

Council that serves over 11,000 girls in my congressional district. The Fair Winds Council has two programs that I would like to talk about today. Both of these programs help empower young girls to rise above the status quo and become better citizens.

The first program I would like to talk about is Faces, a program developed in my hometown of Flint, MI. This program serves inner city girls, who come from single-family households and Faces attempts to break these young women out of the cycle of living in poverty by mentoring and doing community activities. Most notably, the young girls get to choose as a group two colleges or universities they would like to visit. Then through corporate sponsorships, these girls get an all expense paid trip to their choices. Last year 40 girls went on this trip. After the trip, these girls get help with filling out applications forms for college and with finding scholarships. Since this program began, 80 percent of its members have gone to college.

The second program, Fostering Issues, takes Girl Scouting to girls who are in foster care. Many of these young girls in foster care feel alone and afraid, and through this program, girls in the foster care system develop friendships. Through these friendships, these girls begin to develop social skills and trust in other people. They begin to develop self-esteem and believe that they too can become an important part of society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the truly amazing contributions the Fair Winds Council makes in my community. I invite my colleagues to find out all the wonderful things the Girl Scouts organization is doing in their own districts and commend them for 90 years of service to our communities.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HERSCHEL WISEBRAM FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH WBHF RADIO

**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2002*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a milestone which has recently occurred in the Seventh Congressional District in Georgia.

On April 5, 2002, Herschel Wisebram of Cartersville, Georgia, celebrated 50 years of service with WBHF Radio.

In 1946, shortly after World War II ended, the WBHF began to broadcast in Northwest Georgia. In 1952, Herschel Wisebram started at WBHF as a radio announcer, beginning a long distinguished career in the field of broadcasting.

WBHF Radio is a proven leader and has served the Cartersville area with distinction under Herschel's ownership.

Herschel has not just seen the changes Cartersville and the entire Atlanta and northwest Georgia area; he has reported the changing history of this small, southern town into what has been called one of the best and most livable small cities in the country. Herschel's strong sense of commitment to his community, is one of the reasons the quality of life in Cartersville and Bartow County is so enviable.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you and all of my Colleagues join me in saluting the motivation, dedication, and resolve that Herschel Wisebram has demonstrated for WBHF, for the advancement of radio broadcasting, for the city of Cartersville, and the people of Georgia.

MADNESS WITHOUT END?

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2002*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article. The growing wave of Palestinian suicide bombings, followed inevitably by fierce Israeli military counter-attacks, ought to be proof for anyone that Middle East violence has degenerated beyond the bounds of any possible moral justification and into the realm of cultural psychosis.

Each side in this conflict continues to point a finger at the other, claiming, "You started it," as if the childish refrain were reason enough to continue down what looks more and more like a path to Armageddon.

This is a regrettable characteristic of the Middle East mayhem, one not easily understood in the West. Any inclination to turn the other cheek is almost always overcome by religious and cultural injunctions to crush and grind the enemy into the dust. Charity toward an adversary, it seems, is a sign of weakness.

Arabs and Jews contesting the Holy Land are never going to make peace with each other until both sides have had their fill of the bloodbath. The question facing a horrified, uncomprehending world is "when will enough be enough?"

The relentless procession of young Palestinians willing, even eager, to don explosives and give their lives to kill Jews and regain their historic homeland provides no indication of an early peace.

The so-called "spiritual leaders" of Hamas and other Palestinian movements point to such self-serving verses in the Qu'ran as, "And slay them wherever ye find them and drive them out of the places whence they drove you out, for persecution is worse than slaughter."

The Islamic militants who nurture, cultivate, and train the suicide bombers boast that they will send "a million martyrs to Jerusalem," and who can doubt them?

The Israelis, who also claim this territory as a religious and historic right, fall back on the self-perpetuating justification of self-defense. Memories of the Holocaust ("Never again") warn them of annihilation. The shock of the continued bombings neutralizes the nation's calmer voices and nascent peace movement. And violence begets violence.

The question of who is to blame no longer matters to a good bit of the outside world, but in the Middle East it remains pretty much the only issue. Until one side or the other takes responsibility, this burgeoning threat to humanity will continue to monopolize the world's resources and attention.

As much as we in the United States wish it were otherwise, what is happening in Israel and the West Bank cannot be separated from our war on terrorism. The same ancient fears and frustrations fuel both conflicts.

President Bush at first tried to distance the United States from the turmoil, but even he re-

alizes now that inattention for several months last year was a mistake.

An end to the madness that has engulfed the region could be reached in several ways. The preferable one would be through the services of a negotiator of uncommon skill and forbearance, possibly someone who is not yet apparent on the diplomatic stage. Another more horrifying possibility: a cataclysm of bloodshed that would make the current suicide bombings seem tame by comparison.

World leaders, even those without a direct stake in the Middle East, have a responsibility to apply pressure on all the parties involved to see that the path of least violence is the one taken.

HONORING SERGEANT GARY O'CONNOR

**HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2002*

Mr. HOFFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sergeant Gary O'Connor who retired from the Lower Gwynedd Police Department in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania on July 13, 2001 after twenty-seven years of service.

Sergeant O'Connor graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelor of Science degree. Throughout his career he has displayed a special interest in juvenile justice and headed the Lower Gwynedd Police Department juvenile division for ten years. Currently, he also is a trainer and consultant for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the National School Safety Center, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. Since 1983, Sergeant O'Connor has also instructed and consulted on police training for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

Sergeant O'Connor has received many awards for his fine work including Pennsylvania's Juvenile Officer of the Year, Montgomery County's Police Officer of the Year, and North Penn Area's Outstanding Police Officer. The police force was no doubt stronger because of Sergeant O'Connor.

It is a privilege to honor the contributions of Sergeant Gary O'Connor to the citizens of Lower Gwynedd.

TRIBUTE TO THE FIFTY-YEAR MEMBERS OF THE ALABAMA GRAND CHAPTER, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 9, 2002*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of ten members of the Alabama Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star who are celebrating their membership of over 50 years with Athens Chapter #214. I congratulate each of them for their many extraordinary years of charity and human outreach and wish them the best for many years of service to come.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Geneva Coulter, Juanita Turner, Roy H. Turner, Sr.,