

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LES
MERGELMAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor a great individual who has helped revitalize and strengthen his community's way of life. Les Mergelman is an example of success derived from hard work and determination. And it is a great honor to praise his efforts and contributions.

Les is retiring after thirteen proud years of service as the President of the Olathe State Bank. During his tenure, the bank prospered and thrived, becoming an instrumental piece of the Olathe financial community. Les helped regenerate lost revenue, and was instrumental in engineering the grand opening of the bank's main office in Olathe. However, Les is not one to bask in personal achievement, as he takes pride in the teamwork of his staff. He fervently believes in never giving up and keeping his head high regardless of the situation. Les's wisdom and leadership cannot, by any means, be duplicated, and each member of Les's office undoubtedly cherishes the countless contributions Les has made to the 'team.'

Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to applaud the efforts of Les Mergelman before this body of Congress and this nation. The State of Colorado will always be grateful for his constant support of Olathe sweet corn and the culture of Colorado. We wish him the best with all the future endeavors that he undertakes. I fervently believe that he will continue to be a beacon to the Olathe community for years to come.

MONSIGNOR GEORGE C. HIGGINS

HON. DAVID R. OBEY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, in the tumult of recent events, the passing of a great man did not receive as much attention as it should have. Monsignor George C. Higgins died on May 1.

More than any other clergyman in this century, Monsignor Higgins personified the moral obligation that a just society has to honor work and workers. To me he more than anyone else over his long lifetime personified the demand for justice that should permeate our whole society.

E.J. Dionne, the thoughtful Washington Post columnist, wrote a splendid column on the death of Monsignor Higgins. I commend it to my colleagues.

THE GREAT MONSIGNOR

There is no such thing as a timely death. But just when you thought all the stories on

American priests were destined to be about evil committed and covered up, one of the truly great priests was called to his eternal reward.

Monsignor George G. Higgins was the sort of Catholic clergyman regularly cast as a hero in movies of the 1930s and '50s. He was an uncompromising pro-labor priest who walked picket lines, fought anti-Semitism, supported civil rights and wrote and wrote and wrote in the hope that some of his arguments about social justice might penetrate somewhere.

He got attached to causes before they became fashionable, and stuck with them after the fashionable people moved on. Cesar Chavez once said that no one had done more for American farm workers than Monsignor Higgins. In the 1980s, he traveled regularly to Poland in support of Solidarity's struggle against communism and became an important link between American union leaders and their Polish brethren.

As it happens, even the day of Monsignor Higgins's death, at the age of 86, was appropriate. He passed from this world on May 1, the day that many countries set aside to honor labor and that the Catholic Church designates as the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

If Higgins had been there when that famous carpenter was looking for a place to spend the night with his pregnant wife, the monsignor would certainly have taken the family in. He would also have handed Joseph a union card, told him he deserved better pay and benefits, and insisted that no working person should ever have to beg for shelter.

Yes, Higgins sounds so old-fashioned—and in every good sense he was—that you might wonder about his relevance to our moment. Let us count the ways.

One of the most astonishing and disturbing aspects of the Catholic Church's current scandal is the profound disjunction—that's a charitable word—between what the church preaches about sexuality and compassion toward the young and how its leaders reacted to the flagrant violation of these norms by priests.

Higgins, who spent decades as the Catholic Church's point man on labor and social-justice issues, hated the idea of preachers' exhorting people to do one thing and then doing the opposite. And so he made himself into a true pain for any administrator of any Catholic institution who resisted the demands of workers for fair pay and union representation.

"These men and women mop the floors of Catholic schools, work in Catholic hospital kitchens and perform other sometimes menial tasks in various institutions," he once wrote. "They have not volunteered to serve the church for less than proportionate compensation."

"The church has a long history of speaking out on justice and peace issues," he said. "Yet only in more recent times has the church made it clear that these teachings apply as well to the workings of its own institutions."

Where some religious leaders complain that they get caught up in scandal because they are unfairly held to higher standards, Higgins believed that higher standards were exactly the calling of those who claim the authority to tell others what to do.

It bothered Higgins to the end of his life that the cause of trade unionism had become

so unfashionable, especially among well-educated and well-paid elites. For 56 years, he wrote a column for the Catholic press, and he returned to union issues so often that he once felt obligated to headline one of his offerings: "Why There's So Much Ado About Labor in My Column."

His answer was simple: "I am convinced that we are not likely to have a fully free or democratic society over the long haul without a strong and effective labor movement."

To those who saw collective bargaining as outdated in a new economy involving choice, mobility and entrepreneurship, Higgins would thunder back about the rights of those for whom such a glittering world was still, at best, a distant possibility: hospital workers, farm workers, fast-food workers and others who need higher wages to help their children reach their dreams. He could not abide well-paid intellectuals who regularly derided unions as dinosaurs, and he told them so, over and over.

It is one of the highest callings of spiritual leaders to force those who live happy and comfortable lives to consider their obligations to those heavily burdened by injustice and deprivation. It is a great loss when such prophetic voices are stilled by scandal and the cynicism it breeds. Fortunately, that never happened to Higgins. He never had to shut up about injustice and, God bless him, he never did.

HONORING LAURA E. PAUL LONG
ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Laura E. Paul Long of Gratz, Pennsylvania. On August 3, Laura will be celebrating her 100th birthday.

Laura is the daughter of Maria Hoch Paul and David D. Paul and was born on August 3, 1902, in Leck Kill, Pennsylvania. She spent her childhood in Lower Mahanoy Township with her parents and siblings and was married in 1922 to Samuel Felix Long.

Laura worked at Pillow Manufacturing in Pillow, Pennsylvania and for Dormar Manufacturing located in Gratz, Pennsylvania. She finally retired from Dormar Manufacturing around the age of 68.

Content with her life in Pennsylvania, Laura never left the state until after she retired when she traveled throughout Europe with her youngest daughter.

Although noted for her crocheting, Laura is renowned for her talent at continuing a line of geraniums descendant from the plants she grew on her farm in Klingerstown, PA in the 1930's. Her geraniums still thrive today.

Laura is also very dedicated to her family with nine children, 29 grandchildren, 43 great-grandchildren, and 23 great-grandchildren. She was widowed in 1966.

I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in wishing Laura a wonderful One-Hundredth Birthday and continued health and happiness for many years to come.

• 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.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SGT. TONY
LOMBARD

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Sergeant Tony Lombard of the Denver Police Department and thank him for his extraordinary contributions to his community and to his state. As a resident of Denver, Colorado, Tony has dedicated himself to protecting the Denver community by selflessly devoting his time and energy to his job, his family, and his community. His remarkable twenty-nine years on the force serve as a symbol of the commitment that Tony feels for the Denver Police Department and the City of Denver. As we celebrate the accomplishments of this fine career, let it be known that I, along with the people of Colorado, applaud his efforts and are eternally grateful for all that he has done for his community.

Throughout his career, Tony served as a spokesman and legislative lobbyist for the Denver Police Department. He has also worked as an active member in the narcotics division and credits his wife, Cynthia for always understanding his absence when work required him to leave church, movies, parties, and family dinners. As a former police officer, I understand Mr. Lombard's frustration and tolerance. Moreover, his goodhearted interests have further served to set him apart in his community, and have earned him much respect throughout the Denver Police Department.

Throughout the course of his career, Tony served in the sex-crimes unit and also worked for several years with his father in the public information office. Together, they comprised the only father-son spokesman team in the department's history. Tony is retiring because he wants to pursue other avenues of work such as working with the Police Protective Association.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Tony Lombard is a man of unparalleled dedication and commitment to his job, his community and his family. It is his commitment to hard work, as well as his spirit of integrity and selflessness with which he has always conducted himself that I wish to bring before this body of Congress. Sgt. Tony Lombard has served his state and his country in an honorable manner, and it is my privilege to extend to him my sincere congratulations on his retirement and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

UKRAINE BI-ELECTIONS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to call attention once again to the alarming conditions surrounding the Ukrainian parliamentary bi-elections, held on Sunday, July 14. On the evening of July 12, less than forty-eight (48) hours before the balloting was to begin, a local court found Olexander Zhyr, the candidate I referred to in my remarks last week,

guilty of campaign finance improprieties. Mr. Zhyr was disqualified from the race with no time to appeal the decision. As the domestic nonpartisan election watchdog group the Committee of Voters of Ukraine has commented, the last minute timing of the decision made it impossible for the elections to be considered democratic.

Mr. Speaker, I have already gone on the record as noting the important role Mr. Zhyr played in the Ukrainian Rada, heading the parliamentary committee that investigated the murders of Ukrainian journalists. Additionally, Mr. Zhyr was leading investigations into accusations that the Ukrainian government illegally exported arms to Iraq. I would like to express my deep concern that Mr. Zhyr's disqualification was politically motivated. Electoral manipulation of this sort severely undermines the democratic process. Again, I would stress that as a country that aspires to full membership in Western institutions, the Government of Ukraine must improve its democratic record. A good start would be to reverse the decision to disqualify Mr. Zhyr, and allow him to participate in an election that meets international standards of transparency and democratic procedures.

INTRODUCTION OF ESRD QUALITY
IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the ESRD Quality Improvement Act. To address the life and death importance of quality dialysis therapy for End Stage Renal Disease patients, this legislation would codify and build upon existing quality improvement efforts in a variety of ways including the addition of recognition for outstanding clinical outcomes and sanctions for chronically substandard care.

The 340,000 ESRD patients are the only Medicare enrollees eligible for coverage due to a specific medical diagnosis. ESRD patients have lost full kidney function and must undergo a kidney transplant or weekly dialysis treatments to survive. This chronically ill group of beneficiaries presents Congress with a special responsibility with regard to assuring quality and safe care.

As the dominant purchaser of dialysis services, the Medicare Program must demand improvement of deficient practices. Unfortunately, there is evidence that substandard care is being delivered at some Medicare funded sites. In 2000, the Inspector General noted numerous instances of poor care and an oversight system that is fragmented and lacks sufficient accountability. The GAO reported that in 1999, only 1 in 9 dialysis facilities underwent an unannounced inspection and that in 1998, almost 1 in 2 dialysis facilities had not been inspected within three years. A February 2002 Arizona Republic article further highlights the need for enhancements to the dialysis quality infrastructure. The article illustrates some patients are receiving weekly dialysis in atrocious conditions—unacceptable practices reported include poor or absent staff training, incorrect operation of dialysis machines, unclean facilities, neglected quality

controls, and mission documentation. The full article is attached.

I'm pleased to note that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is currently making improvements in the quality of the ESRD Program such as the implementation of health outcomes standards and data system to assess quality of services. I regret it has taken so long to move forward with these efforts and I believe some deficiencies remain. This bill does not delay or interfere with the current quality initiatives, and in fact, builds upon them.

Currently, there only minimal ESRD quality assurance provisions in statute or regulation. The act would establish in statute a quality oversight role for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). In addition, a quality coordination function with certain duties delineated for the regional ESRD Quality Networks. The Networks are contracted by CMS to administer the ESRD program and serve as a liaison between dialysis provider and the Department. The Network quality functions delineated in the bill include training and technical assistance for providers, data collection and analysis, establishing national performance standards, conducting peer reviews, monitoring patient satisfaction, and disseminating of best practices. In coordination with existing HHS and Network goals, ESRD Clinical Performance Measures are to be developed to serve as performance standards to which patient and facility clinical outcomes can be compared.

The bill also requires the HHS Secretary to implement an information system to link service providers, Networks, and the Department and maintain national database that generates clinical profiles on the performance of dialysis facilities and providers. To provide incentives for high quality care and promote the exchange of best practices, awards for high achievement will be issued to top performing dialysis providers and facilities. To eliminate harmful care, provider and facility sanctions for substandard services are created.

Conditions of participation in the Medicare program for providers and facilities would be expanded to incorporate the terms of the CQI and QA Programs established in the bill. Also, to further support the quality provision of the bill, a per-treatment fee of 0.50 cents shall be paid to the Networks by the HHS Secretary during the initial 30-month period for which dialysis facilities are currently exempted. Consistent with the current process, dialysis facilities would continue to pay the 0.50 per-treatment fee beginning in the 31st month.

It is my hope that Congress, CMS and the ESRD provider community will react positively to the introduction of this bill. We need to work together to assure all ESRD facilities funded by Medicare are doing no harm. Please join me in this effort by agreeing to cosponsor the ESRD Continuous Quality Improvement act.

TRIBUTE TO THE SISTERS AND TO
OSF ST. FRANCIS MEDICAL CENTER

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to the Sisters and

to OSF St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria, Illinois, for celebrating 125 years of continuous service to the people of Central Illinois.

In 1876, six German sisters were invited to come to Peoria to provide nursing care to the sick and injured. The Sisters' dedication to their mission, and to Central Illinois, led them to establish their own order on July 16, 1877, calling themselves The Sisters of the Third Order of Saint Francis. Their first hospital, today's OSF St. Francis, was also established that year.

The Sisters' mission to serve with the greatest care and love led to a commitment to the poor that has never wavered. OSF St. Francis Medical Center has been in the forefront of medical innovation, technology and service for 125 years.

During the time that I was growing up on the East Bluff of Peoria, I lived just a few blocks from St. Francis Hospital. As a matter of fact, my two brothers and I were born at St. Francis. During the 25 years that we lived on the East Bluff, St. Francis provided the best health care our family could have hoped for. The Sisters really took a great deal of interest in their patients. We are so fortunate to have such a long-standing tradition of outstanding health care in our community.

Therefore, I extend my congratulations and sincere gratitude to the Sisters and OSF St. Francis Medical Center for their tremendous dedication and loyal service to the people of Central Illinois.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GARRY
MACCORMACK

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the contributions of Garry MacCormack to the Pueblo, Colorado community. After providing thirty years of quality telecommunication service to the community, Garry is retiring to spend more time with his family. Garry has played a vital role in the development of the Pueblo telecommunications community and I can think of no better way to celebrate Garry's retirement than to thank him for his service before this body of Congress, and this nation.

Rye Telephone Company was started by Garry's parents in the 1950s when they purchased the neighborhood telephone cooperative. Garry took over the reins of the business in 1974, and as telecommunication advancements evolved, so to has the Rye Telephone Company. The company has matured from offering a single phone with long distance to the community, to the current telecommunications amenities such as multiple lines, voicemail, and Internet service to three states. Garry has nurtured the company through some amazing times, like installing fiber optic lines, and will now pass the family legacy over to his daughter, Michelle.

Mr. Speaker, as Garry enjoys his retirement with his wife Dayle, I am confident the company will continue to grow and prosper under Michelle's direction. Garry's success story serves as a model example of hard work and perseverance for a member of the community and I am honored to represent him and his

family before you today. Thanks for all your years of service to Pueblo, Garry, and I wish you all the best in your well-deserved retirement.

IN HONOR OF JOHN B. ANDERSON

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of an outstanding American citizen, my friend and former colleague, the Honorable John B. Anderson.

Throughout John Anderson's twenty years in this body he served the Sixteenth District of Illinois, the State of Illinois and our Nation with dedication, strength and distinction. While serving on the Rules Committee and as Chairman of the House Republican Conference, John was always true to his ideals and his constituencies.

John Anderson was a champion of education in his district. Dr. Thomas Shaheen, a superintendent of schools in Rockford, Illinois, commented "It was to John B. Anderson that I could turn for support of Rockford's school children, its teachers, and administrators, and to me as its superintendent." Anderson urged the Rockford Public Schools to apply for a Federal grant under the Elementary Schools Educational Act. It was with his approval that the Rockford Public Schools received an award of \$600,000 to implement a Teacher Development Center and Demonstration School. That project won a national award presented by National Education Association and The Thom McAn Association. The initiative begun in 1966 still exists and functions today.

After leaving political office, John Anderson is sought out as a lecturer and expert commentator on issues of electoral reform, United Nations reform, foreign affairs, American politics, and independent candidacies.

Throughout his tenure in Congress, John made significant contributions to discussions of foreign relations. His strong and passionate ideals made him a significant voice in the international community. Today, John Anderson comments often on the role of Congress in both domestic and international affairs. He is committed to improving our system and our country. I commend and support his efforts.

In the 1980 Presidential campaign, John ran as an independent candidate receiving six million votes. His campaign for the Presidency reflected his passion and vision for our nation.

A scholar, John has taught political science as a visiting professor at numerous universities, including the University of Illinois, Bryn Mawr College, Brandeis University and Stanford University. The way John communicates his experiences and love of our government and politics surely inspires and motivates his students.

John B. Anderson is a writer, a speaker, a veteran, an educator, and perhaps most importantly, a lover of America. I am delighted to participate in honoring a great American citizen and individual. Thank you John, for your dedication, your spirit and your integrity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, because of commitments in my home State of Wisconsin, I was unable to vote on rollcall Numbers 283 through 295. Had I been present, I would have voted: "AYE" on rollcall No. 283; "AYE" on rollcall No. 284; "AYE" on rollcall No. 285; "AYE" on rollcall No. 286; "AYE" on rollcall No. 287; "NO" on rollcall No. 288; "NO" on rollcall No. 289; "NO" on rollcall No. 290; "NO" on rollcall No. 291; "NO" on rollcall No. 292; "AYE" on rollcall No. 293; "AYE" on rollcall No. 294; "AYE" on rollcall No. 295; "AYE" on rollcall No. 296; "AYE" on rollcall No. 297 and "NO" on rollcall No. 298.

THE BOSTON GLOBE'S TELLING
CRITIQUE OF ADMINISTRATION
AFGHAN POLICY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, Americans overwhelmingly supported President Bush's response to the terrorism of September 11, and his attack on the Taliban for providing a haven to these murderers was an entirely legitimate one. The successes American military forces achieved were impressive, and have contributed to a situation in which we have both diminished the possibility of terrorist attacks, and paved the way for a significant improvement in the lives of the people of Afghanistan.

But that latter accomplishment is being put somewhat in jeopardy by a pattern of inappropriate action and undue inaction on the part of the administration. The recent killing of dozens of people at a wedding party is of course tragic. But it is more than that. No one believes that any American military were consciously indifferent to the lives of innocent people. But it does appear that the strategy being dictated from Washington at this point fails to take into account sufficiently the need to prevent this sort of killing of innocent people. No one wants American troops put unnecessarily at risk, but we must achieve a better balance of serving our legitimate military ends while being fully respectful of the lives of innocent Afghans. Our current policy fails to give appropriate weight to that latter concern.

In addition, the stubborn refusal of the administration to support extending international peacekeeping beyond Kabul is a grave error. We had every moral right in my judgment to go into Afghanistan to go after the murderers who have attacked not just Americans but many others over the past few years. But having successfully and legitimately destroyed the Taliban regime, we have an equal moral obligation now to help the people of Afghanistan live in peace and security. And our current policy fails to live up to that.

Mr. Speaker, an editorial in the Boston Globe for July 10 makes these points extremely well. Because nothing is more important to our national security and our moral purpose than acting appropriately in Afghanistan

right now, I ask that this very thoughtful editorial from the Boston Globe documenting the shortcomings in the current administration policy in Afghanistan be printed here.

[From The Boston Globe, July 10, 2002]

AFGHAN TARGETS

The assassination Saturday in Kabul of a minister in President Hamid Karzai's government, no less than the lethal strafing of Afghan villagers by US aircraft, illuminates America's need to help Afghans rebuild their nation.

It was a calamitous error for the US military to use an AC-130 aerial gunship to attack four villages in Oruzgan province last week, killing dozens of women and children and wounding more than a hundred. Unless President Bush prohibits similar attacks in the future, his phoned apologies to President Hamid Karzai will be remembered as little more than a futile expression of regret from a leader who did not know how to preserve his battlefield victories.

There may be a bit of a mystery about how many villagers were killed in the attack and some unanswered questions about anti-aircraft guns that disappeared from sites where pilots had seen them firing. But US soldiers entered the village of Kakrak after the attack and saw the blood and gore. Something atrocious happened to a wedding party in Kakrak.

There is no excuse for loosing such firepower on an Afghan village without US spotters on the ground who can be trusted when they call in strikes on armed enemy forces.

Strategically, US decision makers are acting like rote managers who cannot see the forest for the trees. They are deploying high-powered US war machines to hunt tiny clusters of Taliban. In reality, the Taliban are finished. They present no immediate threat to the Karzai government. The members of Osama bin Laden's terrorist cult are in a different category, but because those foreigners are generally despised by Afghans, they are at the mercy of local Afghan informers.

The United States has much more to lose by killing innocent villagers than it has to gain by trapping a few Taliban diehards or even by catching their leader, Mullah Omar. The US strafing of wedding guests risks making the Americans, who liberated Afghans from the Taliban, look like just another band of foreign invaders.

Since nobody has claimed credit for the daytime assassination of Karzai's public works minister, Haji Abdul Qadir, the murder is unlikely to be part of a blood feud. It is more likely the work of forces intent on destabilizing Karzai's government.

To help that government survive and prosper, Bush should drop his administration's foolish opposition to expansion of the international security force—now composed of Turkish troops—this is currently confined to Kabul. If Bush wants to keep Afghanistan out of the hands of international terrorists, he must commit US power and prestige to nation-building in that country. Aid money must be funneled directly to the central government for the rebuilding of roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation systems. It will be much easier and less expensive to help rebuild Afghanistan than to go on chasing Taliban bandits through the mountains for years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN HICKENLOOPER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise before you to praise the lifeworks of Mr. John Hickenlooper. Mr. Hickenlooper plays an active role in the Denver, Colorado community, especially in the conservation of historical sites. It is an honor of this body of Congress to recognize his hard work and determination, which are two attributes highly deserving of our admiration.

John Hickenlooper was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and graduated from Wesleyan University in 1974 with a Bachelor of Arts in English, later receiving his Masters in 1980 in Geology. He worked as an exploration geologist for Buckhorn Petroleum for five years before establishing the Wynkoop Brewing Company, the first brewpub in Colorado. He is considered a business pioneer in Denver's LoDo historic District, and his formerly small brewpub expanded and is now the largest brewpub in the world.

Mr. Hickenlooper has been a valuable contributor to the civic and business communities and has served his community well. He serves on numerous boards, including the Denver Art Museum, the Denver Metro Convention Visitors Bureau, the Institute of Brewing Studies, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, and the Chinoook Fund. He also acts as chairman for the Association of Brewers as well as the Colorado Business for the Arts.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the achievements of John Hickenlooper. He truly sets an example not only for his community, but also for the entire State of Colorado. His exploits have set an example for all Coloradoans and indeed the entire nation and I am grateful for his service to his community. John, I wish you the best in your future endeavors and thanks for your contribution to society.

AFGHANISTAN'S FUTURE IN ITS YOUTH'S HANDS

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform my colleagues of the remarkable courage the children of Afghanistan have shown by returning to their classrooms this year in record numbers, despite the ongoing violence that has torn the country apart. The U.N. International Children's Emergency Fund, UNICEF, announced last week that over 5 million Afghani children, both boys and girls, have returned to school since the beginning of this year. This far exceeds the previously expected number of 1.78 million children. To the innocent people of Afghanistan who have long suffered from the great injustice, torture and oppression of the Taliban dictatorship, their children are a bright beacon of freedom and hope that a better future lies ahead.

I believe it is incumbent upon us to provide UNICEF with the necessary funds to continue

rebuilding Afghanistan's schools, hire more teachers and provide more books so they can live and learn like our children here in the United States. It is imperative that we keep the hopes of the Afghani people alive by assisting UNICEF's efforts to provide these children with proper food, shelter and clothing. We can help them grow up in happiness and in a safe environment in a country that has known neither in many years.

UNICEF's program in Afghanistan this year has been recorded as its largest educational development effort since its inception. However, the organization estimates that it will still need an additional \$57 million this year to support the newly crated education ministry, teacher training and recruitment, the development of curricula and textbooks for primary, secondary and higher education as well as a system of community radio programs to provide basic education to remote, underserved areas of Afghanistan.

Educating Afghani children is essential to the future stability of Afghanistan. With our help, UNICEF has taken on the enormous task of creating an educational system from scratch and has made remarkable progress so far. We must renew our commitment to the citizen of Afghanistan by investing more in UNICEF's efforts on behalf of the citizens of Afghanistan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on Monday, July 15, 2002, and missed rollcall votes No. 296, No. 297 and No. 298. Had I been present, I would have voted "Aye," on rollcall No. 296, "Aye," on rollcall No. 297, and "Aye," on rollcall No. 298.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST KENNETH LOEHLNER AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MISSOURI NATIONAL GUARD

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that several acts of selflessness were performed by Missouri National Guardsmen. Specialist Kenneth Loehner, of Jefferson City, MO, heroically helped rescue a group of people in danger of falling into the Savannah River in Savannah, GA, while others protected the area from intrusion by growing crowds.

Spc. Kenneth Loehner and other Missouri National Guard members had been training during an annual two-week mission at Fort Stewart in Hainesville, GA. Halfway through their temporary duty, he and other members of his team were given a break and toured the local communities. During the break, Spc. Loehner heard a loud noise at a parking lot near the Savannah River. Part of the parking lot had caved in and trapped 3 tourists in a 10-foot deep crater nearly tossing them into

the river. He immediately jumped into the hole to help the tourists and saved them in a matter of minutes. Several of Spc. Loehner's colleagues successfully directed onlookers away from the chaotic scene.

Mr. Speaker, Spc. Kenneth Loehner and the other Guardsmen involved have distinguished themselves by going above and beyond the call of duty to ensure the safety of others. I am certain that my colleagues will join me in congratulating them on a job well done.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KEITH WIER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I stand before you to recognize the personal achievements of Mr. Keith Wier, of Denver, Colorado. Keith's contributions to environmental technology have been implemented throughout Colorado, our nation, and the world. Moreover, his tireless efforts to preserve our ecosystem have led to the creation of new methodologies for the disposing of toxins.

Keith has used his MBA in Real Estate and Finance in all but the obvious manner. He has devoted his career to the development and manufacture of international products used in nuclear instrumentation. Keith's formation of the Resonant Shock Compaction in 1997 dramatically improved existing methods for contaminated granular waste disposal. He has also capitalized on grants received from the U.S. Department of Energy and the City of Denver Mayor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade to work jointly with the Japanese in the modernization of environmental export programs. In addition, Keith founded an international conglomerate of utility companies that studied the formation of construction products from coal burning byproducts. The published results helped commence the development of industries in India and Japan based on his research and findings.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride I rise today to pay tribute for the works of Keith Wier. The results of his research have transformed former waste into necessary products, which has helped local agencies and the environment in numerous ways. Congratulations Keith and good luck in your future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I regret that a pressing family matter yesterday forced me to miss recorded vote numbers 296, 297, and 298.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on H.R. 3482, the Cyber Security Enhancement Act, and H.R. 4755, the Clarence Miller Post Office Building Designation Act. I would have voted "nay" on H.R. 3479, the National Aviation Capacity Expansion Act.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF CHARLOTTE

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Assistance League of Charlotte on its tenth anniversary.

The Assistance League of Charlotte is a volunteer organization that has dedicated ten years of hard work to bettering the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community and is deserving of public recognition and commendation.

This nonprofit organization was founded in 1992 as the 93rd chapter of the National Assistance League. Its volunteer members are dedicated to identifying, developing, implementing and funding philanthropic projects to serve the needs of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community. In 2001–2002, 113 members devoted almost 26,000 hours of community service to local children.

Its motto is Changing Lives for a Better Community, and the League has certainly lived by this credo, working tirelessly to enrich and uplift the people of Charlotte. Through philanthropic projects such as Operation Check Hunger, Operation School Bell, the Mecklenburg County Teen Court, and a scholarship fund for Charlotte-area seniors, the Assistance League of Charlotte has continually demonstrated its outstanding ability to enact real and beneficial changes in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community.

I am honored to recognize Assistance League of Charlotte on its tenth anniversary and to extend my heartfelt thanks to its members for their vision and integrity in serving the people of Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

HONORING JAMES E. BURTON

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. James Burton as he ends his tenure as the Chief Executive Officer of the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS). As his friends, family and colleagues all gather to celebrate his departure from over 25 years of public service, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the dedicated service of this truly distinguished citizen of Sacramento.

Jim Burton came to the California Public Employees' Retirement System in 1992 and was appointed CEO in 1994. During his eight years of guiding the fund, total assets increased 30 percent and now total over \$150 billion. His leadership has provided the 1.3 million California public employees, retirees and their families with a secure future.

Jim's time at CalPERS will not only be remembered by the funds' outstanding growth, but also by his commitment to the participating employees. Providing enrollees with exceptional customer service was high on his list of concerns. This can be seen in the organization's first strategic plan, which he helped shape.

In addition to leading CalPERS through a time of remarkable growth, Jim has served on numerous boards and committees of many prestigious organizations. These include the National Association of State Retirement Administrators, the Council of Institutional Investors, and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. He also is a former Blue Ribbon Commission member of the National Association of Corporate Directors.

In recognition of his excellent work in serving the public employees of California, Jim was recently named Outstanding Public Administrator by the Sacramento Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration.

His service to the citizens of California, which has spanned the course of four decades, will surely be missed. Yet, his commitment to the employees of California and their families will undoubtedly serve as a model for others to follow.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most distinguished citizens, James Burton. His successes have been great, and it is a wonderful opportunity for me to recognize his many contributions to the people of California. I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing my friend, Jim Burton, continued success in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DOUGLAS COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS, SUE NEUSTIFTER, UPON HER RETIREMENT

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant upon the occasion of her retirement. Sue Neustifter, the elected Register of Deeds of Douglas County, Kansas, which is located in the Third Congressional District, retired at the end of last month after holding that office since her first election in 1972, and after having worked for Douglas County for 43 years.

Sue Neustifter was elected to the Douglas County Courthouse in 1972, as one of the group of Democratic candidates whose election in Douglas County in that year marked the real beginning of two-party politics in the home of Lawrence and the University of Kansas. She joined the Register of Deeds office on June 1, 1959, just a few days after graduating from Eudora High School. With the exception of one six month period when she left the office to campaign for the position of Register, Sue served in the office continuously until July 1st of this year. Elected thirty years ago, she was re-elected her last seven times on the ballot without any formal opposition.

As an active member of the Kansas Register of Deeds Association, Sue has served as President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer of that group; she also has been a part of many Lawrence community organizations, such as Soroptimist International of Lawrence, Lawrence Business Women, the local legal secretaries' group, and the Lions' Club, where she was awarded "Lion of the Year" in 2001. She also received a 40-year award from the Kansas Association of Counties.

Now that Sue has handed the keys of the Register's office over to Kay Pesnell, so that she can spend more time with her daughter, Sandra, son-in-law, Terry, and three grandchildren—Paige, Kalia and Tyler—it is fitting, Mr. Speaker, to include in today's RECORD a recent article from the Lawrence Journal-World that reviews the tenure and accomplishments of this dedicated and deservedly popular Kansas public servant. On behalf of the citizens of Douglas County, I wish her all the best upon her much deserved retirement and ask unanimous consent to reprint the article below.

[From the Lawrence Journal-World, June 4, 2002]

REGISTER OF DEEDS LEAVES LEGACY OF
GROWTH, EFFICIENCY
(By Mark Fagan)

Sue Neustifter is closing the book on a 43-year career at the hub of Douglas County's development industry.

Make that the disk drive.

"We've gone from typewritten to photostat to microfilm to scanning now," said Neustifter, who has overseen the recording of thousands of land transfers as the county's register of deeds. "It's easier now, but the work has tripled."

Neustifter, in her ninth term as the county's elected register of deeds, said Monday that she would retire effective July 1. She will leave behind an office that generated an unprecedented \$2.46 million in revenues last year for the county, bolstered by a record year for taxes on new and refinanced mortgages throughout the growing community.

And the tally is poised to grow even stronger.

Beginning the day Neustifter leaves office, mortgage-registration fees will go up by \$2 per page, as mandated by the Kansas Legislature. The extra money will be used to upgrade technology in her office, which already has started transferring hundreds of rolls of microfilm onto dozens of compact discs for posterity.

For an office that records pages at break-neck speed—1,000 pages last Friday alone—Neustifter's efficiency and proclivity will be missed, said Craig Weinaug, county administrator.

The information kept in Neustifter's office forms the basis of virtually every land transfer in the county, and is relied upon by Realtors, title companies and property owners alike.

Last year Neustifter and her seven employees faxed, photocopied and pulled enough documents—at \$1, 50 cents and 25 cents a pop, respectively—for customers to add \$20,930 to the county's budget.

"I've never heard one peep of complaint about anything out of your office," Commissioner Charles Jones said, after joining a standing ovation to applaud her work. "And you're the cast cow."

Neustifter joined the register of deeds office June 1, 1959, just days after graduating from Eudora High School. She started as a clerk, and worked her way up before quitting in 1972—for six months—only so that she could run for the top job.

A Democrat, she won that race and every one since, including the last seven without any formal opposition. Neustifter intends to recommend that Kay Pesnell, who has worked for her for the past 12 years, be appointed by the county's Democratic Central Committee to serve out the remaining two years of Neustifter's term.

Her 30 years in office marks one of the longest tenures of any elected official in Kansas—a testimony to her competence, work ethic and community involvement."

said Carrie Moore, chair of the county's Democratic Party.

The party's central committee is scheduled to meet June 17 to appoint a new register of deeds.

A few weeks later, Neustifter, 63, intends to be on the road to Michigan to visit her daughter and three grandchildren.

"I'm ready to retire," she said.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PATRICK
SULLIVAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Sheriff Patrick Sullivan, Jr. of Arapahoe County, Colorado and thank him for his extraordinary contributions to his community and to his state. As a resident of Arapahoe County, Patrick has dedicated his career to protecting the community by selflessly devoting his time and energy to his job, his family, and his community. His remarkable nineteen years as sheriff serve as a symbol of the commitment that Patrick feels for the Arapahoe County Sheriff's department and the protection of Colorado residents. As we celebrate the accomplishments of his fine career, let it be known that I, along with the people of Colorado, applaud his efforts and are eternally grateful for all that he has done for his community.

Sheriff Sullivan received his law enforcement training from several institutions including the FBI National Academy Sheriffs' Institute; the Juvenile Officers' Institute, California Specialized Training Institute, Special Tactical Firearms Course, and the Special Weapons and Tactics Course (SWAT). During his tenure as sheriff of Arapahoe County he led the department in becoming the first sheriff's office to national accreditation under the 908 professional standards established by the commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

During Patrick's time as Sheriff, Arapahoe County has hosted several Presidential events and a Papal visit, as well as co-hosting the 1997 G-8 summit with the City of Denver. Each of these events presented security and terrorist threats that required significant preparation and uncommon diligence. In every event, Sheriff Sullivan and his men met the challenges presented by such high profile security details; professionalism and skill have been their hallmark throughout Patrick's tenure. Here in Washington, Sheriff Sullivan has shared his expert knowledge with me and my colleagues, having advised and testified before subcommittees of this House that deal with Crime and Trade, areas in which he has been able to provide us with invaluable guidance and wisdom.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Sheriff Patrick Sullivan is a man of unparalleled dedication and commitment to his job, his community and his country. It is his dedication to hard work, as well as the spirit of integrity and selflessness, that I wish to bring before this body of Congress, and our nation. Sheriff Sullivan has honorably served his state and nation, and it is my privilege to extend to him my sincere congratulations on his retirement and to wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER L. JOHNSON

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to an extraordinary man and a dear friend of mine, Mr. Walter L. Johnson, a member of the San Francisco Labor Council, who is to be honored by the San Mateo Labor Council at its annual banquet on July 18th, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, Walter Johnson was raised in North Dakota, and like many men of his generation he gallantly served our country during World War II. After his discharge in 1946, like many wise men of that day, he moved to San Francisco, where he obtained a job as an appliance salesperson with Sears Roebuck, and immediately joined the Department Store Employees' Union Local 1100.

From his earliest working days, Walter showed a deep commitment to racial equality, which is best highlighted by the key role he played in 1958, when he was instrumental in helping the first African American woman work behind the counter at Woolworth's. That same year, he was elected President of Local 1100. By 1964, he was elected to a senior leadership position: Secretary Treasurer of the Department Store Employees Union. He was re-elected a remarkable eleven times. In 1965 he became Executive Officer of the Union.

In the spring of 1985, Walter Johnson was elected Secretary Treasurer of the San Francisco Labor Council, a position he has held since that time. Under his guidance, the Council continues to work for the laudable goal of providing employment, advantageous wages and benefits for its members. Serving over 100 Unions and over 75,000 workers in San Francisco, Walter Johnson is the voice of labor in the Bay area.

Mr. Speaker, Walter Johnson and his lovely wife Jane are residents of South San Francisco, which is in my congressional district. They are the proud parents of three children and five grandchildren. Aside from working closely with many union leaders, he also interacts with community groups, elected officials, and religious leaders to promote issues that enhance the quality of life for working people. Strengthening his position as an advocate for working men and women, he serves on various boards and committees, including the United Way of the Bay Area, the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee and Our Redeemers Lutheran Church.

Walter is the recipient of numerous awards, which are far too many to enumerate, but I will mention a few key ones. He has provided valuable direction as President of the James F. Housewright—United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW), Scholarship Fund, and he is a member of the UFCW Advisory Board, the International's Foreign Affairs Committee, and its National Department Store Committee.

Moreover, Walter has been a member of the board of directors of the San Francisco Private Industry Council, Arriba Juntos, the Bay Pacific Health Plan, the Council for Civic Unity, KQED-TV, the Organized Training Center, the Board of the San Francisco Bay Area Girl Scout Council, the Center for Ethics and Social Policy, the Shelter Network, the Death

Penalty Focus Board, the Advisory Board of Nature Conservancy, the Western Opera Theatre, and the San Francisco Organizing Project. Walter has distinguished himself as founder and President of San Francisco Renaissance. In addition, he has been an active member of the Advisory Board of the Labor Archives and Research Center and the President's Advisory Board of San Francisco State University. In 1988, Mr. Johnson was chosen to receive the Bay Area Union Labor Party's "1988 Leadership Award" as an appreciation of his exemplary record of achievements.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commending Walter L. Johnson for his dedication to our nation's working men and women, his exemplarily record of civic achievement, and his determination to better the condition of working people. Walter's service has shown us the meaning of courage, courtesy, compassion and commitment.

H.R. 3479, THE NATIONAL AVIATION CAPACITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3479, the National Aviation Capacity Act. This legislation was introduced by my good friend, Mr. LIPINSKI, and I would like to thank him for his hard work. I am pleased to join him as a cosponsor of this legislation.

O'Hare is a tremendously important airport in not only to Chicago and the Midwest, but also our entire national aviation system. It recently reclaimed the title of the world's busiest airport and is the only airport to serve as a hub for two major airlines. O'Hare serves 190,000 travelers and operates 2,700 flights daily, employs 50,000 people and generates \$37 billion in annual economic activity.

However, O'Hare needs to be redesigned to meet today's demands. It is laid out with seven runways, six of which intersect at least one other runway. The modernization plan would add one new runway. The seven existing runways will be reconfigured to include a southern runway for a total of eight runways, of which six would be parallel. These improvements would have a significant impact on reducing delays and cancellations: bad weather delays would decrease by 95 percent and overall delays would decrease by 79 percent.

On December 5, 2001, Mayor Daley and Governor Ryan reached a historic agreement to expand and improve O'Hare airport. The agreement would modernize O'Hare, create western access to the airport, provide additional funds for soundproofing home and schools near O'Hare, move forward with the construction of a third Chicago airport at the Peotone site and keep Meigs Field open until at least 2006, and likely until 2026.

H.R. 3479 would simply codify the deal so that a future governor does not rescind the agreement. Illinois is in a unique situation because the governor does have veto power. If this legislation is not enacted, it is possible that a future governor could undo all the hard work that the current governor and mayor of Chicago have done to reach this agreement.

There is some concern that this legislation sets a precedent by involving the federal government or creating a short-cut around environmental laws. Again, O'Hare is an exceptional situation which requires this limited federal action. Other cities and airport authorities do not have a governor with veto authority over this issue. The city of Chicago does not want the federal government to take over the modernization of O'Hare but the language is included in case the State delays the State Implementation Plan (SIP) of the Clean Air Act to slow down the project. The language granting priority consideration for a Letter of Intent from the FAA for Peotone is no different than language that can be found in any Transportation Appropriations bill.

Regarding environmental concerns, the bill says that implementation shall be subject to federal laws with respect to environmental protection and analysis, and that the environmental reviews will go forward in an expedited way. There is no attempt to go around existing state or federal environmental laws, and this legislation has the support of many environmental groups.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will allow the much-needed expansion of O'Hare to move forward. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

INTRODUCTION OF BENEFICIAL USE OF DREDGED MATERIAL LEGISLATION

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the House of Representatives about the introduction of legislation to allow for the transfer of dredged material onto our Nation's beaches.

In my home state of North Carolina, our beaches are economic engines, providing thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in revenues. However, beach erosion threatens the existence of these economic engines and frankly the federal regulatory and statutory regimes do not move quickly enough to replace this lost infrastructure.

The current standard used by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers requires the disposal of dredged material obtained from a Federal navigation project in the least costly manner. This method almost always results in the offshore placement of sand. However, when these facilities are dredged, the disposal of the dredged material offshore may not be the least cost disposal method. The offshore disposal option increase the costs of erosion so the regional and national economies are damaged by a reduction in recreation spending.

Therefore, I have introduced legislation today making it easier to place sand dredged from authorized navigation projects onto beaches in order to provide shore protection for years to come. My legislation would amend the least cost disposal method to allow municipalities to take these dredged spoils and place them on nearby beaches while adhering to the current 65/35 cost-share ratio.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to join me today in cosponsoring this legislation. Four times more Americans visit the Nation's

beaches than our National Parks every year. Beach nourishment is good economic policy and this proposal will allow the Army Corps of Engineers to supplement its effective shore protection programs.

TRANSPORTATION OF NUCLEAR WASTE HAS IMPRESSIVE SAFETY RECORD

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues the following editorial from the July 15, 2002, Omaha World-Herald. The editorial offers insightful comments on the issue of transporting nuclear waste and highlights the impressive safety record of shipments which have been made over the years. For instance, 3,000 shipments of high-level nuclear waste have been safely completed over the past three decades. The containers for the waste have been subjected to numerous tests to ensure their strength and durability even in the most extreme circumstances.

Unfortunately, many opponents of the Yucca Mountain site have tried to use emotional scare tactics about the transportation of nuclear waste in hopes of derailing the entire project. However, as the editorial makes clear, central depository would greatly enhance safety.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, July 15, 2002]

HOW SAFE IS IT?

Now that the Senate has voted to allow the construction of a national high-level nuclear waste storage facility at Yucca Mountain, Department of Energy officials will have to confront a key issue: Transportation.

Officials expect up to 77,000 tons of dangerous radioactive material such as spent nuclear plant fuel rods to be transported to the remote Nevada desert for indefinite storage. That waste will come from all 39 states, encompassing 131 sites, that currently store the material in mostly above-ground facilities. The sites include not only nuclear power plants but also military weapons facilities and research institutions.

The waste will travel by truck and rail. It will have to pass through some of the nation's most populous areas. Some will come through the Midlands, on its Interstate highways and its many rail lines. The government has projected that as many as 100 truck or rail accidents might occur over the 25-year life of the project.

The question of safety is key.

Opponents of the project tried to attack transport of the waste before the Senate decision because methods and routes had not yet been specified. But they were premature. It's only now, as DOE applies for a license for the facility from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, that such issues can be addressed.

Many critics of Yucca Mountain, by the way, aren't necessarily being open about their motives. Some may honestly believe approval of the site is potentially dangerous. Others, however, are simply anti-nuclear. They realize that without a disposal site, nuclear power in this country will likely die—"choking on its own waste," as one senator put it.

When critics raise their objections, they will have to overcome this fact; In the past

30 years, about 3,000 shipments of high-level waste have traveled around the United States safely. Not without accidents—trucks and trains are always vulnerable to accidents—but without any radiation leaks.

The Nuclear Energy Institute says that the waste transport containers used thus far, with their multiple layers of lead and other shielding, are built to withstand severe accidents. They have been tested: hit by a locomotive traveling at 60 miles per hour, driven into a concrete wall at 80 miles an hour, burned, submerged. They have withstood the worst flung at them without failure, whether in testing or in actual transportation-accident situations.

The presence of so many above-ground storage facilities for nuclear waste, in so many locations, near so many people—160 million by one estimate—amounts to an open invitation to accidents or terrorism. The chilling security uncertainties alone should predispose Americans toward a central, safe waste site.

Getting the waste materials there is a technical problem, not a reason to kill the construction of Yucca Mountain. If current methods of transportation aren't adequate—and such assertions are still far from proved—then federal officials and nuclear plant operators should find other ways to protect the shipments.

A single national repository is the only reasonable way to go. If Yucca Mountain is as desirable a site as its supporters say, then questions about transportation of the waste should not hold it back.

RECOGNIZING NATHAN WEINBERG

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to recognize the accomplishments of Nathan Weinberg and thank him for his service to his country and his community as he retires as a trustee of the Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation and his appointment as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army.

In 1917, Nathan Weinberg was the first of his six siblings to be born in America, and in 1941, was inducted into the U.S. Army. On December 25, 1945, Mr. Weinberg was discharged as a 2nd Lieutenant after service in Texas, Australia, New Guinea and the Philippines.

After returning home to Baltimore, Mr. Weinberg worked in real estate and lived briefly in Texas and Pennsylvania working on business interests of his brother, Harry Weinberg. He remained a member of the standby reserve until October 1955 when he was honorably discharged.

In 1960, Mr. Weinberg became an active officer and trustee of the Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation. Since his brother Harry's death in 1990, Mr. Weinberg has remained one of five trustees to the Foundation, which is one of the largest private foundations in the United States. His leadership on the board has included projects supported by his brother, particularly housing and amenities for the elderly from Coney Island to Tel Aviv to Hawaii.

Mr. Weinberg was appointed Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army in 2000. His military experience and his dedication to the Maryland

Army National Guard has provided leadership, friendship and financial support for community outreach.

Mr. Weinberg has a strong sense of family and a firmly held belief in equality and equitable treatment for all people. At ground breakings and ribbon cuttings, he is not shy about expressing his concern for the welfare of the audience, unhappy that the dignitaries receive special treatment while the audience is left to stand, swelter in the heat or freeze in the cold. His sense of justice guides his dealings with others and he expects others to pass along that philosophy as well. He is a leader by example and deeds.

I would ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating Mr. Weinberg on a life well lived and in thanking him for his service to his country. Our appreciation extends to his family, his wife Lillian and his three sons, Donn, Glenn and Joseph, their wives and children.

PHILADELPHIA HOUSING AUTHORITY'S PRE-APPRENTICE- SHIP PROGRAM

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the upcoming graduation services of the latest class of the Philadelphia Housing Authority's Pre-Apprenticeship building, maintenance and construction trades program.

This will be the seventh graduating class of this model program that originated in 1999. Carl R. Greene, the Executive Director of the Philadelphia Housing Authority is proud of the program that will enable residents of public housing to improve their lives by providing them with skills to secure meaningful employment.

The program has won recognition from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Labor. It is also supported by the Philadelphia Building and Construction Trades Council, Metropolitan Regional Council of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Cement Masons Local Union 592, International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 21, International Brotherhood of Electrical workers, Local Union 98, Laborers' Local 332, and Plumbers Union Local 690.

The Pre-Apprenticeship program provides vocational and educational skills through a hands-on, 21-week training program designed to help participants pass the apprenticeship test for the construction unions. Upon completion of the program, graduates can work in the construction industry as qualified apprentices. The trainees will work with PHA and union contractors to rehabilitate, modernize and build at various Housing Authority properties.

PHA continues to be nationally recognized for its innovation in public housing. It has the distinction of being the first housing authority in America to be designed by the Institute of Real Estate Management (IREM) of the National Association of Realtors as an "Accredit Management Operation." This designation is awarded to firms engaged in property management, which have met IREM's high standards in the areas of education, experience, integrity, and financial stability.

AMERICAN LEGION AMENDMENT ACT, VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS CHARTER AMENDMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2002

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of two bills, H.R. 3988, the American Legion Amendment Act, and H.R. 3838, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Charter Amendment Act. Both of these measures seek to broaden membership to their respective organizations. H.R. 3838, the American Legion Amendment Act, revises American Legion eligibility requirements by providing that individuals who are currently serving honorably in the armed forces are eligible for membership in the American Legion, H.R. 3838, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Charter Amendment Act, amends the charter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) to allow members of the armed services who have received special pay for duty subject to hostile fire or imminent danger to be a member of the VFW. The bill also clarifies that the VFW would be considered "charitable" in order to qualify the organization's member activities for tax purposes.

Mr. Speaker, these measures send a strong message to our Nation's veterans. I am pleased that the House is taking action on these measures and will continue to strive to meet the needs of our veterans of today and tomorrow. As a father of a Gulf War veteran, I am proud that he will have the opportunity to join a major veterans organization, as well as the thousands of other deserving military service members who served in dangerous military campaigns such as Somalia, Kosovo and more recently, the war on terrorism in Afghanistan. I, along with my colleagues in Congress, are committed to serving America's veterans and their families with dignity and compassion. For these reasons, I strongly support these two measures.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LAO- HMONG WIDOWS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. UDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today both to honor and thank the widows of the brave men who fought alongside American soldiers during the Vietnam War. This week, members of the Lao-Hmong community will celebrate the first Lao-Hmong Recognition Day. This day will be a time to reflect on the important friendship between the Lao-Hmong and the American people, and to thank the Lao-Hmong for the sacrifices they have made.

The husbands of these brave women fought against communism in the name of freedom and democracy. Their dedication to this country and its ideals is admirable, and we owe it to them to honor their wives who risked their lives and the lives of their families to defend our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress has shown its appreciation for the Lao-Hmong veterans in

passing legislation establishing Lao-Hmong Recognition Day. I respectfully ask that we take time during this day to also honor these widows, and to thank them for their loyalty.

A TRIBUTE TO HUEY HAVARD

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Huey Havard, the top law enforcement officer for nearly 10 years in Union County. Sheriff Havard died Sunday, June 23, 2002 after a long struggle with liver cancer. He was 63.

Sheriff Havard took office in 1993 but his career in law enforcement began three decades earlier as a 25-year-old patrolman for the El Dorado Police Department. It was then Havard found he had an unending passion to serve and protect the people he knew and loved in Union County. He had the distinction of being one of the first narcotics officers at the El Dorado Police Department and over the years he served as a motorcycle patrolman, commander of the patrol division, and in the detective division, climbing the ranks to sergeant, lieutenant, and finally captain.

Havard was named the city's officer of the year in 1973 and served as interim chief of police for a few months before taking a patrol deputy's assignment at the sheriff's office in 1983. During his tenure, Havard increased the number of patrol deputies and began 12-hour shifts for deputies to allow for better patrol coverage. He also assigned deputies to work full-time with the 13th Judicial District Drug Task Force.

Sheriff Havard was an honorable, driven, and passionate law officer. He was an amazing man, and an asset to Union County. I understand that this is a difficult time for his wife, Cathy, his mother, Eva, two daughters, Shondra and Laura, stepdaughter, Michele, and all of his many friends and relatives whom he loved dearly. They are in my heart and in my prayers.

Huey Havard will be missed greatly. His legacy of hard work, determination, and love of people will live on in the lives he touched and changed forever.

ON THE DEATH OF BENJAMIN O. DAVIS JR.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mourn the passing of General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who was born on December 18, 1912, and died on July 4, 2002 at the age of 89. General Davis was buried at Arlington Cemetery with full military honors.

General Davis was an American hero, who through his leadership of the legendary Tuskegee Airmen, helped to dispel the myths about the ability of African-Americans to successfully engage in combat and specifically to master the complexities of flying and maintaining aircraft.

He was the first black graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point in the 20th Century. When Davis was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1936, the Army had had a total of two black officers, Benjamin O. Davis Senior and Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.

While at West Point, Davis applied for entry to the Army Air Corps, but was rejected. He later attended the Army's Infantry School at Fort Benning, and taught military tactics at Tuskegee Institute. Diverting Davis from the Air Corps was the Army's way of avoiding having a black officer command white soldiers, in a time when segregation prevailed and black troops had little hope for promotion.

In 1941, as wartime approached, an all-black flying unit was created, and Captain Davis was assigned to the first training class at Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama. In March of 1942, Benjamin O. Davis won his wings and became one of five black officers to complete the course. In July of the same year, Davis was promoted to lieutenant colonel and was named commander of the first all black air unit known as the 99th Pursuit Squadron.

In the spring of 1943, the 99th Pursuit Squadron went to North Africa, where they saw combat for the first time on June 2. By summer, the 99th were flying missions to support the invasion of Sicily. In the fall, Colonel Davis returned to the United States to command the 332nd Fighter Group, an even larger all black unit preparing to make the trip overseas. It was about this time when Top Brass recommended that the 99th be removed from tactical operations for poor performance. Colonel Davis held a news conference at the Pentagon to defend his men. Although they were permitted to continue fighting, a top-level inquiry ensued. Questions about the squadron were put to rest in January 1944, when its pilots downed 12 German fighter planes over the Anzio beach in Italy.

Colonel Davis and the 332nd arrived in Italy shortly after that. They were based at Ramitelli and came to be known as the Red Tails for the distinctive marking on their planes. The four-squadron unit accumulated a successful record of missions flown deep into German territory.

General Benjamin O. Davis was a highly decorated leader of dozens of missions in P-47 Thunderbolts and P-51 Mustangs. He received the Silver Star for a strafing run into Austria, and the Distinguished Flying Cross for a bomber escort mission into Munich. General Davis went on to lead the all black 477th Bombardment Group, which compiled an exemplary combat record.

When General Davis retired from the military in 1970, he became the Director of Public Safety in Cleveland. Later he joined the United States Department of Transportation, directing anti-hijacking efforts. In his five years with the department he supervised the sky marshal program, airport security and a program to stop cargo theft. In 1998 President Bill Clinton awarded General Benjamin O. Davis a fourth star, the military's highest peacetime rank.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LEE REEVES

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lee Reeves of Howell, Michigan. Since 1987, Lee has served as President of the Howell Area Chamber of Commerce where she used her leadership skills and good nature to build up the city of Howell to its potential. Now she is leaving the chamber to pursue personal projects and family time.

Lee Reeves may be leaving the position this month, but the work she did while in office will continue to benefit the Howell community for years to come. While serving as President, Lee started countless community events, such as the Michigan Challenge Balloonfest, Sunday Farmer's Market, Taste of Livingston County, and the Fantasy of Lights Parade. She also saw Chamber membership grow from 200 to 925, and the budget increase from \$70,000 to \$850,000. In addition, Lee established a Downtown Development Authority and formed the Livingston County Visitors Bureau. She has received numerous awards, including Huron Valley Girl Scouts Woman of the Year, and Howell Citizen of the Year 2002. Lee has a husband, Louis, and a son, Skyler. She plans on writing a book about her daughter, Leta, who passed away five years ago from Leukemia.

Lee's efforts have contributed greatly to helping Howell grow into a remarkable city and a pleasant place to live. I am confident that her hard work and dedication to her community will continue well into the future. My Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Lee Reeves for all of her contributions to the community to Howell, and wish her success in her future endeavors.

TALKING TALONS YOUTH LEADERSHIP MAKES SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO NEW MEXICO

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, during the Independence Day work period, I had the opportunity, like many of my colleagues, to visit constituents and groups in my home state. There was one visit that was especially gratifying that I would like to relate to my colleagues.

Talking Talons Youth Leadership, located in the mountains East of Albuquerque, is a non-profit youth development organization. This program works in several different ways to evaluate youth to be effective advocates and ethical stewards of themselves, wildlife, and the environment. I went into this program believing that it was a basic rehabilitation program for wild animals. I was pleasantly surprised to learn that Talking Talons is so much more.

I want to give a brief history of this program. In 1988, Wendy C. Aeschliman, a nurse at Roosevelt Middle School, in Tijeras, New Mexico, with a side practice as a licensed animal

rehabilitator, observed that her young patients suffered less from physical ailments and more from a downcast spirit and low self-esteem. The youth did seem, however, extremely curious and excited about her animal patients. With a small Burrowing Owl named "Bo" who had been declared non-releasable, she set forth to combine the natural love of animals she observed in youth, with the goal of increasing their self-esteem. She implemented, on a small scale at the middle school, a curriculum which trained students to perform public presentations about injured wildlife and their conservation. Thirteen years later, Talking Talons' basic approach to instill healthy lifestyles and attitudes in young people has grown and taken off.

Today, the program thrives in New Mexico. Through a dedication team of staff, volunteers, contributors, and state and federal government, Talking Talons is realizing its vision of the future. Through experiences in public speaking, team-building activities, and conservation projects, the youth of our communities and our environmental advocates of tomorrow are developing a commitment towards conservation of natural resources. We owe Talking Talons our gratitude for ensuring that such valuable opportunities exist.

Mr. Speaker, it seems that every time we open a newspaper or watch the news, we hear of another devastating scandal involving corporate America. From Enron to WorldCom, the news of recent months has been disheartening and unbelievable. It is nice to know, however, that there are some businesses out there that want to do the right thing. They want to become community partners. In that spirit, I want to commend Campbell Corporation and its President and CEO Robert Gately for recently donating land where students can implement riparian restoration practices, and for pledging to assist in the development of a new Talking Talons Leadership Center and Museum, along New Mexico's historic Turquoise Trail. At this new facility, Talking Talons will engage the community in conservation-based projects, including education wildlife programs designed to connect children and teens with nature.

Campbell Corporation is also working with Talking Talons to support a private-match funding source that will enable the program to qualify and compete for grants available from various foundations and agencies. I am so pleased that the East Mountains has a community partner like Campbell Corporation to help quality non-profits expand their operations.

During my visit, I had the opportunity to see firsthand the restoration project that Talking Talons has been conducted at the San Pedro Creek since spring this year. This ongoing restoration of the fragile environment involves the young preservationists working to identify native and non-native plant species and restoring the creek to its original state.

When I visited Talking Talons, I met a number of the students that are involved in the program. These young adults were clearly inspired, intelligent, and friendly. Some of the students gave me presentations on different projects that they were undertaking. Just meeting the students was positive proof that the mission of Talking Talons is soaring and succeeding.

Many of the students work directly with animals that can never be released again, either

due to permanent injury or their unnatural contact with humans. These animals, however, will be taken care of and used in a positive way. I was especially pleased to learn that Talking Talon, in conjunction with the New Mexico Department of Health's Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Program, is working to warn other students about the deadly realities of tobacco. The students use the animals as metaphors for the strength and courage it takes to resist the peer pressure of tobacco and other negative influences. Seeing the animals used this way is truly novel. It is just another example of the creative approach that the staff of Talking Talons has taken to address the various challenges that are facing New Mexico's youth.

Another important element of this program is its location. Talking Talons is located in what is called the Tri-County area. So named because in about a ten-minute drive you will go through the counties of Bernalillo, Sandoval and Santa Fe. This particular area of the state is rural in nature and surrounded by beautiful forests. As is the case with most rural areas, finding things for youths to do—whether it be working or volunteering—is often difficult. Without positive outlets, our children often end up in negative and unhealthy situations. The genius of Talking Talons is that because of its location young people in the East Mountains have a wonderful and productive alternative way to spend their time.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to building a relationship with Talking Talons Youth Leadership. I am very proud to be able to share with you the story of these terrific students and the wonderful gift they are giving to their community and to themselves. They are demonstrating what life really is—being a leader, a good student, and living a healthy lifestyle.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "LIVING WELL WITH FATAL CHRONIC ILLNESS ACT OF 2002"

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Living Well with Fatal Chronic Illness Act of 2002," a bill to build the capacity to meet the challenge of growing numbers of people living with serious chronic illness for some time before death. I am joined in introducing this bill by my colleagues Representative STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, Representative MARTIN FROST, Representative MICHAEL McNULTY, and Representative ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON.

The early ideas for this legislative initiative came from conversations around the dinner table with my wife, Jean. We have both lost spouses, who succumbed at an unusually early age to cancer, and we have tended to disabled and frail parents.

Many citizens have been personally touched by the experience of caring for disabled and frail parents or for spouses and children as they lived out their final days. My experience in these difficult situations has been that our health care system is a patchwork quilt of mismatched services that carry with them substantial expense. So, the challenges faced by those nearing the end of life, as well as by

those caring for loved ones, are particularly meaningful to me.

Just in the last half-century, the way that most Americans come to the end of life has changed dramatically. Today, most people live for many months with a serious chronic illness before they die. In fact, statistics show that, on average, Americans will be unable to care for themselves for the last two years of their lives. However, the services that our health care system makes readily available were designed to cope with short-term threats, such as accidental injuries and heart attacks. Our nation's health care system has not been adapted to meet the needs of people facing the final phase of life or the many challenges faced by their caregivers.

Many of the shortcomings in the health care system related to care at the end of life arise from inherent shortcomings in federal policy. Unfortunately, we have been slow to see that these lapses are not just personal calamities and challenges, but rather, are built into federal policy. For example, while Medicare coverage makes operations and emergency services readily available to the elderly, services more appropriate for serious disability and dying are not easily found. Medicare, Medicaid, and Veteran's coverage do not provide for continuity in care, advance care planning, family support, or symptom relief for long-term fatal illnesses.

Further, end of life care uses a large portion of funding allocated to health care services. Those last few years of life are tremendously expensive, with the last year alone using 28 percent of the overall Medicare budget. It is estimated that half of Medicare cost, and even more of Medicaid for the elderly and Veteran's health care, go toward care of those who are very sick and will die, rather than get well. Although taxpayers spend money on end of life care, they do not get reliability and quality from that care.

And this is a problem that will only increase in the coming years. The numbers of people facing serious illness and death will double within a quarter century, as the Baby Boomer generation reaches old age. Our nation must not only arrange and pay for services that can support the unprecedented number of people who will need care, but we must also learn how to support family caregivers. Facts show that a family member will spend nearly as many years, seventeen, caring for an elderly parent, as raising children, eighteen years. Further, a family caregiver can expect to lose more than one-half million dollars in net worth, (from having a lower pension, more time not covered by health insurance, and lost wages.)

The "Living Well with Fatal Chronic Illness Act of 2002" will meet the challenges faced by a growing number of people who must live with serious chronic illness for some time before death. This comprehensive legislation addresses four key initiatives—two affect caregivers, two points relate to improving end of life care.

First, we establish an early Medicare buy-in program for otherwise uninsured caregivers aged 55 to 65. This provision would guarantee that those caregivers approaching Medicare age would not have to go without health insurance themselves when they are forced to leave work to care for a family member. For example, a 60-year-old woman who leaves her job to take care of her 85-year-old mother who has Alzheimer's disease often not only

loses her income and social role, but also her employer-sponsored health insurance. Age and pre-existing conditions make it unlikely that the daughter could purchase health insurance as an individual, so she may have to jeopardize her own medical care for that of her mother. By enabling family caregivers aged 55 or older to buy into Medicare at community rates, with no penalty for pre-existing conditions, we recognize the important contributions made by caregivers and support their valuable work in useful ways.

Second, the legislation proposes a \$3,000 per year tax credit for the primary caregiver of a low-income individual who has long-term care needs. This is important, because the United States is the only developed nation that does not support family caregivers. There is no federal government program to help improve skills, provide respite; indeed, we do not generally demonstrate that we honor their love and loyalty. The tax credit we propose is admittedly not enough to pay for the financial sacrifices of caregivers who provide long-term care, but it will demonstrate support and respect for the significant commitment and contributions made by those who help loved ones to live well despite serious illness.

We have been so focused on learning how to prevent and cure diseases that we have all but abandoned interest in what occurs as those possibilities run out. Most people now die of long-term irreversible conditions like dementia, frailty, heart failure, emphysema, cancer, and stroke; yet there is very little reliable evidence about serious illness and the end of life. This legislation will help provide guidance that the medical community needs to respond more effectively to unique end of life challenges.

Third, the bill authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to establish research, demonstration, and education programs to improve the quality of end-of-life care across multiple federal agencies.

Fourth, the bill authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs to develop and implement programs to improve the delivery of appropriate health and support services for patients with fatal chronic illness. The Veterans Health Care System has been a leader in end of life care delivery and innovation, especially in advance care planning and pain management. This bill aims to support continued excellence through enhanced education and service delivery for this important care system that now serves so many disabled and elderly veterans.

Our nation will face major challenges in the next quarter century as baby boomers approach old age. We must ensure that people suffering from fatal chronic illnesses live out their lives in a dignified, comfortable, and meaningful way, and we must support and honor the invaluable work of caregivers.

HONORING DHIRUBHAI AMBANI

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to mark the passing of one of India's greatest industrialists and entrepreneurs, Dhirubhai Ambani, who died on Saturday, July 6, 2002, at the age of sixty-nine.

Dhirubhai Ambani was the ultimate success story. Born in a rural village in Gujarat, he rose from a small trader of textiles and spices to head the largest and most profitable industrial concern in India, the Reliance Group. Through a series of shrewd business moves and decades of hard work, Dhirubhai Ambani transformed Reliance from a minor retail concern into an entity which included the largest and most modern refinery in Asia, a petrochemical business of unparalleled quality, a five billion dollar satellite and broadband subsidiary, and petroleum and refining businesses which set the standard throughout South Asia. At the time of his death, Dhirubhai Ambani oversaw an economic juggernaut which accounted in almost 3 percent of India's GDP and 16 percent of the value of the Bombay Stock Exchange. He was one of the wealthiest men in the world, a recognized billionaire by Forbes Magazine, and in 2000 he was rightly acknowledged by Business India magazine as India's Businessman of the Century.

Mr. Speaker, although Dhirubhai Ambani became very rich, his wealth was never closely held. Unlike many old line Indian companies, Dhirubhai Ambani shunned debt financing from banks and instead offered shares in Reliance to India's growing middle class. Shares in Reliance were eagerly purchased whenever offered. Today there are more than three million shareholders, almost all of whom are financially far better off as a result of their investment.

For anyone who may wonder about the ability of capitalism to flourish in the Indian economy, despite that country's long dance with government intervention and control, one need look no further than the story of The Reliance Group and its departed Chairman, Dhirubhai Ambani.

Mr. Speaker, as the Former Chairman of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans and a frequent visitor to India, I had the distinct privilege of spending time with Dhirubhai Ambani both at his office in South Bombay and his lovely residence. He was a gentleman of immediate warmth. A modest man who did not discuss his achievements or his generosity towards his employees, his community and his country, Dhirubhai Ambani immediately made me feel as though we had been friends for a long time.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in expressing condolences to Dhirubhai Ambani's two sons, Mukesh and Anil, who have taken over the management of Reliance, as well as his widow, Kokilaben, and his two daughters. Although they have suffered a great loss, their loss is shared, not only by India's citizens, but by many friends of India in the Congress and throughout the United States.

LEGISLATION TO NAME A UNITED STATES POST OFFICE IN ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA FOR THE HONORABLE WILLIAM C. CRAMER

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this morning I have introduced legislation to name

the United States Post Office at 3135 First Avenue North in St. Petersburg, Florida for the Honorable William C. Cramer, who represented the great state of Florida in this House for 16 years from January 3, 1955 to January 3, 1971.

Bill Cramer moved to St. Petersburg in 1925 where he attended public schools and The St. Petersburg Junior College. He enlisted in the Naval Reserve in 1943 and served with distinction as a gunnery officer during World War II. In particular he was cited for his service during the allied invasion of southern France. He was discharged as a Lieutenant in 1946.

Upon leaving the Navy, he graduated from the University of North Carolina and the Harvard Law School. He was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1948, when he began practicing law in St. Petersburg.

Bill Cramer began his distinguished career in public service in 1950, when he was elected to the Florida House of Representatives, where he served until 1952, including one year as the House's first Minority Leader.

It was in November of 1954 that he was elected to the United States House of Representatives, and was sworn into the 84th Congress on January 3, 1955. Bill Cramer was the first Republican from Florida elected to the House since reconstruction in 1875. He was reelected to seven succeeding Congresses.

During his eight terms in the House, Bill Cramer established a reputation for being one of our nation's foremost experts on transportation and public works issues. His career in Congress culminated with his service as the Ranking Republican on the House Public Works Committee, its Subcommittee on Roads, and on the Federal Aid Highway Investigating Committee. He also served as a member of the Judiciary Committee.

Following his retirement from the House, Bill Cramer was a distinguished professor and lecturer at The St. Petersburg Junior College, where he taught very popular classes in politics and government.

He is the father of three sons: William C., Jr., Mark C., and Allyn Walters. He and his wife Sara currently live in St. Petersburg.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Cramer is a friend and mentor who served our nation with great honor in this House. The enactment of this legislation will leave in St. Petersburg, the hometown he so dearly loves and served, a lasting tribute to his service, his patriotism, and his devotion to our nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, regretfully, last night I was unable to return to the House to vote on H.R. 3482, H.R. 4755, and H.R. 3479. I ask unanimous consent that the record reflect that had I been present for the votes, I would have voted no on H.R. 3479, and would have voted yea on H.R. 4755 and 3482.

HONORING TONY RUSSELL

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to remember and honor a dedicated public servant, Mr. Russell Anthony Tuccelli. After a lifetime of hard work and commitment to his family, community, and state, my friend, who was better known as Tony Russell, passed away on April 20, 2002. Having completed an eight-year battle with cancer, he was buried at sea on May 8th. He was 75 years old.

Tony had a long and distinguished career working in the news media and on behalf of state and local governments. During the 1970s he was the news director for both KCRA Radio and KFBK Radio in Sacramento, California. He also was a foreign correspondent for United Press International and a talk show host for KFBK.

In 1980, Tony assumed the role of director of communications for the Senate Minority Caucus in the California State Legislature. Later, he became my district coordinator when I represented the 3rd State Senatorial District. I deeply appreciate the valuable service he provided me. In 1984, he left my office to become an administrative assistant to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors. In 1987 he moved over to a similar position for the Sacramento City Council before joining the Governor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning as the chief of communications.

The year 1991 marked the beginning of his decade of service to California's Employment Development Department. Within this agency he worked as a public information officer, marketing specialist, and an associate information systems analyst.

He was known as a leader in the community through his involvement as a youth mentor in EDD's School Partnership Program. Also, he was often the guest speaker at swearing-in ceremonies for our newest U.S. citizens, giving everyone in attendance a brief history lesson and instilling a rousing sense of patriotism.

Tony is survived by his loving wife of 49 years, Lenamarie Tuccelli. He is also survived by his son Michael and daughter-in-law Erin, his son Stephen and daughter-in-law Karen, and his grandchildren Angela, Raymond, Stephanie, and Ryan. Tony Russell will be greatly missed by his family and friends, but his legacy of devotion to family and service to the community remains with us forever.

**RECENT STEM CELL
BREAKTHROUGHS****HON. MARK E. SOUDER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, recently a scientific study was published that should have ended the ongoing debate regarding human cloning and embryonic stem cell research. Researchers reported that they have identified a cell from bone marrow that is capable of transforming itself into most, or even all, of the specialized cells in the body.

This finding suggests that every one of us may carry our own "repair kit" that can be used to treat countless medical conditions and genetic disorders.

The New York Times reports that these "cells could in principle do everything expected of embryonic stem cells, with two extra advantages." They do not form tumors, which are a serious hazard associated with embryonic stem cells, and they could be derived from the patient to be treated. "Being the patient's own cells, they would be at no risk of immune rejection."

And the Washington Post notes that this discovery "heightens the prospect that therapies scientists are trying to create—cures for diabetes, Parkinson's disease, hemophilia and many others—can be made entirely with adult cells alleviating moral concerns" that exist with the research involving embryos and clones.

Yet, proponents of these unethical and unproven practices have largely ignored these adult stem cell breakthroughs. But the facts are simple.

Research using embryos and clones requires the creation and destruction of a form of human life. Adult stem cell research does not. In fact, adult stem cells are widely available in every one of us.

Research using embryos and clones has yet to produce any clinical applications for human patients. Adult stem cell therapies are currently used to treat a host of medical conditions with new breakthroughs announced on an almost weekly basis.

Without a doubt, embryonic stem cell research and cloning are highly speculative and problematic. Both require the destruction of human embryos and the diversion of finite, and much needed, funds and resources away from more promising research avenues, such as adult stem cells.

[From the Washington Post, Fri. June 21, 2002]

**STUDY FINDS POTENTIAL IN ADULT CELLS;
DISCOVERY WILL LIKELY FUEL ETHICAL DEBATE**

(By Justin Gillis)

Researchers have isolated a type of cell from bone marrow that seems capable of transforming itself into most or all of the specialized cells in the body, a dramatic new finding likely to fuel the debate over the ethics of stemcell research.

The finding was reported by researchers at the University of Minnesota and published online yesterday by the journal *Nature*. It heightens the prospect that therapies scientists are trying to create—cures for diabetes, Parkinson's disease, hemophilia and many others—can be made entirely with adult cells, alleviating moral concerns over using discarded embryos and fetuses as sources of tissue.

There has been conflicting evidence about whether cells found in adults might be as useful as those derived from embryos. But the work by Catherine Verfaillie, known as a fastidious and cautious researcher, was widely acknowledged as the most definitive evidence to date that adult cells may be almost as versatile as embryonic cells. Austin Smith, a prominent researcher in Scotland who has criticized some prior studies using such cells, called the Verfaillie paper "extraordinary."

The work is still at an early stage, however, and Verfaillie asked that it not be used as a political weapon to fight simultaneous work on embryonic and fetal cells.

"I think it is going to be important to be in a position to really compare and contrast

the cells," she said, with the ultimate goal of determining "which cells are going to work for which therapy."

As if to underscore that point, Nature simultaneously published work at the National Institutes of Health showing that embryo-derived cells can vastly improve symptoms similar to those associated with Parkinson's disease in mice. That work, led by Ron McKay, is one of the most convincing demonstrations to date that such embryonic cells may be useful in medical care.

The cells in McKay's experiments, derived from mouse embryos, took up residence at the right spot in the brains of adult mice and produced dopamine—a critical substance that is in short supply in Parkinson's disease—in exactly the way that would be needed to relieve the symptoms of the ailment. It is far from proof of a cure, but "it's absolutely definitive evidence that these cells can work in the brain," McKay said.

The more unexpected finding was that of Verfaillie, director of the University of Minnesota's Stem Cell Institute. With the paper, she joined the company of biologists who are overturning the dogma that animal development proceeds in one irreversible direction, from the unspecialized cell formed when sperm and egg fuse to the highly specialized cells of an adult body.

Hints of her work had been emerging for two years in papers and scientific conferences, and scientists had been eagerly awaiting it. Many other reports, some of them controversial, already emerged in recent years of various adult cell types being able to perform unexpected feats of transformation. But Verfaillie has discovered what appears to be the most flexible adult-derived cell yet.

She calls the cells in question "multipotent adult progenitor cells." She and her colleagues have isolated them from mice, rats and people, though they are only able to do so in 70 percent to 80 percent of the people they test, for unknown reasons.

In animal experiments, the cells proved to lack certain characteristics of embryonic stem cells, which are capable of making every tissue in an animal's body. But they shared many other characteristics and proved to be able to transform into cells of the liver, lung, gut, blood, brain and other organs. They have proven particularly amenable to transformation into liver cells.

Many of the types of experiments Verfaillie reported, which involved injecting the adult cells into developing mouse embryos, cannot ethically be done in humans. But further animal experimentation may clear the way to use the cells in treating human disease. Several scientists cautioned that this will take years, at best.

Verfaillie's results suggest the tantalizing possibility that every adult may carry around the raw material of his or her own repair kit—one that nature is somehow failing to use in many diseases but that scientists might be able to exploit to make new tissues and revivify failing organs.

Cells derived from a person's bone marrow would be unlikely to be rejected by the immune system, a potential problem with treatments based on embryonic- or fetal-derived cells.

Verfaillie said the cells might even be useful for correcting genetic diseases. They could be taken out of the body, a repaired gene could be inserted, doctors could grow many copies and then the cells would be inserted into a deficient organ such as the liver, along with proper manipulations to get them to turn into functional liver cells.

The Verfaillie work "is a nice research paper," said John Gearhart, a biologist at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and one of the two American scientists known

for isolating human embryonic and fetal stem cells. "I think it's good, solid work. We'll see where it goes."

Verfaillie's work was particularly welcomed yesterday by opponents of embryonic stem cell research. They have long contended that adult-derived cells offer just as much promise and don't pose the same moral concerns as embryonic cells.

The Senate is embroiled in arguments over a related issue. Sen. Sam Brownback (R-Kan.) wants a federal ban on the transfer of nuclei from adult cells into hollowed-out human eggs.

The intent of the scientists who want to perform that procedure, a type of cloning, would be to derive healthy replacement cells that are a perfect genetic match for a human patient. But because the procedure would create a microscopic embryo that would be capable, briefly, of turning into a human clone if implanted into a woman's uterus, some groups oppose it, saying destruction of the microscopic embryo would be tantamount to murder.

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD E. HANUS
DETROIT-WAYNE JOINT BUILDING
AUTHORITY

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bernard Hanus, who was honored at the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority's Pre-Retirement Luncheon on July 10, 2002. As distinguished guests, colleagues, and community members gathered together to bid farewell to a longtime friend and advocate of public service, they honored his coming retirement with a celebration of tributes, memories, and good cheer.

Demonstrating outstanding leadership and commitment throughout the years, Bernard Hanus has always been dedicated to his work and his community. As Chairman of the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority from 1974-2001, he has served over 28 remarkable years and has been an integral part of the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority's success. Managing a key role in the development and execution of the Detroit-Wayne Joint Authority's agenda, his hard work and innovative approach for Detroit and Wayne County has been truly outstanding. As he prepares for his retirement, his leadership and legacy will surely be missed.

Bernard Hanus also understands the importance of dedication and commitment to the principles of community, family and public service. Serving Wayne County for over 22 years, he has devoted his time and energy to principles he believes in. As the Director of Administration and Committee Clerk, his hard work has been demonstrated by his remarkable achievements for the city of Detroit and beyond. In addition, he has served his community well as former President of Our Lady Queen of Peace Roman Catholic School Board, former Commander of AMVETS Post No. 33, and life member of the Lt. Robert H. Stoll AMVETS Post No. 33. Bernard Hanus has always been a leader, and as he retires from the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority, he will assuredly continue to lead the way in this community for many years to come.

I applaud Bernard Hanus for his leadership and commitment, and thank him for his out-

standing years with the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority. I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years of service.

SIKHS OBSERVE ANNIVERSARY OF
GOLDEN TEMPLE ATTACK

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to note a historic occasion that is being observed this week. In addition to our observance of D-Day, the day that Allied troops landed in Europe to begin the attack on Nazi Germany, this week marks the anniversary of India's military attack on the Golden Temple in Amritsar and the brutal massacre of 20,000 Sikhs in June 1984. Recently, Sikhs from the East Coast gathered to commemorate this event in front of the Indian Embassy here in Washington. Similar events have been held or will be held in New York, London, and many other cities.

The Golden Temple attack was an attack on the seat of the Sikh religion. It forever put the lie to India's claim that it is secular and democratic. How can a democratic state launch a military attack on religious pilgrims gathered at the most sacred site of their religion? The Indian troops shot bullet holes through the Sikh holy scriptures, the Guru Granth Sahib, and took boys as young as eight years old out in the courtyard and shot them in cold blood. This set off a wave of repression against Sikhs that continues to this day.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to put the flyer from that event into the RECORD now. It contains a lot of important information about the Golden Temple attack that shows the tyranny just under the facade of Indian democracy.

KHALISTAN MARTYRS DAY, JUNE 1, 2002

PROTESTING INDIAN GOVERNMENT DESECRATION
OF THE GOLDEN TEMPLE AND MASSACRE OF
SIKHS

Sikhs Demand Freedom for Sikh Nation of Khalistan. Remember the Victims of Indian Genocide. "If the Indian government attacks the Golden Temple, it will lay the foundation of Khalistan."—Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, Sikh martyr

Indian government genocide against the Sikh nation continues to this day. From June 3 to 6, 1984 the Indian Government launched a military attack on the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the holiest of Sikh shrines and seat of the Sikh religion. This is the equivalent of attacking the Vatican or Mecca. 38 other Gurdwaras throughout Punjab, Khalistan were simultaneously attacked. More than 20,000 Sikhs were killed in these attacks.

Desecration of the temple included shooting bullets into the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh holy scripture, and destroying original Hukam Namas written by hand by the ten Sikh Gurus. Young Sikh boys ages 8 to 12 were taken outside and asked if they supported Khalistan, the independent Sikh homeland. When they responded "Bole So Nihal," a religious statement, they were shot to death in cold blood by the brutal Indian troops.

The Golden Temple attack launched an ongoing campaign of genocide against Sikhs by the Indian government that continues to this day. Punjab, Khalistan, the Sikh home-

land, has been turned into a killing field. The Golden Temple attack made it clear that there is no place for Sikhs in India. "The essence of democracy is the right to self-determination."—Former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell (D-Me.)

The Movement Against State Repression issued a report showing that India is holding at least 52,268 Sikh political prisoners, by their own admission, in illegal detention without charge or trial. Some of them have been held since 1984. Many prisoners continue to be held under the repressive, so-called "Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act (TADA) even though it expired in 1995. According to the report, in many cases, the police would file TADA cases against the same individual in different states "to make it impossible for them to muster evidence in their favor." It was also common practice for police to re-arrest TADA prisoners who had been released, often without filing new charges.

"In November 1994," the report states, "42 employees of the Pilibhit district jail and PAC were found guilty of clubbing to death 6 Sikh prisoners and seriously wounding 22 others. They were TADA prisoners. Uttar Pradesh later admitted the presence of around 5000 Sikh TADA prisoners." Over 50,000 Sikhs have been made to disappear since 1984.

Sikhs in Punjab, Khalistan formally declared independence on October 7, 1987, to be achieved through the Sikh tradition of Shantmai Morcha, or peaceful resistance. Sikhs ruled Punjab from 1765 to 1849 and were to receive sovereignty at the time that the British quit India.

"When it comes to Kashmir and Punjab and Jammu, the Indian Government might as well not be a democracy. For people in those areas, India might as well be Nazi Germany."—U.S. Representative Dana Rohrabacher (R-Cal)

Only a terrorist state could commit atrocities of such magnitude.

While India seeks hegemony in South Asia, the atrocities continue. India has openly tested nuclear weapons and deployed them in Punjab, weapons that can be used in case of nuclear war with Pakistan. These warheads put the lives of Sikhs at risk for Hindu Nationalist hegemony over South Asia. The Indian government is run by the BJP, the militant Hindu nationalist party in India, and is unfriendly to the United States. In May 1999, the Indian Express reported that Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes led a meeting with representatives from Cuba, Russia, China, Libya, Iraq, and other countries to build a security alliance "to stop the U.S."

In March 42 Members of the U.S. Congress from both parties wrote to President Bush asking him to help free tens of thousands of political prisoners.

India voted with Cuba, China, and other repressive states to kill a U.S. resolution against human-rights violations in China.

India is a terrorist state. According to published reports in India, the government planned the massacre in Gujarat (which killed over 5,000 people) in advance and they ordered the police to stand by and not to interfere to stop the massacre. Last year, a group of Indian soldiers was caught red-handed trying to set fire to a Gurdwara and some Sikh homes in a village in Kashmir.

According to the Hitavada newspaper, India paid the late Governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, \$1.5 billion to organize and support covert state terrorism in Punjab and Kashmir.

Continuing Repression Against Sikhs

"The Indian government, all the time they boast that they're democratic, they're secular, but they have nothing to do with a democracy, they have nothing to do with a secularism. They try to crush Sikhs just to

please the majority." Narinder Singh, a spokesman for the Golden Temple, Amritsar, Punjab, interviewed on National Public Radio, July 11, 1997.

Since 1984, India has engaged in a campaign of ethnic cleansing and murdered tens of thousands of Sikhs and secretly cremated them. The Indian Supreme Court described this campaign as "worse than a genocide."

The book *Soft Target*, written by two Canadian journalists, proves that India blew up its own airliner in 1985 to blame the Sikhs and justify more genocide. The Indian government paid over 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for killing Sikhs, according to the U.S. State Department.

Indian police tortured and murdered the religious leader of the Sikhs, Gurdev Singh Kaunke, Jathedar of the Akal Takht. No one has been punished for this atrocity and the Punjab government refused to release its own commission's report on the Kaunke murder.

Human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khaira was kidnapped by the police on September 6, 1995, and murdered in police custody. His body was not given to his family. Rajiv Singh Randhawa, the only eyewitness to the police kidnapping of Jaswant Singh Khaira, was arrested in front of the Golden Temple in Amritsar Sikhism's holiest shrine, while delivering a petition to the British Home Minister asking Britain to intervene for human rights in Punjab.

In March 2000, 35 Sikhs were massacred in Chithisinghpura in Kashmir by the Indian government.

A Wave of Repression Against Christians

Since Christmas 1998, India has carried out a campaign of repression against Christians in which churches have been burned, priests have been murdered, nuns have been raped, and schools and prayer halls have been attacked. On January 17, 2001, Christian leaders in India thanked Sikhs for saving them from Indian government persecution. Members of the Bajrang Dal, part of the pro-Fascist Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS), the parent organization of the ruling BJP, burned missionary Graham Staines and his two young sons, ages 8 and 10, to death while they slept in their jeep. The RSS published a booklet last year on how to implicate Christians and other minorities in false criminal cases.

Democracies don't commit genocide. Support self-determination for the people of Khalistan.

TRIBUTE TO PHIL SCHERER TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to Phil Scherer upon his retirement as Executive Director of the Transportation Development Association of Wisconsin. Phil has been with TDA for just over 15 years, and during that time he has been an effective leader in bringing together varied transportation interests in the State of Wisconsin to work toward the common goal of improving transportation for all the citizens of our state.

TDA's goal is the "establishment and maintenance of a balanced transportation network that meets Wisconsin's present and future mobility needs in an efficient and effective man-

ner." Members include representatives from both the private and public sector who are involved in all modes of transportation so that it really provides a well-balanced, thoughtful perspective on the many transportation challenges we face.

Needless to say, it takes a unique person who can work effectively and cooperatively with these various interests to pull together a coherent policy and action plan that makes sense. And Phil has been up to the task. I think I can safely say that all of us in government—whether at the federal, state, or local level—have come to rely on Phil and his organization over the years as we debate the transportation issues of the day.

Phil obviously has been well-served by his extensive background in the area of transportation and planning. Prior to coming to TDA, he served for 12 years as the Lead Senior Planner for the Northwest Regional Planning Commission where he had responsibility for the 10-county commission's transportation planning program. In addition, he has worked as a senior planner for a national architectural, engineering and planning firm in Milwaukee and also as an Associate Planner for the City of Racine.

Throughout his career, Phil has served on many state and local committees, advisory boards and commissions. In 1989 he served as the Chairman of the Better Roads & Transportation Council of America where he received its highest award for excellence in public education efforts relating to transportation. The National Association of Development Organizations recognized Phil for his groundbreaking work on development of a system to aid local officials in managing their roadways that is now utilized by over 100 communities in our state.

Phil recognizes the role that an efficient transportation network plays in a strong economy and improving the standard of living for every Wisconsin resident. He has been an effective leader who has played a critical role in transportation issues at every level. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for his selfless and dedicated efforts advocating a first-class transportation system in Wisconsin.

I want to commend Phil for his stellar leadership at TDA and wish him all the best upon his retirement.

"CITY WITHOUT LIMITS", LORIS, SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the, "city without limits", Loris, South Carolina in their centennial celebration.

On July 26, 1902, the city of Loris, South Carolina was incorporated and quickly became a trading post for the lumber, turpentine, and agriculture industries for Horry County.

In 1997, the city of Loris was declared to be the second fastest growing city in the state of South Carolina.

Although the city of Loris is growing fast it has not lost its small town charm.

The location of Loris to the Grand Strand, the friendly citizens of the town, and the small

town feel continue to make Loris, South Carolina a popular place for the relocation of families and businesses.

I encourage you to join me and my fellow Carolinians in celebrating the 100th Anniversary and the accomplishments of the city of Loris, South Carolina.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, due to a series of visits to national parks in Colorado and New Mexico, I was not in Washington on July 8, 2002 when the Fort Clatsop National Memorial Expansion Act of 2002 passed the House. If I had been here, I would have voted for the bill.

I was a cosponsor of this bill and worked closely with Representative WU and Representative BAIRD to help this nationally significant legislation pass through the Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation, and Public Lands, and the full Resources Committee.

The Fort Clatsop bill is time-sensitive because the important celebration of the Bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition is just about to begin. This celebration is not only historically significant for celebrating what the Corps of Discovery accomplished, but also for recognizing its part in creating the spirit of what being an American is all about. The expansion of Fort Clatsop lends credence not only to the importance of the completion of the expedition's journey, but also to the beginning of the growth of a nation. This new trail will enable visitors to the inland campsite to experience, as the expedition did, the walk to the beautiful Oregon coast. The members of the expedition regularly hiked to the salt works, as well as to experience their first views of a whale, that was beached. This proposal also calls for further consideration of the important Washington State side of the Columbia River, where the Lewis and Clark Expedition first explored a wintering site and first saw the Pacific Ocean. Developing these sites for future Americans to appreciate will be an enduring legacy of this Congress.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM POLAKOWSKI, DETROIT-WAYNE JOINT BUILDING AUTHORITY

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William Polakowski, who was honored at the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority's Pre-Retirement Luncheon on July 10, 2002. As distinguished guests, colleagues, and community members gathered together to bid farewell to a longtime friend and advocate of public service, they honored his coming retirement with a celebration of tributes, memories, and good cheer.

Demonstrating outstanding leadership and commitment throughout the years, William Polakowski has always been dedicated to his

work and his community. Working hard as the General Manager of the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority for 8 years, and as a Commissioner for 8 years before that, he has been an integral part of the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority's success. Managing a key role in the development and execution of the Detroit-Wayne Joint Authority's agenda, his hard work and innovative approach for Detroit and Wayne County has been truly outstanding. As he prepares for his retirement, his leadership and legacy will surely be missed.

William Polakowski also understands the importance of dedication and commitment to the principles of community, team work, and workers rights. Serving as an International Representative for the United Auto Workers for 23 years, Polakowski served the UAW well devoting his time and energy to principles he believes in. As the Executive Director of SEMCAP and the Director of the Metropolitan AFL-CIO, his hard work and innovative approaches give testament to his unwavering dedication to ensuring the rights of working families. As President of the John W. Smith Old Timers Club and President of P.A.C.E., the Polish American Citizens For Equity, he also has dedicated much of his time serving his local community as well. Demonstrating his concern for his local neighborhood, he has worked in conjunction with neighboring communities to ensure safer neighborhoods. William Polakowski has always been a leader, and as he retires from the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority, he will assuredly continue to lead the way in this community for many years to come.

I applaud William Polakowski for his leadership and commitment, and thank him for his outstanding years with the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority. I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years of service.

INDIA'S HEGEMONIC AMBITIONS LEAD TO CRISIS IN SOUTH ASIA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, we are all hoping that war can be avoided in South Asia. A war there would take an enormous toll in human lives and in damage to land and the fragile economies of India and Pakistan. The biggest losers, clearly, would be the Islamic people of Kashmir and Sikhs of Punjab, Khalistan.

Unfortunately, some of the media accounts of this conflict have been very one-sided. You would think after reading a lot of the papers and watching a lot of TV news that India is absolutely blameless in this conflict. That is not true. As the Wall Street Journal pointed out on June 4, it is India's hegemonic ambitions, as much as anything, that have brought this crisis to a head.

Mr. Speaker, at the time that India was partitioned, the Hindu maharajah of Kashmir, despite a majority Muslim population, acceded to India. That accession has always been disputed and India promised the United Nations in 1948 that it would settle the issue with a free and fair plebiscite on Kashmir's status. As we all know, the plebiscite has never been

held. Instead, India has tried to reinforce its rule there with over 700,000 troops. According to columnist Tony Blankley in the January 2, Washington Times, meanwhile, India supports cross-border terrorism in the Pakistani province of Sindh. Indian officials have said that everyone who lives in India must either be Hindu or subservient to Hindus, and they have called for the incorporation of Pakistan into "Akand Bharat"—Greater India.

In January, Home Minister L.K. Advani admitted that once Kashmir is free from India rule, it will bring about the breakup of India. India is a multinational state and history shows that such states always unravel eventually. We all hope that it won't take a war to do it. No one wants another Yugoslavia in South Asia, but there are 17 freedom movements within India. Unless India takes steps to resolve these issues peacefully and democratically, a violent solution becomes much more likely. As the former Majority Leader of the other chamber, Senator George Mitchell, said, "The essence of democracy is self-determination." It is true in the Middle East and it is true in South Asia.

The Sikh Nation in Punjab, Khalistan also seeks its freedom by peaceful, democratic, nonviolent means, as does predominantly Christian Nagaland, to name just a couple of examples. The Sikhs declared the independence of Khalistan on October 7, 1987. They ruled Punjab prior to the British conquest of the subcommittee and no Sikh representative has signed the Indian constitution.

India claims that these freedom movements have little or no support. Well, if that is true, and if India is "the world's largest democracy," as it claims, then why would it not hold a plebiscite on the stauts of Kashmir, of Nagaland, of Khalistan? Wouldn't that be the democratic way to resolve these issues without a violent solution?

Until that day comes, Mr. Speaker, we should support self-determination. We should declare our support for a plebiscite in Khalistan, in Kashmir, in Nagaland, and wherever they are seeking freedom. We should stop aid to India until all people in the sub-continent live in freedom and peace. These measures will help bring the glow of freedom to everyone in that troubled, dangerous region.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the Wall Street Journal article into the RECORD at this time.

[From the Wall Street Journal]

INDIA'S KASHMIR AMBITIONS

Western worry over Kashmir has focused on Pakistan's willingness to control terrorists slipping over the border with India, and rightly so. But that shouldn't allow U.S. policy to overlook India's equal obligation to prevent a full-scale war from breaking out in Southwest Asia.

That obligation has come into focus with today's Asian security conference in Kazakstan. Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan will both be on hand, and everyone has been urging a bilateral meeting on the sidelines. But so far Mr. Vajpayee has ruled out any dialogue until Pakistan presents evidence that it is acting against the Kashmiri terrorist groups crossing the U.N. line of control to attack Indian targets.

This is shortsighted, not least for India, because it allows Mr. Musharraf to take the moral high ground by offering to talk "any-

where and at any level." On Saturday the Pakistani leader also went on CNN to offer an implied assurance that he wouldn't resort to nuclear weapons, as something no sane individual would do. This went some way toward matching India's no-first-use policy and could be considered a confidence-building measure, however hard it would be for any leader to stick to such a pledge were national survival at stake.

India's refusal even to talk also raises question about just what that regional powerhouse hopes to achieve out of this Kashmir crisis. If it really wants terrorists to be stopped, some cooperation with Pakistan would seem to be in order. We hope India isn't looking for a pretext to intervene militarily, on grounds that it knows that it would win (as it surely would) and that this would prevent the emergence of a moderate and modernizing Pakistan.

This question is one the mind of U.S. leaders who ask Indian officials what they think war would accomplish, only to get no clear answer. India is by far the dominant power in Southwest Asia, and it likes it that way. Some in India may fear Mr. Musharraf less because he has tolerated terrorists than because he has made a strategic choice to ally his country with the U.S. If he succeeds, Pakistan could become stronger as a regional competitor and a model for India's own Muslim population of 150 million.

The danger here is that if India uses Kashmir to humiliate Pakistan, Mr. Musharraf probably wouldn't survive, whether or not fighting escalates into full-scale war. That wouldn't do much to control terrorism, either in India or anywhere else. It would also send a terrible signal to Middle Eastern leaders about what happens when you join up with America. All of this is above and beyond the immediate damage to the cause of rounding up al Qaeda on the Afghan-Pak border, or of restoring security inside Afghanistan.

No one doubts that Mr. Musharraf has to be pressed to control Kashmiri militants, as President Bush has done with increasing vigor. The Pakistani ruler was the architect of an incursion into Indian-controlled Kashmir at Kargil two years ago, and his military has sometimes provided mortar fire to cover people crossing the line of control.

But at least in the past couple of weeks that seems to have changed, as Pakistani security forces have begun restraining militants and breaking their communications links with terrorists already behind Indian lines. In any case, the line of control is so long and wild that no government can stop all incursions. More broadly, Mr. Musharraf has already taken more steps to reform Pakistani society than any recent government. U.S. officials say he has taken notable steps to clean up his intelligence service and that he has even begun to reform the madrassa schools that are the source of so much Islamic radicalism. (The problem is that Saudi Arabia hasn't stopped funding them.)

The Pakistani leader has done all this at considerable personal and strategic risk, and it is in the U.S. and (we would argue) Indian interests that he process continue and succeed. He deserves time to show he is not another Yasser Arafat, who has a 20-year record of duplicity.

As it works to defuse the Kashmir crisis, the U.S. has to press Mr. Musharraf to stop as many terror incursions into India as possible. But it also must work to dissuade India from using Kashmir as an excuse to humiliate Pakistan, a vital U.S. ally. The U.S. has a long-term interest in good relations with India, a sister democracy and Asian counterweight to China. But self-restraint over Kashmir is a test of how much India really wants that kind of U.S. relationship.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, July 12, 2002, and Monday, July 15, 2002, due to official business in my District, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall No. 295, 296, 297, and 298. The votes I missed include rollcall vote No. 295 on passage of H.R. 4687, the National Construction Safety Team Act; rollcall vote No. 296 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3482, the Cyber Security Enhancement Act; rollcall vote No. 297 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 4755, the Clarence Miller Post Office Building Designation Act; and rollcall vote 298 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as amended H.R. 3479, the National Aviation Capacity Expansion Act.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote Nos. 295, 296, 297, and 298.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on July 15th I was unavoidably detained in returning to Washington, D.C. from Colorado. As a result, I was unable to vote on three measures considered that day.

Had I been present, on rollcall No. 296, passage of H.R. 3482, the Cyber Security Enhancement Act, I would have voted "yes."

I also would have voted "yes" on both rollcall No. 297, passage of H.R. 4755, and rollcall No. 298, passage of H.R. 3479.

THE INVESTIGATION OF JOHN DEMJANJUK

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, John Demjanjuk, of Cleveland, Ohio, was convicted and sentenced to death as the "Infamous" Ivan The Terrible of The Treblinka Death Camp in Poland.

The Demjanjuk family appealed to all Members of the House and Senate, and were "turned away" because the case was "too sensitive!"

They came to me! I told them I would pull the switch on Demjanjuk if he was guilty, but would look into the matter.

My investigation exonerated Demjanjuk. The Israeli Supreme Court released him to me and I returned Demjanjuk to his family. The Government is now charging him with something "new"!

Congress wouldn't even look into the liberating evidence I discovered.

The real Ivan was:

1. Nine years older than John Demjanjuk,
2. He was taller,
3. He had a long scar on his neck,
4. The Real Ivan had Black Hair not blonde like John Demjanjuk.

The frightening issue was that our government, through the Office of Special Investigation (O.S.I.), knew John Demjanjuk was not Ivan The Terrible before they stripped him of his citizenship and sent him to Israel to DIE! The Prosecutor for O.S.I., Amy Moscovitz and OSI Agents Garand and Daugherty suborned perjury of S.S. NAZI Guard Otto Hom knowingly and willingly, to strip an American of all his rights and ship him to be executed!

Shame! Shame! And shame on Congress!

I am proud that I helped to save his life! Demjanjuk should be left alone to die with his family. Moscovitz, Garand and Daugherty should have been sent to prison.

As a result of this, I was labeled an anti-Semite and targeted! I am not an anti-Semite! If a Jewish-American needed help, where no one would intervene, I would have acted in the same fashion and manner.

Bottom Line, in 1991 a top-ranking official of The American Israeli Public Affairs Committee (A.I.P.A.C) was fired and she released AIPAC'S Top Hit List: President George Bush, Secretary of State James Baker, Jesse Jackson, James A. Traficant, Jr.

I was the number one target of Jewish Organizations of 535 Members of Congress and they have done everything to defeat me. The Department of Justice targeted me for the embarrassment I caused them with the Demjanjuk case!

Everybody in Congress knows that I oppose excessive hand-outs to Israel—special preferences to Israel and a one-sided Middle East policy that now has imported Middle East violence to our homeland.

I have nothing against Israel, but I will not sit back and see America endangered because everybody is afraid to tell it like it is. Palestinians deserve a homeland too!

I have been targeted for removal for many reasons: 1. The only American to ever defeat the U.S. Department of Justice, in a RICO case pro se, 2. IRS Legislation that changed the burden of proof so the taxpayers would, once again, be innocent and not have the burden to prove it. 3. Demjanjuk, 4. Waco, 5. Ruby Ridge, 6. Pan Am 103, 7. and basically because I love America and respect and admire the elected Congress.

I do hate our government, run by un-elected bureaucrats who even intimidate our aristocratic judiciary.

In closing, I am absolutely amazed that some jackass federal judge declared the Pledge of Allegiance unconstitutional! Beam me up!

Tyrants will rule a people who are not governed by God. Those words were spoken by William Penn.

I say—a nation that excludes God—by judges appointed to lifetime terms—is a nation that will ultimately collapse and fail.

Congress must become more than an Advisory Board and start to straighten out this mess in our government!

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOT AIR JUBILEE IN JACKSON, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, July 19, 2002 marks the 20th Anniversary of the Hot Air Jubilee in Jackson, Michigan. This event began in 1983 when Jackson Balloon Pilots Tony Hurst and Jim Ahearn suggested the idea to Jackson Resident Mike Brown. The initial goal was to provide a new and exciting family oriented activity to attend in the Jackson area. The inaugural event hosted 17 balloons from Michigan and Ohio and was launched from the Sparks Foundation County Park, Cascades Park, and the grounds of Jackson Community College. At the first Jubilee, approximately 20,000 people were in attendance for the initial launch. In 1996, the Jackson Hot Air Jubilee moved to Reynolds Field at the Jackson County Airport to accommodate the growth in the event. Since that time, the Jackson Hot Air Jubilee has grown to over 65 balloons, with participants coming from as far away as Japan and Australia. In 2001, over 100,000 people attended the event.

The Jackson Hot Air Jubilee has a positive impact on the community by stimulating the local economy through hotel stays, restaurant meals, and other expenditures at local Jackson businesses. The Jubilee also contributes more than \$15,000 to local civic organizations in the Jackson area.

The success of this event over the past 20 years is due to the hard work and dedication of the volunteer planning committee and the more than 600 area volunteers from all walks of life that contribute to the Jackson Hot Air Jubilee. Therefore, I would like to commend the 35 member all Volunteer Hot Air Jubilee planning committee, which works year around to produce this fine event. I also want to recognize the more than 600 local volunteer citizens that contribute their time and energy to the Jackson hot air jubilee, without whose assistance this event would not happen. The members of the business community and private citizens that sponsor the Jackson Hot Air Jubilee also deserve recognition for supporting such a fine family oriented event for the citizens of the 7th Congressional District and beyond. I would also like to commend the Jackson County Airport for opening their facility for the Jackson Hot Air Jubilee and the community at large.

The Jackson Hot Air Jubilee is an exemplary model of a community working together to achieve a common goal: providing a well-organized, family oriented festival for all to enjoy. I commend the Jackson Hot Air Jubilee for a job well done, and wish the Committee continued success for many years to come.