

Human Rights Caucus. Mike's range of experience was astounding by any standards, and included China, Japan, Burma, the World Bank, trade policy and human rights as well as the entire range of U.S. foreign policy in Asia. He was the leading human rights voice condemning the 1989 Chinese military crackdown in Tiananmen Square, he was the most vocal advocate of ethnic groups such as the Tibetans in China and the Montagnards in Vietnam. Increasingly, Mike raised our awareness for issues pertaining to Afghanistan, the consequences of the military coup in Pakistan and the increase in religious fundamentalism in this area.

Mike, we all will miss you terribly. We will miss your voice of reason, your expertise, your enthusiasm and your humor, and most of all, your guidance, as we face new and troubling challenges and dangers emanating from a region of the world which is not easy to understand, but which had become a second home to you. Your life will be a constant reminder and challenge to all of us to try harder, to reach further in the defense of human rights, to believe in a better world and to never accept things as they are, unchallenged.

RECOGNITION OF CLIFF FIELDS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Cliff Fields of Jefferson County, Illinois. Cliff was recently inducted into the Senior Saints Hall of Fame of Jefferson County.

Cliff received this honor for his lifelong service to others. Whether it was his service in World War II or his work to bring business and industry to Mt. Vernon, he is known as an unselfish person who works tirelessly for the benefit of others. Fifty years ago Cliff founded the architectural firm of Fields, Goldman, and Magee. He has also served on the Summersville Grade School Board, Mt. Vernon Airport Authority, Economic Development Commission, Director for Mt. Vernon Savings & Loan and First Bank & Trust, and a Trustee for Mitchell Museum.

I want to congratulate and thank Cliff for all he has done and will continue to do for the people in his community. He is a saint to all who know him and is deserving of this prestigious honor.

THE FCC AND THE TRIENNIAL REVIEW

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, it has been over 3 months since the FCC completed their Triennial Review and voted on new rules for the telecommunications industry, the most significant change for that industry since the adoption of the 1996 Telecommunications Act. Yet, the FCC has still not issued the details.

This is a shame. So long as the FCC delays, uncertainty will reign in the tele-

communications sector. For one whole quarter now, investment and growth in the sector have been stalled.

Mr. Speaker, the economy remains weak, showing no real signs of recovery, and numerous companies continue to lay off their employees. The current recession has been hard on workers. Telecommunications companies are set to invest billions of dollars in network infrastructure—investment that will help the weak economy and create and preserve jobs—but the current regulatory environment restricts growth and investment in the telecom sector.

The FCC needs to act quickly and issue a ruling to help the telecommunications industry grow their networks, and help get America back to work.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE M. SCALISE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George M. Scalise, who was recently named chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

George Scalise is a highly respected business leader in the high technology and semiconductor industries. As president of the Semiconductor Industry Association, SIA, George has distinguished himself as one of the premiere experts on the issues of international trade, competition, environmental safety and health, as well as workforce issues. In addition to his leadership of SIA, George Scalise serves on President George W. Bush's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and on the boards of Cadence Design Systems and iSuppli Corporation. George previously served on the Boards of SEMATECH, the Semiconductor Research Corporation, and the Bay Area Economic Forum.

George Scalise is dedicated to investing in the education of future science and technology leaders. A graduate of Purdue University, George is on the advisory committees at the Leavey School of Business at Santa Clara University, the School of Engineering at the University of Southern California, the Engineering Visiting Committee at Purdue University and a member of the California Council on Science and Technology Fellows Program. He is also actively involved in the University Research Fund.

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to have George Scalise as a constituent and my friend. He is one of the most effective and respected leaders in our country and our community, with a deep commitment to the betterment of our Nation. I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in congratulating George M. Scalise on his chairmanship of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and wish him every success in shaping sound monetary policies for our country.

RECOGNITION OF DOROTHY BAKER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Dorothy Baker of Jefferson County, Illinois. Dottie was recently inducted into the Senior Saints Hall of Fame of Jefferson County.

Dottie received this honor for her lifelong service to others. She is a wife and mother who raised three children. Today she is a regular participant in the Sweet Corn & Watermelon Festival, the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, Jefferson County's Crime Watch program, Memorial Day services, the Mt. Vernon City Wide Cleanup, and the National Day of Prayer. She has also assisted with the Emergency 911 Telephone Testing process. Dottie is active in her church where she helps the elderly and assists others in any way possible.

I want to congratulate and thank Dottie for all she has done and will continue to do for the people in her community. She is a saint to all who know her and is deserving of this prestigious honor.

INTRODUCTION OF "BAN ASBESTOS IN AMERICA ACT OF 2003"

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to introduce the "Ban Asbestos in America Act of 2003" in the House of Representatives. This is the companion bill to a bill that Senator Murray is reintroducing today in the Senate. Senator Murray has been a real leader in addressing the harm that Americans continue to suffer from exposure to asbestos. I thank her for her hard work on this serious problem.

We all know that asbestos can be deadly. It is a notorious carcinogen and causes other devastating diseases and disability. But what most Americans don't know is that this dangerous substance is still added, on purpose, to numerous products sold in this country. In 2001, companies in the United States used 13,000 metric tons of asbestos.

Sometimes it seems that people trust their government too much. Many Americans reasonably assume that since asbestos is harmful and unnecessary, and since Congress and EPA have taken action on asbestos, it must be illegal to add it to products. They assume that new products are safe in terms of risks from asbestos. In fact, EPA tried to ban asbestos years ago, but was sued and lost on some technical grounds.

The result is that people don't even know that some new products contain asbestos. And people don't realize that they still need to protect themselves against asbestos from these products. For example, many mechanics don't realize that asbestos is used in many brakes, exposing them and the public to dangerous asbestos dust. Asbestos is also still used in many roofing products and in gaskets. Continued exposure from new products is entirely avoidable—and this bill would fix the problem.