

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF RAY "SCOTTY" MORRIS

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute a great San Francisco talent, Ray "Scotty" Morris on the occasion of his 70th birthday. Scotty Morris is a brilliant photographer, and San Francisco has been enriched by the fine work he has done in our City.

Scotty's work in the fields of photography and photojournalism has earned him widespread recognition. He has won 28 national, state, and local awards for his photographs, including the well-recognized Associated Press News and Feature Award and the San Francisco Press Club Award for the best news picture of the year. His works have appeared in the New York Times, the London Times, Newsweek, Life, Esquire, Forbes, and many other prestigious publications.

Scotty Morris' photographs of international political leaders include every American President from Harry Truman to Bill Clinton, as well as Charles De Gaulle and Nikita Khrushchev. His portfolio includes well-known images of film stars Elizabeth Taylor, Sophia Loren, and Robert Redford; world icons Queen Elizabeth, Mother Teresa, and the Dalai Lama; and sports heroes Pele, Peggy Flemming, and Joe Montana.

During Mayor Frank Jordan's administration, Scotty was the official photographer for San Francisco. His photograph of the Royal Yacht Britannia entering San Francisco Bay was presented to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth as an official gift from the city of San Francisco and now resides in Buckingham Palace.

Mr. Speaker, Scotty Morris' artistic gifts have enriched our City and our nation. It is my pleasure to commend him for his marvelous career and to wish him the best on his 70th birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEPHEN HORN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, on Rollcall No. 92, H.R. 3762, the passage of the Employee Pension Freedom Act of 2007/Pension Security Act of 2002, I was unavoidably detained on Congressional business. Had I been present, I would have voted yea.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PAUL RYAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in the family, I was absent for Roll

Call Votes No. 80 through 92 from April 9, 2002 through April 11, 2002. I have listed below how I would have voted had I been present.

On Vote No. 80, to approve the Journal, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 81, H. Res. 377, recognizing Ellis Island Medal of Honor and commending the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 82, H.R. 3958, the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge Settlement Act, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 83, on agreeing to an amendment introduced by the gentleman from California, Mr. Waxman, to H.R. 3925, The Digital Tech Corps Act of 2002, I would have voted "No."

On Roll Call Vote No. 84, H. Res. 363, congratulating the people of Utah, the Salt Lake Organizing Committee and the athletes of the world for a successful and inspiring 2002 Olympic Winter Games, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 85, H.R. 3991, the Taxpayer Protection and IRS Accountability Act, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 86, on a motion to instruct conferees to H.R. 2646, the Farm Security Act, "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 87, on ordering the Previous Question, I would have voted, "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 88, H. Res. 386, the rule to consider H.R. 3762, the Pension Security Act, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 89, on approving the Journal, I would have voted "Yea."

On Roll Call Vote No. 90, on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California, Mr. Miller, Substitute Amendment to H.R. 3762, the Pension Security Act, I would have voted, "No."

On Roll Call Vote No. 91, on the motion to recommit with instructions to H.R. 3762, the Pension Security Act, I would have voted, "No."

On Roll Call Vote No. 92, on final passage of H.R. 3762, the Pension Security Act, I would have voted "Yea."

HONORING RUBEN BURKS, SECRETARY-TREASURER OF THE UAW, ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ruben Burks on the occasion of his retirement from the UAW as secretary-treasurer.

Mr. Burks was elected secretary-treasurer of the UAW on June 24, 1998, by the delegates to the 32nd UAW Constitutional Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada.

As secretary-treasurer, Ruben holds the second-highest office in the UAW. He is re-

sponsible for various administrative departments of the International Union, including Accounting, Auditing, Building Maintenance, Circulation, Purchasing, and Strike Insurance. In addition, Burks directs the UAW Michigan CAP (Community Action Program) and the UAW's Veterans Department.

Prior to his position as secretary-treasurer, Ruben served three terms as director of UAW Region 1C, which covers 11 counties in south-central Michigan and is headquartered in Flint.

Mr. Speaker, Ruben has been a member of UAW Local 598 since 1955 when he went to work as an assembler at the former Fisher Body Plant 2 of General Motors Corporation in Flint, Michigan. In 1970, Mr. Burks was appointed by then UAW President Walter Reuther to the International Union staff in Region 1C where he serviced UAW members in General Motors and independents, parts, and supplier plants.

Ruben has been a long time community activist as well. He has been a leader in Flint Genesee County Economic Development, a cooperative effort by labor, business, and civic leaders to keep good jobs in the Flint community and to attract new industries to the area. Ruben played a leading role in the UAW-General Motors Community Health Care Initiative in Flint, an innovative community-based effort to improve the quality and accessibility of health care while at the same time making the community's health care delivery system more cost efficient.

Ruben has not only been active in the UAW, but is also actively involved in numerous civic, charitable, and youth organizations in the Flint community, including Special Olympics, March of Dimes, Red Cross, and Easter Seals.

An outspoken advocate for working families in the political arena, Mr. Burks has made grassroots political action by UAW members a high priority in Region 1C. Ruben also received an honorary degree in Community Development from Mott Community College in recognition and appreciation of his contributions to the Flint community.

Ruben has lived in Flint since 1955 and is the proud father of seven children and ten grandchildren. Mr. Speaker, as Ruben leaves his position as secretary-treasurer of the UAW, I would ask that all my colleagues salute him and his leadership.

RECOGNIZING DEPELCHIN CHILDREN'S CENTER

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the DePelchin Children's Center, on the occasion of their 110th Anniversary and the grand opening dedication of their new facility. The DePelchin Children's Center is named for its founder Kezia Payne DePelchin,

• 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.

who in 1892 took three orphaned babies into her care and started a tradition of service.

The three babies taken in by Kezia were the first of thousands to be cared for by the DePelchin Children's Center. The center currently provides counseling services, parental education, adoption and foster care services, and residential treatment for children with emotional disorders. What is a most remarkable feat is that these services are currently offered to more than 27,000 children and families each year.

Throughout its 110 year continuum of care, DePelchin Children's Center has been a cornerstone of care in Harris, Montgomery, Ft. Bend, and Waller Counties. The services offered at DePelchin are designed to meet the specific needs of individuals and families. At DePelchin, services are offered to individuals regardless of their ability to pay. The Center receives its funding from the United Way, several government agencies, and the generosity of individuals within the community.

From 1892 to 2002, the DePelchin Children's Center has continued to grow. Through its support from the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) in 1937, DePelchin opened the Negro Child Center and targeted services to Houston's minority population. During the days of segregation DePelchin was a catalyst within the community.

There are many success stories that spawned from the DePelchin Children's Center. The "Bayou Place," a division of DePelchin in Spring, Texas, serves as a group home and hosts classes for foster and biological families. It provides education for children at the shelter, care for children of battered wives, and adoption services for mentally retarded children.

Mr. Speaker, I join the DePelchin Children's Center as it celebrates its 110th Anniversary and the grand opening dedication of the new facility. I commend the staff and volunteers of DePelchin for their unyielding commitment to the ideals of Kezia Payne DePelchin. Their passionate work on behalf of countless young Texans has set an example for generations. I applaud their leadership and service, and wish them continued success in the years to come.

HONORING ROSTEEN STRASSNER

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Rosteen Strassner on the occasion of her 100th birthday. The Fresno Temple Church of God in Christ celebrated her birthday on March 23, 2002.

Mrs. Strassner has made numerous contributions to her community; she is truly a giving person. She has served the West Fresno Community and the City of Fresno for nearly 68 years. Her accomplishments have been great, and range in variety. Rosteen's concern for others has made an impact on her career choices. Mrs. Strassner worked as a dietitian at St. Agnes Hospital for many years. She also owned and operated two restaurants in the Fresno area. Mrs. Strassner, unwilling to turn her back on anyone, opened her home to become a full-time caregiver to mentally challenged adults. Her hard work and dedication

was very rewarding, though not in a monetary sense. She became one of the first African Americans to open a residential licensed home in West Fresno for the Central Valley Region and State of California, where she could assist numerous Valley residents.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Rosteen Strassner on the very special occasion of her 100th birthday. The community has been greatly served by this outstanding woman. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Mrs. Strassner for her contributions to the community and wishing her many more prosperous years.

RACE RELATIONS IN NORTHEAST  
OHIO

### HON. TOM SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, in 1993, The Akron Beacon Journal in Akron, Ohio published "A Question of Color," a year-long Pulitzer Prize winning series on race relations in Northeast Ohio. As part of the series, The Akron Beacon Journal called on local organizations to join together to discuss ways to improve race relations in the community. This effort became known as the Coming Together Project.

Nine years later, the Coming Together Project has grown tremendously. What began as a local effort to address growing disparities between blacks and whites in the areas of housing, income, and educational opportunities, has expanded into a national effort to promote diversity, racial harmony, and cultural awareness. The Coming Together Project established programs that provide people with the opportunity to discuss issues that have historically divided them. Through educational workshops and seminars, the Coming Together Project promotes dialogue and helps foster community-building relationships.

On Wednesday, April 17, 2002, the Coming Together Project will hold its inaugural Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon in honor of the organization's founders, community volunteers, and supporting groups. The Coming Together Project and its 250 participating member groups and corporations deserve recognition for their dedicated work to improving communities across the country through diversity programs.

RECOGNIZING THE HOUSTON MINORITY BUSINESS COUNCIL'S EXPO 2002

### HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the Houston Minority Business Council's EXPO 2002. EXPO 2002, Texas' largest minority business development trade fair, assists major corporations, government agencies and educational institutions in identifying proven minority suppliers capable of satisfying product and service needs. This year's business forum will be held on Wednesday,

September 5, 2002, at the George R. Brown Convention Center. Dr. John Mendelsohn, president of the University of Texas' M.D. Anderson Cancer Center will serve as this year's General Chair.

For many years, major corporations have used EXPO as a tool to disseminate information on how to do business with their companies. Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) utilize EXPO as an easy and cost-effective means of accessing key purchasing personnel and decisionmakers at major corporations. EXPO allows MBEs to gain valuable insights into both the local and national strategies of major corporations. Nearly 1,000 minority-owned businesses and more than 200 corporations and government agencies are expected to attend. EXPO prides itself in its ability to spur the development of minority businesses by bringing together minority businesses and corporate executives. Last year, as a result of contacts established at EXPO, MBEs made an average of 23 sales calls from which 44 percent reported immediate results. On average, at least two-thirds of the participants reported the establishment of new business relationships that totaled as high as \$2 million within 8 months of the event.

Mr. Speaker, the Houston Minority Business Council serves the important function of incorporating minority businesses in local and national commerce. Regardless of the size of the company, EXPO has something to offer a minority business owner, major corporation, government agency, educational or financial institution, or business resource organization. I applaud the efforts of the Houston Minority Business Council and look forward to another successful event.

HONORING CHARLES M. WALLIN

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles M. Wallin for receiving the 2002 Hall of Fame Award from the Sanger District Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Wallin has been playing a huge role in the Sanger community nearly his entire life.

Charles Wallin attended elementary school and high school in Sanger. He graduated from Fresno State, and the College of Mortuary Science in Los Angeles. Upon his return to Sanger, Charles went into business with his father at Wallin & Son Funeral Home which he eventually purchased from his father and renamed Wallin's Sanger Funeral Home.

Mr. Wallin is a very active member of the Sanger community. He was a member of the board of directors for the Sanger Chamber of Commerce and was the District Secretary for Rotary District 5230. Charles Wallin has been a member of the Rotary Club of Sanger since 1964, and is currently a member of the Sanger Masonic Lodge No. 316. Charles is an avid supporter of the Tom Flores Youth Foundation, and also promotes numerous programs at Sanger High School. Mr. Wallin is a member of the California Funeral Director's Association. He has been married to Marilyn L. Wallin for 37 years, and the happy couple was blessed with three sons, Mark, Christopher, and Brian.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Charles M. Wallin for receiving the 2002 Hall of Fame Award from Sanger Chamber of Commerce. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Wallin for his community service and wishing him many more years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BOB RILEY**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 93, H.R. 1374, the Philip E. Ruppe Post Office Building Designation Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 94, H.R. 4156, the Clergy Housing Allowance Clarification Act (as amended). Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 95, H.R. 4167, the Family Farmer Bankruptcy Extension Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL IN BOUND BROOK, NJ

**HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the players, coaches and administration of the Bound Brook Little League on the 50th anniversary of Little League Baseball in Bound Brook, New Jersey.

Nothing symbolizes the springtime and the onset of warmer weather like the first pitch of the baseball season. A season's first pitch is always a special moment, but on Saturday, April 20, the first pitch ceremony of the Bound Brook Little League commemorates 50 years of little league baseball in the community.

Over the years, little league baseball has become a fixture in Bound Brook. The little league does more than merely teach the youth of the area about our national pastime. It fosters camaraderie with teammates, instills respect for fellow competitors, and teaches youngsters that sports are about much more than winning and losing.

On April 20, the community of Bound Brook will come together to have a parade followed by exhibition baseball games to mark the 50th anniversary of the little league. This day of celebration will bring together former and current players and is symbolic of the organization's meaning to the area. The little league brings the community together to give adults the opportunity to share their love of baseball and teach kids lessons that they will carry throughout their lives.

I commend Bound Brook Little Leaguers, past and present, and the many friends of the little league that have helped mold the lives of so many youngsters throughout the past 50 years.

HONORING DR. FRED B. KESSLER

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Fred B. Kessler who has been selected The Houston Surgical Society's "Distinguished Houston Surgeon" for 2002. Dr. Kessler's family, colleagues, and friends will honor him at the society's meeting on May 21, 2002.

Dr. Kessler has dedicated his life to our county and to the world of surgical medicine. He was born on December 18, 1931, in Houston, TX. He graduated from the University of Texas in 1952 and obtained his medical degree in 1956 from the University of Texas Medical School in Galveston. Dr. Kessler interned at the Philadelphia General Hospital from 1956-1957 and completed his residency training at the Hospital University of Pennsylvania. He returned to Houston after completing his fellowship at Roosevelt Hospital in New York in 1963.

Dr. Kessler is currently Clinical Professor of Surgery and Co-Fellowship Director of the Plastic Surgery Hand Service at Baylor College of Medicine. He has served on numerous committees for the American Society for Surgery of the Hand and the American Medical Association, published numerous articles and chapters, and served as associate editor of the Journal of Hand Surgery.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his career, Dr. Kessler has distinguished himself as a spectacular surgeon, consummate educator and an integral part of the Houston community. It is with great honor that I congratulate him on this outstanding recognition of his commitment to the field of medicine.

HONORING MR. DEAN STANLEY SHELTON

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to honor Staff Sergeant Dean Stanley Shelton who proudly served in the United States Army and recently received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star medals of honor.

Raised in Kansas, Mr. Shelton was drafted on February 8, 1951 at age twenty-one, and first served in Germany. During his time there he met his soon to be wife, Greta. Once his service abroad was completed, Mr. Shelton came back to the United States and was stationed at Fort Custer, Michigan where he received an Honorable Discharge on January 30, 1955.

However, due to his dedication and love of service, Mr. Shelton re-enlisted in the Army on June 27, 1955. Once again duty sent him to Germany, South Korea, and South Vietnam.

It was in Vietnam, assigned to Company A, Fourth Engineering Battalion, Fourth Infantry Division, where Staff Sergeant Shelton sustained injuries during combat. On March 26, 1968, the Third Battalion Fire Support Base came under intense enemy ground, rocket, and mortar attack. During these events, Spe-

cialist Shelton sustained injuries while positioned in a bunker defending the base perimeter.

Although his fellow soldiers and the U.S. Army recognized his personal bravery, due to his severe medical condition and evacuation to U.S. hospitals, there was unfortunately not time to present his medals when they were actually awarded. On the battlefield, Shelton showed uncommon valor, dedication, and sacrifice that cannot be instilled in training.

Mr. Speaker, I had the honor of attending an awards ceremony on April 8, 2002, when Mr. Shelton finally received his medals. This nation has not forgotten his tremendous service. I would like to thank Staff Sergeant Shelton in keeping with the highest tradition of armed service, and selflessly defending the lives of his fellow soldiers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BOB CLEMENT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 93, H.R. 1374, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING SHARON K. DARLING

**HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Ms. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a truly inspiring woman in my district, Ms. Sharon Darling. Ms. Darling has been honored as a 2001 recipient of the prestigious National Humanities Medal. Next month, Ms. Darling will receive her award in a personal presentation from President Bush and First Lady Laura Bush.

As a tireless advocate for education and literacy, Ms. Darling has worked hard to improve and reform the education system. While serving in many capacities throughout her career, she has always remained steadfast in her pursuit of this very noble goal. Ms. Darling pioneered a program that combines early childhood education, adult literacy education, parental support and structured interaction between parents and their children. Encouraged by positive results, Ms. Darling founded the National Center for Family Literacy in 1989. Since its inception, NCFL, which is located in Louisville, Kentucky, has been dedicated to family literacy. Their efforts are internationally recognized, and NCFL is well-known for creating innovative program models, developing effective advocacy strategies and providing research, training and technical assistance to professionals working within the field of family literacy.

Ms. Darling and the NCFL realize the importance of education and literacy. Without the ability to access knowledge, people will not have the tools necessary to fight their way out of impoverishment, and to empower themselves. Ms. Darling serves as an advisor on education issues to governors, policy makers, business leaders and foundations across the nation. By providing advice and creative planning strategies, Ms. Darling works toward

strengthening families through education, and moving them toward literacy and self-sufficiency; both essential steps in breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty. She continues to have a lasting impact in helping to shape welfare reform, education reform and develop the skilled workforce of our nation.

The National Humanities Medal will not be the first time Ms. Darling has received recognition for her efforts. In 2000, she received the Razor Walker Award from the University of North Carolina for her contributions to lives of children and youth. She also has been honored with the Women of Distinction Award from Birmingham Southern University in 1999; the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism from Johns Hopkins University in 1998; the Charles A. Dana Award for Pioneering Achievement in Education in 1996; and the Harold H. McGraw Award for Outstanding Educator in 1993. Several honorary doctorate degrees and a feature on the Arts & Entertainment television network's series, "Biography" further exemplify the impact Ms. Darling has had in regards to education and literacy.

The National Humanities Medal, the Federal Government's highest honor recognizing achievement in the humanities, acknowledges individuals or groups whose work broadens citizens' engagement with and expands Americans' access to important resources in the humanities. By providing literary assistance to children and their parents, Ms. Darling's family literacy programs are helping reverse the disturbing trend of illiteracy in families, and improve the academic achievement of children. We all know that reading is critical to overall success in school—if a student cannot read the math problem, he cannot achieve in math—if he cannot read his science book, he cannot understand our changing world. Ms. Darling has striven toward the ideals personified by the National Humanities Medal, and her distinction is much deserved. I commend her on receiving this award, and thank her for the work she has done, and will continue to do.

HONORING MICHAEL P. GALAN

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael P. Galan for receiving the Citizen of the Year Award from the Sanger District Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Galan has devoted many years to service within the community of Sanger.

Mike Galan graduated from Contra Costa Junior College in 1966 and was hired by the University of Wisconsin to work for the National Science Foundation in Antarctica. While in Antarctica he explored the Queen Maude Land area—which had never been explored. A mountain ridge was named "The Galan Ridge" for his involvement in the expedition.

He returned to California, completed a degree at California State University, Sacramento, and, after many promotions with Western Kraft Paper, moved to Sanger as Plant Manager. He has made a tremendous impact on the community through his participation in numerous organizations. He has

been a member of the Rotary for seven years and the Sanger Chamber of Commerce for fifteen years. Mr. Galan is also a member of the Sanger Masonic Lodge and serves as a Trustee and on the Stewardship Committee for the Sanger Methodist Church. Regardless of his enormous community involvement Mike also spends a lot of time with his wife of 32 years, Karen, and their two sons, Justin and Raymond.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mike Galan for receiving the Citizen of the Year Award from Sanger Chamber of Commerce. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Mr. Galan for his community service and wishing him many more years of continued success.

### CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB

### HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize the Hamilton County Republican Women's Club of Cincinnati, Ohio, in celebration of its 75th anniversary.

Since 1927, this organization has diligently promoted and participated in our democratic process. The HCRWC has helped hundreds of candidates at the local, state, and federal levels, and supported countless issues of importance to the greater Cincinnati community.

Grassroots organizations like the HCRWC supply campaigns with dedicated volunteers who donate their own time to do the invaluable behind the scenes work necessary to keep the democratic electoral process functioning.

Mr. Speaker, organizations like the Hamilton County Republicans Women's Club are the backbone of the American political process. I wish the club and its members continued success in raising political awareness and increasing political participation in Cincinnati and beyond for years to come.

### TRIBUTE TO FAITH HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

### HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Faith Heritage High School Boys Basketball team for winning the Class D New York State Basketball Championship. The Faith Heritage Saints not only won the Class D State title, they did so in an impressive fashion, finishing the season with a perfect 27-0 record.

The Saints were led by first year coach Dan Sorber as well as strong leadership from the team's veteran members, which included six graduating seniors. The team had high expectations from the very beginning of the season, never settling for anything less than perfection. Their senior leadership and perseverance allowed them to emerge victoriously in the title game. They finished the season having ful-

filled all of their expectations and successfully completing the perfect season.

On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, it is my honor to congratulate the Faith Heritage Boys High School Basketball team and their coaching staff on their Class D State Basketball Championship. With these remarks, I would like to recognize the following players and staff. Jason Awad, David Booher, Joel Canino, Tim Halladay, Ryan Nellenback, Vivek Thiagarajan, BJ Dwyer, Paul Finch, Andrew Honess, Dan Loucy, Jacob Brunner, Cooper Stroman and Head Coach Dan Sorber.

### REMEMBERING ISABELLA ROSE LANCASTER, OF MOBILE, ALABAMA

### HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening in extremely sad, yet spiritually joyful remembrance of a little girl named Isabella Rose Lancaster, who was born December 20, 2001, and died April 14, 2002, in the arms of her beloved mother.

During the short four months she graced our world with her innocent presence, Isabella touched the hearts of everyone fortunate enough to have seen her, to have held her, and to have loved her. Chief among them was her mother, Caroline Anne-Marie Lancaster, of Mobile, Alabama, whom my prayers, sympathy, and thoughts are with this evening.

Friends and family gathered at St. Dominic's Catholic Church in Mobile earlier today to remember Isabella and to comfort Caroline, who cared for her little girl with all a mother's love.

We in Congress mourn the unexpected passing of Isabella, and pause to remember her this evening.

While there are no words from man that could ever provide the solace Caroline needs, we humbly ask the Holy Spirit to shine into her soul, and reassure her broken heart that little Isabella will forever walk beside her, forever sleep next to her, and will forever protect her until Mother and Daughter are reunited in Heaven with our loving Father, the Lord our God, and his Son, Jesus, who this very hour holds Isabella safely in the palm of His hand, and who truly knows Isabella's life has no end.

### HONORING DR. PAULA HARTMAN-STEIN

### HON. TOM SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Paula Hartman-Stein, a leading mental health advocate, is being inducted into the National Academies of Practice on April 13, 2002, after being elected a Distinguished Practitioner by the National Academies of Practice in Psychology. Founded in 1981, the National Academies of Practice is an organization devoted to promoting quality health care for all through interdisciplinary practice, education, and research.

Dr. Paula Hartman-Stein is the founder of the Center for Healthy Aging, a behavioral

health practice in Portage County, Ohio. A clinical psychologist with expertise in both healthy psychology and geropsychology, Dr. Hartman-Stein has taught psychological aspects of healthcare to internal medicine residents at Akron General Medical Center. Currently, she is an Adjunct Instructor at the Kent State University College of Nursing, a Senior Fellow at The Institute for Life Span Development and Gerontology at the University of Akron, and an on-line instructor for the Fielding Institute.

For almost 20 years, Dr. Hartman-Stein has helped individuals and families cope with the stress associated with caregiving and decision-making for older adults. Her work regarding assessment and therapy of older adults has been featured in many professional publications, including her 1998 edited book, *Innovative Behavioral Healthcare for Older Adults: A Guidebook for Changing Times*. For the past three years, she has been a regular columnist on public policy affecting older adults for the newspaper, *The National Psychologist*. She is considered a national expert in issues relating to Medicare and mental health.

Dr. Hartman-Stein received her doctorate from Kent State University and Master's degree from West Virginia University in Clinical Psychology. In addition, she received training through the Geriatric Clinician Development program at Case Western Reserve University.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SISTER  
ROSE MARIE KUJAWA

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Sister Rose Marie Kujawa as she is inaugurated as Madonna University's sixth president. I would also like to thank her for her extraordinary contributions to Madonna. For over twenty years, Sister Rose Marie has served Madonna, and every person with whom she has worked is eternally grateful for all she has accomplished.

On July 1, 001, Sister Rose Marie became Madonna's sixth president. Sister Rose Marie began her tenure with Madonna in 1975, organizing and teaching the first computer courses to be offered at the university. Later on, as an academic dean, Sister Rose Marie organized Madonna's first graduate program. During her term as academic vice president, the size of the faculty and the percentage of faculty members holding doctorates doubled. Further, the faculty teaching load was brought in line with national standards during Sister Rose Marie's tenure as academic vice president.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear Sister Rose Marie is a woman of great dedication to Madonna University. In addition to her outstanding service to Madonna, Sister Rose Marie is dedicated to improving the lives of others. She has served on the boards of a seminary, social services agencies, nursing homes, retreat centers, a hospice and a hospital. Additionally, she was elected to the leadership team of the Felician Sisters of the Livonia Province.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I submit this tribute to be included in the archives of the history of our country. It is women like Sister Rose

Marie Kujawa who make this nation great. I extend to her my congratulations as Madonna University celebrates her inaugural activities on April 20, 2002.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT  
OF COLUMBIA TAX INCENTIVES  
IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2002

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, during Tax Week in the Congress, I am introducing the District of Columbia Tax Incentives Improvement Act of 2002. The legislation builds on and adds to federal tax incentives I first pressed through Congress in 1997 in order to help produce market-based residential and business stability and growth. I believe the bill has a good chance of passage. This bill is necessary to assure even the sustained stability, let alone real economic growth, that still eludes the District economy and the city government. The bill is essential if the District is to become more economically diverse so that it is not overly dependent on just two sectors—tourism and federal offices. This federal tax package gives the city the tools it needs to begin to produce a self-sufficient economy. After the financial collapse of the 1990s, and after the sunset of the control board last year, Congress has an obligation to help the city do what is necessary to increase its own residential and commercial economic output and independence.

The city does not have that capacity today. Ominously, the District lacks the essential safety valve of other large cities—a state to fall back on in times of economic downturn and distress. The economic forecasters agree that because of congressionally imposed impediments to collecting the natural revenue available to states, including the inability to levy a tax on commuters, no matter how much the District reduces spending, expenditures will continue to grow faster than revenues for the foreseeable future. This trend places the District on a collision course, at worse to insolvency, at best to instability, if the Congress does not assist the District with economic tools to help the city capture its own, natural, steady revenue stream in the marketplace. The surpluses that brightened the city's hopes are trending toward a decline: \$185 million surplus in 1997 to a \$77.6 million in 2001. Because of congressional constraints on the ability of the District to collect revenue, the District faces an annual structural deficit of \$400 million, a figure projected to rise every year. The city's unemployment rate is 6.9% compared with 4.5% in Maryland and 4.1% in Virginia. This picture resembles other large cities in the United States. However, none of these cities survives on city-generated revenues alone, nor could it do so. State assistance is necessary not only to meet current expenses, but also to make up for sharply diminished tax bases in every other major American city.

Fortunately, the federal tax credit incentive approach already approved by Congress is having extraordinary success in promoting economic growth here. My bill will improve upon D.C.-only tax credits that leverage the private sector rather than the government to

do the job of growing the economy and will return many times the small tax revenue foregone by the federal government.

The District of Columbia Tax Incentives Improvement Act of 2002 that I introduce today has six important components: first and most important, treatment of the entire District of Columbia as an enterprise zone, to spread to all neighborhoods and businesses tax incentives that have brought substantial benefits to many communities but with the unintended effect of affording an unfair and arbitrary advantage to some businesses and neighborhoods over their competitors; (2) assuring that the tax benefits do not expire before their job is done by extending these D.C.-only federal enterprise zone benefits, to match other jurisdictions with similar benefits; (3) improvements to capital gains provisions, including zero capital gains taxation for businesses holding intangibles; (4) making the \$5000 homebuyer credit permanent, to ensure continuation of the tax incentive that is largely responsible for new homebuyers and for maintaining and attracting taxpayers to the city, and that is critical to helping the District achieve the 100,000 new residents necessary to sustain its stability; (5) releasing tax exempt bonds from the private activity bond limit in order to lift the constraints of a valuable tool for attracting businesses to build here; and (6) enacting triple tax exemption for D.C. securities, to put the District on par with the territories who do not pay taxes on their securities.

1. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CITY-WIDE ENTERPRISE  
ZONE

Several extraordinarily valuable enterprise zone tax benefits constitute the major financial tools that have been used for business revival and new commercial and office construction in the city. Among the most successful have been the wage tax credit allowing an employer a 20% credit for the first \$15,000 (\$3000) of an employee's income if that employee is a D.C. resident. This credit not only helps attract and retain businesses, it also helps to correct the severe imbalance that allows two-thirds of the jobs in the city to go to commuters. Another tax benefit, the elimination of capital gains altogether, is expanding and creating businesses in many city neighborhoods and downtown. A third tax incentive, tax exemption for up to \$15 million in bonds, is fueling much of the city's construction boom, and construction alone accounts for the major portion of the increased economic output of the District today.

However, because the District is small and compact, multiple enterprise zones have had unintended, discriminatory effects. High income university students with little personal income have brought Georgetown and Foggy Bottom businesses within the zone, but some businesses in struggling areas of Ward 5 do not qualify. The Willard Hotel can get \$3,000 off the first \$15,000 it pays any employee, but competitors such as the Hay Adams and the Washington Hilton, cannot. The Hay Adams, one of D.C.'s oldest and most distinguished hotels recently completed renovation of its facilities and helped return tourists to D.C. without the benefit of the \$15 million tax exempt bonds because it is not in the zone. These new provisions would eliminate an unearned advantage that forces competition among our already depleted pool of businesses instead of between those in and outside of the District.

The solution is to designate the District of Columbia itself an enterprise zone. Only this

solution will erase indefensible distinctions that tear neighborhoods apart and help some D.C. businesses, neighborhoods and residents over others that are similarly situated.

We are simply asking the Congress to do for the business tax breaks what it has already done for the Homebuyer credit: make it available in all parts of the city. The \$5,000 Homebuyer Tax Credit has always been citywide, and the success of its citywide approach shows that effective tax breaks can and should be used to encourage the economy throughout the city.

#### 2. EXTENDING THE LIFE OF THE D.C. ENTERPRISE ZONE BENEFITS

Currently, the District of Columbia Enterprise Zone Benefits (including the \$3,000 wage credit, zero percent capital gains taxation, tax exempt bonds) expire at the end of 2003. Last Congress, other jurisdictions which enjoy similar tax incentives, had their benefits extended until 2009. The Tax Incentives Improvement Act would extend the life of the D.C. Enterprise Zone Benefits to 2009 to match those of other states.

Since 1997, the economic impact of these valuable tax incentives have been felt across the city, and the evidence of their clear success has enabled me to renew these benefits several times. The evidence is now so convincing that I am seeking not only to renew but to enhance and improve the benefits. In return for hiring D.C. residents, local businesses have claimed hundreds of thousands of dollars in \$3,000 employment tax credits which has resulted in the hiring of D.C. residents as required to receive any tax breaks. Representative D.C. businesses that have claimed wage credits include hotels and restaurants, retailers (such as Safeway Foods, CVS Drugs, and Subway Restaurants), offices, janitorial and maintenance services, parking facilities, and telephone, electric, and gas utilities. Although the Internal Revenue Service does not have a mechanism that captures the amount of wage credits claimed, there are thousands of representative examples throughout the city: an accounting firm with 15 District clients that documented claims of \$1.9 million over three years; a D.C. manufacturer that claimed tax credits of \$400,000 over the same period; a partnership that owns a D.C. hotel that claimed credits of more than \$500,000 each year since 1998; and one of the District's largest hotel operators, for tax year 2001, will claim employment tax credits of more than \$1.7 million.

In addition, more than \$150 million in tax exempt bonds have been issued on behalf of new and expanding for-profit businesses, including such neighborhood retail businesses as K-Mart and CVS Drugs; tourist destinations such as the new International Spy Museum; commercial parking facilities, and social service providers such as the United Planning Organization. Specific amounts include: \$11.3 million in tax exempt bonds for the Arnold and Porter law firm; \$13 million for a subsidiary of Pepco; \$9 million for the Crowell and Moring law firm; and \$4.5 million for the American Immigration Lawyers Association. The current pipeline consists of projects valued at over \$150 million.

#### 3. IMPROVEMENTS TO CAPITAL GAINS PROVISION

The District seeks the high technology and computer companies that have made the rest of the region rich and that can help diversify the city's economy. Under current federal en-

terprise zone law, elimination of taxes on capital gains (such as increases in the value of investments in stock or property), does not apply to earnings to D.C. companies and entrepreneurs whose assets consist substantially of so-called "intangible" assets (those assets which do not have a physical substance). The most common types of businesses that deal principally in intangibles are information-based technology companies, including those that develop software or maintain Internet sites. Recently, the Internal Revenue Service ruled that businesses in the District holding intangibles could not receive the zero percent capital gains taxation allowed in many neighborhoods in the D.C. enterprise zone. My bill allows technology and other companies to receive the special capital gains treatment subject to appropriate safeguards to ensure that D.C. is not used by such companies as a tax haven.

My bill also makes other important improvements to the capital gains provisions in the D.C. enterprise zone law, including reducing the holding period for assets from five years to two years to help spur investment and growth and reducing the amount of business that must be derived from the zone to receive the special capital gains treatment. Currently, District businesses must derive 80% of their business from the enterprise zone while other jurisdictions only have to derive 50%. My bill corrects this inequity.

#### 4. MAKING THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA A PERMANENT \$5,000 HOMEBUYER CREDIT JURISDICTION

This provision would make permanent the \$5,000 Homebuyer Credit, perhaps the most successful economic stimulus in the city's history. It is chiefly responsible for stemming the flight that almost destroyed the city's tax base during the 1980s and during the financial crisis and insolvency of the 1990s. The credit offers significant evidence that a tightly targeted tax incentive can have a major turnaround effect on a major problem confronting a city.

The credit has been so successful that we have recommended that states do the same for the many large cities that are rapidly losing taxpayers. In 1998, its first full year, despite the city's financial problems and damaged reputation, the credit made the District first in home sales increases in the United States. According to an independent study by the Greater Washington Research Center covering a portion of 1997 and all of 1998, 70% of D.C. homebuyers have used the credit, and 51% purchased homes because of the credit. In 1999 alone, single family home sales have risen in the District by over 10,000 homes. Fannie Mae has converted the \$5,000 credit into up-front money towards the purchase of a home, affording the credit significantly greater value to the individual.

The \$5,000 homebuyer credit proved itself so quickly and so well that I have been able to get it repeatedly extended by Congress. The credit is minimally necessary if the city is to have any chance of increasing its still small and depleted tax base, an urgent necessity for self-sufficiency. The credit has proved itself so definitively that to get the full effect, it should be enacted permanently.

#### 5. EXEMPT ENTERPRISE ZONE BONDS FROM PRIVATE ACTIVITY BOND LIMIT

Under legislation recently enacted by the Congress, Enterprise Zone bonds issued to finance commercial development projects in Empowerment Zones and Renewal Communities are exempt from the federal Private Ac-

tivity Bond Limit or PAB. The PAB is the state's annual authorized limit for total tax-exempt bonds projects. Currently, that limit is \$150 million per year in the District. The failure to apply this exclusion to the District places the city at a competitive disadvantage with the states, particularly with respect to housing and retail projects. My bill levels the playing field and exempts the District from the \$150 million limit, as well as from the \$15 million per project limit, to give the District the tools to attract economic development projects to the city.

#### 6. TRIPLE TAX EXEMPTION FOR DISTRICT SECURITIES

Generally, local jurisdictions that issue securities, such as bonds and notes, are subjected to three different levels of taxation—federal, state, and local. Unlike these jurisdictions, the District is the only local government in the continental United States that does not have a state to assist it in supporting basic government functions and services. Although Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa do not have state support either, they have been granted an exemption of federal, state, and local taxes (or triple tax exemption) on their securities (bonds and notes issued by the Council) to help make up for this deficiency. My bill ends the District's inequitable treatment and exempts District securities, like those in the territories without state aid, from federal, state, and local taxation.

### PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3762, the so-called Pension Security Act of 2002. As we all learned as a result of the monumental collapse of Enron, our pension system needs to be fixed to ensure that Americans' retirement savings are protected.

This bill brought before us today, however, does not ensure this protection. What it does ensure is political cover for the majority so they appear to be protecting people's retirement savings while not creating friction with their corporate allies.

H.R. 3762 doesn't really solve the problems we witnessed last year from the Enron debacle. The majority's bill still restricts employees from selling existing company stock in their pension accounts during the five-year phase-in, and requires them to hang on to employer stock for three years after it is contributed. While employees are restricted during this time, however, company executives would still be free to trade their own stock as they wished.

The substitute bill, which I support, has no such five-year phase-in and allows employees to sell employer stock immediately, once they have been in the plan for three years. The substitute also ensures that employees will know, within three days, when executives are dumping large amounts of their company stock. Ken Lay used loopholes in securities laws to delay disclosure of sales of millions of dollars of company stock. Had employees known about these sales, they may have decided not to continue to purchase Enron stock.

The substitute ensures that such information could not be kept from employees. Also, the substitute holds executives accountable for selling company stock in their special pension accounts by including stiff new criminal penalties for violations.

H.R. 3762 also allows companies to offer workers investment advice, even if there is a clear conflict of interest. For example, an investment management company could serve as both the investment advisor and the plan manager chosen by the company.

I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 3672, support the substitute, and help protect the savings of hard-working Americans. The Pension Security Act of 2002 is nothing more than lip service to protecting pensions. 15,000 Enron employees lost more than \$1.3 billion. Clearly this calls for Congress to provide real security and real pension protection and reform of the system that allowed Enron officials to pull the sheets over the eyes of their employees. That is what the Rangel/Miller substitute does and that is the bill I will support. Thank you.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BOB CLEMENT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 94, H.R. 4156, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT 1ST CLASS DANIEL AARON ROMERO

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and a tremendous amount of respect and admiration that I rise today to honor the tragic, yet heroic death of Colorado Army National Guard Sergeant 1st Class, Daniel Aaron Romero. On April 15, 2002, near Qandahar, Afghanistan, Sergeant Romero gave his life for his country, while fighting the battle against the evils of terrorism during Operation Noble Eagle. Upon reflection of his life and service to this nation, we have come to know Sergeant Daniel Romero as a man who loved his family, loved his home State of Colorado, and loved his country.

Born in Longmont, CO, Daniel was the only son of proud parents, Michael and GERALYN Romero. While earning his living as a Colorado rancher, Daniel decided to concurrently serve with the Colorado Army National Guard in 1991.

Sergeant Romero rose through the ranks of the Colorado Army National Guard, receiving the Army Service Ribbon, Non-Commissioned Officers Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, and the Colorado Service Ribbon with device. Eventually, Sergeant Romero became a member of the select B/5-19th Special Forces Group, headquartered in Pueblo, CO. This elite group of soldiers is known for parachuting at high altitudes, rappelling from helicopters face first, and furtively permeating

enemy lines. In December 2001, he was placed on active duty to serve in Operation Noble Eagle.

Sergeant Daniel Romero is survived by his wife Stephanie, mother GERALYN, father MICHAEL, and sisters Gabrielle and Stephanie. I am sure I speak for this entire Nation when I say our thoughts and prayers go out to the Romero family. May God send His grace upon them during the time of this tragic loss, and may Daniel's bravery and selflessness become the proud example for all those actively serving in America's War Against Terrorism.

HONORING ONCOLOGY NURSES AND THE ONCOLOGY NURSING SOCIETY

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the important and essential role that oncology nurses play in the provision of quality cancer care. These nurses are principally involved in the administration and monitoring of chemotherapy and the associated side-effects patients may experience. As anyone ever treated for cancer will tell you, oncology nurses are intelligent, well-trained, highly skilled, kind-hearted angels who provide quality clinical, psychosocial, and supportive care to patients and their families. In short, they are integral to our Nation's cancer care delivery system.

The setting for cancer treatment has changed over the last 10 years. Today, more than four out of five cancer encounters occur in community settings, where the majority of cancer care is provided by oncology nurses. However, Medicare does not adequately reimburse the administration of chemotherapy by oncology nurses, which are referred to as practice expenses. Last September, the General Accounting Office released a study indicating that Medicare's drug reimbursement system, based upon the Average Wholesale Price (AWP), is severely flawed and drug payments are inflated. While I strongly support the efforts to reform the AWP system and ensure that Medicare does not overpay for any supplies, I also believe that Medicare should not underpay for any benefits or services.

Today, more than two-thirds of cancer cases strike people over the age of 65 and the number of cancer cases diagnosed among senior citizens is projected to double by 2030. At the same time, many of the community-based cancer centers are facing significant barriers in hiring the specialized oncology nurses they need to treat cancer patients. It is estimated that there will be 115,000 nursing positions open in the year 2015.

The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) is the largest organization of oncology health professionals in the world with more than 30,000 registered nurses and other health care professionals. Since 1975, the Oncology Nursing Society has been dedicated to excellence in patient care, teaching, research, administration and education in the field of oncology. Of the 13 ONS chapters in the State of Texas, one is located in the Houston area. These chapters serve the oncology nurses in the state and help them to continue to provide high

quality cancer care to those patients and their families in the State.

In particular, I would like to acknowledge nine special oncology nurses from my district who will be in Washington this week to participate in the ONS Annual Congress and the ONS inaugural Hill Day—Glenda Alexander, Laura Espinosa, Visitacion Junpratepchai, Sherry Preston, and Ellen Siegel from Houston, Vickie Dockery from Alief, Cynthia Segal and Paula Rieger from Bellaire, and Susan Stary from Pasadena. I am looking forward to meeting with these outstanding women who have dedicated their lives to improving the health and well being of people affected by cancer. On behalf of all the people with cancer and their families in Texas' 25th Congressional District, I thank these nurses as well as all of their colleagues in the Oncology Nursing Society for their outstanding contributions to the provision of quality cancer care to those in need.

I would like to also acknowledge Paula Rieger for her leadership within the Oncology Nursing Society. For the past 2 years, Paula has served as the ONS President of the Board of Directors and has been an outstanding leader and spokesperson for the organization. I have had the pleasure of working with ONS and Ms. Rieger over the past few years to advance programs and policies that work to reduce suffering from cancer. Her leadership and vision for ONS have resulted in the organization being more aggressive and effective in its health policy efforts. In addition, through her commitment to outreach and collaboration, ONS has expanded and strengthened its partnerships with other health professional, patient, and advocacy organizations. This week Ms. Rieger is stepping down from the ONS Board of Directors. I thank her for her commitment to ONS, for advancing oncology nursing, and for caring for the people of the greater Houston area.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Oncology Nursing Society for all of its efforts and leadership over the last 27 years and thank the Society and its members for their ongoing commitment to improving and assuring access to quality cancer care for all cancer patients and their families. I urge all of my colleagues to support them in their important endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL MICHEAL J. COLEMAN

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

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Colonel Micheal J. Coleman to the U.S. Army. I join his family, friends, and colleagues as they celebrate his accomplishments and congratulate him on his retirement from 27 years of service in the U.S. Army.

Colonel Coleman is a native of Montgomery, AL, and earned a bachelor of science degree in Business Administration in December 1975 from Alabama A&M University. Immediately after graduation, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Adjutant General Corps and entered active duty on January 6, 1976, thus beginning his long and successful

career with the U.S. Army. Since that time, Colonel Coleman has served in various capacities in Stuttgart, Germany; Raleigh, NC; Izmir, Turkey; Alexandria, VA; Washington, DC; and at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, AL. He achieved a masters of arts degree from Webster University as well as graduated from many other distinguished military educational programs. On March 28, 2002, he will retire from his position as the Director of Personnel and Training for the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal. I know the people of Redstone Arsenal will miss his outstanding leadership, but wish him a well-deserved retirement.

Colonel Coleman has earned a great deal of respect from his colleagues, receiving several military awards throughout his career. His awards include the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal Second Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal Fourth Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Commendation Medal Third Oak Leaf Cluster, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the National Defense Ribbon, the Army Staff Identification Badge, the Army Parachute Badge, and the Army Superior Unit Badge.

This is a deserved retirement for someone who has worked so diligently for the United States to protect our freedom and defend our nation. I join his wife, Carolyn, his sons PJ and Casey, and all of his friends, family, and colleagues in celebrating Colonel Micheal J. Coleman's 27 years of service. On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I congratulate Colonel Coleman and express my gratitude for a job well done.

HONORING MICHAEL FORDE AND  
THE NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT  
COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Michael Forde, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the New York City District Council of Carpenters and the over 300 men and women who have dedicated everyday, 24 hours a day, to the clean up effort at the World Trade Center Site.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Forde is a leader in the New York City labor community as the Secretary-Treasurer of the largest Carpenters Union in the Country representing over 25,000 members.

On September 11, the District Council under the leadership of Michael Forde, wasted no time in being some of the first men and women outside of rescue workers and public safety officers to be on the scene of Ground Zero. During the first days after the destruction of the Trade Center, union carpenters worked around the clock helping to clear debris, insuring the structural safety of the area for rescue workers and engaging in the search themselves for survivors of the attack.

As a union based in Lower Manhattan, the District Council of Carpenters has a long and strong history of working to make New York City the financial capital that it is today.

The quick, untiring and heroic response of the men and women of the District Council of Carpenters would not have been as extensive

or effective if it was not for the leadership of Michael Forde.

Mr. Speaker, I have known Michael Forde for many years. He was born in the Bronx, moved to Woodside, Queens, in my congressional district where he graduated from Christi High School in Astoria. He received his B.A. in Business Administration from Hunter College.

Mike started in the carpentry field as an apprentice during the construction of the World Trade Center in the early 1970s. Through hard work, dedication to his craft, exceptional leadership skills and a strong commitment to his fellow union brothers and sisters, he rose through the ranks to become a foreman, general foreman, shop steward, president and business manager of Local 608 and ultimately to his present position.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Forde is just one among many. I rise today not only to pay tribute to him and to recognize his work to help rebuild Lower Manhattan and Ground Zero, but I rise to recognize all the men and women of the New York City District Council of Carpenters. These men and women have showed exceptional dedication, fulfilling the task at hand and they will play a critical role in the tasks of the future rebuilding Lower Manhattan and Ground Zero.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to insure that we as a Congress recognize the work the New York District Council of Carpenters did and the work they continue to do to rebuild Lower Manhattan.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE IRON WORKERS TO THE RECOVERY OF NEW YORK

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, for every American, September 11th, 2001 means one thing. It is a day that we, as a Nation, suffered as we had never before. As I watched the events of the day unfold from my home in the Bronx, like most, I thought of my family and their safety.

Some others though, had thoughts of only one thing—how can I help. Hundreds of firefighters, police officers, and emergency medical personnel and, yes, construction workers, went running to what was left of the Twin Towers to try and save lives. We should all feel proud of the many men and women who went to Ground Zero, such as the Iron Workers.

In fact, it was Iron Workers who had one of the toughest jobs. These men and women were charged with sifting through that nightmare and they did so with great dignity and compassion for those who lost their lives and their families. As I have watched this amazing transformation, I have swelled with pride, for I have a special place in my heart for these men and women who are Iron Workers, because so was my father.

Today, I have the honor of recognizing two great trade union leaders, Ed Walsh and Robert Ledwith, Both of these men have dedicated their lives to their families, their communities, and their unions.

Just last month, Ed Walsh became the President of the Iron Workers District Council

of Greater New York and Vicinity. Ed Walsh started his career with the Iron Workers in 1968 working as an apprentice for three years. He became a journeyman Ironworker union member in 1971. Through three decades he moved up the ranks until becoming the Business Manager of Local 40 in 1995. In March 2002, Ed was appointed as General Organizer for the International and became President of the Iron Workers District Council of Greater New York and Vicinity, an affiliate of the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers.

Ed resides in Mamaroneck, New York with his wife Kathy. He has two sons, Christopher and Kevin. Kevin has decided to follow his father's footsteps and is currently an apprentice with Iron Workers Local 40. Ed Walsh comes from a union tradition. His father and brothers John and Bob are union ironworkers, his brother Jim is a retired union carpenter, and his brother is a retired New York City Police Officer.

Bob Ledwith serves as Business Manager and Financial Secretary-Treasurer of the Metallic Lathers Union and Reinforcing Iron Workers Local 46. Bob Ledwith was elected as Business Agent for the Metallic Lathers Union and Reinforcing Iron Workers Local 46 in June 1981. He was elected Business Manager and Financial Secretary-Treasurer in 1999 and continues to serve in that capacity today.

Through the haze and the numbness caused by September 11th, something was shining through. The American Spirit. The men and women of the Iron Workers are the embodiment of that Spirit. It gave us all a sense of hope and a sense of pride.

LEHIGH VALLEY HERO—HANOVER  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to share my Report from Pennsylvania for my colleagues and the American people.

All across Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District there are some amazing people who do good things to make our communities a better place. These are individuals of all ages who truly make a difference and help others. I like to call these individuals Lehigh Valley Heroes for their good deeds and efforts.

Today, I would like to recognize the fifth graders and teachers at Hanover Elementary School in Bethlehem. These students and teachers are true examples of excellence in education.

This year, Hanover Elementary, for the second year in a row had the highest PSSA scores in all of Pennsylvania. The 69 students scored 1630 in math and 1570 in reading, well above the state average of 1310 in both areas. The students outscored 3,800 public and private elementary schools across the state!

I recently had the opportunity to attend a reception in honor of these students and teachers, and offer my congratulations. The teachers deserve much credit for their hard work and dedication. They obviously inspired their

students to want to achieve academically. They have shown that when we raise academic standards, we raise academic performance.

These teachers who make a difference everyday and students who excelled way beyond expectations are Lehigh Valley Heroes in my book. They are as follow: Carol Leasure, Principal; Earl Bethel, 5th grade teacher; Patrice Masluk Schwartzman, 5th grade teacher; and Amanda Shuler, 5th grade teacher.

Students are: Sophia Abud, Erin Albertson, Matthew Ammon, Darren Ankrom, Philip Antonis, Amal Atiyeh, Peter Badger, Monica Bates, Rachel Bochner, Jaimie Boyd, Lauren Burlew, Christopher Cann, Andrew Cass, Rakesh Chauhan, Dilesh Chudasama, Nicholas D'Angelo, Brittany Dellatore, Gregory DeSarro, Owen Divers, Lance Dolci, Roberta Domyan, Caitlin Donnelly, Brittney Dunnigan, Austin Emmons, Donnarae Farrell, Luke Foley, Shawn Forouraghi, Maria Gentis, Erin Glenn, Alexander Haller, Benjamin Haskins, Andrew Hero, John Hrubenak, Christie Jones, Kayleigh Kalamar, Patrice Kane, Ryan Kassis, Carl Kolepp, Nicole Kyriakopoulos, Gregory Laudenslager, Alaina Loguidice, Kyle Longmecker, John Lule, Kevin McCarthy, Drew Mihalik, Brian Miller, Mark Moyer, Bradley Pendzick, Gregory Pendzick, Lauren Perlman, Matthew Piazza, Ashley Plummer, Alexander Pypiuk, Jason Ricles, Kayleigh Rider, Daniel Rivera, Ethan Saravitz, Robert Sawyer, Matthew Searfoss, Emilie Segretto, Mark Segretto, Paul Segretto, Jared Serman, Christopher Smith, Robert Stauffer, Sergio Tercha, Emily Turner, Steven Walsh, and Rebecca Yaple.

Mr. Speaker, this concludes my Report from Pennsylvania.

PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 11, 2002*

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3762, the Pension Security Act of 2002. This legislation is not only a step in addressing areas such as blackout periods and diversification in retirement accounts, it is an important step towards giving workers throughout my state of Kansas, and the rest of America, the peace of mind and security they deserve when planning for retirement.

This bill, based on the President's pension reform proposal, contains new safeguards and options to help workers preserve and enhance their retirement security, and demands greater accountability from companies and senior corporate executives during so-called "blackout periods" when workers are not allowed to make changes to investments in their retirement accounts.

The Pension Security Act would have made a real difference in the lives of thousands of Enron employees and investors if these measures had existed at the time of the company's collapse. For example, under this bill, diversification and sound investment advice would have been readily available because investment advisors would have been made more accessible and employers would have been forced to take responsibility for anything that

happened to employee retirement savings during blackout periods. Companies would have also been required to provide 30-day advance notice of a blackout period.

Mr. Speaker, I believe Congress has a responsibility to fully protect workers and give them the ability to enhance their retirement savings. Enron workers may well be the victims of criminal wrongdoing, but they were definitely the victims of outdated federal pensions laws. Let's prevent this from happening again. Pass the Pension Security Act.

YOM HA'ATZMAUT

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of Israel's Independence Day. Fifty-four years as the sole democracy in the Middle East is a huge accomplishment. As a member of Congress, and a friend of Israel, I know that she will have 54 more, and counting! This is only a beginning.

Israel has faced many tough times since 1948, like the one now. Over the past 18 months, Israel has continued to battle hatred on a daily basis. This hatred is terrorism. It is murder. Israel has every right to defend herself against terrorism. When innocent civilians are murdered, over and over again, Israel has no choice but to take action.

I don't think it is unreasonable for Israel to root out terrorists. I think it's natural, and expected, and it must be done just like America's efforts in Afghanistan. But for the past couple of weeks, Israel has been criticized by many for her military action against terrorism, and lack of compassion for Palestinians. But what other choice does Israel have?

Is Israel supposed to wave suicide bombers through the checkpoints, allow wanted terrorists to go without arrest? Are we to expect Israel to sit by and watch her country crumble, and her people be murdered in groups of 20 while they sip coffee at cafes? No.

I firmly believe that difficult decisions will be made in order to achieve a permanent peace. I also think one of the decisions was Israel's resistance to international pressure to end the military operation. Israel entered towns in the West Bank with a plan: to root out terrorism. Obviously, there was an exit strategy to be used once the terrorists were caught.

Recently, Israel announced her upcoming withdrawal from almost all of the towns she entered. I commend Israel's decision to withdraw only after the operation is complete. So does the upcoming withdrawal of troops bring Israel back to where she was? Can we expect Israel to compromise should daily suicide bombings begin again? No.

Terrorism is not something you can compromise with, it is not something to reward. What I know is this. Israel will survive this crisis. Israel will continue to do what is necessary to rid the country of terrorists. If terrorist attacks end, military action will end, and more difficult decisions in the name of peace will be made. What those decision are, I can't tell you. No one can.

But last Sunday, I joined 3,000 of my constituents in a pro-Israel rally on Long Island. Many of those constituents were Jewish; oth-

ers, like myself, were Christian. These same people participated the weekend before at a rally in New York City. They also traveled with over 100,000 other Americans to the Capitol on Monday for a national rally. Regardless of their religion, they are standing up for their beliefs.

Terrorism must be destroyed. Not only here, but in Israel, and in many other countries. The US firmly believes in this, and I know Israel will continue to enjoy broad support as she eliminates terrorist threats from her borders. Israel will always have a friend and ally in the US government.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DENNIS MAYS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the impeccable motor carrier safety record of Mr. Dennis Mays of Blue Springs, Missouri. Mr. Mays is a professional motor carrier operator for Roadway Express, Inc.

According to the most recent information from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, large trucks drove 7 percent of all vehicle miles traveled. In motor vehicle crashes, large trucks represented 9 percent of vehicles in fatal crashes, 3 percent of vehicles in injury crashes, and 5 percent of vehicles in property-damage-only crashes.

Mr. Mays reached a safety milestone when he recently surpassed one million miles driven without a preventable accident. This outstanding achievement, obtained by few drivers, demonstrates Mr. Mays' commitment to safety. To put this accomplishment in perspective, the average car driver would have to travel around the world forty times to equal this milestone.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Dennis Mays for reaching this noteworthy milestone. I am proud to have a constituent as dedicated to highway safety as he is, and I wish him continued safe driving in the future.

PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 11, 2002*

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3762. This important legislation makes significant improvements in protecting the retirement accounts of America's working men and women. H.R. 3762 takes a sensible approach in ensuring that employees have the best access to their retirement accounts possible, and are able to make informed investment decisions in those accounts.

In particular, I'd like to congratulate the sponsors of this legislation for a provision in the bill dealing with restricting insiders from selling their shares during periods when their employees don't have the same freedom. When the facts of the Enron bankruptcy became known, all of us were horrified to learn

that at the same time Enron's hard working employees were helplessly watching their retirement dreams disappear, Enron insiders were reaping millions of dollars in profits from selling their shares.

No employee should be forced to sit idly by while his or her retirement account plummets. Although it is understood that at times these accounts must be serviced in such a way that there must be temporary restrictions on transactions, it is only fair that corporate insiders face these same restrictions when these lockdowns happen by surprise.

H.R. 3762 is primarily about giving employees greater freedom in preparing for their retirement. When this freedom is unexpectedly taken away, corporate officers and directors have a duty, indeed a moral obligation, to share that burden. H.R. 3762's provisions on retirement account lockdowns are a sensible way to ensure that insiders are held accountable.

Mr. Chairman, section 108 of the bill contains language which falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Financial Services. Our own legislation, H.R. 3763, contains similar language. I am including for the record an exchange of letters between myself and the other gentleman from Ohio, Mr. BOEHNER, indicating that we have no objection to the consideration of this language in this bill.

I congratulate Chairman BOEHNER, Chairman THOMAS, Mr. PORTMAN, and all the Members who have worked so hard to protect America's workers. I strongly urge my colleagues to vote for these much needed reforms, and I thank the Leadership for bringing H.R. 3762 to the floor today.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,  
Washington, DC, April 9, 2002.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,  
Chairman, Committee on Education and the  
Workforce, Rayburn House Office Building,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BOEHNER: I am writing regarding H.R. 3762, the Pension Security Act of 2002. As you know, section 107 of the bill reported by your Committee contains a provision addressing the sale of stock by the directors and officers of public companies during 401(k) blackout periods. Clause 1(g) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives grants the Committee on Financial Services jurisdiction over securities and exchanges and the Committee was given an additional referral of this bill upon its introduction.

Because of your willingness to consult with the Committee on Financial Services on this matter, and the need to move this legislation expeditiously, I will waive consideration of the bill by the Financial Services Committee. By agreeing to waive its consideration of the bill, the Financial Services Committee does not waive its jurisdiction over H.R. 3762. In addition, the Committee on Financial Services reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provisions of the bill that are within the Financial Services Committee's jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this legislation. I ask your commitment to support any request by the Committee on Financial Services for conferees on H.R. 3762 or related legislation.

I request that you include this letter and your response in the portion of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD pertaining to consideration of this legislation. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL G. OXLEY,  
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE  
WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, April 9, 2002.

Hon. MICHAEL G. OXLEY,  
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,  
U.S. House of Representatives, Rayburn  
HOB, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN OXLEY: This letter is to confirm our agreement regarding H.R. 3762, "Pension Security Act of 2002," which was also referred to the Committee on Financial Services. The Committee on Education and the Workforce considered this bill on March 20, 2002. I thank you for working with me on Sec. 107, "Insider Trades During Pension Plan Suspension Periods Prohibited," which is within the sole jurisdiction of the Committee on Financial Services.

I appreciate your willingness to expedite consideration of H.R. 3762 without the need for further consideration by the Committee on Financial Services. I agree that this procedural route should not be construed to prejudice the jurisdictional interest and prerogatives of the Committee on Financial Services on these provisions or any other similar legislation and will not be considered as precedent for consideration of matters of jurisdictional interest to your Committee in the future.

Again, I thank you for your consideration in this matter. Your letter and this response will be included in the Congressional Record during floor debate on this bill. If you have questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

JOHN BOEHNER,  
Chairman.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE RALPH E.  
BIGGER SR., ON HIS INDUCTION  
INTO THE U.P. LABOR HALL OF  
FAME

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the late Ralph E. Bigger Sr., a resident of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, who during his lifetime was a strong advocate on behalf of working men and women.

Ralph was born in 1907 and grew up in the small town of Big Bay, on the shore of Lake Superior. Mr. Speaker, you and other members may remember Big Bay as one of the settings for the famous James Stewart movie, "Anatomy of a Murder." Picturesque it may have been, but this remote area demanded hard work for a family to survive. Because his parents both suffered physical disabilities, young Ralph, the oldest of six children, quit school in the seventh grade to take a job in a local sawmill. In the mid-1920s he moved to nearby Marquette to work at another sawmill, and at the age of 24 he took a job with Cliff-Dow Chemical, where he would work for the next 37 years until his death in 1968.

Throughout his career, Ralph was a strong advocate of the labor movement. He served as a business representative of Local 179 of the International Chemical Workers Union. He fought hard for decent wages and he fought for medical insurance, which, when we consider his own personal history, was probably his most important issue.

Ralph was also very active in politics, including campaign work for Congressman Ben-

nett and the late Michigan State Rep. Dominic Jacobetti, himself a legend in Michigan politics and state government. Ralph also traveled to union conventions around the country and was elected president of the Marquette Central Labor Union in 1949. Ralph also served as Marquette Township Constable.

During his employment with Cliff-Dow, Ralph founded his own logging business and later got into brick supply with his sons. His company's contributions can be seen in many of the prominent buildings in Marquette County, including most of the structures on the campus of Northern Michigan University.

Mr. Speaker, Ralph Bigger will be honored on Saturday, April 20, with his induction into the U.P. Labor Hall of Fame at a banquet at the university. I ask you and my House colleagues to join me in giving long-overdue recognition to the efforts of this spokesman for the working men and women of northern Michigan.

FAMILY FARM AND RANCH  
INNOVATION ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to help ensure that our Nation's family farms and ranches continue to produce the agricultural products that have made us the breadbasket for the world.

Small family farms and ranches helped build the foundation of America. Thomas Jefferson once wrote in a letter to George Washington, "Agriculture is our wisest pursuit, because it will in the end contribute most to real wealth, good morals, and happiness." Today many small farms and ranches have disappeared. This is in part because the smaller farms and ranches have not been able to change to more profitable means of production. To continue as a viable business in agriculture farmers and ranchers need to be able to use modern techniques that increase profitability, and do it in a manner that is environmentally sound.

As a friend of mine, W.R. Stealey reminded me when I was first elected to the Colorado Legislature, "if you eat, you are in agriculture."

The Family Farm and Ranch Innovation Act (FFRIA) would provide necessary tools for small agriculture businesses to modernize and become more competitive in today's market, access to credit and a plan to turn the credit into increased revenue.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Commission on Small Farms report titled A Time to Act found, "The underlying trend toward small farm decline reflects fundamental technological and market changes. Simply put, conventional agriculture adds less and less value to food and fiber on the farm and more and more in the input and post-harvest sectors. We spend more on capital and inputs to enable fewer people to produce the Nation's food and look primarily to off-farm processing to produce higher value products. Sustainable agriculture strives to change this trend by developing knowledge and strategies by which farmers can capture a large share of the agricultural dollar by using management skills to cut input costs—so a large share of

the prices they receive for their products remain in their own pockets—and by producing products of higher value right from the farm.” (In context of the report farms include ranches.)

The innovation plans in FFRIA, to be developed with the USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service, would provide the blueprints to increase the value of farm and ranch outputs.

The report also found, “Agricultural operations require high levels of committed capital to achieve success. The capital-intensive nature of agricultural production makes access to financial capital, usually, in the form of credit, a critical requirement. Small farms are no different from larger farms in this regard, but testimony and USDA reports received by this Commission indicate a general under-capitalization of small farms, and increased difficulty in accessing sources of credit.” If small farms and ranches are going to use improved technologies laid out in innovation plans they will need capital. The Small Business Administration’s 7(a) loan program has a long history of helping small businesses and would be a great tool for small farmers and ranchers to implement their plans.

America’s small farms and ranches need a hand up to remain viable in our rapidly changing marketplace. Often today’s small agriculture businesses are family owned and have only a very small profit margin. The combination of low market prices for raw agricultural commodities and the rising cost of land means that many of these businesses cannot afford to carry on. And that causes more urbanization of valuable farm and ranch land.

This legislation recognizes the importance of our small farming and ranching businesses. They provide diversity in the marketplace, local production of food, less pollution, and jobs, all of which strengthen our economy. And farms and ranches that are part of our community remind us that food and other agricultural products don’t just come from stores, they remind us of our connection to the land.

Mr. Speaker, small farms and ranches have provided the livelihood for many families since the beginning of our country. This bill will help ensure small farms and ranches do not become a thing of the past by providing the technical expertise and capital to allow them to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

#### PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

### HON. BRIAN BAIRD

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 11, 2002*

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, while I am a co-sponsor of the Investment Advice Act and agree that workers should be allowed access to professional investment advice, I can not support the Republican pension legislation that is before us today. Unfortunately, the bill offered by the majority fails to include basic reforms that are necessary to ensure that future employees do not suffer the same fate of Enron employees. The flawed Republican bill fails to provide for diversification of stock plans, fails to give notice when executives are dumping company stock and continues to jeopardize employee savings.

Thousands of workers at Portland General Electric lost their life savings when their pension plans evaporated in the Enron collapse. Throughout the last six months, I have heard their horror stories, many of whom are my constituents. They tell me about their worthless retirement plans, shattered dreams and uncertain futures because of the undeniable corporate mismanagement that was pervasive at Enron. I can not in good faith support legislation that does not address the concerns of these employees and will not prevent future Enrons from happening.

Mr. Speaker, I support the Democratic alternative that offers a real change in the protections afforded to employees. The Democratic pension reform bill provides new stiff criminal penalties for executives and pension plan managers who engage in illegal insider trading or provide misinformation to employees. The bill requires that notice be given to employees when CEOs and executives decide to dump their company’s stock and the Democratic alternative offers employees a voice, on pension boards, where they can gain timely and accurate information about their pensions.

I encourage all Members to vote against the Republican pension reform bill and vote to protect the savings of our nation’s workers.

#### TRIBUTE TO SALVATORE GULLA

### HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Salvatore Gulla, a gifted educator, artist and craftsman who has spent his life teaching and sharing. Sal will turn 75 years old on Wednesday and will celebrate at a party given by family and friends.

He is a vibrant, dynamic, and caring man who served on the New York City Board of Education for over 30 years. Along with Sal’s years of educating New York’s youth in the field of academia, he has devoted much of his life to educating young people in the arts. Sal has thoroughly enriched thousands of students throughout the years and shaped young people in so many ways. Sal was a significant part of my formative years and I was one of those young people that he helped to shape.

Mr. Speaker, Salvatore Gulla is a founding member and Artistic Director of the South Bronx Community Action Theatre. Along with Mr. Fred Daris, Sal had a vision to introduce the beauty and power of the performing arts to South Bronx youth. Through this theatre alone Sal changed the lives of many children and young people who never knew that the arts could be a part of their lives. When he was not designing masterful costumes or directing set constructions, Sal was facilitating workshops in performing and visual arts.

Sal is an authentic and pure artist who celebrates every form of art. He has instructed people in painting, drawing, and sculpture in conjunction with his involvement in the performing arts. In 1947, Sal discovered that a paintbrush became a magic wand in his hands and began creating beauty on canvas. He studied at the Art Students League of New York under Reginald Marsh, Morris Kantor, and Vaclav Vitvacyl among others. He also studied at the esteemed Columbia University.

Like his dynamic personality, Sal’s style is eclectic and has spanned many artistic genres. His work is both experimental and temperamental and demonstrates his courage and ability to dream, attributes that he has tried to instill in his students for decades. There is good reason that Sal has been referred to as a “Renaissance man.”

Salvatore Gulla has had showings of his work as recently as four years ago and throughout his career, has had his work on exhibit at a number of esteemed galleries throughout New York. Mr. Speaker, at 75 years of age, Sal’s spirit is as robust and contagious as it has always been and he continues to be an inspiration to those around him. Sal has been a dear friend and advisor for many years. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Salvatore Gulla on his 75th birthday.

#### TRIBUTE TO DONALD O. LARSEN ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE U.P. LABOR HALL OF FAME

### HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Donald O. Larsen, a resident of Marquette, Michigan, in my congressional district, who has spent decades as a bricklayer, a teacher, a volunteer, and an active member of the local labor movement.

Don was born in Delta County in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in 1920, and later moved with his family to Marquette, where he graduated from high school. After serving three years in the U.S. Army in the South Pacific in World War II, Don returned to Marquette and took a job as a bricklayer. It was through this employment that he joined Bricklayers Local 4.

Don’s expertise in bricklaying extended beyond the actual trade and included teaching and sharing his skills. He provided instruction and leadership in the local apprentice training program, and he taught bricklaying as part of Marquette High School’s house-building project in its vocational education program. He taught bricklayer union apprentices for 10 years, during which time they built basements and did concrete work for two Habitat for Humanity homes. Don also served as an instructor for the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America U.P.-wide competition.

Active in his local, Don served as a union steward for many years and as vice president from 1955 to 1970. He also served on the Board of the United Building Trades and was the labor representative for several years at U.P. builder shows.

Don is a member of the Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette and is a life member of VFW Post 2439, where he has served as quartermaster. He has a life membership in the Ishpeming and Marquette beagle clubs and a membership in the U.P. Trappers Association. He also contributed his time and effort to rebuilding the Negaunee Pyramid mining monument when it was moved several years ago.

Mr. Speaker, Donald Larsen will be honored on Saturday, April 20, with his induction into the U.P. Labor Hall of Fame at a banquet at

the university. I ask you and my House colleagues to join me in recognizing this community servant and spokesman for the working men and women of northern Michigan.

#### TRIBUTE TO BUD GARDNER

### HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, this past February, Scotland County lost one of its finest law enforcement officers. Henry "Bud" Gardner was a police officer for 37 years in Laurinburg, North Carolina. Bud served his community with pride and honor and will be missed. The citizens of Laurinburg will always be grateful for his loyal service.

He is survived by his wife, Kathleen, of 57 years. Barbara and I join the Laurinburg community in prayer for Bud's family and friends during this difficult time.

#### PROTECTING MUTUAL INSURANCE POLICYHOLDERS

### HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join today with my colleague from Massachusetts, Mr. FRANK, in introducing the "Protection of Policyholders Act." This legislation seeks to strike provisions in current law that undermine the ownership rights of millions of policyholders in mutual insurance companies and severely weaken State regulation of insurance.

In recent years, some 70 million Americans have learned that they own a valuable asset that few had previously been aware of—their insurance policies with mutual insurance companies. As policyholders, they collectively own 100 percent of mutual insurance companies, which were structured under state law as cooperatively-owned corporations. Until recently, mutual companies could convert to stock ownership, but State law required that the company's accumulated profits be divided among policyholders by giving them 100 percent of the stock in the new company. These shares would then pay stock dividends and could appreciate in value like regular corporate stock.

Over the past decade, the mutual insurance industry has sought to change state laws to permit mutual companies to convert to stock ownership without distributing stock to policyholders. Under these revised state laws, mutual companies could form "hybrid" mutual holding companies in which policyholders would continue to own 51% of the insurance company through a non-insurance mutual holding company. The remaining 49% ownership of the insurance company would be sold as stock to investors, most often to the former officers and directors of the mutual company. Where this has occurred, policyholders have not received any stock or any benefit of the dividends paid by the new insurance subsidiary of the mutual holding company. Moreover, policyholders often experience insurance rate increases to cover the costs of paying competitive dividends to the new stockholders.

A number of states, including New York, Massachusetts, Illinois, Indiana and others, refused to enact these mutual conversion changes out of fairness to policyholders and concerns about appropriate regulation of these hybrid corporate structures. The insurance industry responded by inserting in the comprehensive financial reform legislation Congress enacted in 1999, a provision that would permit state-chartered mutual companies to relocate to another state with more liberal conversion rules without jeopardizing their licenses, operations, or insurance policies. This controversial provision was adopted by the House only because it was paired in a floor amendment with a broadly supported provision to prohibit discrimination in insurance sales against victims of domestic violence.

These so-called mutual "redomestication" provisions of the 1999 Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act now permit a mutually owned insurance company that cannot convert to stock ownership, or cannot convert without distributing 100 percent of the stock to policyholders, to relocate to another state that permits such conversions. Federal law has become the instrument for overturning pro-consumer state insurance law and an accomplice in robbing mutual policyholders of their ownership fights.

The mutual redomestication provisions in current Federal law now empower mutual insurance companies to blackmail state legislatures, saying, in essence, if you don't enact the conversion laws we want, we'll simply move to another state. Despite a 200-year tradition of state regulation of insurance, these provisions strip states of their right to regulate insurance companies as they deem appropriate and rob policyholders of valuable ownership rights. These provisions are anti-State, they are anti-consumer, and they should be repealed by Congress.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, July 27, 2001, I was unable to be present for rollcall vote No. 96. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 96 in favor of H.R. 476, the Child Custody Protection Act.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to return to Congress on Tuesday, April 16, 2002, and Wednesday April 17, 2002, due to a death in my family. Had I been present, the record would reflect that I would have voted: On roll 93, H.R. 1374, Philip E. Ruppe Post office Designation—"yea"; on roll 94, H.R. 4156, Clergy Housing Allowance Clarification—"yea"; on roll 95, H.R. 4157, Family Farmer Bankruptcy Extension Act—"yea."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, due to needs within our family, I was unable to be present for rollcall No. 86 last Wednesday, April 11, as well as rollcalls Nos. 93, 94 and 95 on Tuesday, April 16. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcalls Nos. 86, 93, 94 and 95.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 95, H.R. 4167, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### CLERGY HOUSING ALLOWANCE CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 2002*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4156, the Clergy Allowance Clarification Act. In western Wisconsin, I have personally witnessed the effective and invaluable efforts put forth by religious organizations. Not only do they lead congregations in worship, they also help combat such traumas as drug-addiction and domestic abuse. Our Nation's clergy are worthy of our continual appreciation and praise.

But more importantly, our Nation's clergy are worthy of our support. Since the 1920s, Congress has allowed members of the clergy to exclude from taxable income a portion of their church income that is used for housing. This provision in the tax code has helped churches of all faiths expand their community outreach activities and provided clergy members with a much deserved tax break.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4156 will clarify current law to allow our clergy to continue to receive this important tax benefit. I urge all of my colleagues to join with me in supporting this important piece of legislation. Our nation's clergy deserve our continued support.

#### TRIBUTE TO MIKE DONOVAN JOHNSON

### HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Mike Donovan Johnson, the Local 522's City Vice President, for eleven years, of the Sacramento Area Firefighters Union. Mike is retiring after thirty-three years of outstanding service to the City of Sacramento Fire Department.

As his friends and family gather to celebrate Mike's illustrious career, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in saluting one of Sacramento's most talented citizen leaders.

Mike was born and raised in Sacramento. He earned a Fire Science Certificate and a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Administration/Political Science. For the past three decades, Mike has worked for the City of Sacramento Fire Department as a Firefighter, and Apparatus Operator, and the last nineteen years, as a Fire Captain. In addition, Mike is also a highly qualified Hazardous Materials Specialist and he often lends his expertise as a B shift Captain at Station 21. Throughout his career, Mike has remained one of the most cherished and well-respected members of the City of Sacramento Fire Department.

Mike began his union career as City Director in 1972. After two years in that post, Mike was elected City Vice President for the first time in 1974. In addition, Mike has performed the duties and responsibilities of the Political Action Committee Treasurer for the past twenty-two years. Mike has been an indispensable member of the Local 522 Executive Board for the past thirty years. All in all, Mike has steadfastly represented the members of the Sacramento Fire Department with great honor and dignity for the past three decades.

In addition to his contributions to the Local 522, Mike has also offered his valuable contributions, to a number of statewide organizations. Mike has served on numerous statewide committees through California Professional Firefighters. In the past, Mike has also been a delegate to the Sacramento County Central Democratic Committee.

Staying true to his unyielding commitment to represent the interests of firefighters, Mike is looking to remain active in the cause in his retirement years. Currently, Mike is a member of the California Firefighters Joint Apprenticeship Committee Board. Furthermore, Mike remains a delegate to the Sacramento Central Labor Council, a member of the Industrial Relations Association of Northern California and sits on the Regional Fire Task Force. In particular, Mike continues to serve the members of the fire service community through his support for the passage of Measure F, a change to the City of Sacramento Charter to improve the health insurance provided to its retired employees. Mike's commitment to serving his community is truly an example to his fellow citizens.

Mr. Speaker, as Mike Johnson's friends and family gather for his retirement dinner, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most honorable citizens. His successes are considerable, and it is a great honor for me to have the opportunity to pay tribute to his contributions. I ask all my colleagues to join with me in wishing Mike Johnson continued success in all his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF ROBERT G.  
McGRUDER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to honor Robert G. McGruder. Through grace,

intelligence and character he fought for fair reporting and justice in the news industry. He was the quiet authority amid the frantic newspaper offices in which he worked for almost 40 years.

Robert G. McGruder's fighting spirit surfaced early on when he overcame childhood battles with polio and poverty. He became interested in journalism while attending Kent State University when friends encouraged him to write for the school's paper. His reporting aspirations were not deterred by the setbacks of growing up in a segregated society. He learned to gain strength from overcoming obstacles. He demonstrated that racial barriers can be broken. Through this strong willed optimism, Robert G. McGruder became the first African American to hold various positions at the Cleveland Plain Dealer and the Detroit Free Press.

He worked as a reporter for the Plain Dealer before becoming city editor in 1978 and managing editor in 1981. In 1986, Neal Shine, the longtime Free Press managing editor and publisher, finally succeeded after a decade of trying to hire McGruder. McGruder spent 16 years as the chief editor of the Free Press where he guided award-winning news coverage. Beyond Detroit, he served as president of the Associated Press Managing Editors, judged Pulitzer Prize entries five times, and served on the board of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

His pursuit of excellence and monumental work in the cause of diversity made him one of the newspaper industry's giants. He cared for colleagues, always making time to talk and listen. He urged the industry to hire more black, latino, Asian, gay and lesbian employees. He was a mentor to those he worked with, many of whom went on to hold important positions at newspapers across the country. In 2001, he received the John S. Knight Gold Medal, the highest award within Knight Ridder, which owns the Free Press. Upon receiving the award, he reminded company officials and friends that he represented change and that he stands for diversity.

We ask our colleagues to rise to honor the accomplishments of this truly remarkable individual.

Robert G. McGruder stood for what was best about the news industry. I hope his integrity, honesty and deep commitment to fair and accurate reporting will remain an example to all.

REINSTATE SUPERFUND TAX

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, the Bush Administration has broken promise after promise in their attempt to destroy our country's most basic environmental laws. These broken promises and bad decisions are not hurting big corporate contributors. Instead, they will hurt those families who are working to put food on their table.

In particular, President Bush's recent decision not to reinstate the Superfund tax will ensure that the cost for cleaning up polluted communities will be paid by taxpayers instead of those who made the mess.

President Bush's decision is no better than another worthless tax break for the rich. By failing to reinstate the Superfund tax, President Bush is saying that he believes that families fighting to make ends meet should foot the bill while polluting industries profit.

Polluters should pay to clean up their messes, not profit from destroying the environment and their neighbor's health. How can we in good conscience allow corporations to profit without making them pay to clean up their pollution?

I am hopeful that this chamber will address this issue in the near future before families have to pay one more cent for a mess that they didn't make.

TRIBUTE TO PUBLIC SAFETY  
TELECOMMUNICATORS

**HON. RON LEWIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the men and women who serve as public safety telecommunicators. April 14–20 is National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, and in the Second District of Kentucky as well as throughout the Nation, dedicated public safety dispatchers provide a vital service to our communities.

Public safety telecommunicators answer calls every day for emergency rescue services. These are the people who ensure that police forces, firefighters, and ambulances are dispatched in emergency and law enforcement situations.

In light of the horrific terrorist attacks on our Nation last year, we especially should honor the invaluable contribution made by public safety communications personnel. Their selfless ongoing service was certainly highlighted on September 11, and continues today as these men and women still deal with the repercussions.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the emergency response dispatchers in Kentucky's Second District for the critical role they play in my community every day.

IN RECOGNITION OF ISRAELI DAY  
OF INDEPENDENCE

**HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Israeli Day of Independence.

The State of Israel officially came into existence, with the end of the British Mandate on May 14, 1948. Israel's Independence Day is celebrated annually, according to the Hebrew calendar, on 5 Iyar. With the establishment of the State of Israel on that day in 1948, Jewish independence was restored. The Israeli day of independence is a celebration of the renewal of the Jewish state in the Land of Israel, the birthplace of the Jewish people. In this land, the Jewish people began to develop its distinctive religion and culture some 4,000 years ago, and there it has preserved an unbroken physical presence.

On this day of independence for Israel we must recognize that a peaceful resolution to the conflict between Israel and its neighbors will only be possible when Israelis and Palestinians recognize their mutual interests and take substantive steps to demonstrate their commitment to a solution. All parties must realize that the only vision for a long-term solution is for two states—Israel, Palestine—to live side by side in security and in peace. That will require hard choices and leadership by Israelis, Palestinians, and their Arab neighbors.

For the Israelis, that means establishing secure and defensible borders, withdrawing from occupied areas, and recognizing the viability of a Palestinian state. For the Palestinians, that means not only renouncing terrorism but cutting ties to terrorists, halting arms shipments, unequivocally recognizing Israel's right to exist and stifling the rhetoric that encourages and glorifies the continuation of Palestinian terrorism against Israel.

In spite of all of its struggles past and present Israel's cultural and artistic activity has flourished, blending Middle Eastern, North African and Western elements, as Jews arriving from all parts of the world brought with them the unique traditions of their own communities as well as aspects of the culture prevailing in the countries where they had lived for generations.

When Israel celebrated its 10th anniversary, the population numbered over two million. During Israel's second decade (1958–68), exports doubled, and the GNP increased some 10 percent annually. While some previously imported items such as paper, tires, radios and refrigerators were now being manufactured locally, the most rapid growth took place in the newly established branches of metals, machinery, chemicals and electronics. Since the domestic market for homegrown food was fast approaching the saturation point, the agricultural sector began to grow a larger variety of crops for the food processing industry as well as fresh produce for export. A second deep-water port was built on the Mediterranean coast at Ashdod, in addition to the existing one at Haifa, to handle the increased volume of trade.

Israel's foreign relations expanded have expanded steadily, as close ties were developed with the United States, British Commonwealth countries, most western European states, nearly all the countries of Latin America and Africa, and some in Asia. Extensive programs of international cooperation were initiated, as hundreds of Israeli physicians, engineers, teachers, agronomists, and irrigation experts and youth organizers shared their know-how and experience with people in other developing countries. Clearly this nation has come far in its relatively short lifetime.

On this day of reflection let us recognize that on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea sits a land of freedom and democracy—Israel. Surrounded by hostility, but a place where freedom and tolerance are alive today. On this day of independence for Israel, I hope all people of good will would join me in praying for peace in the Middle East.

## RECOGNIZING OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS

**HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. WATTS. Mr. Speaker, April 18 is National D.O. Day, a day when we recognize the more than 47,000 osteopathic physicians (D.O.s) for their contributions to the American healthcare system. On National D.O. Day, more than 100 members of the osteopathic medical profession, including osteopathic physicians and osteopathic medical students, will descend upon Capitol Hill to share their views with Congress.

I especially am pleased that osteopathic physicians from Oklahoma will be visiting our nation's Capitol and participating in this event. These representatives are practicing osteopathic physicians, staff from the American Osteopathic Association, and osteopathic medical students.

Participants in National D.O. Day are here to talk about how liability insurance rates for all health care professionals—especially those in high-risk specialties and rural areas—are increasing rapidly. Numerous commercial insurers are no longer offering professional liability insurance for physicians and others have stopped covering certain procedures or services. A continuation of this trend will, over time, lead to a shortage of physicians and create access to care problems for our citizens. I share their concerns about access to care. Several States, including my home State of Oklahoma, are facing critical access problems and this trend will only continue to worsen if action is not taken.

For more than a century, osteopathic physicians have made a difference in the lives and health of my fellow Oklahomans and all Americans. Overall, osteopathic physicians provide care to more than 100 million patients each year. Osteopathic physicians are committed to serving the needs of rural and underserved communities and make up 15 percent of the total physician population in towns of 10,000 or less.

D.O.s are certified in nearly 60 specialties and 33 subspecialties. Similar to requirements set for their M.D. colleagues, D.O.s must complete and pass: four years of medical education at one of 19 osteopathic medical schools-, a one-year internship-, a multi-year residency-, and a State medical board exam. Throughout this education, D.O.s are trained to understand how the musculoskeletal system influences the condition of all other body systems. Many patients want this extra education as a part of their health care. Individuals may call (866) 346-3236 to find a D.O. in their community.

In recognition of National D.O. Day, I would like to congratulate the over 1,200 D.O.s in Oklahoma, the 350 students at the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, and the 47,000 D.O.s represented by the American Osteopathic Association for their contributions to the good health of the American people.

## CARE BY CELEBRATING CHILDREN DAY

**HON. JAMES C. GREENWOOD**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Care by Celebrating Children Day on April 26, a day set aside to acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of children that make the world a better place for us all. Today, we invite every adult to visit their child in school, where they will learn about and admire the ways in which those children grow every day. By distinguishing their efforts and accomplishments, this day helps to raise the self-esteem of the children, builds bridges between the community and the school, introduces the children to role models, and teaches the children about their value to the community.

It is also my privilege to introduce Ms. Gail Delevich in conjunction with this day. Ms. Delevich is an elementary school teacher in the Central Bucks School District, in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. She spearheaded this initiative at her elementary school, after she was disheartened at the multitude of negative media coverage of American schools in the wake of the Columbine tragedy and other episodes of school violence. Rather than chastise students or criticize our education system as inadequate to prevent violence, this day celebrates children and their accomplishments as students, athletes, artists and young leaders.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey have already declared a day each April as Care by Celebrating Children Day, and I present this remark in hope of expanding the day's recognition to the national level. I hope that this day, which honors, celebrates, and encourages our children, our most precious resource, will empower children to believe in themselves, working hard to prepare for their future and for the future of our Nation.

## A BILL TO STRENGTHEN AND IMPROVE THE BENEFITS PROVIDED TO SMALL BUSINESSES UNDER INTERNAL REVENUE CODE SECTION 179

**HON. WALLY HERGER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Small Business Expensing Improvement Act of 2002," legislation to assist small businesses with the cost of new business investment. I am pleased to be joined in this effort by Mr. TANNER, as well as several other of my colleagues on the Ways and Means Committee.

Small businesses truly are the backbone of our economy, representing more than half of all jobs and economic output. We should not take small business vitality for granted, however. Rather, our tax laws should support small businesses in their role as the engines of innovation, growth, and job creation.

On March 19 of this year, President Bush unveiled his small business proposal. I applaud the President for his commitment to our

nation's small business owners and his dedication to ensure that our tax laws do not impede the growth and development of small businesses. The legislation we are introducing today will implement a key element of the President's plan, expansion of the benefits available to small businesses under Internal Revenue Code Section 179.

Our bill will improve our tax laws to make it easier for small businesses to make the crucial investments in new equipment necessary for continued prosperity. Under Code Section 179, a small business is allowed to expense the first \$24,000 in new business investment in a year. Our legislation will permanently increase this amount to \$40,000. Furthermore, our bill will index this amount to ensure that the value of this provision is not eroded over time.

This legislation will also allow more small businesses to take advantage of expensing by increasing from \$200,000 to \$325,000 the total amount a business may invest in a year and qualify for Section 179. It is important to note that this amount has not been adjusted for inflation since its enacting into law in 1986.

The "Small Business Expensing Improvement Act" also improves the small business expensing provision by following the recommendations of the IRS National Taxpayer Advocate in his 2000 Annual Report to Congress. Specifically, our legislation clarifies that residential rental personal property and off-the-shelf computer software qualify for expensing under Section 179.

Mr. Speaker, in times of economic uncertainty, we must do all we can to encourage new investment and job creation. The "Small Business Expensing Improvement Act of 2002" will help accomplish this worthy goal, and I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort.

HOPING TO LIVE ONE DAY IN AN ENVIRONMENT FREE FROM POLLUTION

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, soon after I delivered my remarks on the House floor this morning, I received numerous calls from news organizations. Unfortunately, these calls were not about the importance of the Clean Air Act, which was the subject of my one-minute speech. Instead, the press was more concerned about a pause I took during the Pledge of Allegiance—as I was trying to determine if I had my back to the American flag—than what I said about protecting our environment. I would hope the media pays closer attention to the issues affecting our air quality so that the people of this Nation, under God, will be able to one day live in an environment free from pollution.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE NINETEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS

**HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional organization, the Girl Scouts of the USA.

Since Juliette Gordon Low assembled the first Girl Scout troop in March of 1912, the Girl Scouts have not only grown in number, but also in the scope of their mission. Generations of young women have developed positive values and a greater sense of self-worth by participating in Girl Scout programs.

For 90 years, the Girl Scouts have opened doors of opportunity for girls from all walks of life, and they continue to expand their outreach efforts. They have renewed their commitment to reach beyond racial, ethnic, socioeconomic and geographic boundaries. Diversity can be found in all the activities in which these young women engage. From science and technology, to money management and finance, to global awareness, Girl Scouts experience it all.

Mr. Speaker, the Girl Scouts of the Hudson Valley Council in New York State are fine examples of the Girl Scout mission. Girl Scouts in my district are committed to developing leadership skills and honing a finer sense of social conscience by engaging in a wide range of activities. When they collect supplies for the Merilac Women's Shelter in Albany, when they plant flowers and trees outside of the Colonie Town Hall in remembrance of the lives lost on September 11th, and when they make cards of thanks to the firefighters of New York City, Girl Scouts are making a difference. Thousands of girls in the Capital District will be forever impacted by the experiences they had and the friendships they made while participating in the Girl Scouts.

We must also extend our gratitude to the adults, both women and men, who volunteer their time to ensure that the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism and service continue to be imparted on our Nation's girls and young women.

I congratulate the Girl Scouts on their 90 years of service. Our communities have benefited from their accomplishments and I wish them many more decades of success.

STATEMENT OF CONGRESSWOMAN JANE HARMAN ON ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, Secretary of State Powell leaves the Middle East having failed to secure a cease-fire between Israel and the Palestinians, or make substantial progress toward peace. It was perhaps too much to hope for a dramatic breakthrough, but the status quo remains unacceptable.

As we celebrate and commemorate Israeli Independence Day, it is more important than ever to remember why the United States has such a strong relationship with Israel.

Fifty-four years ago, the creation of the state of Israel gave hope to Jews everywhere that safety, freedom, and justice could be found at last—in the ancient cradle of the Jewish faith and civilization. A half-century of friendship and cooperation between Israel and the United States began with President Truman's courageous recognition of Israel shortly after its establishment. Throughout many battles, our relationship has remained strong, and it continues today, with our common search for security and peace in the Middle East.

Israel is now engaged in one of its most challenging wars ever, the war against terrorism. Since the latest Palestinian intifada began, more than 400 Israeli civilians have been killed by suicide bombers—over 125 since March. Hundreds more have been injured in these attacks—attacks that are designed to strike at the heart of Israel itself.

The Palestinians have also suffered hundreds of casualties, and innocent civilians, including children, are being used as human shields by terrorists hiding in refugee camps.

Peace is the only way to move forward, a peace that contemplates two states coexisting side-by-side. But Israel can only achieve peace from a position of strength. I have long been an advocate for a strong US-Israel security relationship. Now is not the time to back away from our security relationship or to give any credence to the misguided efforts of the European Union to impose economic sanctions against Israel.

A critical contribution towards resolution of the current crisis must be taken by moderate Arab regimes—our allies such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia—to pressure the Palestinians to genuinely renounce terrorism. Chairman Arafat's recent statement deploring terrorist attacks—delivered in English to an American—served no more purpose than to bring Secretary Powell to Ramallah. Far more revealing was a recent statement from Mr. Arafat's wife—in Arabic to the Arabic press—saying that she would be proud to have a future son become a suicide bomber.

It has unfortunately been shown time and time again that the parties in the region will be unable to achieve peace on their own. All past breakthroughs for peace have been the result of US and international leadership and every future breakthrough will require the same. I commend the Administration for resuming a leadership role in the Mideast, and I urge it to remain engaged with the parties and moderate Arab states in the region.

Last week, in a ceremony commemorating Yom ha-Shoah, National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice made the connection between our remembrance of the Holocaust and our continued fight against evil in the war on terrorism. I would ask that her remarks be entered into the RECORD.

May our memories of the horror of the Holocaust fuel our hunger for a permanent peace.

REMARKS BY CONDOLEEZZA RICE, ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS, AT THE 2002 NATIONAL COMMEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE—U.S. CAPITOL ROTUNDA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

As Prepared

Survivors, liberators, Members of Congress, Members of the Cabinet, Ambassador Ivry, other members of the diplomatic corps, Benjamin Meed, Fred Zeidman, Elie Wiesel, Ruth Mandel, other honored guests, ladies

and gentlemen: Thank you for inviting me to join you for Yom ha-Shoah.

We gather today to remember that evil is real and present in our world. We gather to remember that hatred and bigotry are always and everywhere wrong. We gather to remember that the commission of monstrous sin requires not our consent, but only our indifference, our neutrality, or our silence. We gather to light six candles, so that we may never forget six million acts of murder.

With each passing year, the number of living Holocaust survivors and liberators grows smaller. When all the eyewitnesses are gone, the Holocaust's history will be taught not from the searing pain of memory but from the pressing call of conscience.

Last year, when the President spoke here, the Holocaust seemed somewhat removed from our era—part of a bloody century now behind us. Sadly, this year we need no prompting to appreciate the Holocaust's importance and its relevance. Fanatical, unreasoning hatred has intruded upon our lives in ways that no one could have imagined months ago.

From the Holy Land, we see daily images of carnage, and from Europe, come images of synagogues and Torah scrolls burned. Our own land has seen the mass destruction of innocents, guilty of nothing more than going to work in a country called America on a beautiful, but terrible autumn morning. And the world was sent obscene videotapes where evil leaders celebrate the slaughter, and yet another tape where a man is killed after being made to say the words, "I am a Jew."

This year, evil has spoken to all of us, and on this day we need no reminder to answer back, but firmly: "never again."

As our world prevails through these difficult days, and as we pray for peace for all the children of Abraham, it is important to recall not just the Holocaust's horrors, but also its heroes: bearers of witness like Jan Karski; rescuers like Wallenberg and Schindler; writers like Anne Frank and Elie Wiesel; and resisters like the Danes and the righteous of many nations who hid and saved many thousands of their Jewish neighbors.

And, of course, we recall those who fought from inside the Warsaw Ghetto in April 1943, and who, as Elie Wiesel wrote, lit a flame that "continues to burn in our memory" even through the distance of six decades.

We draw strength from these names—all familiar to our lips—and we gain inspiration from their stories. Less often, we think of the other heroes, the countless ordinary Jews, Roma, Jehovah's Witnesses, gay people, and disabled men and women who defied the machinery of murder with quiet acts of courage and piety. Their names are mostly unknown to all but Him, yet their lives too instruct.

I remember visiting Yad Vashem and seeing a photograph of a handsomely dressed Jewish couple in the Warsaw Ghetto. The guide at the museum said that people often express consternation at the photograph, wondering how odd it was that against the ghetto's backdrop of danger and desperation this couple had obviously gone to great lengths to ensure that their clothing and grooming were impeccable.

I had a different reaction. I said immediately, "I understand that photograph. These people are saying, 'I'm still in control, I still have my dignity.' They are saying, 'You can take everything from us, including life itself. But you cannot take away our pride.'"

I've often wondered what became of that couple. I imagine that long after they were no longer able to control their appearance they still found subtle ways to say, "You cannot control me, you cannot take away my pride and dignity." I've wondered wheth-

er they were part of the uprising; whether they perished in a camp; whether they were among the few who survived; whether they may even have had children like Marek Edelman or Bronislaw Geremek who survived and went on to become members of Solidarity and leaders in a free and democratic Poland.

And I have thought about that couple from the ghetto even more in the days since September 11. Because right now, all of us are enduring a time of testing, loss, and fear; a time when our vulnerability to evil and the certainty of our mortality are all too clear; a time when once again our intellect is insufficient to answer the question, "Why?" And at these times more than ever, we are reminded that it is a privilege to struggle for good against evil.

We do not choose our circumstances or trials, but we do choose how we respond to them. Too often when all is well, we slip into the false joy and satisfaction of the material and a complacent pride and faith in ourselves. Yet it is through struggle that we find redemption and self-knowledge. This is what the slaves of Exodus learned. And it is what slaves in America meant when they sang: "Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, Glory Hallelujah!"

None of our current travails approach those of the Holocaust. The evil of the Holocaust is singular. Yet its lessons are universal.

So today, we remember that ignorance and cruelty are never far away, and that their atrocities demand action and justice.

We remember that every life has value and all lives are ennobled by opposing hate and bigotry.

We remember that not even mankind's worst depravities can be allowed to dissuade us from our search for worldly and spiritual peace.

In this nation of immigrants, surrounded here by the symbols and totems of tolerance and freedom, we remember our very great responsibility to protect freedom and to welcome all of God's creatures into its loving embrace.

And we remember the words of the Kaddish, "Oseh shalom beem'roh'mahv, hoo ya'aseh shalom, aleynu v'al koh'l yisrae'el v'eemru: Amein."

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD SWINGLE,  
JOHN SHUMEJDA, THOMAS  
BOYDSTON, ROBERT NORTON  
AND TIMOTHY VANDEVORT

### HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express our most heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Edward Swingle, John Shumejda, Thomas Boydston, Robert Norton, and Timothy Vandevort who lost these loved ones in a tragic airplane accident on January 4, 2002, in Birmingham, England.

In honor and memory of these individuals, I will be presenting a flag to each of the families, to Chairman, President and CEO of AGCO, Mr. Bob Ratliff, and to CFO of Epps Aviation, Ms. Marian Epps on April 22, 2002. Mr. Speaker, I want my colleagues to know what great individuals these men were.

AGCO Corporation, headquartered in Duluth, Georgia, USA, is one of the world's largest manufacturers, designers, and distributors

of agricultural equipment. AGCO provides several brands of products which are sold in more than 140 countries around the world.

John Shumejda was President and Chief Executive Officer of AGCO. He was appointed to the position in 1999 and provided a strong source of leadership for the company.

Edward "Ed" Swingle was Senior Vice President of Worldwide Marketing of AGCO. He had been with the company since its formation in 1990, and greatly contributed to the growth of the company.

Both men were leaders at AGCO from its founding in 1990. Due to their leadership, AGCO is considered one of the top companies in the farming equipment industry.

Epps Aviation, headquartered at Dekalb-Peachtree Airport just outside of Atlanta, Georgia, lost three of its finest and most experienced members of its team:

Thomas "Tommy" Boydston, Director of Operations of Epps Aviation. He had been with the company for over 26 years, and was instrumental in the growth of the Charter Department's fleet and pilots.

Robert "Bob" Norton was a distinguished pilot from Atlanta, Georgia who worked over 20 years for Epps Aviation.

Timothy "Tim" Vandevort was a distinguished pilot from Duluth, Georgia who had worked for Epps Aviation for over 4 years.

Each of these five individuals will be greatly missed by their loving families, their many friends, and by their business associates and customers. I hope my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in recognizing their dedication to their companies, their families and their country.

IN APPRECIATION OF CATHEY J.  
NEWHOUSE

### HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Cathey J. Newhouse, a teacher at Parnall Elementary School in Jackson, Michigan and recipient of the 2001 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. I request that her recent testimony before the Science Committee be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

STATEMENT OF CATHEY J. NEWHOUSE

Thank you Chairman BOEHLERT and Congressman SMITH for holding the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD open and allowing me to add my ideas on improving science education to those shared on March 20, 2002.

I have been an active learner and lover of science for most of my life. I have been an elementary teacher in Jackson, Michigan for 14 years. I believe that at the elementary level, enthusiasm for and interest in science are crucial, probably even more important than the teaching of facts and concepts in science. Young children need to know with certainty that science is fun to learn! However, science is a scary subject for many elementary teachers.

I would like to see a two-fold commitment to funding for improving science instruction. First, teachers need professional development to increase their knowledge in specific science disciplines. This needs to be an ongoing and consistent professional development, not just a one-time event. Teachers

should be given the opportunity to yearly attend workshops or conferences and to process with colleagues the information gained.

Secondly, I strongly believe that funding needs to be provided to have a science consultant in each elementary building. This person would function as a teacher of teachers, helping new and veteran teachers with all aspects of teaching the science curriculum. I had the opportunity during 2001 to work for the Jackson County Intermediate School District in Michigan as such a science specialist. In this role, I assisted other teachers with planning, improving teaching methodology, locating appropriate activities and materials, and developing skills in inquiry science teaching. The improvement I saw in teachers' confidence and competence during my tenure as a science teacher specialist was dramatic.

If funding specifically designated for consistent, on-going professional development in science could be coupled with funding for a science specialist to assist teachers in each elementary building. I believe we would see a very significant increase in the quantity and quality of science learning taking place in our schools.

Thank you for recognizing the 2001 Presidential Awardees, thank you for your continued support of science and math education, and thank you for giving me this opportunity to express my views.

TRIBUTE TO MAY LOUIE ON THE OCCASION OF HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to May Louie, an extraordinary woman who will celebrate 90 years of life on June 5, 2002.

A loving mother, daughter and widow, May Louie is an honorable woman in her own right. She has lived a life filled with values, service, and dedication to her family and to her community.

Born on June 5, 1912 in Columbus Ohio, May was the eighth child of ten and the second of two daughters. Driven by famine in China, her father came to the United States in the early 1880s to help build the transcontinental railroad. He met and married May's mother and the two moved to Biloxi, Mississippi and then to Columbus, where they owned and operated a laundry.

May was sent to China as a young girl after her mother's tragic death as a result of the Spanish flu epidemic of 1918. She endured harsh living conditions, including a bout of malaria fever before returning to Ohio aboard the USS *President McKinley* in 1928.

Following the death of her father, May provided loving care for many years to her elderly foster parents, Walter and Sadie Hauptfuier in Canton, Ohio. She studied piano, flute and piccolo and became a respected music teacher.

May moved to Lakewood, Ohio after her marriage to Toy Louie, the owner of a wholesale Chinese grocery business and noodle factory, and the couple soon began a family of their own. May gave birth to two sons—James and David and she instilled in them a lifelong love of music and the arts. A devoted mother, May Louie was a full-time homemaker and the family's chief money manager.

In an effort to bring diversity to television, May encouraged her sons to appear on a live public affairs program produced by a neighbor. While both children participated, David displayed an early and keen interest in the news business, appearing weekly on the show for eight years . . . from five years old to age thirteen. It was this experience that kindled David's interest in pursuing a highly distinguished career in T.V. journalism.

Widowed in 1980, May managed on her own for 16 years before moving into David's home in San Mateo, California. She is a proud grandmother of two adult grandchildren—Linda May Louie and Michael Louie, the children of Jim and Vana of Mayfield Heights, Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great and good woman, May Louie, and in wishing her a very happy, healthy and fulfilling 90th birthday. Her life is instructive to us all and we know we are a better country because of all she's done.

RECOGNIZING THE 54TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today, Wednesday, April 17, is Yom Ha'Atzmaut—Israel's Independence Day. As the people of Israel celebrate 54 years as the only democracy in the Middle East, I am proud to join with my colleagues to reiterate our continued strong support of Israel, its right to defend itself and its people from terrorism, and to focus on the special relationship that exists between our two nations.

We all know that these are troubling times for Israel, and indeed, the entire Middle East. The world has watched in horror as terrorist attacks have killed more than 450 Israelis and wounded nearly 4,000.

Car bombings, suicide attacks and widespread terrorism in residential areas have disrupted the lives of Israelis. Men and women fear that an ordinary trip to their local market will result in tragedy. Children longer feel safe to ride their school buses, and families sitting down to celebrate a holy meal have been murdered by suicide bombers. Since September 11, I think all Americans have a new understanding of the threats that Israelis face and have faced for some time. And I think all Americans have been steeled in their resolve to root out terror wherever it may be found.

Before and since being elected to Congress, I have supported a strong Israel. America has always had a unique relationship with Israel. They are our most important strategic ally in this volatile area, and a nation whose founding and existence clearly makes the world better.

The United States must continue to voice its support for Israel and for their right to defend their people and to exist. That is particularly true at this terrible time. The United States must be prepared to continue to provide the diplomatic, military, and economic support that Israel needs.

As the world's only superpower, the United States plays an essential role as a broker of peace in the region. I am pleased to see

President Bush engaged on this issue, sending Secretary of State Powell to the Middle East to try to end the violence. But we must not let that role keep us from speaking the truth. As our President has said, terrorism is unacceptable in all its forms. Palestinians must end the violence against the Israelis. The attacks must stop.

When they do, Israel must respond, as I am confident she will, with corresponding steps to reduce the level of tension. That is the only way to get back to the peace table. And only peace discussions can achieve the lasting, just peace that will best serve the interests of all Israelis, all Palestinians and indeed, all of us throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, my personal sense of commitment to Israel has only been strengthened by recent developments. Today, as Israelis' mark their 54th anniversary, we can celebrate the existence of a strong and vibrant Jewish state. I am proud to observe this occasion and to use this opportunity to join with my colleagues to reaffirm our solidarity with Israel and the Israeli people.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ED WENGER

**HON. MARK GREEN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I offer the following comments today to mark the retirement of Mr. Ed Wenger. After nearly 30 years of service, Ed retired from the U.S. Forest Service last year.

After a stint in the Army, he began his distinguished career with the Forest Service at the Hoosier National Forest in Indiana. Since then, he's served in forests from Illinois to Pennsylvania, and a couple of places in between.

But it's Ed's time in Wisconsin that left such a lasting impression on me and lots of other folks in my area. He was instrumental in developing the Florence Natural Resource Center while serving as the Florence District Ranger for the Nicolet Forest. And he did tremendous work while at the Nicolet-Chequamegon National Forest from 1997 to 2001.

Wherever he was stationed, Ed quickly became an active and well-known member of the community—both in forest issues and in the general activities and organizations that make our towns and villages such great places to live. I believe that future generations of Forest Service employees could stand to learn much from Ed, and his dedication to maintaining such close ties between the management of our forests and the communities that surround them.

CONGRATULATING ISRAEL ON ITS INDEPENDENCE DAY

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 17, 2002*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Israel on its Independence Day, its

54th anniversary. In 54 years, Israel has experienced more dangers and more triumphs, more success and more tragedy, more highs and lows than many far more venerable states. Throughout it all, Israel's indomitable spirit has conquered adversity.

Israel has much for which to be grateful. First and foremost, Israel has so often been blessed with great leadership—wise and visionary leadership. This tradition goes back to Israel's modern origins. At the end of the nineteenth century, the founder of the modern Zionist movement Theodor Herzl made the most preposterous and prophetic prediction I know of, when he asserted that a Jewish state would be born within a half-century.

In statehood, Israel's leaders have been practical, humane, bold, and peace-loving. It is a pity that Israel's neighbors have not been similarly blessed.

David Ben-Gurion and the Zionist leadership were practical enough to accept the 1947 partition resolution, though they had hoped for much more. They were humane enough to treat their Arab citizens as equals when Arab leaders were threatening to drive the Jews into the sea. They and their successors were bold enough to do what is necessary to keep Israel and the Jewish people alive, regardless of what the rest of the world might think. Usually, the world learns later that Israel is right. Remember the bombing—the then much criticized bombing—of the Iraqi nuclear reactor Osirak in 1981? How universally scorned it was at the time; how grateful the civilized world is now.

Israel has been blessed with the great friendship and unswerving support of the United States. It has earned this friendship be-

cause it has fashioned a society that embodies the same values as our own.

It is important on this Independence Day that Israelis and their friends take time to reflect on all the wonderful, almost unthinkable achievements of the past 54 years. Against impossible odds, Israel has established a vibrant, open, prosperous, and free society; a pluralistic society built by people from virtually every country in the world; a society on a par with the best of the West. And Arabs in Israel enjoy incomparably more freedom and democratic rights than they have anywhere in the Arab world.

Although this is a day for joy, it is no secret that this year's independence day occurs at one of the most dangerous times in Israel's history. I know everybody in this room understands the problems all too well. The scale of Israeli loss in the so-called intifada is staggering—almost incomprehensible. On a scale proportional to the U.S. population, Israel has lost over 20,000 people since September 2000, close to half of them in suicide bombings.

Israel's friends stand in solidarity with all Israelis. Israel should know that its friends in the United States will stick with it and defend its right to protect itself against terrorism and against the scourge of those who place no value on human life. Israel should know that its friends here won't be afraid to stand up to the unjustified and disturbingly persistent criticism coming from Europe, from those who have managed to misunderstand the lessons of their own history. We are outraged by the U.N. Human Rights Commission's resolution of two days ago that makes disgraceful accusations against Israel, while failing even to mention the terrorism to which Israel has been

subjected. But our outrage is outweighed by our shock, sadness, and anger that it was supported by Western nations such as France, Austria, Belgium, Portugal, Spain and Sweden.

Israel should know that its friends here are deeply pained by its profound dilemma: Yearning for peace, Israel has no clear partner for peace. Israel should know that its friends won't let the world forget that the Yasser Arafat whose Palestinian Authority funds the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade, the Yasir Arafat of the Karine-A, the Yasir Arafat who colludes with Iran and Hizballah—Yasir Arafat the terrorist—is, sadly, the real Yasir Arafat.

And Israel should know that its friends here agree that the violence must end before negotiations begin. You cannot negotiate with terror; you can only defeat it. The people of Israel have the right to restore the security of their homes and families by taking the military measures necessary to defeat terror. Once that is achieved, we will do our best to create the conditions that will enable Israel to find reliable partners for peace and an end to the conflict. Only when Arabs learn that they cannot exhaust Israel through violence will they be ready for the kinds of political compromises necessary for a lasting peace. Israel's friends understand that.

For Israel's friends, today is a day for joy, solidarity, and reflection. On a personal note, it is also a sad occasion, for it marks the eve of the departure of my dear friend, Israel's wonderful ambassador David Ivry. His has always been a voice of integrity, clarity, and insight, and we will sorely miss having it in our midst.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, April 18, 2002 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 19

Time to be announced
Governmental Affairs
Business meeting to consider the nomination of Paul A. Quander, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the District of Columbia Offender Supervision, Defender, and Courts Services Agency, to occur immediately following the first Senate floor vote.

S-211 Capitol

9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Consumer Affairs, Foreign Commerce, and Tourism Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine Canadian wheat 301 decisions.

SR-253

APRIL 23

9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine generic pharmaceuticals, focusing on marketplace access and consumer issues.

SR-253

10 a.m.
Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the implications of the human capital crisis, focusing on how the federal government is recruiting, selecting, retaining, and training individuals to oversee trade policies and regulate financial industries.

SD-342

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Public Health Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine current safeguards concerning the protection of human subjects in research.

SD-430

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Federal Deposit Insurance System, focusing on recommendations for reform.

SD-538

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the reformation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, focusing on mission refocusing and reorganization.

SD-226

10:15 a.m.

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine United States nonproliferation efforts in the former Soviet Union.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary
Antitrust, Competition and Business and Consumer Rights Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine cable competition, focusing on the ATT-Comcast merger.

SD-226

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the implementation of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, focusing on status and key issues.

SD-430

APRIL 24

9:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations
Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps and Narcotics Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine future relations between the United States and Colombia.

SD-419

1:30 p.m.

Appropriations
Treasury and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2003 for the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

SD-192

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 2037, to mobilize technology and science experts to respond quickly to the threats posed by terrorist attacks and other emergencies, by providing for the establishment of a national emergency technology guard, a technology reliability advisory board, and a center for evaluating antiterrorism and disaster response technology within the National Institute of Standards and Technology; and other relative pending legislation.

SR-253

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

APRIL 25

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the Department of Veterans' Affairs preparedness regarding options to nursing homes.

SR-418

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on proposed legislation concerning online privacy and protection.

SR-253

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on the nomination of Harold D. Stratton, of New Mexico, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

SR-253

MAY 2

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine pending legislation.

SR-418

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine restructuring issues within the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice.

SD-226