

13 weeks of extended unemployment benefits, with no extension to workers whose benefits have already expired.

Unemployment is higher now than it was when Congress first passed extended unemployment benefits in March of last year. In my home state of Texas, the most recent statistics from the Texas Workforce Commission report that 646,939 or 6 percent of the workers in Texas are unemployed and in Dallas County, the figures are 98,780 workers unemployed, or 7.2 percent.

Unfortunately, some members of our society have suffered much worse than others. After September 11, the increase in unemployment rates for African Americans and Latinos was more than double that for whites. African Americans are losing their jobs at nearly twice the national average. Unemployment among African Americans soared to 11.2 percent last year and rose to 7.9 percent for Hispanics. Yet, the GOP allowed the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation program to expire!

Although we have passed this extension of unemployment benefits, our work is far from done. We will need to provide meaningful assistance to workers by passing health care relief for those who have lost their coverage along with their jobs. I also renew my call to provide immediate tax relief by exempting unemployment compensation from Federal taxes. These are the kinds of real benefits that we owe American families.

CONGRATULATING MICHAEL
DINUNZIO ON RECEIVING THE
NORTH PENN B'NAI BRITH HU-
MANITARIAN AWARD

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2003

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Michael DiNunzio, the Mayor of Lansdale in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, on being the recipient of the North Penn B'nai Brith Humanitarian Award. I am pleased to recognize Mike for his dedicated career in service to his community and country.

Mayor DiNunzio has been the Mayor of Lansdale for over twenty years. He has a record of distinction in the community. In working to improve the lives of Lansdale residents, he served his community in many different capacities. Many organizations and programs have benefited from Mike's leadership.

Mayor DiNunzio is committed to public service. He was a member of the Lansdale Development Foundation for the revitalization of the Borough of Lansdale. He served as president of the Association of Mayors of the Boroughs of Pennsylvania where he was awarded their highest honor, the "Outstanding Mayor for 2000" award. Mike served as a member of the North Penn Visiting Nurses Association for 56 years and was president of that group for 25 years. He also served as the vice-president of the Lansdale Public Library for 15 years. For five years, Mike served on the executive committee of the Montgomery County Boy Scouts. He is an active member of the Lansdale Rotary Club. Mike is the past president and board member of the United Way and the

North Penn Chamber of Commerce, which he worked with for 15 years.

Mike DiNunzio served in the Military with distinction. He was in the U.S. Air Force during World War II and remains a member of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

I have worked closely with Mayor DiNunzio over the years on behalf of Lansdale residents. He is an honorable and committed public servant. In congratulate him on receiving this award and wish him continued success.

CENTENNIAL OF THE SALT RIVER
PROJECT

HON. JEFF FLAKE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2003

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Salt River Project, an institution that is celebrating its Centennial of Service to the people of Arizona, including a majority of constituents in my own Sixth Congressional District.

When the Salt River Project, or SRP, was formed on February 7, 1903 under the name of the Salt River Valley Water Users Association, it represented a new and courageous experiment in public-private partnership.

The Association's purpose was to provide a means of pooling the assets of central Arizona's pioneering farm communities as collateral for a federal loan to construct Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River east of Phoenix.

The dam, made possible by passage of the National Reclamation Act of 1902, was conceived as a way to bring a reliable supply of water to the region now encompassing the Phoenix metro area. Nobody could be sure that the experiment would work or that the government would be paid back for construction of the dam and canal systems that would bring water to central Arizona's desert valleys.

But vision, courage and persistence paid off.

Completion of Roosevelt Dam in 1911 and subsequent construction of other dams on rivers east and north of Phoenix provided a water and early hydropower system that led to a flourishing economy.

Following World War II, local farms gave way to housing and industry as veterans flocked to Arizona to raise their families and launch business careers. The loan that had financed Roosevelt Dam was paid back in full to the federal treasury. And SRP, which had formed a power district during the Depression years, continued to expand its water-power services to meet the needs of central Arizona's booming economy.

Today, SRP stands as central Arizona's largest water supplier and as the nation's third largest public power utility with more than 780,000 customers. It has won a reputation as a solidly-run company with a strong commitment to the environment, human services, schools and the communities it serves.

Through a partnership between SRP, the federal government, and the state and local communities, central Arizona has grown into one of the most productive metropolitan regions in the nation with a population of more than 3 million and growing.

Mr. Speaker, as SRP embarks on its second century of service, it deserves special rec-

ognition for the historic and invaluable contributions it has made to the people of my native state.

HONORING SHANNON AND LEE
CARTER AS THEY RECEIVE CIN-
CINNATI UNITED WAY'S 2002
ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE
AWARD

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2003

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor two dear friends and constituents, Shannon and Lee Carter, recipients of Cincinnati United Way's 2002 Alexis de Tocqueville Society Award. The award, which honors Lee and Shannon's extraordinary philanthropic leadership, will be presented on January 30, 2003 at the Cincinnati Club.

Lee and Shannon Carter are a dynamic couple who make our community a better place. They have vision, creativity, energy, and a special commitment and exceptional dedication to helping at-risk children.

Shannon Carter's Leadership Cincinnati class originated the idea for Crayons to Computers, a free store for teachers, and she was the driving force behind it. Shannon worked with the FreeStore Food Bank, Cincinnati Youth Collaborative and Cincinnati's corporate community to get the program up and running. The store opened in February, 1997, and since then it has provided teachers with over \$15 million in supplies to over 75,000 children. Before founding Crayons to Computers, Shannon was a successful businesswoman and donated her time and many talents to the Cincinnati community, including the Cincinnati Ballet; Children's Hospital Medical Center; the Greater Cincinnati Foundation; and the Taft Museum. A Cincinnati native, Shannon has been honored by the Cincinnati Enquirer as a Woman of the Year, received the Junior League's first Columbia Cup, and Family Circle magazine's first annual Halo award. Shannon and Lee have been married 24 years and have two sons, Gunner and Cody. It is easy to see why Shannon's motto is "Be kind and other-oriented."

When Lee Carter retired as a very successful marketing executive, he did not retire from his active involvement in the community he loves. Lee has served as Chairman of the Board, Children's Hospital Medical Center; Executive Committee Member, Every Child Succeeds; Steering Committee Member, Success by Six; Founder and President, Art Links; and Board Member, Family Service Foundation. Lee credits his father's public service with inspiring his own commitment, and says his involvement brings him enjoyment by helping to create a better Cincinnati for all of us. Every Child Succeeds is an organization especially close to Lee's heart. Lee has called Every Child Succeeds absolutely vital to the future of our area, because we can make an enormous difference in the lives of children if we reach them early.

All of us in Greater Cincinnati congratulate Shannon and Lee on receiving this prestigious award, and thank them for their commitment to our community.