

and can tailor their plan to their specific needs. The Act also encourages the involvement of private sector entities and promotes innovative financing.

Mr. Speaker, the NAHASDA reauthorization bill will build upon the success of the past five years by providing more housing development on our nation's Indian reservations. The amendments included in the bill help to streamline the Act to make it more user-friendly and also further emphasize the self-determination aspect of the Act. Housing is the backbone of economic and community development. It creates jobs and drives tribal economies. It is a basic need that can strengthen progress in other areas like education and health care, too.

I would like to thank my colleague, Congressman J. D. HAYWORTH for his dedication to Native American issues, and for working so diligently toward the passage of this bill. It is my hope that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will support this bill for what it is—a renewed commitment to the well-being of the Native American people of this nation. Thank you.

CALLING FOR AN END TO THE
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF REFUGEEES

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 349 that I introduced earlier this year to call attention to the terrible exploitation that has occurred within the refugee camps in West Africa and elsewhere in the world.

Since this legislation was introduced, some progress has been made in resolving the matter of sexual abuse of refugee women and girls living in UNHCR camps.

According to a recent letter I received from the Washington Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, a number of new procedures have been introduced by that organization to take preventive action. New guidelines have been set for field staff in Africa and in other regions of the world. UNHCR has stated "there is absolutely no place in the humanitarian community for those who exploit others," and emphasizes the need for strict adherence to a 'zero-tolerance' policy.

It also is important to note that the U.N. Office of Internal Oversight Services has carried out more than 250 interviews in the field on this matter and will issue its report to the U.N. General Assembly during this year's session.

However, Mr. Speaker, despite these efforts, much more work is needed to resolve the existing problem. The matter of sexual abuse of women and children remains a real threat, especially for those who have already been dispossessed from their homelands and who face uncertain futures as refugees.

On this issue, we now know that the lives of refugee women and their children are at stake. The poor quality of life in many refugee settings can lead to sexual violence, abuse and harassment of children.

This is what appears to have occurred in the refugee camps located in Sierra Leone,

Guinea and Liberia and now Zimbabwe and possibly elsewhere. Young girls are defenseless in the face of such exploitation and therefore we must be their champions wherever such evil is found in the world.

It is appalling that local aid workers of international and local humanitarian agencies and NGOs, and even perhaps some members of peacekeeping forces, have been accused of carrying out this sexual exploitation.

Mr. Speaker, my Resolution commends the Secretary General of the United Nations for his forthright stand on this matter and expresses support for the comprehensive investigation that he launched to look into this scandalous situation. When I and several other Members of the Women's Caucus met with Mr. Annan in New York in April, he expressed his deep appreciation for our concern and indicated that, along with the global U.N. investigation underway, he believed that more women should help manage these camps to avoid future exploitation.

Part of the lack of protection of refugee children's rights comes from too little money. Although the United States contributes about 22 per cent of the budget of UNHCR, the funding from all donors is inadequate. Increased resources are a must if better physical protection is to be made available for women and their children. These refugee settlements are often large operations and are quite complex to run.

Due to decreased funding, UNHCR and its NGO partners have had to cut staff and drop supervision of many services. This has led to the U.N.'s guidelines on protecting refugee women and child rights not being fully implemented. Obviously, we must strive to commit more funding to U.N. agencies dealing with refugees, so that the camps become a less dangerous environment for women and children.

My measure also calls on the President to reaffirm the commitment of the United States to protect the well-being and human rights of women and girls as well as to review under USAID and the Department of Agriculture, the distribution of U.S. food assistance to refugee communities around the world.

We cannot allow girl children to become sexual pawns because they do not have enough food to eat. This situation really should not be tolerated. It is distressing that many girls feel compelled to exchange sexual favors for food because their food rations cannot last a month and their families go hungry. This lack of sufficient food is something that the American people would want to do something about.

Mr. Speaker, I thought that it was important to highlight this issue and to show that our Government takes the matter of abuse of human rights seriously wherever it is found. The President must affirm this principle on the part of the American people. Hopefully, the final report of the U.N. investigation will make recommendations about the disciplining of those who sexually exploit children. I firmly believe that prompt action must be taken to bring those who have brought shame upon the honorable profession of giving service to refugees—the dispossessed of the earth—to full account.

Mr. Speaker, we are now facing a serious food crisis in southern and eastern Africa. Famine is ravishing these countries along with the AIDS pandemic. A large proportion of ref-

ugee women and children are suffering as a result. We must do all that we can to help protect them from any form of exploitation—sexual or otherwise that can arise from their vulnerable situation. I urge passage of this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO KEWEENAW NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK ON ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2002

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an important part of the economy, culture and education of the Copper Country of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Keweenaw National Historic Park on its tenth anniversary.

Keweenaw National Historic Park became a reality on October 27, 1992 when Public Law 102-543 was signed into law by President George Herbert Walker Bush. The park's creation was first mentioned in 1971. The effort began in earnest in 1982 and culminated with the establishment of America's three hundred sixty sixth national park ten years ago.

The twin purposes in establishing the park were preserving the nationally significant historical cultural sites and structures on Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula for the education, benefit, and inspiration of present and future generations; and to interpret the historical synergism between the geological, aboriginal, sociological, cultural, technological, and corporate forces that relate the story of copper on the Keweenaw Peninsula and the entire nation.

Seventeen cooperating sites comprise the Keweenaw National Historic Park. Each separate site tells a different part of the story of the Copper Country's significant role in the American Industrial Revolution. Coupled with the area's natural beauty, the park draws more and more visitors each year.

The park has been growing in assets and visitors year by year and during the tenth anniversary celebration the Keweenaw National Historic Park Headquarters will be dedicated. The park headquarters will be located in a one hundred five year old office building, that formerly served as the Calumet & Hecla (C&H) Company's general office building. Refurbishing efforts are currently underway at two former mining related sites, the C&H library, that will serve as the Keweenaw History Center and at an old union hall. These sites and the fourteen other cooperating park sites tell the unique story of the copper miners' (many from foreign countries) migration to Michigan's Upper Peninsula in a sociological and historical context.

The idea of bringing curious historical visitors to the area has been accepted by the public and private sectors of the Keweenaw Peninsula. The coalition of area residents and businesses foresaw the educational benefits that accurate historic preservation would provide to residents and visitors alike. Commemorating and interpreting the history of hard rock mining in the Keweenaw has provided an economic boom to the area not seen since the boom days of the Calumet & Hecla and Quincy Mining Companies.

Public and private cooperation is also critical to funding the park. The bill authorizing the creation of the park relied on private partnership funding with federal matching funds. This shared funding fosters the development of the park's cooperating sites.

Mr. Speaker, preserving the past for the education of future generations benefits the area both economically and educationally. America's 102nd Congress recognized the benefits of establishing the Keweenaw National Historic Park. The area residents and businesses have and will continue to benefit economically, culturally, and educationally from the park for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, on October 27, 2002 the Keweenaw National Historic Park will celebrate its tenth anniversary. I ask you and my House colleagues to join me in saluting, a great historical and economic asset to Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula as the Keweenaw National Historic Park celebrates the community's past while providing for the community's economic and historical future.

A TRIBUTE TO REV. JERRYE GRAY
CHAMPION

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give honor and praise to the National President of Church Women United, USA, the Reverend Jerrye Gray Champion.

Rev. Champion is one of the most learned and accomplished women to ever hold this position within the Church Women United organization. An Associate Pastor with Tanner African Methodist Episcopal Church in Phoenix, Arizona, she holds not only a Masters in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary but also masters degrees in library science and public administration as well as a B.A. in English and Speech and a doctoral certification in Clinical Pastoral Education. As a certified clinical chaplain, Rev. Champion holds specialties in numerous trauma and intensive care areas. She is also credentialed in pastoral, spiritual, and bereavement counseling; spirituality and healing; and biomedical ethics. Before entering the ordained ministry, the Reverend had careers in education, public policy and corporate administration. In the 1970's and the 1980's, she directed the Scottsdale Public Library and also served for six years in the cabinet of former Arizona Governor Bruce Babbitt.

Rev. Champion has served at the local, state, area, conference branch, district, national and connectional levels in Church Women United and the Women's Missionary Society of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. She has been continuously active in these organizations throughout her entire adult life. As the eldest of five children born to The Rev. Dr. Alfred David Gray and Valerie Geeston Gray, and a third generation minister, her church activism should come as no surprise. As Rev. Champion has said in describing her own ministry, "my love of God and ability to love God's people just as they are wherever they are in the experience of life is my strongest gift for ministry and leadership".

As a wife, mother and grandmother, Rev. Champion's ability to balance a busy career

with her pastoral duties, organizational responsibilities and her family life make her a truly remarkable person. And she readily admits that her success is due to the genuine love and support that she has received from her family.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in recognizing one of America's most gifted theologians and church leaders, the Reverend Jerrye Gray Champion.

CELEBRATING SUMMERBRIDGE
CINCINNATI INC.'S TENTH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2002

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Summerbridge Cincinnati, Inc., a non-profit innovative teaching and mentoring program in Greater Cincinnati that recently celebrated ten years of success.

Summerbridge began nationally in 1978, and now encompasses 26 programs on 31 campuses throughout the United States and Hong Kong. The results are impressive: 90 percent of Summerbridge students have gone on to strong academic high school and college programs, and 64 percent of the teaching staff have pursued teaching careers.

In 1992, Odessa Hooker and Bill Hopple recognized a need in Cincinnati for providing academic guidance outside the traditional classroom environment for middle school students. Ms. Hooker and Mr. Hopple began Summerbridge Cincinnati, a summer program at Cincinnati Country Day School, with fifty sixth and seventh graders. That initial summer program has grown to a year round one for sixth, seventh and eighth grade students. The programs and staff are now located on the campuses of the Cincinnati Country Day School and The Seven Hills School.

Summerbridge brings together talented high school and college students who are interested in teaching with promising but underserved younger students. The mentor students instruct small, diverse classes in writing, literature, math, science, arts, music and theater, and also plan field trips. Each host school provides a director who is part of the school faculty.

The focus is on developing leadership skills and self-esteem in a dynamic and academic environment. The program's success has been truly inspiring; both student and teacher participants have said the program was a breakthrough experience for them. All of us in Cincinnati are grateful to Summerbridge's teachers, students, and staff for ten years of making a positive difference in our community. We wish Summerbridge Cincinnati many more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO RUSSELL, LINDA,
AND MICHAEL BUSBY

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2002

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Russell, Linda, and Michael Busby for

their outstanding citizenship in the City of Wilmington.

The City of Wilmington has been overshadowed by drugs. The drug community has risen throughout neighborhoods, local parks, and even in the privacy of some homes. One of these homes belonged to Russell, Linda, and Michael Busby. A drug induced neighbor forced his way into their home threatening their privacy and safety.

The Busby family not only convinced local groups, the police department, and the city council the importance of a canine unit, they contributed their own time and money in the process. The Busby family set up contests and car washes to raise money. They encouraged donations from individuals and organizations. The Busby family also attended all city council meetings to ensure their concerns were being heard and progression was being made.

Russell, Linda, and Michael rose to national recognition through their timeless efforts in reducing drug activity in their community. Their devotion and perseverance will be remembered by everyone.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to identify and recognize others in their own districts whose actions have so greatly benefitted and strengthened America's communities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2002

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on Wednesday, October 16, 2002, and missed rollcall votes Nos. 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, and 470. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 464, "aye" on rollcall vote No. 465, "aye" on rollcall vote No. 466, "no" on rollcall No. 467, "no" on rollcall No. 468, "yes" on rollcall No. 469, and "yes" on rollcall 470.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. IAN GRAY

HON. ROBERT L. EHRlich, JR.

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 17, 2002

Mr. EHRlich. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a humanitarian, Mr. Ian Gray, who tragically passed away on September 11th, 2001.

Ian Gray worked for Baltimore Medical System (BMS) as part of his personal mission to ensure quality health care access for the underserved in the Baltimore area. He helped to build a health care system which serves over 30,000 patients throughout Maryland. He touched many lives in unseen ways through his commitment to BMS.

Mr. Gray died during the tragic events of September 11th, 2001, as he was a passenger on Flight 77, which crashed into the Pentagon. His death serves as a reminder to all of us to continue the work he began. While his life was cut short, I know that his many co-workers, friends, and family members continue the noble mission of helping those in need by providing high quality health care.