the final rule is promulgated. However, I now believe that we cannot leave such an important decision to chance.

Accordingly, this legislation will ensure that the victims' families are fairly and individually compensated from this Federal victim's compensation fund without prejudice to any exist-

ing collateral payments. It is imperative for the Congress to rectify this matter at this time.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ERNIE FLETCHER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall vote No. 4 on January 24, 2002. Had I been present for rollcall vote No. 4, I would have voted "Yea," in favor of passage of S. 1762, the Higher Education Act Amendments.

### CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2002

### HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, dental care is the most frequently cited unmet health need of children. In fact, unmet children's dental care need, is three times greater than the unmet need for children's medical care, four times greater than the unmet need for prescription drugs, and five times greater than the unmet need for children's vision care. Dental decay is the most prevalent chronic disease of childhood.

To help in eradicating this hidden epidemic, Congresswomen LOWEY, ROYBAL-ALLARD, MORELLA and Congressmen UPTON, NORWOOD, STARK, DOYLE, MORAN, ANDREWS and I are introducing the "Children's Dental Health Improvement Act of 2002". With its enactment, this legislation will improve the access and delivery of dental care to low-income children across the country.

In September 2000, the U.S. Surgeon General reported in "Oral Health in America: A Report of the Surgeon General" that 14 percent of children in America were without health insurance coverage and that more than twice that number, 23 million children, were without any level of dental care. Pediatric health care providers and children's hospitals across America see the results of this lack of care every day, as they care for children with serious dental problems that could have easily been avoided had they had access to preventative and routine dental care.

The need to improve the oral health of America's children is well documented. According to the National Health and Nutrition Interview Survey, poor children age 2-9 have twice the levels of untreated decayed teeth as nonpoor children. According to the U.S. Surgeon General, "there are at least 2.6 children without dental insurance for each child without medical insurance." Progressive tooth decay causes children to suffer pain and infection, dysfunctions in eating and speech, distraction and irritable behavior and creates attendant learning dysfunctions and limitations. According to the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research reports, 80 percent of tooth decay is isolated in only 25 percent of the children, with the most untreated disease occurring in low-income children. In addition, the social impact of oral disease in children is

substantial. More than 51 million school hours are lost each year to dental-related illness in children.

The "Children's Dental Health Improvement Act of 2002", will provide states the flexibility to utilize the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to provide dental coverage to low-income children (below 200% of poverty) including children who may have limited medical coverage that does not include dental services. The legislation will improve the dental health of uninsured and underinsured low-income children by allowing states the flexibility to utilize CHIP to provide funding for dental coverage to low-income children; providing \$40 million to community health centers and public health departments to expand dental health services through the hiring of additional dental-health professionals.

While several factors influence access for low-income groups to dental care, the primary one being limited dentist participation in Medicaid. The primary factor here is in, large part, due to poor reimbursement rates in Medicaid. The legislation seeks to improve dental care access under Medicaid and the Indian Health Service (IHS) by providing \$50 million as financial incentives and planning grants to states to improve their Medicaid program in terms of adequate payment rates, access to care and improved service delivery; again, providing \$40 million to community and IHS health centers and public health departments to expand dental health services through the hiring of additional dental health professionals.

Despite Medicaid and CHIP, dental care is the least utilized core pediatric health service for low-income children. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Oral Health Initiative (OHI) effort to coordinate dental health service within CMS lacks statutory authority necessary to enforce oral health initiatives. The legislation seeks to remedy this by providing statutory authority for the OHI and authorizes \$25 million to improve the oral health of low-income populations.

In addition, the bill contains the following technical provisions:

The bill streamlines the process for the designation of dental health professional shortage areas;

Ensures that entities eligible for funding include both "school-linked" as well as school-based organizations, clarifies that an eligible entity can be public or non-profit health organization or tribal organization;

Creating authority for HHS to establish demonstration projects to increase access to dental services for children in underserved areas.

This legislation has the endorsement and is fully supported by over 40 national health organizations including, National Association of Children's Hospitals, American Academy of Pediatrics, March of Dimes, American Dental Association and Family Voices.

There can be no substitute for providing for our children's health. The "Children's Dental Health Improvement Act of 2002" will go a long way to filling a large gap that exists in our current health programs for children. Clearly, more effort and support is needed. Therefore, I believe that Congress must act now. I ask that all Members of the House and Senate join in to support and vote for passage of the "Children's Dental Health Improvement Act of 2002".

GIRL SCOUT GOLD MEDAL  
RECIPIENT: DEBORAH VISCO

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students: Deborah Visco. In February, the young women of her troop will honor her by bestowing upon her the Girl Scouts Gold Medal.

Since the beginning of this century, the Girls Scouts of America have provided thousands of youngsters each year the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. The Gold Awards represent the highest awards attainable by junior and high school Girl Scouts.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipient of this award, as her activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Deborah, and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young woman on her day of recognition.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BILL  
MCCLUSKEY

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I pay tribute today to Pueblo Police Department Sgt. Bill McCluskey, who recently lost his life to cancer. In his 38 years of dedication to the police force, Bill embodied the ideals of integrity, honesty and courage that we, as Americans, have come to expect from the brave men and women who serve as our law enforcement officers. As his family mourns his loss, I believe it is appropriate to remember Bill and pay tribute to him for his contributions to his city, his state and his country.

Bill McCluskey was not an ordinary police officer. In 1999, he was recognized as the Pueblo Police Department's officer of the year, and during his tenure in the department, he received over 100 letters of commendation. In 1989, he was promoted to sergeant, and through his tireless work ethic and impeccable reputation for honesty and integrity, Bill emerged as the department's patriarch and role model.

It was Bill's dedication and love for his job, his family and his community that distinguished him from, and endeared him to all who knew Bill. He is survived by his wife

Sharon, and his two sons Michael and Jonathan. Not only will he be missed by his immediate family, but also by the many brave men and women who served with him in the Pueblo Police Department. He is, without question, one of this country's true heroes. He was a man that served his community with a passion, and helped to make it a much better and safer place. The Pueblo community and I are eternally grateful for his service.

Mr. Speaker, we are all terribly saddened by the loss of Bill McCluskey, but take comfort in the knowledge that our grief is overshadowed only by the legacy of courage, selflessness and love that Bill left with all of us. His life is the very embodiment of all that makes this country great, and I am deeply honored to be able to bring his life to the attention of this body of Congress.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SECURITIES FRAUD PREVENTION ACT OF 2002

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing of the "Securities Fraud Prevention Act of 2002," legislation designed to crack down on securities fraud. I am joined by Minority Leader GEPHARDT along with Representatives WATT, JACKSON-LEE, WATERS, MARKEY and SANDERS.

The last several months have revealed widespread securities fraud at the very highest level of Enron and its advisers. Every day brings a new revelation of the dissemination of misinformation, shredding, obstruction of justice, and insider trading. As more and more companies file bankruptcy, I am concerned that we may well learn of additional instances of fraud across corporate America.

One step we can take to respond to this outbreak is to empower harmed American investors to obtain justice in these cases. Unfortunately, one of the very first items enacted by the Majority in 1995 as part of the "Contract with American" was legislation making it more difficult for ordinary Americans to bring Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) actions involving securities fraud. This legal loophole for securities fraud was enacted over President Clinton's veto as part of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act (PSLRA) of 1995.

The PSLRA ended the use of the private civil RICO statute as a means of seeking treble damages and attorneys fees in securities fraud cases, unless preceded by a criminal conviction. In essence, the Congress wrote a special exemption preventing securities fraud cases from being brought under RICO.

In the wake of the Enron debacle, I believe the time is now ripe to protect American investors once again. The Enron cases has established beyond a shadow of a doubt that white collar fraud can be incredibly damaging, in many cases wiping away life savings and costing innocent Americans billions of dollars of their hard earned money. There can be no conceivable justification for shielding corporate wrongdoers from RICO actions in this context. I am hopeful that Congress can move quickly to enact this worthwhile and timely legislation.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND STANLEY  
SPREWER

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, as the family and friends of Reverend Stanley Sprewer gathered together at memorial services on January 10, 2002, they celebrated the life of a pastor who touched the lives of so many. A "faithful shepherd of God's flock", Rev. Sprewer's love for God, his church, and his family will continue to be remembered and cherished, after his passing from this earth on January 6, 2002.

Born in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin to James and Marie Sprewer, Rev. Sprewer was the eighth child of ten in his family. After accepting Christ at a young age, Rev. Sprewer's ambition led him to graduate from North Division High School and enlist in the United States Marine Corps. Following his exceptional service during the Vietnam War, Stanley Sprewer's leadership and thirst for life helped him realize his true calling, and after building a beautiful family of his own, he answered the call to ministry.

Beginning his ministry as an exhorter at Bethel C.M.E. Church Milwaukee, he became licensed as a local preacher and then ordained to elder under the late Bishop Chester K. Kirkendoll. After graduating from St. Martin's Seminary in Milwaukee and earning a Master of Theology degree from Bethany Bible College and Seminary in Dothan, Alabama, Rev. Sprewer began his pastoral journey at Allen Temple C.M.E. Church in Milwaukee, where his ministry flourished as he led an outstanding community-based nutrition program and led a successful church renovation and restoration project. His journey then brought him to Michigan, where he pastored first at the Dozier Memorial C.M.E. Church in Flint and then to Detroit, where he served as pastor of Allen Temple C.M.E. Church, a church in an economically deprived area where he resumed a nutrition and clothing outreach program as well as a nursing home ministry at the Hillcrest Nursing Home. Rev. Sprewer's final stop brought him to Turner Chapel C.M.E. Church in Mount Clemens, where his leadership and dedication brought a community together as the church grew both spiritually and numerically, and where his legacy of love and service will continue to live on.

Rev. Sprewer has always given on hundred percent in every aspect of his life, his work, his community, his family and his friends. Those who had the pleasure of knowing him and the benefit of working with him will surely continue to remember him as a dedicated, faithful pastor and friend to all. He will truly be missed. I invite my colleagues to please join me in paying tribute to Rev. Sprewer, and saluting him for his exemplary years of care and service.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TOMASA  
BARGAS

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor a woman whose passion for life and whose incredible human spirit is an inspiration to us all. Tomasa Bargas, a Pueblo, Colorado resident of over seventy years, recently passed an impressive milestone, celebrating her one-hundredth birthday with four generations of her friends and family.

Tomasa was born December 29, 1901 in Irapuato, Guanajuato, Mexico. She came to the United States at the age of sixteen, settling in Trinidad, Colorado with her husband Joaquin, and later moving to Pueblo, where she still resides today. Incredibly, Tomasa is the matriarch of a family that includes 11 children, 34 grandchildren, 74 great-grandchildren and 37 great-great-grandchildren. It is an impressive lineage of which she is extremely proud, and which, more importantly, is extremely proud of her.

Battling overwhelming odds, Tomasa managed to reach this impressive milestone while battling Alzheimer's disease, a condition that has conquered neither her mind, nor her spirit. Her memories are still very much alive, and her family and friends are all fortunate to be able to share in a life as rich and varied as hers. The remarkable longevity of Tomasa's life is a testament to both her will to survive and her unparalleled passion for life.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I bring to the attention of this body of Congress, the life and spirit of such an incredible woman. Through overwhelming odds, she has managed not only to endure, but to brighten and invigorate the lives of those around her. She is truly an inspiration to all of us, and I, along with the many people whose lives she has touched, am honored to recognize her tremendous accomplishment in reaching her one-hundredth birthday, and more importantly, her passion for life and indomitable human spirit.

**JOB CREATION AND ECONOMIC  
SECURITY ACT**

**HON. JOHN R. THUNE**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, while it appears that our economy has begun to pull out of its recent doldrums, people in South Dakota and across our Nation continue to need help.

I have been arguing for months that the best way to address many of the problems facing our nation is to first get our economy back on track. I strongly believe one of the ways to accomplish this goal is to pass an economic security bill.

That's why, Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced the Jobs Creation and Economic Security Act. This legislation is needed to get the economy moving and put people back to work.

Some have argued that our economy doesn't need help or even that putting dollars back into the pockets of American taxpayers

actually sent the economy into recession in the first place. Nothing could be further from the truth.

That's an economics I don't understand and frankly one that every expert I've talked to flatly contradicts. They will tell you that getting the money out of Washington and back in the hands of Americans is the best way to create jobs, instill consumer confidence and get the economy moving.

The provisions of my bill include a tax rebate for those who didn't get a rebate last year, reducing the 27.5 percent rate to 25 percent immediately, providing for accelerated depreciation for businesses, including farmers, providing unemployment and health care benefits and providing needed tax relief for farmers.

Passing this legislation will be a great first step in getting our economy moving. However, I believe we can also do more. Congress needs to pass a farm bill as soon as possible so farmers will know what programs to expect when they begin planting. The House has already passed legislation to improve and maintain the necessary farm programs, while adding a counter-cyclical safety net to help producers when times are tough. It has a strong and balanced conservation title that provides incentives for both idling environmentally sensitive land and for performing conservation practices on working lands.

In addition, it supports value-added agriculture to help producers add value to their raw commodities. Producers will receive more of the value of what they grow, not merely settling for the prices that they are given at market.

Congress should also enact the President's energy bill. Again, the House has already passed a comprehensive national energy policy, because we've become too dependent on foreign oil. The House bill takes a balanced approach toward finding new resources here at home and developing new ideas for the future. It also works to improve conservation today while developing renewable energy sources for tomorrow.

By acting now on each of these measures Congress can put our economy and our nation on the path toward prosperity. Our constituents demand it and deserve nothing less.

**THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
BANK OF GUAM**

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, in Chamorro, we refer to the Bank of Guam as Bangkon Ifil (the Bank of Ifil). Ifil is the hardest wood that can be found on Guam. The Bank of Guam has become synonymous with the strength and durability that the ifil tree represents. More importantly, both the Bank of Guam and the ifil tree represent the soil and soul of Guam.

Responsibility, service and commitment are words that aptly describe the Bank of Guam with regard to our island and the Western Pacific. Chartered for operation on March 13, 1972, the Bank of Guam was a life-long dream of Mr. Jesus S. Leon Guerrero, the institution's founder and Chairman of its Board of Directors.

With an abiding concern for the people of Guam, Mr. Leon Guerrero was determined to establish a responsive, full service banking institution to meet the unique and specialized needs of island residents. Not only did he perceive this type of institution to be sorely lacking on Guam; as a pioneering businessman, he was also driven by a desire to serve his community by utilizing his considerable business acumen.

December 11, 1972, was opening day for the Bank of Guam and its thirteen original staff members. From its humble beginnings in the Santa Cruz area of Hagåtña through its expansion with branches in Saipan, Rota, Tinian, Chuuk, Pohnpei, Majuro, Kwajalein, Palau and San Francisco, the Bank of Guam has progressed at a truly impressive pace. The Bank's services range from full service banking, ATM machines, investment opportunities and even home banking. Currently managed by a cadre of business professionals following in the footsteps of their founder, the bank is fulfilling its promises to the people of Guam and to the people of Micronesia as a responsible banking institution.

In conjunction with the hallmarks of responsibility and service, the Bank of Guam is also known for its sincere commitment to the community as a whole. This commitment has made its successful operation possible during these past thirty years. With competent staff members and an experienced Board of Directors, the Bank of Guam is leading the banking community of the region into the 21st century.

Although this is a brief overview of the Bank of Guam's numerous accomplishments, one can understand the overwhelming positive impact this institution has had, and will continue to have, on the people of Guam and Micronesia. For thirty years, the Bank of Guam has served our island communities. I am sure that it will continue to provide excellent services. In the words of Jesus S. Leon Guerrero, "There are two fundamental reasons why I wanted to take the risk in starting the Bank of Guam. Number one, provide service to the community that was not available, and then, two, back up that service with a commitment to take care of our people." The Bank of Guam had proven on innumerable times it's commitment to this philosophy.

I offer my congratulations to the Bank of Guam for thirty years of dedicated service to the community. The legacy that Jesus S. Leon Guerrero has created will continue to be strong, vibrant and beneficial to the people of Guam for generations to come. We have every confidence that the Bank's current president, Anthony Leon Guerrero, and his excellent staff will continue to build upon this legacy.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase Bangkon Ifit.

#### RECOGNITION OF JANE HEALY

### HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Jane Healy for her many years of public service and the contributions she has

made to so many people in Colorado. On February 1, 2002, she will be celebrating her 70th birthday. Many of those 70 years have been involved in public service. I wanted to take this opportunity not only to wish her a most happy birthday, but also to highlight her outstanding career and accomplishments.

Upon my election to the 2nd Congressional District in 1998, I was fortunate to have Jane join my staff as the Director of Constituent Services. I was very appreciative because I had learned of her many years of constituent service work for my predecessor, David Skaggs, as well as similar work for other Colorado elected officials including Senator Gary Hart and State Treasurer Gail Schoettler.

Jane's work in these offices earned her a reputation as a caring and extremely effective advocate for individual Coloradans with state and federal agencies. She had developed great expertise in relevant agency rules and procedures and had earned the respect of agency personnel. As a result, she could provide simple, direct advice and was especially helpful to many people who would have been frustrated and confused without her assistance.

Nowhere was this expertise more pronounced than in the complex area of immigration matters and the extensive process of selecting nominees for appointment to the service academies.

On immigration matters, Jane became the "dean" of the Colorado delegation staff—particularly on issues related to visas and the status of foreign nationals lining and working in the United States. Oftentimes, when an issue was too complex for other offices to handle, she would be asked advice on how to proceed. On the service academy selection process, she was especially adroit at making this potentially stressful and unmanageable system of selecting nominees to our armed service academies a smoothly functioning and enjoyable experience, while always underscoring the honorable nature of the effort and treating it with the highest respect and decorum.

When she joined my staff, she helped set the standard of excellence for casework service. She helped train novice staff members in the art of casework service and correspondence. Her knowledge and expertise has served my office well—but more importantly, it has helped countless numbers of people over the years. It is estimated that over the course of her career, she directly helped resolve over 20,000 cases on an impressive array of issues.

Jane's dedication was unequalled. Coworkers would notice that she would frequently leave the office at the end of the day with bags of casework papers on which she continued working at home. My staff and I deeply miss her talents in calligraphy, here editing skills, her love of Ireland, and her chocolate raspberry pies.

On a personal note, Jane also worked as the Colorado State Coordinator for my father's presidential campaign in 1976. She proudly displayed in her office a photo taken during that campaign showing her with my dad.

She also has been involved in many other community activities, such as serving on the Board of North Metro Community services, which provides needed services to disabled citizens in the northern portions of the Denver-

metro area. To serve so broadly, so successfully, and with such grace, heart, and spirit is deserving of recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in expressing our gratitude to Jane Healy for her exemplary public service to the people of Colorado and their elected officials. Her many accomplishments go beyond reckoning, and I wish her good health and happiness in the future.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO LUD E. WASHINGTON

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I pay tribute to a local hero whose life-long pursuit of improving and enriching the lives of others is an inspiration to us all. Lud E. Washington recently died just short of both his 88th birthday and his 50th wedding anniversary to his wife Marguerite, but his life was one of immense fulfillment and a source of endless joy for those who knew and loved him. As his family mourns the loss, I believe it is appropriate to remember Lud and pay tribute to him for his contributions to his community, his state and his country.

Lud was a true pioneer who fought courageously to break down racial barriers and open doors for future generations of African-Americans and minorities. He gave his time and energy to those who needed him most. He began his career by running the all African-American Lincoln Home, which served as a boarding house for African-Americans of all ages who were in need of a caretaker and mentor. He dedicated his life to ensuring that no child grew up without the proper guidance, love, or care. Lud believed that he could, by offering his help to one child at a time, have a dramatic impact on an entire community.

Lud was the first African-American foreman at the Pueblo Army Depot, breaking down barriers that enabled others who followed him to attain increasingly higher-ranking positions within the military. He, along with long-time friend Linc Wilson, led Pueblo's first and only all African-American Boy Scout Troop in the late 1940's, an undertaking that served as an indispensable resource for the young African-Americans of the Pueblo community. By fostering a spirit of leadership, camaraderie and cooperation, the Troop helped provide the positive reinforcement that so many children had previously not been able to find elsewhere. Lud's efforts and courage in the face of long odds are a testament to his indestructible and benevolent human spirit.

Mr. Speaker, we are all terribly saddened by the loss of Lud Washington, but take comfort in the knowledge that our grief is overshadowed only by the legacy of courage, selflessness and love that Lud left with all of us. His life is the very embodiment of all that makes this country great, and I am deeply honored to be able to bring the attention of this body of Congress to his life. Lud Washington will be deeply missed by his family, his friends and the entire community.

TRIBUTE TO HENRY MESSER AND  
CARL HOUSE ON THEIR 50 YEARS  
TOGETHER AND TO THE TRI-  
ANGLE FOUNDATION AND ITS 10  
YEARS OF ACTIVISM

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Triangle Foundation, an organization dedicated to the struggle for dignity, justice, and civil rights in Michigan. I also wish to honor the Triangle Foundation's founder Henry Messer and his partner, Carl House, and acknowledge their continued activism and their 50 years together.

The Triangle Foundation of Michigan has been fighting for the rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) people in Michigan for ten years. Through the work of a dedicated and highly capable staff, the Triangle Foundation has been the leader on GLBT issues in Michigan. Their efforts have helped to enact anti-discrimination laws in many Michigan cities and turn back unfair and unjust policies in others. The Triangle Foundation's energy on the electoral front has given a voice to those who support civil rights initiatives and who understand that discrimination has no place in America.

The Triangle Foundation's dedication to the struggle for civil rights is a testament to the devotion and involvement of Henry Messer and Carl House. As early as the 1950s, they were helping to organize and support GLBT rights movements in New York City. Dr. Messer, who is a retired Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery at the University of Michigan, was also a member of the Mattachine Society, which, founded in 1951, is often considered a beginning force in the contemporary gay rights movement in the U.S.

In the late 1970s, Henry Messer and Carl House moved to Michigan, but did not leave behind their strong ideals and commitment to justice. Instead they continued their strong activism in state and local politics and issues affecting GLBT people. This culminated in 1991 when Henry Messer, with Carl by his side, founded the Triangle Foundation and propelled Michigan into the GLBT rights movement.

Because of the work of Henry Messer, Carl House, the Triangle Foundation, and many others in the struggle, we have come a long way in our efforts to expand civil rights to everyone—but we still have a long way to go. Through continued activism and education, we can and will reach our goals.

SALUTE TO ELLSWORTH AIR  
FORCE BASE

**HON. JOHN R. THUNE**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the men and women of Ellsworth Air Force Base in my home state of South Dakota upon their return home from Afghanistan.

Ellsworth Air Force Base is the home of the 28th Bomb Wing of B-1 bombers and more

than 3,500 military and civilian members. Each of these men and women proudly serve their country in numerous ways every day. And when duty calls, they are ready and willing to stand in harm's way on behalf of their country.

The people of Ellsworth Air Force Base have a history of performing well in U.S. missions. In Operation Desert Fox during the Gulf War, crews from Ellsworth helped the B-1 make its combat debut, and they also participated in Operation Allied Force in Kosovo.

Most recently, B-1 air and ground crews returned to Ellsworth after participating in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. The B-1 and their crews were involved in every aspect of the most precise, intense bombing campaign in history, flattening terrorist targets and taking out Taliban strongholds. These bombers were the key to winning the war in Afghanistan.

I also want to pay tribute to Ellsworth's commander, Brigadier General Edward Rice, Jr., who commanded all B-1 and B-52 operations over the skies of Afghanistan. His recent promotion says more about his value to our nation than any words can say.

Mr. Speaker, the men and women of Ellsworth Air Force Base are tremendous assets to South Dakota and to our country. I am proud of the important role they play both at home and abroad. For all the sophistication of the military hardware in use today, we know it is the individuals, like those at Ellsworth, who truly get the job done.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the men and women of Ellsworth Air Force Base. All of America owes both the B-1 and these people their thanks.

THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
GUAM HILTON RESORT AND SPA

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, Conrad Hilton began his famous career by renting out rooms in the San Antonio adobe house where he grew up. He officially entered the hotel business in 1919 when he took over a small hotel in Cisco, Texas. Today, the name "Hilton" has become synonymous to the word "hotel" with their coast-to-coast operations in the United States as well as in Spain, Turkey, Cuba, Egypt, and many other nations.

As with its sister facilities throughout the world, the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa, now celebrating its thirtieth anniversary, has made an indelible mark on the island's tourism industry as well as the local community. A partner in the island's development, Guam Hilton became the first international deluxe hotel to build facilities on the island in 1972, as Guam's tourism industry was still in its earliest stage. Over the next thirty years, the hotel has expanded its operations at its original location in Tumon Bay, the center of the island's tourist trade. From its initial 250 guest rooms with three food and beverage outlets, the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa is now comprised of three main buildings housing 687 guest rooms along with seven Food and Beverage outlets. Nestled on 32 acres of prime beachfront property, the restaurant facilities within the hotel complex offers health conscious menus which

has recently been added to their unique tropical cuisine.

Sport enthusiasts for years have taken advantage of the Hilton's sports programs and facilities. Their tennis facilities feature five night lighted courts. A variety of programs are available for novices and advanced players along with supervised activities and exercise programs for all ages. A state-of-the-art fitness club with saunas, a water park, jacuzzi, a children's playground and activities room, jogging and walking trails, and a private beach club offering a variety of watersports equipment rental have also been made available to guests. Major tourist attractions, diving, deep-sea fishing and world class golf facilities may also be conveniently arranged through the hotel's tour desk representatives.

A wide range of spa activities, massage therapies, body treatments and salon services complement the sports and leisure activities. Patrons can relax in idyllic surroundings while trained hands of the Mandara spa staff provide soothing services in an unhurried fashion. Professional consultants from the Adventist Medical Services are also available to administer health programs.

On Valentine's Day of 1997, overlooking a spectacular view of the island's most popular spots, Two Lovers Point and Tumon Bay, the first wedding at the newly opened wedding chapel, St. Grace by the Sea was held. Later that year, the hotel's 25th Anniversary was celebrated by the first ever laser light show on Guam with the event's proceeds going to local non-profit organizations such as Guma Mami, the Guam Chapter of the American Cancer Society and the American Red Cross.

For the past three decades, the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa has been a main contributor in the development and progress of the island's tourism industry. Through the years, Hilton has made great contributions and provided innovations that make Guam extraordinary and more appealing to both its residents and visitors. Under the able leadership of Mr. Manfred Pieper, I expect and I am assured that Hilton will continue to build upon its thirty-year legacy. On behalf of the people of Guam, I offer my congratulations to the management and employees of the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa on their 30th anniversary.

ON NIST'S VALUE TO THE COUNTRY  
AND ITS CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. UDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and to its contributions to our national security.

You might have seen NIST in the news lately. Two of my constituents—Dr. Eric Cornell, a researcher at NIST's labs in Boulder, Colorado, and Carl Wieman, a researcher at the University of Colorado—were awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics for their work in creating a new state of matter. The goal of the scientists was to create Bose-Einstein condensation, an extreme state of matter predicted by Indian physicist Satyendra Nath Bose and later expounded upon by Albert Einstein.

I am proud that the work of Dr. Wieman and Dr. Cornell is a result of federally funded research at NIST and at the University of Colorado.

But I am also proud of other work that NIST is doing. I'm including in the record a recent article from the Colorado Daily on NIST's contributions to our homeland security effort. From biometrics and explosives detection to fire-fighting computer modeling tools and new applications for nanotechnology, NIST is playing an important role in bolstering our homeland security.

While NIST is involved in long-term research projects covering all scientific areas, the Institute is also working on security-related projects that will yield more immediate results. As NIST's new director Arden Bement states in the article, "our work is to take technology that's currently ready, make it available, reliable, accurate and a dependable safeguard for the U.S. public."

Commerce Secretary Donald Evans recently praised NIST's relevance to the challenges this country faces, noting that NIST is "one of the real treasures" in the federal government, with a "tremendous track record."

On this, Secretary Evans is exactly right. That's why I hope the Secretary and the rest of the Administration will support my efforts this year to see that NIST gets the funding it deserves and needs.

In particular, funding is needed to address a backlog of critically needed repairs and maintenance at NIST's laboratories in Boulder, Colorado, where a staff of about 530 scientists, engineers, technicians, and visiting researchers conduct research in a wide range of chemical, physical, materials, and information sciences and engineering.

As technology advances, the measurement and standards requirements become more and more demanding, requiring measurement laboratories that are clean, have reliable electric power, are free from vibrations, and maintain constant temperature and humidity. Most of the NIST Boulder labs are 45 years old, many have deteriorated so much that they can't be used for the most demanding measurements needed by industry, and the rest are deteriorating rapidly. Every day these problems go unaddressed means added costs, program delays, and inefficient use of staff time.

Since 1999, I have fought for increased funds for NIST's Boulder labs. I've already begun the fight for FY2003 funding. Along with my colleagues in the Colorado delegation, Sen. ALLARD, Rep. DEGETTE, and Rep. SCHAFER, I sent a letter in December to OMB Director Daniels asking for his help. I am also including this letter in the RECORD today.

[From UPI Science News, Jan. 18, 2002]

COLORADO DAILY—NIST AIDS SECURITY

(By Scott R. Burnell)

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The National Institute of Standards and Technology, the primary physical science research laboratory in the country, is working to give the homeland security effort as much technology as possible, the institute's director said Wednesday.

Arden Bement, who took the reins at NIST in early December, said many security-related programs were underway before Sept. 11. Bement said he currently devotes about 25 percent of his time to the issue.

"Right now, the immediacy of our work is to take technology that's currently ready,

make it available, reliable, accurate and a dependable safeguard for the U.S. public," Bement told reporters. "Our researchers are providing technical support to other agencies . . . we expect this involvement to continue and be amplified in the next few months."

One area NIST researchers are focusing on is biometrics, the science of identifying a person through physical features. Bement said a broad spectrum of applications, including face recognition and retinal scans, is being examined for use in aviation security. One of the technologies should be recommended for widespread use in the next few months, he said.

Another aviation-related area of research involves explosives detection. Researchers are examining the feasibility of an "airflow shower" to capture and identify chemical emissions from explosives or biological agents in carry-on luggage or hidden on a passenger, Bement said.

"We're also (examining) millimeter-wave radiation as a means of detecting any concealed objects on individuals," Bement said.

NIST's computer modeling tools are studying possible ways fire spread through the World Trade Center and contributed to the structure's collapse, Bement said.

"These models are essential to understanding just what temperature the steel experienced," he said. "Such simulations could be used to help train firefighters in judging the likely behavior of future large-scale fires in high-rise buildings."

The results also likely will be incorporated into future building codes, he said. The institute's modeling resources played a key role in verifying that mail possibly infected with anthrax could be sterilized with radiation, he said.

Looking forward, Bement wants to apply his experience with the national power grid toward better safeguards for the vital resource. Electric utilities use disparate systems for collecting and distributing information about power needs, as well as for trading generating capacity among themselves, he said. Standardizing these tools is essential to putting better physical and computer security in front of the industry, he said.

As for the rest of the scientific world, Bement said nanotechnology—the science of physically manipulating matter at the atomic or molecular level—and biotechnology are among the fastest growing areas for commercial development. NIST has to help those industries standardize the tools for accurately measuring the results of their work.

Although this is Bement's first job inside NIST, he has had plenty of experience with the organization as part of several scientific advisory boards. He comes to the directorship from Purdue University, where he headed the School of Nuclear Engineering. He was also director of the Midwest Superconductivity Consortium and the Consortium for the Intelligent Management of the Electrical Power Grid.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

Washington, DC, December 7, 2001.

MITCHELL E. DANIELS, JR.

Director, Office of Management and Budget,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR DIRECTOR DANIELS: As you prepare to finalize budget numbers for fiscal year 2003 for the Commerce Department, we strongly urge you to include funding for needed construction and repairs at the Boulder, Colorado laboratories of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Of the many federal research facilities in Colorado, one of the most impressive is the NIST Boulder laboratory complex. Its national importance was highlighted just recently with the awarding of the Nobel Prize

in physics to scientists from Colorado's NIST laboratories and from JILA, the joint institute of NIST and the University of Colorado.

But to continue to make these important contributions, NIST's Colorado facilities need help. The National Research Council's Board on Assessment of NIST Programs wrote in its FY99 report about "poor air quality, poor temperature and humidity control, excessive vibration and power fluctuations and other deficiencies" at the Boulder facilities, and went on to note that the "methods used to work around these problems contribute to extra cost, program delays, and inefficient use of staff time." NIST's Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology wrote in its 1999 annual report that "Unless NIST has facilities comparable to or better than those of the industry served, it is not possible to provide state-of-the-art assistance . . . at the level of accuracy required."

The current plan for NIST's Construction of Research Facilities program on NIST's 45-year old Boulder, Colorado campus is the culmination of a long and thorough effort to ensure that NIST keeps pace with advances in science and technology and the requirements of the country for advanced technical measurements and standards.

The first steps to complete several urgently needed construction and major renovation projects include construction of a central utility plant, construction of a new primary electrical service, the partial renovation of Building 4, the design for the renovation of the main building on campus, Building 1, and the renovation of wings 3 and 4 of this building. Additional renovations and construction needs to Building I (wings 5 and 6), Building 24, and cleanroom facilities in Boulder will be needed in future years to meet the growing scientific requirements placed on these aging facilities.

To begin implementing this plan, we urge that the FY2003 budget include:

Central Utility Plant (\$29.7 million)—would supply filtered power, heating, and cooling to all laboratory buildings on the site. An October 1998 study reviewed and updated previous studies of problems with the Boulder laboratories and confirmed that the most effective way to solve them was to build a centralized utility plant and HVAC distribution System at a cost of \$29.7 million. The plant will by no means solve all of the campus's environmental control problems. None of these other problems, however, can be solved cost-effectively without a new central plant.

New Primary Electrical Service (\$5.4 million)—The NIST Boulder campus experiences frequent power outages and power spikes due to the remaining overhead power lines. Loss of power, even for a few seconds, can cause some research projects requiring long data collection times to have to be completely repeated. Voltage drops can cause delicate microscope probes to crash into expensive samples or produce inaccurate measurement readings lowering the quality of data. NIST plans to alleviate its power continuity and power quality problems by constructing an underground power conduit. Congress appropriated \$500 thousand for the design of this project in FY 2001 budget.

Design and Limited Renovation of Building 4 (\$3.7 million), Renovation Design of Building 1 (\$9.1 million), and Renovation of Wing 3 and 4 of Building 1 (\$12.5 million)—Despite the fact that Boulder's Building I is nearly 50 years old, it can still provide quality research space if major renovation is undertaken. The basic building layout of six largely independent on-grade wings provides a large amount of low vibration research space. Most of the building's current vibration problems are caused by aging and poorly

located mechanical systems. These problems can be reduced by planned building renovations that will add service corridors along the sides or ends of the building to house and distribute mechanical services.

NIST has played a critical role in helping build this country's science and technology infrastructure and is poised to contribute to even greater advances in the 21st century. We urge your support to help ensure NIST has the tools it needs to do this vital work.

Thank you for consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

MARK UDALL,  
Member of Congress.  
BOB SCHAFFER,  
Member of Congress.  
WAYNE ALLARD,  
U.S. Senate.  
DIANNA DEGETTE,  
Member of Congress.

TRIBUTE TO WORLD SABBATH  
DAY OF RELIGIOUS RECONCILI-  
ATION

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize World Sabbath Day and the hope for religious peace and justice that I believe it will bring. I strongly believe that religious prejudice and violence have no place in our world, and I feel that only through education and tolerance can we make a difference.

This is why World Sabbath Day and the work of Reverend Rodney Reinhart and Reverend Ed Mullins are so important to expanding compassion and freedom in our world. Through the communication and honesty that is brought forth from people of different faiths, we learn about each other, and how to respect our differences.

What World Sabbath Day represents, and what Reverend Reinhart and Reverend Mullins know so well, is that religious persecution of any type should not be tolerated or condoned anywhere. One of the fundamental tenets upon which our country was founded was the freedom to choose one's religion. I believe that we as a nation have a moral obligation to uphold that principle at home as well as abroad. The United States needs to be more aggressive in promoting tolerance of religious minorities throughout the world.

Reverend Reinhart and Reverend Mullins know this, and they have been to Africa, the United Nations, and several other places in North America to promote World Sabbath Day. And although there is much work to be done to end religious bigotry and hatred, World Sabbath Day is a good start.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HENRY  
SALAZAR

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I rise today to pay tribute to the passing of a great man from the state of Colo-

rado. Henry Salazar passed away on December 22, 2001 after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. Henry was 85 years old, and as his family and friends mourn his passing, I would like to draw attention to his good deeds and accomplishments throughout his life.

Henry was known as a hardworking and compassionate man who valued education over wealth during his entire life. His eight children were raised with high religious morals, encouraged to receive an education, maintained their integrity, and served the citizens of their community. Seven children, fourteen grandchildren, and his dedicated and loving wife, Emma, survive Henry.

Henry carried on in the family tradition as a rancher on his family's homestead in Los Rincones, Colorado. The homestead has been a part of the Salazar family since the 1850s also a pillar of the San Luis Valley community for over a century. Throughout his life, Henry was dedicated to his community and nation. He served in the army during World War II, attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant. After the war, he worked as a rancher and farmer and served in the Colorado Port of Entry. His community efforts included preservation of local landmarks, most notably the preservation of the Los Cerritos Cemetery where he will be buried. I personally met and spoke to Henry on a number of occasions, including a little over a year ago when Henry spoke at the kick-off ceremony to make the Great Sand Dunes a national park, an undertaking which was greatly appreciated by everyone in the community and in the state. Every time I met with him or his family I felt fortunate.

Mr. Speaker, Henry Salazar was a great and noble man who deserves the recognition and praise by this body of Congress. It is always a sad moment when a loved one passes away from our lives. Henry Salazar was a loved and compassionate man who went out of his way to improve the lives of all those he touched. Those who remember him for his kind words and the good deeds will certainly mourn his passing. My heart goes out to his family and friends during this time of remembrance and bereavement. We'll miss you Henry.

REMEMBERING DEAN L. ANTHONY  
SUTIN

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember Dean Anthony Sutin who was taken from us in a senseless act of violence at Appalachian Law School on January 16, 2002. Dean Sutin was a renowned legal scholar and public servant who was an invaluable partner to me on judiciary issues while he worked at the Department of Justice. I first met him while he was working on community policing in the Attorney General's office in 1994. I admired his dedication to his tireless work on a program that has impacted the lives of so many Americans.

While I could not do justice to Anthony Sutin's memory by simply reciting all of his many accomplishments, a few highlights deserve notice. Dean Sutin graduated summa

cum laude in 1981 from Brandeis University. He received his law degree in 1984 from Harvard, where he served as assistant editor for the Harvard Environmental Law Review and the Harvard Journal on Legislation.

Before joining the Justice Department, he worked as a partner in the Washington, D.C. law firm of Hogan & Hartson, L.L.P. At the Department, he served as Deputy Director and General Counsel of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) from 1994 to 1997. As a testament to his outstanding leadership in this area, in its first year alone, COPS resulted in a three percent national decrease in violent crime.

From January 1997 to April 1998 Dean Sutin served as Deputy Associate Attorney General and Chief of Staff to the Associate Attorney General. He was then appointed by Attorney General Reno to serve as Acting Assistant Attorney General for Legislative Affairs where he worked until November 1998. It was during this historic period in which my staff and I interacted with Dean Sutin on a regular basis.

During his tenure as the head of legislative affairs, Anthony Sutin provided invaluable legal insight to the Judiciary Committee on the historic impeachment debate. During this uncomfortable period in our Nation's history, he was a stabilizing force in communication between the Clinton Administration and Congress. It was also during this period in which he worked with Congress on a number of crime-related issues such as gun control, community policing and hate crimes legislation.

Dean Sutin was lured away from Washington at the height of his career to pursue his dream of teaching law in a small community where he could closely interact with his students and other faculty. As dean of the growing Appalachian Law School, he cultivated ambition and hope in southwest Virginia's struggling coal-mining region.

Even more noteworthy than his academic and professional accomplishments was Dean Sutin's reputation as a kind and compassionate man who dedicated his life to raising his family, teaching his students and serving the country. Shortly before his death, he and his wife Margaret Lawton visited China and adopted a 14-month-old girl. I would like Clara and her brother Henry to know that I was proud to know and work with a man that dedicated his career in public service to making America a safer place for them to grow up and live.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT K. KRICK

**HON. GARY G. MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and honor the accomplishments of Robert K. Krick of Fredericksburg, VA.

Bob was raised in central California. He attended college there, and later earned a graduate degree at San Jose State University. Fascinated with military history—in particular the American Civil War in Virginia—he joined the National Park Service in 1966, hoping it would become a gateway to the sites he admired. After working at the Fort McHenry National Monument and Fort Necessity National

Battlefield, he moved to Fredericksburg, Virginia in 1972. Bob has been the Chief Historian at Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park ever since.

After nearly 30 years of work, his reputation is largely based on two things: his prolific career as a writer and his work as a battlefield preservationist. Bob's first published article appeared in 1973. Since then he has produced almost a dozen books, most of them devoted to the history of individuals and sites associated with the Civil War battles in the East. His published articles, book reviews, and related material number in the hundreds.

He also has considerable experience and success as a Civil War battlefield preservationist. In the 1980's he was a co-founder and vice-president of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites—a group that has evolved from an earnest local organization that met in its members' living rooms into a powerful national presence that saves thousands of battlefield acres annually. Bob has been especially active in protecting historic acreage around Fredericksburg, where the size of the national park increased significantly during his tenure, helping maintain the integrity of these hallowed battlefields and preserving our history for future generations.

I recently had the distinct privilege of viewing the battlefield site in Fredericksburg with Bob. His insight and passion for his work left me captivated. His riveting stories of the small events that turned the tide and determined the final outcome of this battle left me feeling as if these events were actually unfolding before my eyes. It is this zest that Bob has brought to the Park Service for the last thirty years that will have an impact for generations to come. His legacy will be to have passed this knowledge and appreciation to scores of other Americans, who, in turn, will pass it along to their loved ones. Nearly one half of the country's Civil War battlefield parks presently have historians who learned their trade at Fredericksburg while Bob was the chief historian. In retirement his influence will carry on. The Park Service, and indeed our nation, will miss his service.

I would like to wish my friend the very best upon his retirement from the National Park Service.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE SEPTEMBER 11TH VICTIM COMPENSATION FUND FAIRNESS ACT

**HON. MARGE ROUKEMA**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Fairness Act, which makes an essential change to the provisions of the September 11th Victim Compensation fund in order to justly compensate the thousands of families whose loved ones died in the attack on our nation. Specifically, this legislation will repeal the collateral compensation provision of the September 11th Victims Compensation Fund. The current provision requires the Special Master to reduce the amount of federal compensation by the amount of other compensation the family has received, including life insurance and pension benefits. This provi-

sion resulted in unintended consequences that will negatively affect many of the victims' families.

Our Nation is faced with a difficult challenge. Thousands of American families are trying to recover from the horrible loss of their loved ones on September 11th. As a Congress, we have pledged our support to these families, including providing compensation to them for the tremendous sacrifice made by their loved ones. We did this because we recognized that our assistance was essential in helping families recover.

However, the tragic events of this day left us in uncharted territory and we moved forward quickly as a Congress to enact laws to help these families. We must be sure that what we enacted in the days immediately following September 11th provides the best assistance possible to these families who have suffered so much.

The September 11th Victims Compensation Fund was created in the Air Transportation Safety and Stabilization Act, which was enacted on September 22, 2001. This was a mere 11 days after our country suffered the deadliest attack in its history. The Victim Compensation Fund was designed to aid these families fairly and justly. Unfortunately, the full implications of the collateral compensation provision in this fund have only recently become clear. As the regulations of the fund are developed and families receive compensation estimates, many are realizing that they will receive little if any federal support.

I do not believe that this is what Congress intended. Congress created this Fund to compensate families for their losses on September 11th. But because of a provision that reduces the total compensation by the amount of pension benefits and life insurance received, the very families we set out to help have the potential to receive nothing from the Nation's fund. That is not only unfair but also unacceptable. The Victim Compensation Fund inadvertently created a loophole and it is our responsibility to correct it.

The men and women who purchased life insurance or accrued pension funds did so to provide for the future of their families. We must properly and justly compensate families for the sacrifice that their loved ones made for our country. We cannot turn our back on our fellow Americans.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

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PAYING TRIBUTE TO RUDY RUDIBAUGH

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Mr. Rudy Rudibaugh and recognize his contributions to this nation. Now a resident of Parlin, Colorado, Rudy began his service as a sailor during World War II when he joined the Navy and served in the Pacific Theatre. During his tour, Rudy was involved in five allied invasions, including the invasion and subsequent liberation of the Philippines.

Rudy was assigned to Underwater Demolition Team 10, serving as a "frogman" or com-

bat swimmer. As a member of the team, Rudy was a demolition expert assigned to demolish obstacles that would prevent the landing of allied forces on Japanese controlled islands. Rudy's exploits as a frogman were recently brought to light by the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization. A recent surprise ceremony highlighted a mission on the island of Peleliu in the Palau Island Nation chain. It was here that Rudy, along with several UDT demolition experts, cleared underwater obstacles and traps opening a path for occupation of the island by United States Marine forces.

Although Rudy will not brag, he was recently awarded the Bronze Star for his service as a frogman, as well as the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, the Philippine Liberation Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal. The surprise ceremony took place at the Colorado Outfitters Convention in Gunnison, Colorado. Rudy and his wife Deb, currently reside in the town of Parlin, where he serves as a local outfitter.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to recognize Rudy before this body of Congress and thank him for his dedicated service during the war. If it were not for servicemen such as Rudy, America would not enjoy the many freedoms that we have today. He served selflessly in a time of great need, bringing credit to himself and to this great nation. Thanks Rudy for your service.

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READY, WILLING, AND NO LESS  
ABLE: VETERANS WITH PHYSICAL  
CHALLENGES WINNING IN  
THE COMPETITION FOR LIFE

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, despite the tragedy of September 11th, last year's Veterans Braintrust, an event that has become one of the traditional highlights of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Legislative Conference was a somber occasion. As we commenced the event at a time when our country had experienced one of the more tragic events in its history. We paused for a moment to remember those who lives were lost as we convened for this family affair. While we didn't know what kind of turn out we would get after the terrible disaster we call "911." We want to thank veterans for coming and always giving such tremendous support and participation for veteran's issues and concerns nationally. But last year especially we really appreciated veteran advocates coming that morning.

This Braintrust brought veterans and their families together from throughout the country and gave us an opportunity to discuss critical issues affecting veterans with physical disabilities such as voting rights; wheelchair accessibility; community based care; family support; reasonable employment and expanding entrepreneurial opportunities. Minister Clyde E. Sims of the True Light Baptist Church gave the invocation and I had the very special honor to bring up Ms. Melba Moore, Recording Artist and Tony Award winner who sang

'God Bless America.' Then Hon. SANFORD BISHOP, JR. (D-GA) co-sponsor introduced our keynote speaker who exemplified our theme Ready, Willing, and No Less Able: Sen. MAX CLELAND, Georgia's Senior Senator, disabled Vietnam combat veteran, and former VA Administrator. A hard fighter in defense of veterans programs and services that many African Americans risk their lives to earn. Sen. CLELAND noted, approximately 300,000 to 400,000 Vietnam veterans came back who were wounded from combat. But, the physical wounds healed up fairly quickly. However, then the emotional aftermath began to set in. Quite frankly, it was that emotional aftermath that he had to deal with, and sometimes still deals with decades later. By 1978 we gave it a name PTSD.

Equally important, he said, America's veterans have always taken care of this country, but this country has not always taken care of our veterans. So we are grateful for this burst of national euphoria we haven't seen since Pearl Harbor, and we want to take advantage of this flurry of interest in veterans. Particularly, Tom Brokaw's book, the "Greatest Generation" about WWII and now HBO's special "Band of brothers." However, the truth of the matter is anybody who has ever served in the military, they are "Our Band of Brothers and Sisters," and we must look at it that way! Afterward Braintrust members Mr. Morocco Coleman, Executive Committee member and Mr. Clyde Poag, MSW made a special presentation as a token of our appreciation to Sen. CLELAND, and it read from the entire body of the Congress Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust in recognition of your outstanding leadership, dedication, and commitment to all veterans on September 28, 2001. As the former Team Leader of the Grand Rapids Vet Center Program and Past Chairman of the National African American Veterans Working Group, Clyde who recently retired from the DVA, thanked him on behalf of all veterans who have received services from the Vet Center Program, and on behalf of all its very dedicated employees, he said to us you will always be Mr. Secretary.

Next Mr. Anthony Hawkins, Acting Director of the Center for Minority Veterans, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, our forum moderator speaking from the heart remarked that it is extremely important that Congress keeps focused on the needs of our veterans, because if we don't care for our veterans, we can not expect our children to go forth 'in harms way' and defend America. Only to come back and be treated as second-class citizens. With that said, he introduced our distinguished panelist Hope Cooper, Larry Hughes, Pastor Jerry Cochran, George Brummel, Alvin Jones, Lee Williams, Judge Hughey Walker, and Robert Coward. Although, there were many, many very touching, or compelling stories the common truth for all of us was 'the importance of family and friends.' Because we all have to take responsibility for each other, particularly when anybody goes into the hospital, because if you don't have somebody to look out for you, you don't get good treatment! In closing, Hon. CHARLES RANGEL (D-NY), Dean of the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust expressed his deep abiding appreciation for the camaraderie that veterans have displayed year after year not only to the CBC, but to their comrades who can't make it to Washington, DC.

He said, you can feel it where ever you go that you say, to this great nation don't ever forget those people of African descent that have really fought for this great country of ours.

Later that evening the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust held its 13th annual reception and awards ceremony with the gracious assistance of Mr. Wayne Gatewood, Jr., a Vietnam veteran and owner of Quality Support, Inc., an SBA 8(a) Vietnam veterans owned firm. Whereby, we honored those who made the freedom we enjoy possible. The brave men and women who laid their lives on the line for a country that all too often treated them as second-class citizens.

Then it was my great pleasure to introduce the night's keynote speaker Gordon Mansfield, the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Legislative Affairs at the Department of Veterans Affairs, or the point man for the department's legislative agenda. He graciously thanked the Veterans Braintrust for inviting him to speak because many of the award recipients are his good friends. He also praised the work we have done on the part of all veterans regardless of race, gender, religion, or disability; and next took this opportunity to introduce, for the first time in Washington, DC, Mr. Del McNeal, the new Executive Director of Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA). Mr. McNeal is a combat-injured Vietnam veteran, who has been a member of PVA since the 1970's and served as the Executive Director of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter since 1991.

More importantly, Assistant Secretary Mansfield focused on four key words and they were: Able, Veterans, Challenges and Winning. This focus was done within the purpose of creating a dialogue between the veteran's community, and lawmakers, which can develop into policies that enhance the quality of life for all our nation's veterans. However, winning was the key to his presentation for the night. He stated we know from scientific studies that everyone with a catastrophic disability goes through a number of phases "Anger, Avoidance, Denial, Understanding, and Acceptance." Yet, as you work your way through these stages, you have the opportunity to direct yourself on a path towards winning, or to resign yourself to the unhappy life of being a loser. Although, some days and even some years have been worse than others there are some common threads that contribute toward each of our choosing the winning path. One of the keys to this success has been veterans training, knowledge of teamwork, and group support contributing to reaching goals. Thus, veterans training and consequently learning to deal with adversity and to focus on the mission, or become outcome-oriented were a significantly positive factor. Other threads were hospital rehabilitation time with fellow veterans (or peers) facing similar challenges contributed in a positive manner to his progress, and linking-up with similar minded individuals, as well as having an opportunity to work and to give back to other disabled veterans and disabled people generally. Finally, he asked for our support in efforts to continue the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA's) work as a leader in the United States and throughout the world in providing rehabilitation assistance and saluted what we have accomplished.

This years Braintrust awards were given to the following exceptional African Americans and veterans who are physically challenged;

rehabilitation services providers; supportive personal, home and community care providers and disability advocates: Associate Minister Clyde Sims, Jr.; Larry Hughes; Lee Williams; Hope Cooper; Pastor Jerry Cochran; Alvin Roberts; George Brummel; Judge Hughey Walker; Robert Coward, Jr.; John Walker, MSW; Leon Wilson, MSW; Odell Brown; Dr. Wilbert Tatum; William 'Bill' Demby; Webster Anderson; Kater Cornwell; Carl Brashear; Oliver Kuykendall; Robert Mountain; Winnie Jackson; Staff Sgt. Hilliard Carter; Thomas Duncan, Jr.; Robert White; Dr. Paul Cooke; Robert Muller; Edween Jackson; Tom Brown; Eugene Tatum, Sr.; Henry Tillman, III; Terence Goodman; Horace Grace; Jack Marshall; Henry Verner; the National Veterans Wheelchair Games; Department of Rehabilitation, Social Work & Addictions University of North Texas (UNT); Disabled Business Persons Association (DBA); Roosevelt Institute (Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation); World T.E.A.M. Sports; The Rural Institute, University of Montana; Center for Research on Women with Disabilities; and Howard University Research and Training Center for Access to Rehabilitation and Economic Opportunity.

Further, I would like to acknowledge the following individuals and groups for their support: Dr. Ura Jean Oyemade Bailey, Arthur Barham, Robert Blackwell, Ethel Briggs, Constance Burns, Pastor Jerry Cochran, Morocco Coleman, DC Center for Independent Living, Rusty Denman III, Eastern Paralyzed Veterans of America (EPVA), Rep. Lane Evans (D-IL), Venessa K. Franklin, Wayne Gatewood, Jr., Sgt. Maj. Isaac Gillard, Jr., USMC, Ret., Eddie Glenn, Ph.D. Doctoral Fellow, Anthony Hawkins, Dr. Charles Johnson, Col. Clarence Johnson, USAF, Dr. William Lawson, Paul Leung, Ph.D., James Love, Roy Martin, Sandra McClellan, Ruby Miller, Minority Veterans of Texas (MVT), Singer Melba Moore, Delores Monye, National Council on Disabilities (NCD), Jan Northstar, Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), Col. Pete Peterson, USA, Ret., Clyde Poag, MSW, Bay Area Western PVA, Eda Robinson, Janet Sims-Wood, Ph.D., Wayne Smith, Wallace Terry, Clifton Toulson, University Legal Services, Marilyn Valiant, Alexander Vernon, Dr. Sylvia Walker, Dr. Celia Williamson, Joann Williams, Julius Williams, Michael Handy, and Rev. Arthur Wright.

Let me also say, as Ranking Democratic member of the House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, I have been on the House committee for ten years, or my entire time in Congress. I am on the committee because I feel it's the right thing to do. And as we prepare for war, I remind my colleagues we cannot forget the men and women that have already paid their dues while serving this great country. During each Veterans Day (which is my birthday) we wrap ourselves in the flag. But how you can really tell, how much we love and support veterans are how we treat you in the budget! So as a female giving you some love, it's not the words, it's the deeds. Consequently, I work very hard to make sure we honor our nation's obligation by being here to listen to your concerns and find out how we can make things better for you. So in this heightened time of patriotism that we are concentrating on the military, the example is how we treat the people who have already served, or been through it. So I am committed to make sure that we honor our words with our deeds. We have a

contract with our veterans and we have to make sure that the check that was written never comes up insufficient funds!

Lastly, I would like to thank Ron Armstead, Executive Director who was instrumental in putting together this Braintrust. And I would certainly be remiss without thanking the members of our Congressional staffs Jolanda Williams, Daisy Hannah, Beverly Gilyard, and Nick Martinelli who worked so hard to make this event a success. Again thank you.

GOD is good, all the time. All the time, GOD is good.

And GOD Bless America.

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### 30 YEARS LATER: REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF BLOODY SUNDAY

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#### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in remembering one of the most tragic days in the history of Northern Ireland. It was on January 30, 1972, that British soldiers opened fire in a brutal show of force against Irish Catholic protesters which left 13 dead and a number of others wounded. Following the example of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the demonstrators had been engaged in a peaceful protest against a repressive system which deprived them of basic rights in their own country.

As a member of the House International Relations Committee who has visited Northern Ireland a number of times to monitor the Orange Order parades and document civil rights violations against the Catholic residents of Garvaghy Road, I understand the historical roots of the conflict and the intense passions of those on both sides of the divide.

The tragic events of September 11th in our own Nation have drawn us closer to the people of Northern Ireland and other countries where fear of violence and personal harm is a fact of daily life.

As we stand in solidarity with the people of Northern Ireland, I believe the United States should do everything in our power to ensure the success of the peace process which was moved forward through the work of former President Clinton's special envoy, Senator George Mitchell.

In order to continue progressing towards a future of peace and reconciliation, it is important that the disturbing questions of the past be put to rest. Therefore, the new investigation into Bloody Sunday must be far-reaching and complete. There remains a strong sense of outrage regarding the original inquiry into Bloody Sunday, when Lord Widgery's probe hastily concluded that the violence against unarmed civilians was justified.

Mr. Speaker, the history of our nation is intertwined with that of Northern Ireland, and it is fitting that as we remember the victims of Bloody Sunday and their families, we continue to support the cause of peace and justice in Northern Ireland.

IN HONOR OF HORACE SMITH

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Horace Smith from my home State of Ohio who in many ways exemplifies the qualities of our great citizens. Horace Smith was a man greatly committed to our community and its people.

Mr. Smith, born August 12, 1917 in Knoxville, Tennessee, moved to the area 45 years ago. Among his honorable achievements, Mr. Smith received numerous awards as a Staff Sergeant serving in the U.S. Army during World War II. He received the medal for Good Conduct, the American Theater Medal, and Four Bronze Stars.

Horace Smith was dedicated to his job at Virden Lighting For 20 years before retiring in 1978. In addition to his strong dedication to his job, he committed his time to numerous organizations in Cleveland. Mr. Smith was a devoted member of the Morning Star Baptist church where he served as both a Trustee and Leader of Boy Scout Troupe No. 436. Furthermore, he was a member of the 32nd Degree Mason, the Shriners King Solomon Lodge No. 18, and Bezaleel Consistory No. 15.

While serving the people of Cleveland as their mayor, I was honored to have Mr. Smith as a member of the Cleveland Planning Commission. He served Cleveland in countless ways including over 30 years as Precinct Committeeman 8-B, a member of the Cuyahoga County), Democratic Party Executive Committee, and a member of the board of Directors of Glenville Y.M.C.A. Mr. Smith also volunteered his time with other local officials during political campaigns including former Congressman Louis Stokes, former Mayor Carl Stokes, and former Mayor Michael White. It has been a great honor for all of us to work with Horace Smith.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life of Staff Sergeant Horace Smith, a highly honored man devoted to our community for over 45 years. His achievements and service to the community, have earned him great respect by his family and all of us in the community.

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#### HILLIARD DELIVERS "STATE OF RURAL AMERICA" SPEECH BEFORE PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS

#### HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, The State of Rural America is akin to most third world countries. I see poverty everywhere. The Alabama Black Belt, the Mississippi Delta and many reservations, are suffering in far greater degrees than the rest of America in this economic recession.

Agricultural America is suffering in a far greater degree than the rest of the nation. During the Great Depression of 1929, the Deep South suffered earlier than other parts of the nation and more severely.

The reasons for this suffering in rural America are many, but the lack of jobs and economic infrastructure are the primary reasons. Most Americans who live on small farms do not get their income primarily from them—they get it from jobs in the cities and towns, and there are too few jobs in rural areas, and when they exist, they tend to pay poorly.

To deal with this long-time suffering, Congress needs to concentrate on rural development like never before. We need to create increased incentives to bring industry and jobs to rural America. We must realize that small farmers and independent producers recycle wealth into their communities, while large, absentee farmers may not. Investments made in small and independent farmers and businesses stay in the rural areas and grow.

We need to increase educational opportunities there, so that the children do not hit dead ends in their development. We need to see that the children get fully nutritional meals—it is one of the cruelest ironies and greatest injustices in America that the children of farmers are often undernourished.

We need to increase programs that support cooperative arrangements between farmers, making them more sustainable as they work together, purchase and sell together.

Rural areas need micro-loans—they have small economies and the businesses are small. However, we need to make the micro-loans more usable, and the Small Business Administration's micro-loan program needs to be expanded to make the loans available up to \$50,000, rather than the \$35,000 cap, which is presently active.

The 8A program of the Small Business Administration has been essential in supporting business development in rural areas. It is in danger of being destroyed by the present administration, which has already published proposed rules which will make it unusable. We absolutely must defend the 8A program!"

#### NUTRITION

"The Food Stamp Program is one that provides a market to many farmers and nutrition to many poor people. The current minimum of \$10 is too low, and shows a lack of concern for the hungry Americans who live in the richest nation in the world. People on Food Stamps should get at the very least \$120.00 per month.

Further, the Food Stamp Program must be extended to legal immigrants. These workers are legally here, they contribute not only labor but also pay taxes to the American economy, and they should be able to access sufficient food for themselves and their children.

The Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) should be funded sufficiently to meet the needs of the pregnant women and infants in this nation—this means that it must not be flat-funded in this recession, but expanded. However, the diet it provides, while necessary, is not sufficient in all ways, and is supplemented efficiently by the farmers market nutrition program, which makes available fresh fruits and vegetables necessary for the healthy development of our next generation. It must not be cut to make it seem that food stamps are being maintained.

Finally, we must deal with the crisis affecting black farmers. In 1910, at the worst of times for black Americans since slavery, 100,000 black farmers were landowners. Today there are only about 10,000 farms owned by black farmers—a drop of 90%! We

are finding that states have collaborated with rich farmers and with banks to scam black farmers out of their land, and Congress must deal with this. Not only must it cease, but farmers who have been cheated must be made whole. This is no worse than armed robbery!

Despite the settlement of the Black farmers class action lawsuit, *Pigford vs. Glickman*, which has cost the USDA millions to date. The Department is still making payments and civil rights violations still persist at the Department of Agriculture.

Little or nothing has been done to see to it that the discriminatory practices which led to this lawsuit have ended.

The administration has failed to hold the USDA accountable to producers, to the American people and to Congress. This must be fully resolved, and Congress should make sure that it is resolved.

I think our farmers are heroic, especially our small farmers. But they need more reliable allies, and Congress must join the battle fully. Our food, our children, and our Nation demand it."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GOVERNOR  
JOHN LOVE

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to and recognize the passing of a great statesman and national leader. On January 21, 2002, former Colorado Governor John Love, a leader and pillar of the State of Colorado and this nation, passed from us during the night at the age of 86. To many Coloradans, Governor Love will be remembered as a great statesman, but to those who knew him best, he will be remembered as John, a caring and kind soul always willing to lend a helping hand. I would like to take this opportunity, before this body today, to highlight Governor Love's many years of service to this nation.

Born in Illinois, John Love's family came to Colorado in 1919, settling in the city of Colorado Springs. Following high school, he entered the University of Denver, earning a bachelors and law degree by 1941. While the escalation of World War II waged on, John answered his country's call to service and joined the armed forces as a naval aviator. His exemplary service and courage in battle were rewarded with several Air Medals and two Distinguished Flying Crosses, the highest award bestowed to aviators in the arena of flight. Following the war, John returned to Colorado with his wife Ann, whom he married in 1942, and opened a private law practice.

In the years following the war, John stayed active in local politics, served as a member of the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and the GOP Central Committee. Dissatisfied with Colorado's chief executive, and having no political office experience, John considered a bid to run for governor. In 1962, John entered the Colorado gubernatorial race and ran as the "citizen's governor" with a platform of growing the state economy and increasing educational opportunities. He defeated incumbent Steve Nichols, and became Colorado's 36th Governor.

During his three terms as Governor, John was responsible for increasing public support for secondary and higher education, improving health care, reducing state income taxes, eliminating the state property tax, and implementing economic policies that resulted in record growth for the state economy. His efforts drew national attention, resulting in an appointment to Director of the Energy Policy Office for the Nixon Administration, an office that would later become the Department of Energy.

Mr. Speaker, John Love was a great servant and patriot of this nation. His tenure as Governor, role as energy director, and self-sacrifice to defend his nation clearly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress and the thanks of a grateful nation. It has always been known that his greatest passion was his love and dedication to his family. John Love is survived by sons Dan and Andy, and daughter Becky. Ann, his wife and companion for over fifty years, passed from us in 1999. It is with a solemn heart that we say goodbye and pay our respects to a great statesman, and a patriarch of the State of Colorado. John Love dedicated his life to improving the lives of his fellow Americans, and he will be greatly missed.

TRIBUTE TO MR. GEORGE H.  
SCHNARRE

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. George H. Schnarre for his service as the President of the San Bernardino Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Schnarre is an individual of great distinction, and we join with his colleagues, family and friends in honoring his remarkable service to the San Bernardino community. He has truly achieved the American dream while retaining a firm commitment to his community exemplified by his work with the Chamber of Commerce.

George Schnarre was born during the Great Depression to Missouri sharecroppers. In the 1940's the Schnarre family migrated to California setting down roots in the San Bernardino area. After graduating from San Bernardino High School, George began studies at Valley College, but they were cut short by the Korean War. George Schnarre answered the call of duty joining the United States Navy as a dental technician. Upon the completion of his duty to his country, George returned to his studies at the University of California at Riverside while working part time in the grocery business. Thus began George's career in the Southern California business community.

While working his way up in the grocery industry, George Schnarre earned his real estate license. After moving back to his roots in San Bernardino, George entered the real estate business full time. Eventually George began his own real estate firm, George H. Schnarre Inc. Real Estate. Over time George's firm grew to encompass 13 offices.

While George built his real estate firm, he always made sure there was time to serve his community and his industry at the local, state

and national levels. He obtained lifetime credentials to teach any real estate subject at the Community College level. Among numerous activities within the community, George participated in area little league and girls softball leagues, and is an active Rotarian, Mason, Shriner, and member of the San Bernardino Elks. George Schnarre's dedication to the community and expertise in the business culminated in his service as Director of the San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce as well as on four other local Chambers.

George Schnarre is not only a business and community leader, he is also a family man. We are joined in recognizing the accomplishments of this outstanding individual by his wife, Claudia A. Schnarre, son George W. Schnarre, daughter Cindy Schnarre Healy and grandson David Jones.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I join George's loving family, recognizing George's long and distinguished career in real estate, and we express admiration for his service to the San Bernardino Area Chamber of Commerce.

HONORING DAVE THOMAS

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, "the man who really counts in the world is the doer," President Theodore Roosevelt once wrote, "not the man who only talks or writes about how it ought to be done." Dave Thomas was the definition of a doer. He was one of the youngest soldiers to manage an Enlisted Men's Club for the U.S. Army, and his innate business acumen led to success after success, making him a millionaire by the time he turned thirty-five.

But truly successful people do not hoard their earnings or ignore the pain of others. Dave Thomas believed in civic responsibility and eagerly involved himself in the communities he called home. In Columbus, Ohio, where he founded Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburgers in 1969, Mr. Thomas supported financially and morally the Children's Hospital, Recreation Unlimited, and the Ohio State University Cancer Research Institute.

I worked with Dave Thomas to further the mission of the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, on whose Professional Advisory Board I have served since 1996. Located in Memphis, Tennessee, St. Jude was founded by Danny Thomas in 1962. It is one of the world's leading centers of research and treatment for life-threatening childhood illnesses, particularly cancer. Remarkably, no child pays for St. Jude's services. The American Lebanese Syrian Associated Charities raise the funds to cover all costs of patient care.

Dave Thomas served six productive years on the St. Jude's Boards of Directors and Governors, from 1978-81 and from 1994-97. Richard C. Shadyiac, Sr., St. Jude's National Executive Director, "recalled him as a very close personal friend of Danny Thomas." Mr. Shadyiac went on to say that "Mr. Thomas made major contributions and stock gifts to St. Jude's, especially in its early, formative years."

Most Americans know Dave Thomas from his television commercials. They embody his easy demeanor and engaging personality. Not

many captains of industry would return to high school, as Dave Thomas did in 1993, to earn a diploma forty-five years after leaving school to work full time. Fewer still would have the grace and humor to attend the prom. Dave Thomas lived a life of purpose and action. He was devoted to his family, committed to his business, and endlessly generous with his time and wealth.

HONORING THE METROPOLITAN HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GERALD NICELY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. BOB CLEMENT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gerald Nicely, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency (MDHA) in Nashville on the occasion of his retirement after more than thirty years of service to Metropolitan/Davidson County Tennessee Government.

I consider Mr. Nicely a longtime friend and have had the opportunity to work with him on housing issues for Tennesseans a number of times. One of the most important projects we worked on together was securing significant federal funding for the revitalization of the Vine Hill Homes through the HOPE VI funding effort. Additionally, our continued cooperation resulted in millions of federal housing dollars being allocated to Middle Tennessee for numerous programs and housing improvements.

His accomplishments include outstanding leadership overseeing key downtown projects such as construction of Adelphia Stadium, the new downtown library, the Country Music Hall of Fame, the convention center, Frist Center for the Visual Arts and Gaylord Entertainment Center Arena. He also directed renovations at the historic Ryman Auditorium and the revitalization of the Riverfront Park area. These marked improvements under Nicely's direction have resulted in the highest praise from his peers and residents of the community as well as awards on the local, state, and national levels.

A native of East Tennessee, Gerald Nicely received his bachelor and masters degrees in Economics from the University of Tennessee. The Metropolitan Planning Commission hired him as Staff Economist in 1968, and by 1979, he was promoted to Director of the Housing Development Division, beginning a twenty-two year run managing MDHA. His tenure as director was interrupted only once, in 1993–1994, when he was named Chief of Staff for then Nashville Mayor Phil Bredesen.

Nicely has always believed in giving back to the community through attendance and service on various boards and civic organizations. For instance, he currently serves as founding board member of the Nashville Housing Fund and the Nashville Homestead Corporation; as charter board member of the Frist Center for the Visual Arts and Affordable Housing of Nashville, Inc.; and on the board of the Metropolitan Action Commission. A past president of the Public Housing Authorities Directors Asso-

ciation, today he serves as trustee for that organization. Additionally, he served two terms on the board of the Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA).

Membership in civic organizations includes the Downtown Rotary Club of Nashville; the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce; the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials; the Tennessee Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities; Urban Land Institute; and Leadership Nashville Alumni Association.

As Director of MDHA, Nicely met the ongoing challenge of overseeing the public housing authority, as well as directing efforts to revitalize and renew urban areas, purchase land and design projects throughout the county. His fortitude, vision, and professionalism as an administrator have helped propel Nashville forward into the 21st Century.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my sincerest wishes for future success to Mr. Nicely and his family on this momentous occasion and I yield back the balance of my time.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL MICHAEL L. WARNER (RET)

**HON. JIM SAXTON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, few Americans dedicate the majority of their lives to the people of our country and the residents of their State. Even fewer place their own lives in harm's way to protect the values and freedoms we, as Americans, hold dear.

One such person is my friend, Colonel Mike Warner (Ret). Mike has had a distinguished career serving our country in the United States Army. Mike served in the U.S. Army for 27 years as an officer. During his distinguished career as an Active Army officer, Colonel Warner had numerous staff command assignments including assignments in Korea, Germany, and throughout the United States.

Colonel Warner is a highly decorated soldier, receiving two Legions of Merit, two Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart, three Meritorious Service Medals, and the Army Commendation Medal. Additionally, he has received campaign medals for service in Vietnam and overseas service ribbons for his tours of duty in Europe and Korea.

For his final assignment, Mike served as Commander of Fort Dix, in Burlington County, New Jersey. At Fort Dix, Mike was responsible for the 35,000 acre military installation and a \$125 million operating budget.

After retiring from Active Duty, Colonel Warner continued to serve the people of the State of New Jersey. Governor Christine Todd Whitman appointed Colonel Warner as the State's third Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs in March of 1994. As Deputy Commissioner, Mike was responsible for providing support for New Jersey's 650,000 veterans and their families, managing a \$55 million budget, the operation of three 300-bed nursing homes, and the Nation's largest State veterans cemetery.

Mike Warner is also a dedicated citizen, giving his free time to many charitable and civic organizations. He is a member of the Alumni Associations of Marquette University and the

Army War College, the Association of the U.S. Army and Retired Officers Association, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Vietnam Veterans of America, and is a lifetime member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Disabled American Veterans. Locally, Mike is a member of the Burlington County Boy Scouts of America Executive Council, the Pemberton Rotary, and serves on the Board of Directors of the USO of Philadelphia.

Our country and communities need dedicated people like Colonel Mike Warner. He is a true American Patriot and it is my pleasure to call him friend.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DEE WEITZEL

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise today to recognize the life and contributions of DeeAnn "Dee" Frances Weitzel of Grand Junction, Colorado. Dee peacefully left us on a Friday evening, January 11, 2002. Dee was a popular member of the community and was often sought by many in the community for her listening ear, advice, and warm smile.

Over forty years ago, Dee moved to Grand Junction, Colorado where she quickly became an entrepreneur in the Western Slope community. Dee managed to start an employment agency, while raising a family that appreciated and valued the importance of hard work, honor, and perseverance. She raised her sons Scott, Kirk, Clay, and Tim to be respectful men who were determined to succeed in their pursuits. Dee's influence touched many lives outside of her immediate family and she was also a loving grandmother, wife, sister, and friend to many.

Dee's innovation in the business world led to her ownership of Warning Lites & Equipment, Inc. Although she was President and General Manager of her company, Dee and her husband Dewey could often be spotted along the highway working next to their employees and repairing the weather-beaten roads of the Western Slope. Dee was a respected employer and community benefactor who recognized the importance of providing for a community that had offered her a comfortable setting to raise a family and build successful businesses. Dee's business ventures brought jobs, dollars, and security to the community. Additionally, Dee made a number of charitable contributions in the area and donated her time and energy to many community events.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to DeeAnn Weitzel for the great strides she took in establishing herself as a valuable leader in the Grand Junction community. Her dedication to family, friends, work, and the community certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress. Although Dee has left us, her good-natured spirit lives on through the lives of those she touched. I would like to extend my regrets and deepest sympathies to Dee's family and friends during this difficult time.

IN MEMORIAM OF THE LATE  
PRESIDENT LEOPOLD SEDAR  
SENGHOR

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great leader, the past President of Senegal, Leopold Sedar Senghor who past away on December 20th, 2001. President Senghor was a educator, poet, statesman, and a friend of the United States of America.

President Senghor was born in a small town of Joal, Senegal in 1906. He received a scholarship to attend school in France where in 1935 he became the first African to receive the "Agrégé" (doctorate degree) in French language and literature.

After teaching for a number of years, he served in the French army during World War II (1935–1945), was captured, and spent two years in German prison camps. It was as a prisoner of war that he managed to write some of his best poetry. After the war, Senghor was recruited by the French Socialist Party and was later elected to represent Senegal in the National Assembly in Paris in which capacity he served until the French territories became independent. In 1960, France granted independence to Senegal and Leopold Senghor was elected its first president.

Few chief of states could match his political skill or his personal charisma. This was especially notable when President John F. Kennedy hosted President Senghor at a state visit in 1961 at the White House. As recorded in the memoirs of Ambassador of Senegal at that time—the Honorable Philip Kaiser—the two gentlemen developed a special bond. Ambassador Kaiser remarked "they were both intellectuals, both highly cultivated, both Catholic in countries predominantly Protestant or Moslem, and not the least of all, both creative, pragmatic politicians."

During the 1960s, President Senghor's friendship with the United States grew and was evident in his support for President Kennedy during the Cuban missile crisis. Washington strategist realized that Moscow could evade the U.S. naval blockade around Cuba by flying Soviet planes, with atomic warheads aboard, to Havana if they were able to land and refuel in Dakar, Senegal's capital. President Senghor agreed to Washington's request to deny the Russians landing rights in Dakar and made it clear that his relationship with President Kennedy was a crucial factor in his decision. President Senghor was also the first African leader to receive Peace Corps volunteers—a program highly touted by President Kennedy.

In 1978, President Senghor won Senegal's first multiparty election easily after successfully introducing amendments to the constitution to foster multiparty politics. He resigned in 1981, thus becoming the first leader of an independent African country to give up power voluntarily.

He has been acclaimed as one of the most astute thinkers of our time. He was one of three to develop the concept of "negritude" which refers to the distinctive culture shared by Africans and people of African ancestry around the world. He won several awards for

his poetry including the highly coveted PEN award and had been nominated for the Nobel Prize in Literature several times. He was admitted to Academie Francaise—the first black person to receive France's highest honor for enduring contribution to French life and letters.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all my colleagues join me in celebrating the life and the political accomplishments of a friend of the United States of America, the late President Leopold Sedar Senghor of Senegal.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARIAN M.  
OLIVER

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Marion M. Oliver of South Carolina, a retired educator with numerous years in the public school systems. A dedicated servant to her fellow citizens, she has amassed many years of volunteer service to her community. I join the citizens of Orangeburg and Barnwell Counties in expressing our deep appreciation and gratitude to her for a lifetime of outstanding service.

Mrs. Oliver was born February 17, 1912, in Bamberg County, South Carolina. She attended schools in through high school. After graduating high school she continue her education at Claflin University in Orangeburg, SC. There she received a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education. After graduation, her desire to help others lead her to a thirty-seven year teaching career in Orangeburg and Barnwell Counties, South Carolina.

Though Mrs. Oliver has no biological children, she has raised two; Dwight and Pearl Ethel, as her own and has been a mentor to many others in her community. She has invested much of her time supporting her church and community through personal involvement and countless fundraisers. In addition to her leadership positions in her church, Sunday School Teacher and President of United Methodist Women, she is an active member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

At age eighty-nine, Mrs. Oliver is still active with United Methodist Women and several other organizations in her community including Cooperative Church Ministries of Orangeburg, American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), Retired Teachers' Association, and a local needbased service group called Senior Support Group. Because of her tireless dedication to church and community, Mrs. Oliver is now reaping the harvest of her efforts through the admiration she receives from her neighbors and appreciation she receives from those whose lives she has touched.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring Mrs. Marian M. Oliver for the immeasurable service she has offered to her community through her roles as a teacher, civic leader and volunteer. I sincerely thank Mrs. Oliver for her life-long commitment to helping others and wish her good luck and Godspeed.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GAY CAPPIS

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Gay Cappis and thank her for her extraordinary contributions as County Clerk for San Miguel County. Her life-long dedication to both her job and the people of San Miguel County is matched only by the level of integrity and honesty with which she has conducted herself each and every day while at her post. She will always be remembered as an employee with the utmost dedication and talent, and will continue to be known as a leader in her community. As she celebrates her retirement, let it be known that I, along with each and every person with whom she has worked and the people of San Miguel County, are eternally grateful for all that she has accomplished in her more than 50 years of public service.

Gay worked in the San Miguel County office for over 24 years, beginning as a typist at the age of 19 for County Clerk Shelly Clark. Gay was later appointed Deputy County Clerk by Mollie Rae Carver in 1964. She was then appointed County Clerk in 1970 and has run successfully for this important position to this day. For over 50 years, Gay has selflessly given her time, energy and unrelenting commitment to the people of San Miguel County. Although we are sad to lose her services, we are happy that she will now have more time to travel and relax with her husband George and enjoy her well deserved retirement.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Gay Cappis is a woman of unparalleled dedication and commitment to both her professional endeavors and the people of her community. It is her unrelenting passion for each and every thing she does, as well as her spirit of honesty and integrity with which she has always conducted herself, that I wish to bring before this body of Congress. She is a remarkable woman, who has achieved extraordinary things in her career and for her community. It is my privilege to extend to her my congratulations on her retirement and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

SLAUGHTER-HOEFFEL-SMITH RESOLUTION ON THE UKRAINIAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I, along with my colleagues Rep. JOSEPH HOEFFEL and Rep. CHRISTOPHER SMITH, introduced a resolution urging the Government of Ukraine to ensure a democratic, transparent, and fair election process leading up to the March 31, 2002 parliamentary elections.

In April 2001, I was troubled to learn about the Ukrainian Parliament's vote to remove reform-minded Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko. This change in government came in the midst of the ongoing political turmoil resulting from allegations over the involvement of President Leonid Kuchma in the

case of murdered journalist Heorhiy Gongadze. Meanwhile, reports of government corruption and harassment of the media have raised concerns about the Ukrainian government's commitment to democratic principles. As a founding member and Co-chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, I have spoken out for a more democratic Ukraine and expressed my continued concern about the lack of progress in the Gongadze case and recent political instability.

On March 31, 2002, Ukraine will hold its third parliamentary elections since becoming independent more than ten years ago. It is widely believed that the outcome of the parliamentary elections will determine whether Ukraine continues to pursue democratic reforms, or experiences further political turmoil. The intent of my resolution is to make the Government of Ukraine aware that the U.S. Congress is monitoring the conduct of the parliamentary election process closely, and will not just be focusing on Election Day results.

According to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR) final report on Ukraine's most recent national election, the presidential election of 1999 was marred by violations of Ukrainian election law and failed to meet a significant number of OSCE election commitments. There is now concern that the 2002 parliamentary elections will be compromised by similar violations. Two recent reports on the 2002 parliamentary elections released by the Committee on Voters of Ukraine (CVU), a leading Ukrainian watchdog group on elections, have cited numerous violations in the campaign process.

My resolution urges the Government of Ukraine to enforce impartially the new election law signed by President Kuchma on October 30, 2001, which was cited in a OSCE/ODIHR report dated November 26, 2001 as making improvements in Ukraine's electoral code and providing safeguards to meet Ukraine's commitments on democratic elections. The resolution also urges the Government of Ukraine to meet its commitments on democratic elections and address issues identified by the OSCE in its final report on the 1999 elections, such as state interference in the campaign and pressure on the media. Finally, the resolution calls upon the Government of Ukraine to allow both domestic and international election monitors full access to the parliamentary election process.

It is my hope that this resolution will send a clear message to the Government of Ukraine that the U.S. Congress will not simply rubber stamp funding requests for Ukraine without also considering the serious issues involved in Ukraine's democratic development. In particular, the conduct of the 2002 parliamentary elections will have a major impact on funding considerations when Members of Congress are again confronted with the task of balancing their support of the U.S.-Ukrainian relationship with Ukraine's progress in making democratic reforms.

I urge my colleagues to support the Slaughter-Hoeffel-Smith resolution, and encourage the Government of Ukraine to conduct a democratic, transparent, and fair parliamentary election process.

CONGRESSMAN JOHN LEWIS ON  
MARTIN LUTHER KING'S SPECIAL  
BOND WITH ISRAEL

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, as a nation we have recently celebrated the contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in the noble crusades of Civil Liberty and Equal Rights, and in a few days we will commence a celebration of the contributions of African-Americans to our nation's history in "Black History Month." Dr. King was an exemplar and a martyr for these causes. As an advocate for an oppressed people, he was in a unique position to offer insights into the suffering of the Jewish people.

My distinguished colleague from Georgia, Mr. JOHN LEWIS, recently summarized Dr. King's sentiments of empathy with the Jewish community in an article appearing on January 21, 2001 in the San Francisco Chronicle entitled "King's Special Bond With Israel." Mr. LEWIS was a contemporary of Dr. King in the Civil Rights movement of the sixties and has carried King's "Dream" of equality and justice into the twenty-first century. He has maintained an active role in politics and has been an outspoken champion of human rights and progressive social movements. His recent sponsorship of legislation discouraging racial profiling, and his dedicated support of the National Museum of African-American History and Culture, further illustrate his commitment to a society that is truly free of racial inequality.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that Congressman LEWIS's article be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I encourage my colleagues in the House to consider the position articulated by Dr. King, and in so doing, develop an appreciation for the parallel sufferings of the Jewish and African-American communities.

[From the San Francisco Chronicle, Jan. 21, 2002]

#### KING'S SPECIAL BOND WITH ISRAEL (By John Lewis)

The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. understood the meaning of discrimination and oppression. He sought ways to achieve liberation and peace, and he thus understood that a special relationship exists between African-Americans and American Jews.

This message was true in his time and is true today.

He knew that both peoples were uprooted involuntarily from their homelands. He knew that both peoples were shaped by the tragic experience of slavery. He knew that both peoples were forced to live in ghettos, victims of segregation.

We knew that both peoples were subject to laws passed with the particular intent of oppressing them simply because they were Jewish or black. He knew that both peoples have been subjected to oppression and genocide on a level unprecedented in history.

King understood how important it is not to stand by in the face of injustice. He understood the cry, "Let my people go."

Long before the plight of the Jews in the Soviet Union was on the front pages, he raised his voice. "I cannot stand idly by, even though I happen to live in the United States and even though I happen to be an American Negro and not be concerned about what happens to the Jews in Soviet Russia. For what happens to them happens to me and you, and we must be concerned."

During his lifetime King witnessed the birth of Israel and the continuing struggle to build a nation. He consistently reiterated his stand on the Israel-Arab conflict, stating "Israel's right to exist as a state in security is uncontested." It was no accident that King emphasized "security" in his statements on the Middle East.

On March 25, 1968, less than two weeks before his tragic death, he spoke out with clarity and directness stating, "peace for Israel means security, and we must stand with all our might to protect its right to exist, its territorial integrity. I see Israel as one of the great outposts of democracy in the world, and a marvelous example of what can be done, how desert land can be transformed into an oasis of brotherhood and democracy. Peace for Israel means security and that security must be a reality."

During the recent U.N. Conference on Racism held in Durban, South Africa, we were all shocked by the attacks on Jews, Israel and Zionism. The United States of America stood up against these vicious attacks.

Once again, the words of King ran through my memory. "I solemnly pledge to do my utmost to uphold the fair name of the Jews—because bigotry in any form is an affront to us all."

During an appearance at Harvard University shortly before his death, a student stood up and asked King to address himself to the issue of Zionism. The question was clearly hostile. King responded, "When people criticize Zionists they mean Jews, you are talking anti-Semitism."

King taught us many lessons. As turbulence continues to grip the Middle East, his words should continue to serve as our guide. I am convinced that were he alive today he would speak clearly calling for an end to the violence between Israelis and Arabs.

He would call upon his fellow Nobel Peace Prize winner, Yasser Arafat, to fulfill the dream of peace and do all that is within his power to stop the violence.

He would urge continuing negotiations to reduce tensions and bring about the first steps toward genuine peace.

King had a dream of an "oasis of brotherhood and democracy" in the Middle East.

As we celebrate his life and legacy, let us work for the day when Israelis and Palestinians, Jews and Muslims, will be able to sit in peace "under his vine and fig tree and none shall make him afraid."

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO LAVELLE CRAIG

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Lavelle Craig and thank him for his contributions to the community of Canon City, Colorado. Lavelle will always be remembered as a dedicated administrator and leader of the community, and as he celebrates his retirement, let it be known that this will be a great loss for a town that has relied on him for his knowledge and wisdom in times of hardship and prosperity.

Lavelle has been a tireless servant of the business and civic community for many years. As a member of the business community, he served as a bank executive with Fremont National Bank. Answering a call to public service in 1995, Lavelle entered into the field of politics. He was elected that year to the City

Council and served his district for the next two years. This position laid the groundwork for Lavelle to run for Mayor, a position he has held for the past four years. Following four successful and prosperous years as the town's chief executive, Lavelle now prepares to hand the office to his new successor.

In his service to his community, Lavelle played a crucial role in the maintenance of city values and infrastructure. He negotiated tough contracts with the Royal Gorge Bridge Co., which provide a large amount of revenue to Canon City, thereby allowing for record low real estate taxes in the region. He promoted public work programs such as road building, public recreation facilities, and was at the forefront of decreasing voter apathy and increasing civic involvement, a daunting and often difficult task. As for his future plans, Lavelle intends to remain active in his civic responsibilities as well as enjoy a well-deserved retirement.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to recognize Lavelle Craig and thank him for his contributions to the community of Canon City, the State of Colorado, and this nation. His selfless service and dedication to improving citizen's lives has brought much credit to himself, his family, and the community. His actions and forbearance in preserving our western ideals and lifestyle deserve the recognition and thanks from this body of Congress. Congratulations on your retirement Lavelle, and good luck in your future endeavors.

THANK YOU ANN BROWN AND THE  
STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS OF  
SAFE

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, thank you Ann and all the fine staff and volunteers of SAFE. I am proud to be here today standing along side of this nation's foremost safety advocates.

Ann Brown has dedicated much of her life to our families safety. Her particular emphasis has been on children. Because our children naturally assume that anything, particularly a toy, that their parents give them couldn't possibly cause them harm.

But do you know that more than 1.7 million children under the age of 5 are injured each year by defective or hazardous products. For older children, the figure is almost 5.5 million.

So, as I was saying, Ann Brown is determined, she's tough, and she doesn't give up. And if I'm ever not on her side, I'll know I'm on the wrong side. Because through effective regulatory action, encouraging voluntary steps by companies, and creating unique public-private partnership with industry and other governmental agencies, she has made a major difference in the quality and the safety of our lives.

In fact, no one, before Ann, has been as consistently effective in making more people aware of dangerous and defective consumer products and getting them recalled—300 products were recalled during Ann's 7½ years

chairmanship of CPSC. Too many children have been injured, some have even died because people didn't learn about the recall of a dangerous product from television, radio or their daily paper.

Sometimes they don't hear about the recall. Oftentimes, it's not their fault. The way the system works today, it's surprising anyone knows about some of these recalls.

Most companies try to contact people directly about recalled products based on the limited records they've collected from the so-called warranty cards companies send out with products.

These records are grossly inadequate.

Over 90 percent of consumers toss the cards out because they contain marketing and personal questions people just don't want to answer. And they shouldn't have to.

I like Ann's idea that if you could create a simple safety card, like she has shown today, people would be much more likely to send them back.

We want to commend Mattel and BrandStamp for stepping up to the plate to help CPSC test this idea.

Ann Brown and SAFE are right that CPSC should move forward on a proposed rule to improve recall effectiveness.

So we are introducing legislation which would require CPSC, within 9 months to adopt a standard for companies to develop shorter, simpler consumer friendly Product Safety Cards, or online product registration beginning with juvenile products and small electrical appliances, and then other consumer products.

The legislation also encourages companies to look at other new technologies that will help them do the job.

This bill is designed to help the government do what it needs to do to protect American consumers.

I'm proud to be here today, standing alongside Ann Brown, my colleague from Massachusetts, JIM MCGOVERN, and the folks from these good companies who want to save lives and prevent injuries by developing a way to let more people know about dangerous products.

THE EMPLOYEE PENSION  
FREEDOM ACT

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, the following is a summary of the Employee Pension Freedom Act.

I. IMPROVED DISCLOSURE

Annual Benefit Statements: pension plans would be required to provide annual pension benefit statements to participants and beneficiaries including notification of employee and employer contributions that consist of employer stock and the importance of a well balanced and diversified investment portfolio for long term retirement security.

Accurate Financial Information: in all pension plans where participants make investment decisions, the employer and plan administrator must provide all material investment information to participants as required under securities law to make invest-

ment decisions. Prohibits the employer or plan administrator from making any misleading statements to participants regarding the value of employer stock or other investments available under the plan or from omitting information relevant to the value of the stock or other investment options.

II. STRENGTHENED EMPLOYEE  
DIVERSIFICATION RIGHTS

Unrestricted Employee Choice Over Employee Contributions: in pension plans where participants make investment decisions, participants will have the right to allocate employee contributions to any plan investment option (eliminate current law rule permitting employers to require 10% employer stock holdings).

Unrestricted Employee Choice Over Employer Contributions When Vested: the plan administrator must notify all participants upon vesting of the right to transfer employer stock matching contributions to other plan investment options; the plan administrator would have up to 30 days to effect any requested transfer; in an ESOP, employees may diversify employer matching contributions after 10 years of service.

III. IMPROVED EMPLOYEE ACCOUNT ACCESS

Faster Vesting for Employees: covered employees will be vested in their employer contributions after completion of one year of participation in the plan (many plans currently vest after five or more years and some, like Enron, do not permit employees to transfer employer contributions even following vesting).

30 Days Advance Notice of Plan "Lockdowns": the plan administrator must provide at least 30 days advance written notice of any plan change that would restrict a participant's access to his or her account.

No More Than 10 Business Days for Lockdowns: an employer or plan administrator may not limit participant access to his or her account for a period of more than 10 business days.

IV. ADEQUATE LEGAL PROTECTION FOR  
EMPLOYEES

Fiduciaries Must Have Insurance or be Bonded: all defined contribution plan fiduciaries shall maintain sufficient fiduciary insurance or bonding to cover financial losses due to breach of fiduciary duty as determined by the Secretary of Labor.

Employee Pension Plan Representation: in pension plans that permit employees to direct control of their pension investments, the plan must include an equal number of employer and employee trustees to oversee the plan. Many plans today have no employee trustees overseeing employees' funds.

No Waivers of Legal Rights: Employers may not require participants to sign waivers of statutory pension rights as part of a termination or severance agreement.

Right to be Made Whole in Court: in cases of fiduciary breach of duty by a fiduciary or knowing participant in a breach, the plan or participants may be made whole by the court.

Improved Labor Department Assistance: the Department of Labor shall establish an office of the Participant Advocate which shall monitor potential abuses of employee pension plan rights and assist pension plan participants in preventing and resolving abuses.

Feasibility Study for Guaranty Insurance: the PBGC shall study and report to Congress no later than 3 years after enactment the options for and feasibility of developing an insurance guarantee system for defined contribution plans.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RON  
BERGMANN

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Ron Bergmann and thank him for his contributions to the Chaffee County Sheriff's Department and community. Ron will always be remembered as a dedicated leader and guardian of the community, and as he celebrates his retirement, let it be known that this will be a great loss for a community that has relied on him for his knowledge and wisdom in times of hardship and prosperity.

Ron was elected Sheriff of Chaffee County eight years ago and has served in this position with great diligence and commitment to his fellow Coloradans. As a former law enforcement officer, I know the challenges and hardships our peace officers face every day. The greatest honor bestowed on these brave men and women is not awards and promotions, but the maintenance of integrity. Through his responses to render assistance and guidance, Ron has always maintained his composure and served in his capacity with the utmost professionalism and compassion.

Ron has been an active member in the civic community by dedicating his time and energy to noble community activities throughout the area. He serves on the Chaffee County Child Protection and Child Evaluation Teams, as a board member for programs such as "Kid's Campus" and "Build a Generation," and the Chaffee County Fairboard. He continues to serve the area's younger generation as a 4H leader and as coach for a little league baseball team. In addition, Ron can be found training residents in the prevention of wildfires, forming neighborhood watch programs, lecturing about drug use prevention, and teaching First Aid/CPR to local high schools.

Mr. Speaker, I have mentioned several of the many successes and accomplishments in Ron Bergmann's life, but none compare to his character and dedication to the people of Chaffee County. He is known as a kind soul and caring father and his efforts towards improving the community certainly deserve the recognition of this body of Congress, and this nation. I would like to extend my congratulations on Ron's retirement and wish him and his wife, Sarina, the best in their future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH  
BIRTHDAY OF LANGSTON HUGHES

**HON. JIM RYUN**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th birthday of Langston Hughes, which will take place on February 1, 2002.

Langston Hughes grew up in Topeka, Lawrence and Kansas City, Kansas. His mother, Carrie Hughes, raised him on her own as she worked in the office of Topeka's first African-American lawyer, James H. Guy.

Langston discovered poetry in the eighth grade and published his first poem, "The Negro Speaks of Rivers", shortly after leaving Columbia University. After moving to Harlem he published many works including his first book of poems, "The Weary Blues."

He graduated from Lincoln University in 1929 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. In 1943 he received an honorary doctorate. Both the Guggenheim and Roeswald granted Hughes fellowships and he later accepted assignments as Atlanta University's poet in residence and news correspondent during the Spanish Civil War.

Langston Hughes was a prolific writer. In the forty-odd years between his first book and his death in 1967, he devoted his life to writing and lecturing. He wrote sixteen books of poems, two novels, three collections of short stories and much, much more.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Langston Hughes for holding strong the belief in equality, for being an influence in the literary community and for being the people's poet.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBIN HAYES**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, let the RECORD reflect that due to a scheduling conflict, I was unable to be present for votes on Wednesday, January 23, 2002. Had I been present I would have voted YEA on the following: H.R. 700, H.R. 2234, and H. Res. 330. Thank you.

HONORING BROWARD COUNTY  
VETERANS

**HON. PETER DEUTSCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Broward County, Florida, World War II Veterans who, on May 1, 2001, received honorary high school diplomas from the Florida Department of Education and Broward County Public Schools. Half a century ago, thousands of young Americans risked their lives to fight for our freedom in World War II, and I applaud the dedication of these veterans during that time of war, as well as their loyalty to the security of the American people.

Many who fought in World War II forfeited their chance to complete high school and continue onto college when, in the prime of their youth, they were asked to save the world. They entered the war as teenagers and those that survived came home as adults. Many veterans had to immediately enter the workforce upon their return to support the families they left behind. Broward County, through this special ceremony, has honored these deserving veterans for their personal sacrifices and their protection of democracy and humanity.

Last year, the State of Florida offered all veterans meeting a general criteria their high school diplomas. Florida's actions are accompanied by similar programs throughout the nation. I commend Broward County Public

Schools and the Florida Department of Education on their efforts to honor these World War II Veterans. These institutions further saluted Broward County veterans by arranging a special graduation ceremony at which the diplomas were received.

Mr. Speaker, World War II interrupted the lives of young America in the 1940's, and now the State of Florida has presented a chance to thank these individuals by recognizing this well-deserved and hard-earned accomplishment.

HONORING SGT. 1ST CLASS  
MICHAEL MCELHINEY

**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a heroic native of Kansas City, Missouri, Sergeant 1st Class Michael McElhiney, graduate of Hickman Mills High School and a special honoree tonight at the State of the Union. The US military recently bestowed upon Sgt. McElhiney both a Bronze Star with a "V" for valor and a Purple Heart for his exceptional bravery in battle during the war in Afghanistan. As an officer of the Army's 3rd Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group, Sergeant 1st Class Michael McElhiney has heroically served our country. I am extremely honored to recognize Mr. McElhiney and his wife today for their sacrifices for our country.

During his arduous mission in Afghanistan, Sergeant 1st Class McElhiney and his fellow soldiers successfully rescued citizens who had helped resist the Taliban. Traveling with Hamid Karzai, Afghanistan's interim prime minister, the coalition of Afghan and US soldiers helped force the Taliban to retreat. During a US air strike aimed to weaken the Taliban control of Kandahar, Sergeant 1st Class McElhiney was wounded in "friendly fire," a term used by the military to describe injuries resulting from allies' weapons. As a result of this battle in Kandahar, Sergeant 1st Class McElhiney lost his right hand and suffered a collapsed lung. Sergeant 1st Class McElhiney was reunited with his wife after being airlifted to the Marine Corps base at Camp Rhino and then to a US military base in Germany.

Sergeant 1st Class McElhiney is a hero to residents of both Missouri's fifth district and the country. As part of an assignment on American heroes, fifth grade students at Comanche and Westwood View, two local elementary schools in Johnson County, adopted Mr. McElhiney as their hero. The children have sent numerous letters to Sergeant 1st Class McElhiney to thank him for his courage and integrity in battle. In addition, the students are preparing a book for Mr. McElhiney that will be bound and will include their picture on the cover. The bravery and perseverance shown by Mr. McElhiney in Afghanistan exemplify the sacrifices our Armed Forces make every day for our freedom.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Sergeant 1st Class Michael McElhiney and his wife as they represent the best of our country. All Americans owe Sergeant 1st Class McElhiney a debt of gratitude for his service to promote freedom and democracy worldwide.

CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS  
AND THE IMPORTANCE OF  
EARLY DETECTION

**HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the issue of Cervical Cancer Awareness and the importance of early detection to prevent deaths as we close the month of January as Cervical Cancer Awareness Month.

In the year 2002, the American Cancer Society estimates that there will be about 13,000 new cases of invasive cervical cancer in the United States and about 4,100 women will die from this disease. Many of these deaths could be avoided by increasing screening rates among all women at risks.

Cervical cancer screening using the Pap test detects not only cancer but also precancerous lesions. Detecting and treating such lesions can actually prevent cervical cancer—and thus can prevent virtually all deaths from this disease.

We should recall that the Labor-HHS Appropriations final bill approved \$192.6 million for funding for breast and cervical cancer screening. We hope the administration will implement these appropriations at the level passed by Congress. However, despite the funding approved, public awareness about the importance of early detection of Cervical Cancer still remains very limited. This is especially so among certain minority and ethnic women who

have less than a high school education, or who live below the poverty level.

Today I introduce a Concurrent Resolution to recognize the importance of good cervical health and the importance of early detection of cervical cancer. As January is Cervical Cancer month, I would like to encourage you to join me in supporting efforts to promote early detection of cervical cancer so that we can together eradicate this disease that has already taken the lives of many American women.

RECOGNIZING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
WEEK

**HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 29, 2002*

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the annual celebration of "Catholic Schools Week." Each year, the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Catholic Conference sponsor a week long celebration recognizing the outstanding educational contributions of America's Catholic schools. Catholic schools locally and nationally will mark this festive occasion by hosting many community, parish and school events.

In Pennsylvania alone, Catholic elementary and secondary schools educate approximately 240,000 students yearly. These schools operate with complete devotion to each and every student, providing them with solid values and academic skills needed in becoming respon-

sible citizens of Pennsylvania and the nation. Catholic institutions tout a 95 percent graduation rate, and 83 percent of Catholic school graduates pursue higher degrees. A truly remarkable and impressive statistic.

Not only do Catholic schools boast these high standards and excellent achievements, but fervently instill in their students the idea and necessity for commitment to family and the community. Most, if not all, Catholic students willingly provide countless hours of volunteer service to the local parish as well as the entire community. This only proves that Catholic schools students are strongly dedicated to their faith, values, family and community.

President Bush recently signed into law a comprehensive education reform package emphasizing accountability, local control and flexibility, expanded options for parents, and funding for programs that work. Given Catholic schools record of success and standard of excellence, it is only fitting that these private institutions continue to serve as a model for public education reform in America.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate and express great appreciation to the nation's Catholic schools on the occasion of "Catholic Schools Week." I especially salute the many Catholic school teachers, principals, and school administrators in my Pennsylvania Congressional district of Dauphin, Lebanon, Perry, Cumberland, and Lancaster for their hard work and dedication which has benefitted so many young people. My best to all the students in their continuing academic careers and future endeavors.