"The cut in foster care and adoption programs, if achieved by reducing the number of children eligible for foster care assistance payments, would lead to the elimination of benefits for 65,000 abused and neglected children."

"The cut in the food stamp program, if achieved by the maximum benefit, would lead to a reduction in the average benefit from an already lean 91 cents per meal to 84 cents."

When is the last time one of the plutocrats in Congress waded through a meal that cost 84 cents."

I hope that for these children curiosity will always be their guide so that they and their generation will continue scientific research to invent ways to make their own lives better.

I hope that as we consider legislation for these new issues we consider what we can contribute to our children and grandchildren by encouraging invention. I hope that we can leave Selena and James, and children and grandchildren everywhere, a brighter future because of our decisions today.

A CELEBRATION OF YOUTH IN HONOR OF SELENA AND JAMES BURNETTE

HON. NICK SMITH
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 3, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the birth and life of my grandchildren, Selena Anastasia and James Azarial, born February 26, 1997 to Elizabeth and Fred Burnette. My wife Bonnie and I join with James and Selena's other grandparents, Bonnie and Charles Burnette, to celebrate these dear children.

In James and Selena's birth year we made great advances in space technology. Onboard our flight to Mars was "Sojourner." This roving device, the first autonomous vehicle to travel on another planet, sent back to earth chemical analyses of soil and rocks. Sojourner was one of the greatest achievements in our space travel history.

Inventors play a unique role in our history creating new products to improve our way of life. Invention, we have learned, is the key to discovery or finding the future. Today, we continue to "find out" and create new ways to travel, grow food, communicate, and continue exploration of uncharted territory.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Sgt. James W. Hallman for their loss. His friends knew him as a kind man with an easy laugh and his coworkers knew him more for putting his hand on his gun belt. On this occasion, we honor one of America's greatest citizens, Sgt. James W. Hallman, Jr.

James' dedication to serving his community did not end upon his retirement from the police force in 1998. He was a member of the East Brent Baptist Church, the Brownsville Masonic Lodge 50, the African American Masonic Lodge 60 Rite and York Rite Mason, and the Hadji Shrine Temple. He was a man who lived to serve his community and for that we will be forever grateful.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Sgt. James W. Hallman for their loss. His friends knew him as a kind man with an easy laugh and his coworkers knew him more for putting his fingers in his pocket to pull out candy than for putting his hand on his gun belt. On this occasion, we honor one of America's greatest citizens, Sgt. James W. Hallman, Jr., whose legacy will live on long beyond his passing.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of this nation's most dedicated citizens, Sergeant James W. Hallman, Jr. On February 24, 2003, we lost James when he was senselessly gunned down during a morning stroll in Cantonment, the randomly chosen victim of a crime that has no explanation. We will forever miss James, but his impact and influence on our Northwest Florida community will never be forgotten.

A 34-year veteran of the Pensacola Police Department, James was the epitome of every law enforcement officer's dream. World. James was awarded the prestigious Silver Cross from the department in 1989 for going above and beyond the call of duty when he attempted to rescue two children near the 17th Avenue boat ramp. It was that dedication and determination to serve his community to the furthest lengths of his abilities that made him a hero to all and an example to so many who have tried to model themselves after.

Probably best known as the "Candy Man," James could always be found passing out candy to children when he was out patrolling schools and housing developments. As Chief John Mathis said at his funeral, "there is little doubt in my mind that right now, James is passing out candy to angels in heaven."

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