

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### CONGRATULATING SAMMY SOSA OF CHICAGO CUBS FOR HITTING 500 MAJOR LEAGUE HOME RUNS

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2003*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 195, a resolution to congratulate Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs for hitting 500 major league home runs.

There is no doubt that Mr. Sosa's exploits on the baseball diamond will one day earn him a place in Major League Baseball's Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY. There is no doubt that his drive and talent make him a role model to scores of American children who one day hope to stare down a fastball in the batter's box of any ballpark.

However, it is his spirit, energy and commitment off the field that has earned him a place in the hearts of citizens all over the world, including those in his native Dominican Republic. Just a couple of weeks after he and Mark McGwire shattered baseball's single season homerun record in 1998, he traveled to the DR to help rebuild the country after it was devastated by Hurricane Gorges. He continues to offer his time and money to provide children with the opportunities that poverty denied him, allowing them to dream that they too can rise above their economic circumstances and reach their potential.

Those in my district, which includes the proud Dominican community of Washington Heights, know that Sammy Sosa isn't the first Dominican to achieve success in the Big Leagues. He follows in the footsteps of trailblazers like Felipe Alou, Joaquin Andujar, George Bell, Rico Carty, Tony Fernandez, Pedro Guerrero, Juan Marichal, and Jose Rijo. He, as well as contemporaries like Pedro Martinez, Manny Ramirez and Alex Rodriguez, remind others of how necessary it is to use fame and fortune to help others.

### A CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE TO AUDREY FERGUSON, 2002-2003 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

**HON. WM. LACY CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ms. Audrey Ferguson, a teacher at the Laclede Elementary School in the St. Louis Public School system and winner of the 2002-2003 Teacher of the Year Award.

Ms. Ferguson is the first teacher from the St. Louis Public Schools to win Missouri's Teacher of the Year Award since its inception 50 years ago. Ms. Ferguson has been teaching for 32 years and has held her current post at Laclede Elementary School for 26 years.

Also, it should be noted that this year Laclede Elementary School received the distinction of being named a Gold Star School, making it one of the top 15 elementary schools in the state of Missouri. So you see, success at the school is more than personal, it is systemic.

Ms. Ferguson's major subject area is mathematics, in grades 1-5. Also, she is certified to teach English and social studies and has certifications for teaching students with learning disabilities, students who are mentally handicapped and students with behavior disorders.

When Ms. Ferguson was 9 years old she was sent to a reading clinic to assist her with her difficulty in reading. In four years she transformed herself from a non-reading student into one who was well on her way to becoming an honor roll student. She chose to follow in the footsteps of the teachers in the reading clinic and became an educator in order to do for others what they had done for her.

In her own words, "Teachers have been given the awesome responsibility of preparing the Nation's leaders of tomorrow. Teachers must know that they are the gatekeepers of opportunity for millions of children. " We have the power to open doors that lead to great futures and we have the power to cut off access to the pathways that lead to the top," she said.

Ms. Ferguson has received numerous awards—the "Parent of the Year Award" from INROADS, St. Louis in 1994; she is listed in the Marquis' Who's Who of American Women, 21st Edition; and was also among the "100 Women Children's Advocate for 2001" produced by the Annie Malone Children's Home.

In December of 1981, she published a method of mathematical instruction in the NCTM Arithmetic Teacher's Journal called the "Stored Ten" method. Laclede teachers have used her method for many years since.

In addition to her work for the school, Ms. Ferguson has been an involved member of the community. She served as president for the INROADS PSG for one year as well as a membership chairperson for several years; volunteers annually for the United Negro College Fund Walk; and worked on community partnerships such as the "Laclede Book Buddy Program," the "Laclede Parent Partners Program," the "Laclede Parent Day Trip Program," and the "Laclede Community/School Garden Project."

Clearly, Ms. Ferguson has acted with great determination in uniting school and community.

Also, Ms. Ferguson has been involved in many workshops and conferences aimed at improving the quality of education, including but not limited to: The Successful Schools Information and Planning Meetings, the MAP Math Training Meetings and the NCTM Conference and the Title I Conference.

As evidence of her unrelenting pursuit of education, she recently received District Recognition for improving Math MAP Scores.

From her beginnings as a student in need of extra help to her current status as a devoted life-long educator, Ms. Ferguson has earned the Teacher of the Year Award through hard work and determination.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Ms. Audrey Ferguson and thanking her for her devotion to the children of the St. Louis Public school system and the children of America.

### TRIBUTE TO THE CERES, CALI- FORNIA CHAPTER OF FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ceres High School Future Farmers of America as they celebrate their 75th anniversary. The Ceres, California Chapter of Future Farmers of America was chartered into the California Future Farmers of America Association in the 1928. It was the 28th Chapter chartered in the State of California.

After the Chapter became chartered, they became very competitive at local, state and national levels in various competitions winning several and holding titles such as Master Champion throughout their 75 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I stand before my colleagues today to pay tribute to the Ceres High School Future Farmers of America and to their current as well as past members. They have served our community well and are a tremendous asset to Ceres High School. They are our future in agriculture and are very deserving of this recognition.

### HONORING MARVIN DAVIES

**HON. JIM DAVIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Marvin Davies, a longtime civil rights leader in Florida who recently lost his life to cancer.

Davies began his battle for equality at an early age. By the time he was a college student at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Davies was participating in protests with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and boycotts in Tallahassee, St. Augustine and Montgomery, Alabama. Chosen as Student of the Year, he graduated from FAMU ranked second in his class.

At age 32, Davies was offered the position of Field Secretary for Florida's NAACP. He served Florida's 138 NAACP branches for seven years and became a leader in the fight for equal opportunities for all Americans in employment, schools, hospitals and all other public places.

• 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.

Later, Davies served as a special assistant and advisor to Senator BOB GRAHAM during his terms as Florida Governor and U.S. Senator, and worked as the state coordinator of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Foundation. Throughout his entire career, Davies was a public voice for minorities and improving the lives of young people in minority communities.

However, the people of St. Petersburg will remember him best for his work in our community. In 1968, Davies returned to St. Petersburg in support of city sanitation workers who were on strike for better wages and benefits. He served on the Coalition of African-American Leadership, created following the St. Petersburg city riots in 1996, as well as the Citizens Advisory Commission, appointed by the Clinton Administration to oversee the federal assistance to the city after the civil unrest.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay area, I extend my deepest sympathies to Marvin Davies's family and friends. His life work will never be forgotten.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE CHRONIC CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT

### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I join with several colleagues to introduce the Medicare Chronic Care Improvement Act of 2003. This legislation would strengthen Medicare in the truest sense, by improving the quality of care delivered to Medicare beneficiaries. The bill would make these improvements without forcing beneficiaries to leave the traditional Medicare program and join private insurance plans, and without restricting beneficiaries' choice of doctor, hospital, or other health care provider.

Medicare beneficiaries have significant chronic care needs. Nearly 90 percent of those aged 65 and older have one chronic condition and two thirds have two or more chronic conditions. Beneficiaries with five or more chronic conditions comprise 20 percent of the Medicare population, but they account for an astonishing 66 percent of program spending. On average, Medicare beneficiaries with chronic conditions see eight different physicians regularly.

Unfortunately, Medicare—like the rest of our health care system—is designed around acute care needs. We generally do not adequately compensate providers for on-going care such as the time spent communicating with each other around complex patient needs, monitoring for harmful drug interactions, or teaching patients and caregivers how to better manage their conditions. As a result, these crucial care coordination services are rarely provided.

President Bush and some of my Republican colleagues would have us believe that we can solve this problem by forcing seniors into private insurance plans. Simply put, that claim is ridiculous. The need for chronic care improvements is just as pervasive among private insurers and the rest of the health care system as it is in Medicare. That is why the National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI) Study Panel on Medicare and Chronic Care in the 21st Century concluded earlier this year that, "Medicare has the potential to refocus its

Medicare program—as well as the nation's health care system—and should take a leading role in improving chronic care."

The Medicare Chronic Care Improvement Act would follow through on that expert recommendation. This bill provides the Medicare improvements that seniors and people with disabilities need by: Improving access to preventive and wellness services; expanding coverage for care coordination and assessment services for Medicare beneficiaries with chronic conditions; implementing a chronic care Quality Improvement Program; providing federal matching grants for clinical information technology systems that improve the coordination and quality of chronic care; ensuring that Medicare beneficiaries are not inappropriately denied coverage for services that are necessary to maintain health or functional status; commissioning an Institute of Medicine study and report on additional ways to ensure effective chronic care.

For more detail, I am entering a section-by-section bill summary into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD following this statement.

The Medicare Chronic Care Improvement Act is supported by a variety of health organizations representing consumers and providers, including the Alzheimer's Association, the American Geriatrics Society, the Center for Medicare Advocacy, Families USA, the Medicare Rights Center, and the National Chronic Care Consortium.

The Medicare Chronic Care Improvement Act enjoys wide support because it strengthens Medicare for all beneficiaries, whether they are in traditional Medicare or private plans that contract with Medicare. Unlike the President's Medicare "reform" plan or plans being developing by Congressional Republicans, the Medicare Chronic Care Improve Act would never force elderly and disabled Americans to give up traditional Medicare in order to get crucial benefits. They will never be forced to choose between the doctors they know and trust and the coverage they need. Those are not real choices and will not improve the quality of care beneficiaries receive.

I urge my colleagues to support real Medicare reform by cosponsoring the Medicare Chronic Care Improvement Act.

#### MEDICARE CHRONIC CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2003

Representative Stark and Senator Rockefeller

#### TITLE I—BENEFITS TO PREVENT, DELAY, AND MINIMIZE THE PROGRESSION OF CHRONIC CONDITIONS

**Improve Access to Preventive Services:** Eliminate all cost-sharing (deductibles and co-insurance) for preventive services that Medicare covers today; Direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to contract with the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to investigate and recommend new Medicare preventive benefits every three years; Streamline Medicare benefit improvements by granting the Secretary the authority to expand Medicare coverage of preventive benefits in accordance with IOM recommendations; Provide coverage for a "Welcome to Medicare" initial preventive exam, in which beneficiaries would receive initial preventive screening tests, a physical exam, and discuss prevention and health promotion with their doctors.

**Expand Coverage for Care Coordination and Assessment Services:** Create a new care coordination benefit for Medicare beneficiaries with chronic conditions; Examples

of items and services to be covered include: initial and periodic health assessments; management and referral for medical and other health services; medication management; patient and family caregiver education and counseling; 24-hour access to care coordinators; management of transitions across care settings; information and referral to community-based services and hospice care; other services and benefits specified by the Secretary; Beneficiaries eligible for these benefits include those with either a serious and disabling chronic condition or four or more chronic conditions; Care coordinators (including physicians, physician group practices, or other health care professionals or entities) must be periodically certified and must agree to participate in a quality improvement program.

**Implement Chronic Care Quality Improvement Program:** Direct the Secretary of HHS to establish a program to monitor and improve clinical outcomes for beneficiaries with chronic conditions. Under this program, the Secretary will establish performance measures, collect data, and provide performance reports to care coordinators and beneficiaries.

**Improve Medicare+Choice for Beneficiaries with Chronic Conditions:** Require Medicare+Choice plans to provide care coordination services and implement chronic care quality improvement programs.

**Improve Chronic Care Coordination through Information Technology:** Establish federal matching grants to support clinical information technology systems development, implementation, and training among Medicare-participating care coordinators.

**Ensure Proper Medicare Coverage Standards:** Direct the Secretary of HHS to review all Medicare coverage policies. The Secretary must ensure that Medicare contractors properly apply the Medicare statute and not demand a showing of improvement to find that items or services are reasonable and necessary.

#### TITLE II—INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE STUDY ON EFFECTIVE CHRONIC CONDITION CARE

**Recommend Medicare Improvements to Ensure Effective Care for Beneficiaries with Chronic Conditions:** Direct the Secretary to contract with the IOM to investigate and identify barriers and facilitators to effective care for Medicare beneficiaries with chronic conditions, including inconsistent clinical, financial, or administrative requirements across care settings. The IOM report must include recommendations to improve the provision of effective care, including seamless transitions across health care settings.

**Definitions:** "Chronic condition" means an illness, functional limitation, or cognitive impairment that is expected to last at least one year, limits what a person can do, and requires on-going medical care; "Serious and disabling chronic condition(s)" means the individual has at least one chronic condition and has been certified by a licensed health care practitioner within the preceding 12 months as having a level of disability such that the individual, for at least 90 days, is unable to perform at least 2 ADLs or a number of IADLs or other measure indicating an equivalent level of disability or requiring substantial supervision due to severe cognitive impairment.

HONORING WASHINGTON HEIGHTS'  
DENISE DE LA NUECES

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ms. Denise De La Nueces, who last month graduated *summa cum laude* from Columbia University's undergraduate program.

A first generation daughter of Dominican immigrants, this remarkable young woman overcame numerous challenges, including poverty and a stuttering habit, to become the first Latina salutatorian in the College's 250-year history.

Born and raised in Washington Heights, Ms. De La Nueces attended the neighborhood parochial school of St. Rose of Lima before earning valedictorian honors at Cathedral High School. She entered Columbia in 1999 as one of the first recipients of The New York Times College Scholarship, a program founded to assist promising service-oriented students who have faced financial and other obstacles.

Although highly focused on excelling academically in biology, Ms. De La Nueces carefully balanced her studies with an equally strong commitment to her campus and neighborhood community. She was an active member of cultural organizations, working with students and alumni to develop and maintain the school's Latino mentoring program. She found time to step outside Columbia's walls to volunteer with Project HEALTH, a community-based program that works with physicians, educators, families and local leaders to design and implement curricula that empowers children to take control of their health.

She also found time to tutor at the Double Discovery Center (DDC), a Columbia-based educational nonprofit that works with students from low-income and historically disadvantaged backgrounds. A DDC alumnus herself, Ms. De La Nueces will spend the summer working there before getting her pediatrics career off to a good start at Harvard Medical School this fall.

Ms. De La Nueces' achievements are exceptional, but she is by no means a statistical fluke. Although far too many children of low-income and historically disadvantaged backgrounds are failing to reach their potential in our educational system, each May brings forth a new generation of graduates that under the radar of the media have broken barriers and shattered stereotypes to earn degrees. The challenge for these and other graduates is not only to blaze new paths with their individual success, but also to reach back to their alma maters and provide support within these difficult educational institutions.

In her remarks on graduation day, Ms. De La Nueces thanked her diverse group of mentors for providing this support. She also thanked them for helping her find a sense of community in the midst of so many differences. "In them, I have found the desire to improve the world community by looking beyond themselves," the Columbia Daily Spectator reported. "Let us strive to reach beyond ourselves, beyond the small spheres of our individual confines."

Ms. De La Nueces' experience is an example of how inclusion and diversity can provide opportunities not only for minority students to

excel, but also for all members of the student body to be enriched. An example of how leaders and mentors can be found and developed in all communities, if we are willing to invest in their search.

SSM HEALTH CARE IS FIRST  
HEALTH CARE FIRM IN NATION  
TO WIN MALCOLM BALDRIGE NA-  
TIONAL QUALITY AWARD

**HON. WM. LACY CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor SSM Health Care, the first health care organization in the country to be named a Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award winner.

As a 2002 award recipient of the prestigious award, SSM was recently honored, along with two other recipients—Motorola, for manufacturing; and Branch-Smith Printing Division, for small business—during a ceremony in Alexandria, VA in May, 2003.

Named for the late Commerce Secretary in the Reagan Cabinet, the award is given by the U.S. Department of Commerce and as you know, is the top honor a U.S. company can receive for quality management and quality achievement in the categories of manufacturing, service, small business, education and health care.

Normally presented by the President of the United States, this year Vice President DICK CHENEY did the honors.

In a message from President George W. Bush, the Chief Executive said: "As we embrace new opportunities and face new challenges, these organizations are setting an example of quality and excellence that helps strengthen our Nation and points the way to a brighter, more prosperous future for all."

In his remarks, Secretary of Commerce Donald L. Evans noted that SSM, which is sponsored by the St. Louis-based Franciscan Sisters of Mary, is a role model of world-class excellence and has achieved extraordinary results.

"The men and women of this organization represent the highest ethical standards in public responsibility and corporate stewardship," Evans said. "I am particularly pleased to join the President in announcing a first-time winner for health care. The three 2002 Baldrige Award winners are role models of world-class excellence, and they have achieved extraordinary results."

Dick Davidson, President of The Foundation for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, also joined in praise of SSM.

"The clearest path to success for any organization is the one that embraces quality principles and the continuous improvement that they can unlock," Davidson said. "The Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award highlights those organizations in business, health care and education that have followed this path and, in doing so, have set the standard for excellence in quality processes and results. The Foundation salutes the recipients of the 2002 Award and is pleased to continue its support of the Award."

Sister Mary Jean Ryan, President and CEO of SSM, and Sister Jacqueline Motzel, SSM Chairperson, received the award.

Sister Ryan said: "This Award is a wonderful recognition of the excellent performance of our employees and physicians and of their strong commitment to their mission—to reveal the healing presence of God through our exceptional health care services."

In competing for the award, SSM staff submitted a 50-page application and last October were subjected to comprehensive site visits at the corporate office and its facilities in four states. The visits took place at all hours of the day, and were meant to clarify and verify information included in the application.

Baldrige examiners spoke with more than 800 employees and physicians, systemwide, and measured performance in seven areas: leadership, strategic planning, customer and market focus, information and analysis, human resources focus, process management and business results.

An example of the SSM success model is its employees. Comprised of a workforce of 82 percent women employees, among the hospitals many achievements has been to reduce employee turnover from a rate of 21 percent in 1999 to 13 percent in 2002.

Mr. Speaker, I am especially proud of SSM Health Care for receiving this honor. A not-for-profit Catholic health care system, it provides primary, secondary and tertiary health care services by way of 21 acute care hospitals and three nursing homes in four states—Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin and Oklahoma—which it owns or manages.

Nearly 5000 affiliated physicians and 22,200 employees work together to provide a wide range of services, including: inpatient, outpatient, emergency, ambulatory, physician practices, residential and skilled nursing.

The Foundation for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award was created to provide the private sector a means of accomplishing better employee relations, higher productivity, greater customer satisfaction, increased market share and improved operating performance.

As a recipient of this most prestigious award, SSM Health Care joins the company of other winners, including: Boeing Airlift and Tanker Programs, Merrill Lynch Credit Corp., Xerox Business Services, AT&T Consumer Communications Services, Eastman Chemical Co., the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Express Corp., Cadillac Motor Car Division, Motorola Inc., and Westinghouse Electric Corp.

In addition to winning a Baldrige Award, SSM Health Care is also the 2003 Missouri Industry of the Year, in the large company classification. That award, sponsored by the Associated Industries of Missouri and the Mid-Missouri Business Journal, annually recognizes the best and brightest Missouri businesses that are working to make Missouri a better place to live and work.

Also, SSM Health Care was a Missouri Quality Award recipient in 1999.

Through a series of 2003 Baldrige Sharing Dates—June 18, August 20, October 23 and December 18—the SSM staff is sharing its winning techniques with other executives from all industries to learn first-hand from the top SSM leaders. I urge any organization on a quest for success to consider looking at the SSM Health Care model. It has proven its success, not only to its patients, its staff and St. Louis, but also to the nation.

In an April 9 column by Washington Post reporter David S. Broder noted SSM's success,

something which "Congress and the press were too busy with other things to notice." Calling SSM "A Beacon for Better Health Care," Broder observed how SSM was proving that good medicine is also an economic asset and how Sister Ryan began as a nurse and rose into management.

In his remarks, Broder offered this quote: "We are living proof that health care in the United States is capable of improving, despite many predictions to the contrary. We are proof that large and complex health care organizations can push themselves to step out of their comfort zones to exceptional results. And the more of us that commit to performance excellence, the greater will be our ability to deliver health care breathtakingly better than it's ever been done before. The nation deserves no less."

"Those words," Broder said, "and the performance behind them, deserve more attention than Washington gave them last week."

Today, Mr. Speaker, let us add our voices to the celebration of a successful health care system. At a time when hospitals are closing in vast numbers and the high cost of malpractice insurance is causing many physicians to limit their practices, we have found a health care system that works. The choice is ours. We can heal the health care delivery problem in this nation or we can let it overwhelm and consume us, to the detriment of us all.

SSM is a model for success. Today, in Congress, let us register a much-deserved celebration of that fact.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF JUDY  
MARRON

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a saddened heart at the passing on of Judy Marron, beloved wife of Owen Marron, and devoted mother of six children.

Judy began her career in the State of California Department of Transportation, and then worked for the Heavy Highway Association until 1975. In 1978 Judy returned to employment as a clerk with the State Department of Transportation, rising through various positions to become executive secretary to the director of the department. In 1984 she became the national recruiter of engineers for the Department of Transportation.

In 1987, Judy went to work for the State Department of Health, where she retired as building manager for the department headquarters in Berkeley. She worked tirelessly to integrate women into the building trades and increase employment access for disabled individuals at the Berkeley facility.

Upon her retirement, Judy continued her activism and was retained as a consultant for various special projects, including a new health facility under development in Richmond, California.

Judy held memberships in the National University Alumni Association, American Association of Professional Women, The Association of Executive Secretaries in State Service, ACLU, National Wildlife Federation, Soroptomists of the East Bay, and the California State Employees' Association, SEIU Local 1000.

As an ardent advocate for the rights of working people, women, and disabled individuals, Judy contributed much to the labor movement. She provided valuable assistance to her husband, Owen, during his long tenure as executive secretary-treasurer of the Central Labor Council of Alameda County. Judy could always be counted on to help with marches, rallies, electoral activities, Labor Day picnics, Unionist of the Year events and other important functions to support the community and further the goals of the labor movement.

Judy leaves a legacy of activism filled with caring, commitment and devotion. Her family and all who were privileged to know and work with her will miss her.

TRIBUTE TO MR. LAZAR C. PIRO

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Mr. Lazar C. Piro, as he is inaugurated for his second term as President of the Assyrian National Council of Stanislaus. Lazar was again chosen by the community to continue the Council's work to provide social, cultural and spiritual welfare to our Assyrian and non-Assyrian communities. As one of the founders of the Assyrian National Council of Stanislaus, Lazar interacts with local, state and federal agencies on behalf of the Assyrian community.

With 20 local Assyrian organizations as members of the Council, our community is fortunate to benefit from their leadership and guidance on matters concerning the community. I consider Lazar and members of the Council invaluable resources in the 18th Congressional District. The Council has provided a voice to so many who have made America their home.

I am honored to recognize the Council's achievements under Lazar's direction. Lazar has never shied from community involvement. In addition to his work at Piro Trading International, Lazar is a member of the Board of Trustees for the University of California. He is also actively involved with the Assyrian American Civic Club, the Assyrian Church of the East and the Assyrian Welfare Committee to name a few. Lazar and his wife, Francia, reside in Turlock and have three children and three grandchildren.

HONORING SOLDIERS FROM  
TAMPA BAY

**HON. JIM DAVIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of four brave soldiers from the Tampa Bay area who lost their lives while serving our country in Iraq. These four men went to war to protect us and our liberty and ultimately gave their lives to preserve our inalienable rights.

On April 3, Staff Sgt. Wilbert Davis, 40, of the 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor, 3rd Infantry Division, died when his vehicle ran off the road

as he was driving journalist Michael Kelly to Baghdad. A native of Tampa, Davis grew up in College Hill, pitched for the Belmont Heights Little League team, all the way to the World Series, and graduated from Tampa Bay Tech High School. A devoted husband and father of four, friends and family recall how dedicated Davis was to service. Joining the Army in 1985, he served in the Persian Gulf War and in Bosnia, Kosovo, Korea and Germany.

Just one day later, Tampa lost Sgt. First Class Paul R. Smith, 33, of the 11th Engineer Battalion. Also a graduate of Tampa Bay Tech, Smith knew early on that he wanted to serve as a professional soldier and raise a family. This husband and father of two enlisted right out of high school and served in the Gulf War, Bosnia and Kosovo. A man who is remembered for his dedication to the soldiers he led, Smith has been nominated for the prestigious Medal of Honor for saving dozens of lives before losing his own. During a surprise Iraqi assault, Smith died while manning a .50-caliber machine to fend off the attackers.

On April 7, Lance Cpl. Andrew Julian Aviles, 18, of the 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion, 4th Marine Division, was killed when an enemy artillery round struck his amphibious assault vehicle. A young man with an infectious sense of humor and a promising future in store, Aviles was the student government president of Robinson High School, played on the football and wrestling teams and graduated third in his class. A member of JROTC, Aviles passed up a full academic scholarship to Florida State University to enlist because he felt an obligation to serve his country.

On April 17, another bright future was lost when Cpl. John T. Rivero, 23, of the Florida National Guard's C Company, 2nd Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment was killed when his Humvee overturned on a mission with Special Forces. A computer science and engineering student at USF, Rivero grew up in Gainesville and joined the Guard in 1998. He was promoted to Corporal during his service in the Middle East. Friends and family remember his big smile and even bigger heart and talk about his dedication to doing his best at everything he tried.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to the families and friends of these four courageous soldiers. These men shared a dedication to the ideals that have made this country great. Their bravery and patriotism makes us all proud, and we will never forget their sacrifice.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CESAR  
CHAVEZ

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and pay tribute to Cesar Chavez, a human rights advocate and a man of justice and peace who worked tirelessly to end the oppressive conditions of so many American farm workers. Founder of the United Farm Workers of America, Mr. Chavez sacrificed his life to those who suffered hardship without any voice of support. Although the ten-year anniversary of his death passed on April 23, 2003,

the legacy of this great man and the inspiration of his mission carries on.

Cesar Chavez was born in 1927 as the son of a poor farm worker and general store owner. The loss of his family's land during the Depression forced him to quit school and work in the fields, where he gained a first-hand understanding for the dingy, overcrowded quarters that these workers must endure—often without electricity, bathrooms, or running water. Although he never owned a house or earned more than \$6,000 a year, he moved to California in the early 1960s with his family and began his lifelong mission to advocate an end to such conditions.

Mr. Chavez once said, "We can choose to use our lives for others to bring about a better and more just world for our children . . . and in giving of yourself you will discover a whole new life full of meaning and love." This great man was a selflessly giving leader who should inspire and motivate us all. Through the United Farm Workers of America his life was used for the benefit of future generations, proving that there can be strength and power in unity, no matter how hopeless the situation.

Cesar Chavez must not be forgotten, and neither can his work. In focusing on our treatment of farm workers, and teaching us how to care for fellow Americans, he also showed that there is much work still to be done. We must remember that there are still too many below-poverty wages, unsafe working conditions, and individuals who suffer from substandard living standards without proper benefits. We must use this ten-year anniversary to respond to the continued injustice that exists for farm workers that Mr. Chavez would not tolerate. By continuing the work of this fine man, the mission he had for human rights will carry on and the spirit of his great life will most directly be remembered.

IN HONOR OF MELVINA CONLEY,  
PRESERVER OF THE "FREEDOM  
SUITS" ARCHIVE, ST. LOUIS CIR-  
CUIT COURT 1978-2001

**HON. WM. LACY CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ms. Melvina Conley, a former employee of the St. Louis Circuit Court, Clerk's Office, who realized the value of old lawsuits filed by slaves seeking their freedom, and worked diligently for many years to protect and preserve the documents, now known as the "Freedom Suits."

A collection of lawsuits filed in St. Louis by slaves of African descent, who were seeking their freedom, have become the focus of a restoration project by the clerk of the St. Louis Circuit Court. Working with the Court in the state of Missouri and Washington University. This is a great find for St. Louis, a treasure within our own midst. I'm excited that we have a national gift, a part of our history, to share with the world.

So far, at least 281 lawsuits, along with the historic Dred Scott lawsuit (which figured prominently in the start of the Civil War), have been selected for preservation and placed on display on the web site maintained by Washington University at [www.stlcourtrecords.wustl.edu](http://www.stlcourtrecords.wustl.edu).

Called the St. Louis Circuit Court Historical Records Project, the site includes details of the lawsuits—who filed, against whom, when and where—and a copy of the actual handwritten document. Lawsuits also included allegations of trespass, assault and battery, false imprisonment, as well as petition affirming status as a free man.

Found among approximately four million pages of aging court records dating back to 1782, the nearly 300 "freedom suits" (filed between 1806 and 1865) were found covered with coal dust, in the labyrinth of the St. Louis Circuit Court system.

As early as 1807, under Missouri territorial statutes, persons held in wrongful servitude could sue for freedom if they had evidence of wrongful enslavement. The territorial statute was codified in Missouri State law in 1824 and remained in effect until after the Civil War.

Most people using this law to obtain their freedom were enslaved Africans. Since their cases were all brought for the same reason, to obtain the basic right to freedom, collectively, historians refer to the cases as "freedom suits."

In an effort to protect the "freedom suits" and the hundreds of thousands of other old cases from decay, rats and other plagues, courthouse officials began removing them from vulnerable "off-site" storerooms to a more secure archive in the main Courthouse and the Old Globe-Democrat Building on Tucker Boulevard. In September 1999, St. Louis Circuit Court Clerk Mariano V. Favazza invited the Missouri State Archives, a division of Missouri's Office of Secretary of State, to initiate a project to preserve and make accessible the historical records. So extensive were the files, a cut-off date of before 1875 was used for the project. The court was founded in 1804.

The freedom suits brought by Dred Scott and his wife, Harriet, in 1846, became the first cases to go online in January 2001, attracting nearly a million information requests from visitors from around the world in their first year on the web. That fall, the American Culture Studies Program in Arts & Sciences agreed to expand this initiative by digitizing additional cases and creating a web-based search tool.

While I think everyone involved with the project for finding the documents and preserving them, Mr. Speaker, I especially want to make a special tribute to Ms. Melvina Conley, as Preserver of the "Freedom Suits."

A 33-year employee of the St. Louis Circuit Clerk's Office—from 1969 to 2001—Ms. Conley spent many years working as a data entry clerk.

In 1978, she began working in a second-floor office in the old and dusty archive section of the courthouse, where she commenced a search for the legendary "Freedom Suits" or "Slave Cases."

Because of her interest in history, Mrs. Conley was willing to do a job that others did not want to do. Sifting through the old files was literally a dirty business that few wanted.

At the time, the famous Dred Scott case was protected in a vault in the courthouse and she knew Dred Scott was not the first case filed and that there were probably many others. In 1979 she commenced a search of the archive's 444 drawers for suits. The first suit she found was of a mother and her two sons, ages 5 and 2. The mother had filed suit—and lost—to keep her young sons from being

"hired out." "I thought I had died and gone to heaven," Ms. Conley says now, describing how she felt at the time of the find.

Preserving the "Freedom Suits" in boxes, Ms. Conley became an unofficial historian, archivist and preserver of history in her duties as a data entry clerk. In 1999 when Circuit Clerk Favazza joined forces with city, state and federal agencies to preserve the files, Ms. Conley became a key instrument in helping to make that transition, as well, having helped to carefully preserve the Dred Scott suit and hundreds of other "Freedom Suits" for posterity in her adopted home.

Born in Charleston, Mo., Ms. Conley attended Cote Brilliant Grade School, and graduated from Sumner High School in 1957.

After high school she married John Conley who became a politician and served St. Louis and Missouri as a committeeman and a state representative. They have five children, four stepchildren, 16 grandchildren and one great grandchild. In 2001 Ms. Conley retired from her job as an Accountant 1, Supervisor, in the St. Louis Circuit Court.

Joining me in recognizing Melvina Conley's dedication to the nurturing of the "Freedom Suits" and the continued nurturing and care of the files by the St. Louis Circuit Court, is U.S. Representative MAXINE WATERS, of California and a St. Louis native.

Recently, the Honorable Ms. WATERS and I visited the archive located in the old Globe-Democrat Building, in the 700 block of N. Tucker Blvd., to meet with city, state and university officials. During our visit we were welcomed enthusiastically by Mr. Michael Everman, CA and Field Archivist, Local Records Program with the Missouri State Archives; and State Archivist Dr. Kenneth Winn. Ms. WATERS said she first learned about the project from a Los Angeles Times article and made arrangements to visit the archive. Both she and I were told by Favazza that "HBO and Hollywood producers" have made inquiries to his office about the lawsuits.

"The connection for me between St. Louis and Hollywood is just absolute," Ms. WATERS said. Honorable Speaker, I want to find the funds needed to ensure permanent protection for the documents and to keep them safe for future generations. This is just the beginning. I know I can count on my colleague, MAXINE WATERS, to help get national exposure. It is the history of our country, which originated in St. Louis. It makes you proud of their actions—if you can find a silver lining in slavery. You have to preserve your history or you will be doomed to repeat it.

HONORING TAIWAN AND  
PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Republic of China President Chen Shui-bian on his third anniversary in office and for Taiwan's continued support and friendship with the United States.

Since his election three years ago, President Chen has continued to make strides toward full democracy by guaranteeing greater constitutional and human rights to the citizens

of Taiwan. Today, Taiwan is home to more than ninety political parties, and virtually every political office is actively contested through free and fair elections. In fact, President Chen is a former political dissident himself. Taiwan's constitution guarantees its citizens extensive political, personal and religious freedoms. Further, President Chen has committed Taiwan to many international human rights treaties.

Under President Chen's strong leadership, Taiwan has remained true to its democratic values and has continued to be a model for its neighbors in the region. But as the Taiwanese people celebrate the third anniversary of their President's election, they also are struggling to contain the recent outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, or SARS, in their country. The SARS outbreak is a good demonstration of what Secretary of State Colin Powell said recently—that the deadly virus recognizes no international borders. Taiwan is a part of the world that has been deeply affected by SARS and needs to play its proper role in preventing further spread of the virus. For these reasons, Taiwan urgently needs representation in the WHO.

I also strongly support Taiwan's democratization at home and its campaign to join international organizations abroad. Taiwan is a strong ally which stood shoulder to shoulder with the United States after the events of September 11, 2001. We in the United States Congress appreciate Taiwan's support for our nation—a solid partnership that has endured for many years.

Taiwan is making significant contributions to the international community and I know that our bilateral relations will only grow stronger in the coming years. Again, congratulations to President Chen and to the people of Taiwan.

CONGRATULATING SAI GUNTURI  
ON WINNING THE 76TH ANNUAL  
SCRIPPS HOWARD NATIONAL  
SPELLING BEE

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to honor the champion of the 76th annual Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee. 251 spellers advanced to the finals of the National Spelling Bee that were held here in Washington, D.C. during May 28–29.

The champion of the spelling bee is Sai Gunturi, an eighth grader at St. Mark's School of Texas, that is located in Dallas. Sai was challenged throughout the 15th round of competition, and ultimately won the tournament by correctly spelling the word pococurante {pO-kO-kyu-'ran-tE} (pococurante is defined as caring little or indifferent, nonchalant). Sai was sponsored by The Dallas Morning News and comes from a fine family tradition of spelling excellence, as his sister Nivedita, tied for eighth place in the 1997 National Spelling Bee.

Sai is not just a terrific speller, but also a tremendous asset to the greater St. Mark's school community. He is a community leader and an astounding scholar. My sincere congratulations go out to Sai, his family, and to his teachers and friends at St. Mark's.

HONORING SAINT RICHARD  
PARISH

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to St. Richard Parish. On June 8, 2003, St. Richard will celebrate its 75th Anniversary. With its location on the southwest side of Chicago, St. Richard Parish has a warm and rich heritage which warrants recognition.

On the 8th of June 1928, His eminence George Cardinal Mundelein established St. Richard Parish. The Parish was named after St. Richard de Wyche, bishop of Chichester, England.

Reverend Horace Wellman was appointed the first pastor and in late June 1928, he celebrated his first mass. The first mass was given in a storefront on 51st Street that also served as a temporary home for the church. A census was taken over the following months to determine how many families would support a newly established church. Results from the census comprised of many different ethnic backgrounds for a total 110 families.

Property for St. Richard Parish was purchased at the intersections of Kostner Avenue, 50th Street, and Kenneth Avenue. Within a month the new church was ready and on September 2, 1928 the first mass was presented. The official blessing of St. Richard Church took place October 21st, with Rt. Rev. Msgr. D.J. Dunner D.D. officiating.

Father Wellman served his people well until he unfortunately and surprisingly passed away from a heart attack in 1931. The second pastor appointed to St. Richard Parish was Father Francis J. Quinn who officially took over on October 17, 1931. Under the direction of Father Quinn the Parish grew steadily in number, while also recovering from the Great Depression.

In April 1944, Father Quinn left St. Richard to assume the pastorate of St. Ambrose Church and was succeeded by Father Joseph Griffin. Father Griffin had to resign because of poor health, after serving as pastor for six months.

On November 10, 1944, Reverend Edward L. Kilroy was appointed pastor of St. Richard Church and helped continue the growth of the Parish. Under his direction and guidance, a new brick building combining both church and school was erected. It was Father Kilroy who asked the Dominican Sisters from Sinsinawa, Wisconsin to teach in the school, which opened in September of 1947. By the late 50's the enrollment in the school had passed 1,000 students. Father Kilroy recognized the need for expansion and so in 1959, a new church was erected on the southwest corner of West 50th Street and South Kostner.

In March 1966, Father Kilroy was given the honorary title of Pastor Emeritus and retired from his pastoral duties. Father William Fisher was assigned to succeed Father Kilroy as pastor of St. Richard Parish.

Father Fisher and the people of St. Richard combined their efforts and talents to organize what has become known as the "annual county fair," more commonly known as a carnival. Since 1972, the annual county fair has become a staple within the community.

Father Fisher retired from St. Richard Parish in 1981 as Pastor Emeritus and was succeeded by Reverend Jerome Siwek. Under Father Siwek the church was remodeled and lay minister programs were developed. Father Siwek became Pastor Emeritus on June 13, 1999.

Reverend Thomas Bernas followed Father Siwek and was installed as Pastor of St. Richard Church in June 1999. Upon his arrival he completed many projects that were planned as part of the "Into the 21st Century" campaign. Father Bernas sought to expand the vision of St. Richard Parish and has presided over the continued growth in its ministries and programs.

Organizations and groups continue to meet the many and diverse needs of the Parishioners. Because of St. Richard's excellent reputation, and because of the hard work of the faculty and staff, the school continues to see an increase in enrollment. Father Bernas also involved the Parish in a variety of community groups and organizations. St. Richard Parish is an active member of the Archer Heights Civic Association and the Chicago Police Caps Program.

This year marks the 75th Anniversary of St. Richard Parish. For 75 years God has generously blessed this Parish. Hopefully this will be a year of jubilee and celebration. St. Richard Parish has been and continues to be a proud community where people gather to worship God, socialize, work together, learn together, and celebrate as a family of faith.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR FREE-  
DOM AND DEMOCRACY IN  
BURMA

**HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to show my wholehearted support for those struggling for freedom and democracy in Burma and to condemn Burma's ruling military junta for their premeditated and cowardly attack on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi—whose whereabouts and condition are still unknown—and members of her National League for Democracy this past weekend.

Although they won an overwhelming victory over the military junta in Burma's 1990 election and are the legitimate, elected government of Burma, Aung San Suu Kyi and the NLD's mandate to rule has been ignored by the junta for 13 years and one week as of today. While Aung San Suu Kyi and the NLD are committed to working with the junta in order to reach a non-violent political solution to restore democracy in Burma, the junta has shown their utter contempt for such civilities and has resorted to violence as every scared, impotent dictatorship does when it feels threatened. In this case, the evil-doers did not stop at a brutal assault, they followed up their premeditated attack by putting the noble laureate and her top officials in so-called "protective custody," then proceeded to shut down their party offices around the country, tear down their party flags, cut party members' phone lines and place top members under house arrest. So afraid of the power and will of their people and especially the youth of their country, the junta went so far as to shut down all universities the day after the attack.

Mr. Speaker, the United States stands for freedom and we have always shared the goals of others around the world who strive for democracy. These cowardly attacks are an assault on free people everywhere, and we must act now to condemn them and immediately increase pressure on this evil regime. I urge my colleagues to join with me in condemning these despicable attacks.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi once said, "Please use your liberty to promote our's (Burma's)." I believe I just did. I encourage others to heed this plea as well.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WAYNE BUTLER  
AND MR. JOHN SPARKMAN

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memories of two individuals who made important contributions to Missouri agriculture, Wayne Butler and John Sparkman. As friends and neighbors, these men will be remembered for the indelible impression they left on Missouri's farmsteads and ranches.

These men exemplified the strength of our Nation through their passion for community involvement. Wayne was a cattleman and forage producer who understood the importance of community service. John was a dairyman and outspoken advocate for issues impacting Missouri agriculture.

Over the years, southwest Missouri and I benefited greatly from the leadership, wise counsel and combined experience of Wayne and John. Both men served as the president of the Greene County Missouri Farm Bureau Chapter and as members of my Southwest Missouri Agriculture/Agri-Business Advisory Committee.

Thomas Jefferson said, "The spirit of our citizens will make this government in practice what it is in principle, a model for the protection of man in a state of freedom and order." Wayne and John were men of faith, family and community. They will be missed; however, their love and dedication to Missouri agriculture will endure.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HIGHER  
EDUCATION FOR FREEDOM ACT  
OF 2003

**HON. THOMAS E. PETRI**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Higher Education For Freedom Act. This legislation establishes a competitive grant program making available funds to institutions of higher education, centers within such institutions, and associated nonprofit foundations to promote programs focused on the teaching and study of traditional American history, free institutions, and the history and achievements of Western Civilization at both the graduate and undergraduate level, including those that serve students enrolled in K-12 teacher education programs.

Several years ago I was involved in a congressional effort to highlight the decline in his-

torical and civic literacy among American college students. This effort led to the unanimous, bicameral passage of a concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 129, which stated, in part, that "the historical illiteracy of America's college and university graduates is a serious problem that should be addressed by the Nation's higher education community."

Given the increased threat to American ideals in the trying times in which we live, it is easy to see how the lack of historical and civic literacy among today's college students has become a more pressing issue. Nevertheless, most of the Nation's colleges and universities no longer require U.S. history or systematic study of Western civilization and free institutions as a general prerequisite to graduation, or for completing a teacher education program.

I believe it is time for Congress to take a more active role in addressing this matter. Our country's higher education system must do a better job of providing the basic knowledge that is essential to full and informed participation in civic life and to the larger vibrancy of the American experiment in self-government, binding together a diverse people into a single Nation with common purposes.

HONORING COURTNEY NORTON

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Courtney Norton, who recently completed the seventh grade at Main Street Junior High School in Madera, California. Courtney was awarded first place prize for the Western Region in the Annual Elks Writing Contest for an entry she submitted while in the sixth grade at Lincoln Elementary School in Madera. The writing prompt was "What does the flag of the United States of America stand for?" Courtney responded to the prompt with this poem:

I am the Star Spangled Banner,  
The flag of the United States of America,  
I stand for freedom, peace, justice, liberty,  
and dreams,

I have seen every battle fought by our country  
over the last two hundred years,  
I have been flown in France, Korea, Vietnam  
and Rome.

I have been ripped, torn, spit on, burnt and  
trampled, but I still stand proud.

I stand for immigrants who gave their lives  
to make this country a better place to  
live.

I stand for every soldier in every war who  
fought for this country.

I stand for a nation of love, hope, and oppor-  
tunities.

These colors don't run!

I am worshipped, loved, saluted and res-  
pected.

I stand for the United States of America, the  
land of the free and the home of the  
brave.

FOREVER MAY I WAVE!

As a result of her first place prize, Norton was invited to the Elks annual convention in San Diego to read her poem for the conventioners. Her poem also caught the attention

of Operation Mom, an organization of mothers of the military, who asked Courtney for her permission to include a copy of her poem in each of the thousands of care packages that they send to the service men and women posted overseas. In addition, the organization invited Norton to present her poem at their Operation Welcome Home Rally, scheduled for August 19, 2003, in Livermore, California.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Courtney Norton for her outstanding accomplishments, patriotic spirit, and support for our men and women in uniform. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Courtney many years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member was in his congressional district on official business on Monday, June 2, 2003, and therefore missed three rollcall votes. If this Member had been present, he would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 227 (H. Res. 159, expressing profound sorrow on the occasion of the death of Texas State Representative Irma Rangel)—"aye";

Rollcall No. 228 (H. Res. 195, congratulating Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs for hitting 500 major league home runs)—"aye"; and

Rollcall No. 229 (H.R. 1465, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4832 East Highway 27 in Iron Station, North Carolina, as the "General Charles Gabriel Post Office")—"aye".

UPPER DUBLIN LUTHERAN  
CHURCH CELEBRATES 250TH AN-  
NIVERSARY

**HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Upper Dublin Lutheran Church, located in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, on its 250th anniversary of community involvement and dedication.

Since its beginning in 1753, the Upper Dublin Lutheran Church has represented the efforts of an entire community. The building itself has changed several times, but the underlying spirit never wavered.

The Upper Dublin Lutheran Church represents a long history of helping the community. The church's involvement includes helping soldiers as far back as the Revolutionary War. The dedication of its members continued, even when the church itself was destroyed and rebuilt. A tradition was started with Harvest Homes when members of the community would bring fruits and vegetables they could spare from their harvest to give to the less fortunate. The church also started "Puff's Broadcaster," a 12-page monthly newsletter providing poetry, business tips, stories of moral integrity, and important announcements for the community.

Today the Upper Dublin Lutheran Church still stands as a symbol of service and tradition to the Upper Dublin community. The "Build to Witness" campaign has provided a magnificent new facility for Sunday school and continues to provide spiritual leadership accompanied by devoted community outreach programs. I am confident that the impact the church has had since its establishment will continue in the future. I wish the members of the church continued success and commend them for 250 years of service.

A NEW MEXICO DESERT FLOWER  
FLOR DE LAS FLORES

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I bring to your attention Al Hurricane, a musical legend and the Godfather of New Mexico music. Al Hurricane has brought Norteño music to audiences throughout the Southwest and Mexico for 50 years.

Al Hurricane was born on July 10, 1936 in Dixon, New Mexico. His birth name is Alberto Nelson Sanchez, but his mother gave him his famous nickname because he was like a little "Hurricane," always knocking things over at the dinner table and running through objects in his path.

He began singing when he was 3 and started playing the guitar when he was 5 years old. He was only 12 when he started to sing and play guitar at local restaurants. Throughout his 50 years of music, he formed several bands and played with legendary artists like Fats Domino, Marvin Gaye, Chuck Berry, Jimmy Clanton and Chubby Checker. He has recorded over 40 albums, tapes and CDs. His trademark "black eye patch" is a result of an injury he received in a serious automobile accident. Of course, he was on his way to play at a sold-out performance. The accident and the new eye patch could not stop his music.

While Al Hurricane is known for playing and performing music, like Flor de las Flores, or Sentimiento, we cannot forget his strong commitment to his family and his community. He has eight children, several of whom have followed their father's footsteps into the music business. He has won numerous public service awards such as The Lifetime Achievement Award given to him by the New Mexico Hispanic Awards Association and the Governor's Award for Music. He is currently the State Chairperson for the National Education Association-New Mexico's Read Across America.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and all the residents of New Mexico in honoring and thanking Al Hurricane for 50 years of bringing joy into our lives through his music and his commitment to our community. Here's to another 50 years of Rancheras, Norteñas, and Corridos from the Godfather of New Mexico music, Al Hurricane.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT  
CHEN SHUI-BIAN ON THIRD ANNI-  
VERSARY

HON. EDWARD L. SCHROCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. SCHROCK. Mr. Speaker, 3 years ago, in the first peaceful and successful transition of power in Taiwan's history, voters elected Mr. Chen Shui-bian President of the Republic of China on Taiwan. Leading his country's transition from an authoritarian state to a democracy, President Chen has shown to the international community that democracy is indeed alive and able to thrive in a Chinese society like Taiwan. Now in 2003, President Chen has continued to make strides toward full democracy by guaranteeing Taiwan's citizens full constitutional and human rights, which include free elections and a totally free press.

Since his election, President Chen Shui-bian has ardently sought a meaningful dialogue with his counterparts in the People's Republic of China (PRC). He has repeatedly urged them to discuss issues of mutual interest and has talked of sending a delegation to Beijing, further emphasizing his struggle for peace. Unfortunately, China has ignored President Chen's many gestures of friendship and cross-strait dialogue. Positioning hundreds of short-range missiles aimed at Taiwan, China has made it obvious that it does not believe that peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait is a priority. We hope Beijing will soon realize that peace and stability in the Strait is indeed in everyone's best interest and will pursue a peaceful resolution of tensions with Taiwan.

We in the United States Congress greatly appreciate Taiwan's overwhelming support for our initiatives both home and abroad throughout the years. Since the tragic terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, Taiwan has graciously offered assistance to the United States in helping the country fight global terrorism. Assuring Washington of its support in the anti-terrorism effort in Iraq, the Taiwan government issued a statement during Operation Iraqi Freedom supporting the Coalition of the Willing's cause and pledging to offer humanitarian assistance to postwar-Iraq.

Taiwan is currently enduring an outbreak of the alarming disease Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). We wish Taiwan's government every success in their endeavor to fight against this disease and acknowledge the need for Taiwan's representation in the World Health Organization. As Secretary of State Colin Powell stated recently, SARS recognizes no international borders, and Taiwan should be able to utilize every opportunity to contribute to the battle to conquer this disease.

On the third anniversary of President Chen's election, I wish President Chen well and wish Taiwan continued success in gaining a greater international role. The world has much to gain from what Taiwan has to offer, and the United States affirms its support for President Chen and his country.

AMERICA: A POEM BY MARK E.  
CRISPELL

HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully submit the poem of my constituent, Mark E. Crispell of Brooktondale, NY, for submission into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Mr. Crispell has dedicated this inspirational work to the House and the Senate.

In addition to his gift to Congress, Mr. Crispell has also been able to donate this poem to various VFW and American Legion chapters across the New York State. It has touched the hearts of all who read it, as it honors the men and women who have risked their lives to protect America.

I commend Mr. Crispell for his creativity as well as his thoughtful gift.

AMERICA

In the valleys and on the hilltops  
you could hear that horrible roar  
thousands of men on horseback  
riding off to war

red coats on the offensive  
us turncoats out of sight  
with our blood and a strong belief  
we fought with all our might

When the war was over  
as the white smoke rolled away  
I cried with pain through tears of loss  
it's Independence Day  
but I'm so young, I'm just a child,  
I don't think I can lead  
I hope my fathers get together  
and write the laws I need

1861, again I heard my fathers say  
mount your horses head for the South  
the South will head this way  
my knees grow weak I could not stand  
and to the floor I knelt  
oh God if you can hear my cry  
remember the pain I felt

The cost of war is so much more  
I said to God that day  
if You will be satisfied make it go away  
but shots were heard as muskets fired  
and white smoke filled the day  
young boy hollers, I've been hit  
as his brother rides away

When the war was over  
I hung my head and cried  
and asked myself through my tears  
why so many died  
it was then God raised my head  
to see a black man say  
through the pain and tears of loss  
it's Independence Day!

So I pledge allegiance to our flag  
for the wars that I've been through  
I fought more wars as before  
for freedom and for you  
so when from afar you can hear me sing  
"God shed His grace on thee"  
know I'm united under God  
for justice and liberty

I was older now and wiser  
historically in my teens  
but in those days of my youth  
food became so lean

but even in my darkest hour  
I didn't give up the fight  
I plowed the fields for our next meal  
thanking God for every bite

And in the 20th century  
when at times things seemed their worst  
we embraced the changes  
God bestowed upon us first

horses learned to fly  
 their tails grew into wings  
 letters turned to digits  
 phones began to ring  
 cars come here and take us there  
 never leaving us far behind  
 technology seems to challenge  
 my ever evolving mind  
 Now Vietnam has come and gone  
 history takes its place  
 oh, God forgive me for I have sinned  
 when I tried to hide my face  
 Desert Storm let's not forget  
 the blood that you had shed  
 so men and women could return  
 to the countries that they fled  
 And for all the men and women  
 who will answer a fatal call  
 I say to you I'll place your name  
 upon my strongest wall  
 and when at war and we need it most  
 our founding fathers will say  
 hear ye, hear ye,  
 then you'll hear them pray  
 Yes I'm fighting hard  
 as my father's son  
 so men and women can be free  
 that's why those wars were won  
 so it doesn't really matter  
 where you are and when you say  
 God bless America  
 it's Independence Day!  
 Yes,  
 God bless America  
 it's Independence Day!

2003 BLOOMFIELD CITIZENS  
 COUNCIL AWARDS

**HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a number of Pittsburgh residents who were honored on May 3rd 2003 with Bloomfield Citizens Council Awards.

Every year, the Bloomfield Citizens Council gives out these awards to recognize members of the community who have improved the quality of life in the Bloomfield neighborhood of Pittsburgh. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the 2003 award winners for their efforts to make Bloomfield a better place to live.

Emil DelCimuto has been selected as the recipient of the Mary Cercione Outstanding Citizen Award for his commitment to helping others in the community. As a volunteer for the Bloomfield Lions Club, the St. Joseph Nursing Home, and Meals on Wheels, Mr. DelCimuto has dedicated his time and energy to the people of Bloomfield. He is also an active member of the Bloomfield Preservation and Heritage Society and a sports columnist for several local newspapers.

The Distinguished Patriotism Award was presented to Raymond Fern. As a Korean War Veteran and life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Mr. Fern is currently Commander of District 29, which has 15,000 members. Mr. Fern also became the first Pennsylvanian in 25 years to receive the All Star Grand Commander of the Military Order of the Cootie in 2000 for his strong commitment to hospitalized veterans.

The People of Vision Award was presented to David Voelker, Richard Voelker and Marcia Deaktor for their financial investments in the

economic growth and development of Bloomfield.

The Bloomfield Citizens Council will present two awards for Christmas decorations this year. Joe and Toni Sarmacy received the Keeping Christ in Christmas Award for their holiday arrangement with a religious theme, and Art and Mary Harrover received the Most Outstanding and Completely Decorated Home for their detailed Christmas designs.

In closing, I would like to congratulate the recipients of the 2003 Bloomfield Citizens Council Awards on their important contributions to the quality of life in Bloomfield. On behalf of the residents of Bloomfield and the rest of the 14th Congressional District, I thank them for their efforts.

SUCCESS WITH SCALLOPS

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, we hear too rarely of our public policy successes, because of a natural tendency for people to focus on areas where our efforts have fallen short of what we sought to achieve.

It is important to examine the policies which have not worked well, so that we can change them. But when organizations, the media, and others pay attention only to failure, the public gets a distorted overall picture, and people become unduly pessimistic about our ability to achieve important goals through public policy.

One area in which the private and public sectors can work together to produce a very favorable current situation is that of the scallop fishery. This does not mean that no errors were made in the course of this work, and to some extent we have seen here a process of trial and error. One of the errors we had previously made was to rely exclusively on science conducted by the regulators, and in recent years, independent scientific assessment of the fishery has proven to be an extremely useful tool.

Today, the scallop fishery is a very successful one. The catch is high, the stock has been replenished, the economy of the Greater New Bedford area—and other scallop fisheries—benefits, and, perhaps most importantly, consumers are able to receive a steady supply of a food that is both good and good for them. Sadly, this success seems, in some cases, to have angered some conservationists when it should, instead, have given them a sense of confidence about our ability to make public policy decisions. As the Representative of the City of New Bedford, the Town of Fairhaven, and other communities in which scallop fishing is important, I have had the disappointing experience of seeing some—by no means all—environmental organizations take unreasonable positions, and maintain them even in the face of contradictory experience.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that when we reauthorize the Sustainable Fisheries Act, we build on the experience that we have gained in the scallop fishery, as well as in other fisheries, and make changes in the law that will enhance our ability to achieve the public policy successes that we have seen in the regulation of scalloping.

In a very comprehensive and thoughtful article, our former colleague, Gerry Studds, and Dr. Trevor Kenchington, a marine biologist, present the story of the success in the scallop fishery—as the sub-headline of their article in the May 25 issue of the New Bedford Standard Times correctly notes, “cooperation between managers and fishermen has rebuilt stocks.”

Those who served with Gerry Studds during his twenty four years in the House, including his service as Chair of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries before its abolition, will not be surprised to read his cogent and balanced presentation. As a leading voice in this House on the question of fishing, Mr. Studds had a major role in bringing about many of the achievements chronicled in this article, and I am proud as his successor in representing the major scallop fishery in America to have been able to carry on his work.

Because this is a very important issue that we will, I hope, be addressing in legislation this year, I ask that the very informative article “Success With Scallops” offered by Mr. Studds and Dr. Kenchington and carried in the New Bedford Standard Times, be reprinted here.

SUCCESS WITH SCALLOPS

COOPERATION BETWEEN MANAGERS AND  
 FISHERMEN HAS REBUILT STOCKS

(By Trevor J. Kenchington and Gerry E. Studds)

If you thought all living marine resources were either severely depleted or on the verge of extinction, due to a combination of ineffective management and the greed and shortsightedness of fishermen, you could hardly be blamed. After all, that is the message conveyed to you day after day in the media—and in the fund-raising solicitations of many environmental groups.

You might be more than a little surprised, therefore, to learn that an immensely valuable component of commercial fishing in New England and the Mid-Atlantic—the Atlantic sea scallop fishery—presents a shining example of successful management and an unprecedented instance of cooperation between fishermen and managers.

“The scallop resource on Georges Bank and in the Mid-Atlantic region has not only increased dramatically in recent years, but is at record high levels and considered fully rebuilt,” said the Executive Director of the New England Fishery Management Council last fall. (Heading Toward Recovery: Rebuilding New England's Fisheries, Fall 2002)

Under these circumstances, you might be even more surprised to learn that several environmental organizations and their allies have gone to court again and again to block these management efforts. To date, their legal challenges have been uniformly unsuccessful. But they have succeeded in tying managers and fishermen in expensive, litigious knots.

Why is it that these groups, among them the Conservation Law Foundation and Oceans, have painted a target on the backs of the scallop fishermen when pinning a medal on their chests for innovative, proactive citizenship might seem more appropriate?

Let's take a closer look, first at the scallops themselves and their importance to the country and to local communities, then at the recent history of scallop management.

Scallops feed on the lowest level in the marine ecosystem—microscopic floating plants. Much as cattle turn grass into beef, scallops turn natural plant energy into meat. Scallop meat is, moreover, nutritious, low fat and a prized delicacy when fresh.

Left to themselves, however, scallops are not an efficient pathway for the plants to feed the rest of the ecosystem. Scallops, with their strong shells, resist most predators. Enter humans. With effective management of the U.S. Atlantic scallop fishery, annual production of some 40 million pounds of high-quality scallop meat can be landed and enjoyed by consumers, replacing high-priced imports with fresh product. Importantly, because scallops are "shucked" (opened) at sea with only their meats brought ashore, their viscera are discarded overboard and thereupon become a food source for predatory fish such as cod.

The scallop industry is very important to the social fabric of shoreside communities from Maine to North Carolina. The bulk of the catch is harvested by approximately 200 full-time scallop vessels, while another 100 or so fish for scallops to a lesser extent. Some 2,000 people are directly employed in the harvesting. In the process of supplying this product to consumers, the scallop fishery can earn between \$150 million and \$200 million per year, valued at the point of landing. Even more value is added and more jobs supported in processing, distribution and sales.

Income from scalloping contributes to the economies and way of life of many coastal communities in a half-dozen states. That is an important contribution for some ports like Stonington, Conn.; Cape May, N.J.; and Hampton Roads, Va. But, scalloping is vital to New Bedford, where the majority of Atlantic scallops are landed. In fact, the revitalization of the scallop fishery has propelled New Bedford into its current position as the No. 1 fishing port in the United States, measured by dollar value of product landed.

But it is not foreordained that the scallop industry should have its current success. In the past, scallop fishermen, like those in so many other U.S. fisheries, compensated for a declining resource by fishing harder (and more dangerously) struggling to maintain their income but driving the scallops down further.

#### 1994 RULES

In 1994, all that began to change when strict rules were implemented limiting the number of participants in the fishery and, more importantly, the number of days that scallop vessels could fish in a given year. Further cuts followed, particularly in 1998. Full-time scallop vessels are now limited to 120 days at sea each year compared to the 250 or more that many worked before restrictions began. They are also now limited to seven men, which severely limits their catching power, compared to the 13 men commonly carried in earlier years. In addition, large portions of the most productive scallop grounds in the world (on Georges Bank, off Massachusetts) were closed in order to assist federal efforts to rebuild stocks of groundfish (cod, flounder, and haddock). About 80 percent of the Georges Bank scallops (roughly half of the entire Atlantic scallop resource) is currently off-limits to fishing.

Under these strict management measures, the weight of scallops alive in the ocean has increased almost eight-fold since its low point in 1993. It is now safely above target levels set by federal managers for rebuilding the stock pursuant to the federal Sustainable Fisheries Act. For scallops, a formal 10-year rebuilding plan was initiated in 1999. By 2001—just three years—scallop stocks had rebuilt to their target level.

#### RELATED REASONS

They rebuild so quickly for a series of inter-related reasons.

First, scallop stocks can be, and were, very productive. Second, significant conservation measures were imposed in time to capitalize

on a large, natural up-tick in scallop productivity. Third, the scallop fleet responded to challenges imposed by the Sustainable Fisheries Act by organizing itself to partner with the federal government to achieve conservation goals. Almost 200 full-time participants in the Atlantic scallop fishery have come together under the banner of the Fisheries Survival Fund (FSF), which is headquartered in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, just outside New Bedford.

FSF participants have worked with the federal government to develop innovative approaches to improve scallop yield, reduce the (already very limited) bycatch of other fish species by scallop dredges and reduce the potential for interactions between scallop dredges and the ocean bottom habitat. FSF members have also worked in partnership with major East Coast universities, such as the University of Massachusetts School for Marine Sciences and Technology and the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences at the College of William & Mary, using both scallop gear and high-resolution video cameras to survey scallop stocks, to learn about the ocean bottom in scallop areas and to develop gear that can reduce the potential for fish bycatches and the small potential for interaction of scallop dredges with endangered sea turtles.

Pilot projects, involving the industry, academia and the federal government, were undertaken in 1999 and 2000 to reopen portions of the Georges Bank groundfish closed areas to environmentally responsible scallop fishing. Areas have been closed in the Mid-Atlantic to allow concentration of small scallops detected in those regions to grow and then to spread the catches of these large concentrations of harvestable scallops over a period of years, rather than have them be taken in one "gold-rush" event.

#### ROTATING CLOSURES

The FSF has also been working since 1999 to devise a systematic approach to rotational management of scallop beds—an effort that promises important habitat benefits and further reductions in the already small bycatches.

Few, if any, fishery participants nationwide have invested more time, effort and material resources in developing proactive management approaches. Significantly, moreover, these cooperative management efforts have repeatedly (and, sad to say, expensively) stood the test of determined court challenges.

This is fisheries management for the 21st century. If anything became clear in the 20th century, it was the top-down management of fisheries, in an atmosphere of conflict between managers and the managed, has failed worldwide and would not have worked for the Atlantic scallop fishery.

It is, finally, important to recognize that the scallop fishery is an environmentally clean fishery. Scalloping involves very little bycatch. There are only negligible catches of cod, haddock and most other species of fish. Bycatches of flounder, monkfish and skate are a bit higher but still relatively small.

Scalloping alone would pose no threat to those populations; however, there can be issues when a resource has been depleted by directed fishing (that is, not by scalloping) or by environmental factors. The potential for scalloper bycatch is something that needs to be considered in developing rebuilding measures in these cases. The scallop industry is working with managers to identify and resolve these specific issues when they arise.

#### DESIGNED TO WORK

Then there is the issue of the scallop dredge itself. Simply put, harvesting scallops from deep offshore waters requires towed

gear. Thus, dredges are necessarily used for the bulk of the scallop fishery. Importantly, however, while the dredge is a large and heavy device when sitting on land or aboard a boat, when towed under the water, hydrodynamic forces literally lift it off the bottom. In fact, the New Bedford style scallop dredge used in the Atlantic has been called an "airplane" dredge and actually requires "depressor plates" (which function as upside-down airplane wings) to maintain contact with the bottom—contact that involves chains and skids skimming across the bottom, rather than digging into it. Contrary to the impressions created by some, dredges do not plow the bottom for scallops; rather, water flow behind the depressor plates causes scallops to be sucked off the bottom and whirled into the bag portion of the dredge.

Moreover, scallopers tend to avoid areas with even occasional boulders unless they are forced there by lack of resource elsewhere or by closures of productive scalloping areas. Their gear is not efficient in those areas while damage to expensive dredges is both common and dangerous. It is those rocky bottom areas that represent the main focus of efforts to protect essential groundfish habitat from the adverse effects of fishing gear. Scallops and scalloping on the other hand are most productive where the seabed is sand or fine gravel.

Managers are currently working, as they should be, towards focusing scallop fishing efforts on large concentrations of large scallops, including those in closed areas of Georges Bank. Moreover, focusing scallop effort on areas where scallops are abundant also reduces the potential for any impact of the scallop dredge on the ocean bottom and the potential for bycatch of other species. Scallopers fishing in areas of high abundance spend less time fishing for scallops and more time processing them. This reality is at the heart of scallop rotation management, as championed by the industry. Successful rotation management, therefore, requires access to areas of scallop abundance.

So, to return to where we began, why is it that the fisherman who regularly risks his life in the most dangerous of all occupations to wrest a living from the sea and put food on our table who has not only played by the rules but has taken the initiative (at considerable expense to himself) to help develop an innovative, conservation-positive management system that is working and working well—why is it that, in addition to the forces of nature and the processes of regulatory bureaucracy, he must now contend with a sustained legal assault from groups that seek to portray him as the most avaricious and irresponsible of men?

Might it be that the scallop industry has "stepped on the message" of some whose world view has no place for them? Are there those whose agenda is somehow threatened by proof that a fishery can be both successful and sustainable? These are questions that thoughtful and responsible people would do well to ponder.

#### RECOGNIZING WORCESTER COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL WARM FRIENDS AWARDS RECIPIENTS

#### HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 2003

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to this year's Worcester Community Action Council Warm Friends Award recipients from the City of Worcester. I am very

proud of the service these recipients have given to the people of the City of Worcester.

Mr. Speaker, the Worcester Community Action Council (WCAC), created in 1965, serves as an umbrella organization for 20 education and social service programs. It includes Energy Assistance, Head Start, Healthy Families, Training and Youth Education Mediation, Consumer Council, and Community Connections. WCAC's mission is "to stimulate change in the fundamental causes of poverty and to create and provide opportunities for economic self-sufficiency through services, partnership, and advocacy."

Mr. Speaker, this ceremony honors organizations and individuals who promote economic self-sufficiency and work tirelessly on behalf of those less fortunate in our society. The following recipients are being honored today for their commitment to the education of all of our children: Allmerica Financial, for their support of WCAC's Cityworks Program; Anne Quinne for her work to develop programs for at-risk youth; and Lisa Perez for her efforts to encourage parent involvement in Worcester's schools.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to acknowledge the contributions of the following organizations: Nstar Gas for its support of weatherization services for families; University Home Improvement and Ken Martinetty for their services as weatherization contractors; and Amara Thomas for her participation in the Cityworks corps member and current IDA participant.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, we are also honoring the contributions of the following community leaders: State Representative Robert Spellane for his service on behalf of families in need; Worcester County Treasurer Michael Donoghue for his exemplary community service; Mike Keegan for his leadership of WCAC; Winifred Octave for her parent leadership efforts; Dr. James Ostromecky for his free dental services for Head Start children; Christopher and Laura Pallotta for their support of WCAC's mediation services; Marge Perves for her community involvement and volunteer mediation services; Larry Raymond for his commitment to family and self sufficiency; and Steve Teasdale for his efforts to revitalize the Main South neighborhood.

Mr. Speaker these individuals are the embodiment of our collective common good, and I am sure that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in extending sincere thanks to the recipients of WCAC's Warm Friends Awards.

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#### THE GLOBAL PATHOGEN SURVEILLANCE ACT

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Global Pathogen Surveillance Act of 2003 with my colleague, Congressman MARK KIRK. This important bipartisan legislation mirrors legislation offered by Senators BIDEN and LUGAR, and will reduce the risk of infectious diseases entering this country.

As we have learned from the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS, and the anthrax attacks, nature and terrorists

do not stand still while the world finds ways to improve its preparedness against biological threats.

Indeed, new diseases—no matter where they start—can spread to the United States in days or even hours. Many of them, including smallpox, SARS and the plague have lengthy incubation times, lasting two to twelve days.

The flight time between any two cities, however, is under 36 hours. Any of the 140 million people who enter the United States by air each year can, unknowingly, carry these dangerous pathogens with them.

SARS, for example, came to the world's attention in East Asia in March. Today, there are over eight thousand cases worldwide, with the highest number of cases in the United States occurring in my home state of California.

Because it was not reported immediately and a strong international network was not in place to monitor and control it, SARS has become a worldwide epidemic.

It has put a severe strain on hospitals and health care systems and caused financial chaos in dozens of countries.

While Congress has been generous in funding measures to improve domestic bio-preparedness, rapid detection of outbreaks requires significant improvements in international disease surveillance.

While developing nations are most likely to experience rapid disease outbreak, they don't have the trained personnel, the laboratory equipment or the public health infrastructure to deal with epidemics—much less warn the rest of the world.

Our bill would help train public health professionals in developing countries to use electronic syndrome surveillance systems and traditional epidemiology methods to better detect, diagnose and contain infectious disease outbreaks.

Our bill would also help developing countries purchase public health laboratory equipment for health surveillance and diagnosis as well as communications technology to transmit information about infectious diseases.

This legislation would also develop and enhance existing regional health networks and establish lab-to-lab cooperative relationships between the United States and public health laboratories and foreign counterparts.

It would also strengthen the reporting capabilities of the World Health Organization, whose decision to issue a global alert in March allowed health officials around the world to take appropriate measures to control the spread of SARS.

All these provisions strengthen a global surveillance network which will detect the unique symptoms of an epidemic before it spreads and allow earlier diagnosis and better containment measures.

I call on my colleagues to support this important bill and help us close the huge gaps in our defense against emerging diseases.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AUTHORIZING CONGRESS TO PROHIBIT PHYSICAL DESECRATION OF THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA CUBIN**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2003*

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.J. Res. 4, a constitutional amendment to restore protections for the most widely recognized symbol of our nation and our traditions, the flag of the United States of America.

Some would call stuffing an American flag in a toilet or a trash can a work of art. I would call it a disgrace. Too many brave Americans have fought and died in defense of our flag to allow it to be soiled. In fact, they're fighting even today in Afghanistan, Iraq and all over the globe to secure the ideals for which the flag stands.

Mr. Speaker, I spent this past weekend in my home state of Wyoming to celebrate Memorial Day. I spoke to a veteran there who wore a shirt with a picture of our flag and the legend, "This flag wasn't earned to be burned."

Over the course of our history, more than a million brave Americans have given their lives in defense of our flag. We should honor their sacrifice by defending the flag with the same conviction they did. I urge the passage of this bill and yield back the balance of my time.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM KOLBE**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, on Rollcall 234 on H.J. Res. 4, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States, I inadvertently voted "yea" but I meant to vote "nay." Although I abhor desecration of our flag, I believe it is a form of political expression and dissent protected under the First Amendment. I would like the record to reflect that my intended vote was "nay"

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#### ASSURED FUNDING FOR VETERANS HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2003

**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today, on behalf of myself and 72 of my colleagues, I am introducing H.R. 2318 the "Assured Funding for Veterans Health Care Act of 2003." Starting in Fiscal Year 2005, the bill would require the Secretary of the Treasury to provide funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care System based on the number of enrollees in the system and the consumer price

index for hospital and related services. I believe the measure I am offering will create a vastly improved funding system that better responds to the needs of our veterans.

Last week the President's Task Force to Improve Health Care Delivery For Our Nation's Veterans issued its final report. In it, the "growing mismatch between funding and demand" is repeatedly referenced. To address this problem, the report recommended: The Federal Government should provide full funding to ensure that enrolled veterans in Priority Groups 1 through 7 (new) are provided the current comprehensive benefit in accordance with VA's established access standards. Full funding should occur through modifications to the current budget and appropriations process, by using a mandatory funding mechanism, or by some other changes in the process that achieve the desired goal. (p. 77)

In addition, the Task Force addressed the need to clarify standards of access for Priority 8 veterans. Priority 8 veterans are the so-called "high-income" veterans without compensable service-connected conditions. Who are these individuals? Anyone with an income level of more than the geographically adjusted Housing and Urban Development threshold for low-income housing is considered "high income". In some communities, this means veterans with incomes of more than \$24,644—most often work-a-day folks who sometimes have to choose between prescription drugs and heat or groceries. My bill would cover these veterans.

Some will say that we've done well by our veterans this year. I would say it might well have gone the other way. This body passed a budget resolution that would have required us to cut veterans benefits during a period of war. It still remains unclear how veterans' health care will fare when pitted against such disparate programs as low-income housing, the space program and other independent agencies. Other health programs such as Medicare and TRICARE for Life are not subject to the same types of considerations because funding for these programs is based on need.

The result of this funding process is the "growing mismatch" addressed by the President's task force—the system is starving! We all have heard the numbers of veterans who have waited more than six months for health care services. There were more than 200,000 veterans in the queue at the beginning of the year. Even with increases proposed in the joint budget resolution, VA will still impose some regulatory constraints on access and has identified more than a billion in illusory "management efficiencies."

Last year, I cosponsored H.R. 5250, the "Veterans Health Care Funding Guarantee Act of 2002" with 129 other members of the House. The bill I am offering today closely resembles that legislation. The Congressional Budget Office slapped a hefty price tag on H.R. 5250 largely assuming huge increases in demand would result if the veterans' health care system were adequately funded! Think about this—our budget office assumes that our health care system for veterans is so fiscally deprived that a fairer funding system that responds to changes in demand would create a run on health care!

Our veterans deserve better than a chronically underfunded health care system. I believe veterans—all veterans—have earned the right to access the health care system that

was created to serve their needs. The price we pay as a Nation for assuring timely access to high-quality health care services is small in relation to the price we have asked them to pay in securing our freedom.

I urge my colleagues to join me and the 72 other members of the House that believe this is the right thing to do for our veterans. Every major veterans service organization, including The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, and Veterans of Foreign Wars, has stated support for this bill. Join us in the fight to do the right thing for our veterans. Join me in cosponsoring the "Assured Funding for Veterans Health Care Act of 2003".

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THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS HONOR  
AMY B. DEAN

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**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, Mr. HONDA, Ms. LOFGREN, and myself, rise to honor Amy B. Dean, Chief Executive Officer of the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council who is leaving the Bay Area to go back to her original home of Chicago. On June 7, 2003, Amy Dean will be participating in her final COPE Awards Banquet as CEO of the organization she has so ably led.

Through Amy Dean's leadership, the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council has been extremely successful in working for living wage contracts for city workers, affordable housing requirements in new developments, and health insurance for every child in Santa Clara County. Amy Dean has been a tireless and passionate advocate for social justice and has helped to strengthen the labor movement, bringing dignity and hope to countless families, whether they are union or non-union workers. Amy Dean was the youngest person in the country to lead a large metropolitan labor council and the first woman to head a labor council as large as the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council. She founded Working Partnerships USA, a non-profit organization dedicated to rebuilding the links between regional economic policy and community well-being. She will continue her advocacy for community-centered economic development through Working Partnerships in Chicago. She has been widely recognized for her many accomplishments, has served on many committees and advisory boards and has written extensively on labor issues.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in honoring Amy B. Dean for her extraordinary service to our community as an ardent advocate for working women and men and their families.

A TRIBUTE TO OLUYEMI O.  
BADERO, MD., FACC

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Dr. Oluyemi O. Badero, in recognition of his outstanding accomplishments in the field of medicine.

Dr. Badero was born in Nigeria. Four years after completing medical school in Nigeria, he came to the United States in 1988. Dr. Badero, who is a U.S. citizen, received his internship and residency training in internal medicine at SUNY Downstate-Kings County Hospitals in Brooklyn, New York where he also served as chief resident, a prestigious position.

He completed three separate fellowship training programs in critical care medicine, cardiovascular disease and interventional cardiology, the latter at the Yale University Program in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Dr. Badero is board certified in internal medicine, cardiovascular disease and interventional cardiology. He is one of a very few African-American specialists in his field. In fact in February 2003, The Network Journal, named Dr. Badero as one of the top black doctors for cardiology based on his experience, expertise and bedside manner.

Having completed an unprecedented nine consecutive years of post-graduate training, Dr. Badero is a highly regarded expert in cardiology. He is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology and an active member of several other professional organizations.

Dr. Badero has been widely published on a wide range of medical topics and has won numerous awards for his accomplishments. He currently serves as the Associate Chief of Cardiology and Associate Director of Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at Interfaith Medical Center, the Director of the Cardiology Clinic at Kings County Hospital, director of Cardiac Screening Clinic and Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine at SUNY Health Science Center. All of these medical institutions are located in Brooklyn, New York.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Oluyemi O. Badero has reached the highest levels of medicine in our country, all the way from Nigeria, and he has used his expertise to improve the lives of his community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

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A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
CASSIE SHAW

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 4, 2003*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Cassie Shaw has devoted herself to serving others through her membership in the Girl Scouts; and

Whereas, Cassie Shaw has shared her time and talent with the community in which she resides; and

Whereas, Cassie Shaw has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Cassie Shaw must be commended for the hard work and dedication she put forth in earning the Girl Scout Gold Award;

Therefore, I join with the Girl Scouts, the residents of Kingston and the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Cassie Shaw as she receives the Girl Scout Gold Award.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT  
AUTHORIZING CONGRESS TO  
PROHIBIT PHYSICAL DESECRATION  
OF THE FLAG OF THE  
UNITED STATES

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 2003

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.J. Res. 4, the proposed amendment to the Constitution to prohibit the physical desecration of the United States flag. I respect our flag, what it stands for, and personally deplore acts of desecration against the flag. However, I believe that our commitment to respecting our flag while preserving our fundamental freedoms, as symbolized by our flag and embodied in the Constitution and Bill of Rights, can be met without amending the Constitution.

Many Members of Congress see continued tension between "free speech" decisions of the Supreme Court, which protect flag desecration as an expression of first amendment speech, and the symbolic significance of the United States flag. Consequently, every Congress that has convened since those decisions were issued has considered possible measures to permit the punishment of those who engage in flag desecration. However, the amendment offered today by the majority would diminish the First Amendment's guarantee of freedom of expression, one of our most fundamental guarantees of the Bill of Rights.

Amending the U.S. Constitution is necessarily and understandably a rigorous task. To become the law of the land, the flag desecration amendment would have to get the approval of two-thirds of both chambers of Congress and then be ratified by three quarters of the state legislatures. The fact that only 27 amendments, including the Bill of Rights, the civil rights amendments, and women's suffrage, have been made to the Constitution in the past 200 years illuminates the infrequency of such legislative initiatives. Moreover, since its ratification in 1791, the Bill of Rights has not been altered in any manner. Consequently, I believe that passage of such an amendment would set a dangerous precedent for further erosion of our constitutional rights and freedoms.

Not only is amending the Constitution a task that must not be taken lightly, we must be absolutely sure that it is necessary. In this case, I am not convinced that the requisite level of necessity has been met. For example, flag burning is an exceedingly rare occurrence—since the Supreme Court's free speech, flag desecration decisions, fewer than 10 flag

burning incidents have been reported each year.

Considering this, I believe that amending the Constitution to address the shameful conduct of such a minute portion of our general populace is simply unnecessary. This conviction is generally supported by a letter sent to Senator PATRICK LEAHY in May 1999, in which General Colin Powell, now Secretary of State, wrote that "The First Amendment exists to insure that freedom of speech and expression applies not just to that with which we agree or disagree, but also that which we find outrageous. I would not amend that great shield of democracy to hammer a few miscreants. The flag will be flying proudly long after they have slunk away." Secretary Powell, one of our most noted patriots and war heroes, obviously believes that diminishing our First Amendment rights is not the solution to the perceived problem at hand.

Taking into account the infrequency of flag desecration, as noted by Secretary of State Powell, I question today what it is that we are trying to regulate: is it the act of physical desecration itself or rather the sentiment behind the action? I believe that H.J. Res. 4 would affectively and severely abridge our rights of free expression. As such, I will oppose passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JACOB HOFFMAN

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a respected member of the Philadelphia community. Mr. Jacob Hoffman is turning 100 years young.

Mr. Hoffman, a resident of Brith Shalom House, will celebrate his 100th birthday this July 2, 2003. A retired real estate broker and developer, Mr. Hoffman is well regarded in the real estate community. He served on the Philadelphia Board of Realtors and was a founder of the south Philadelphia Realty Board in 1929.

Mr. Hoffman has remained very active in Jewish circles. He received a citation for being a member of B'nai B'rith for over 50 years. He is the oldest board member of Har Zion Temple and is also a member of the Lions Club.

Along with his two daughters, three grandchildren, and two great grandchildren, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Jacob Hoffman during his 100th birthday celebration.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 5, 2003 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 6

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Eduardo Aguirre, Jr., of Texas, to be Director of the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine issues related to strengthening and improving Medicare.

SD-215

JUNE 10

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence programs.

S-407, Capitol

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

SR-253

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine castaway children, focusing on whether parents must relinquish custody in order to secure mental health services for their children.

SD-342

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the reauthorization of the Federal Public Transportation Assistance Program.

SD-538

Environment and Public Works

Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the current regulatory and legal status of federal jurisdiction of navigable waters under the Clean Water Act, focusing on issues raised by the Supreme Court in *Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers No. 99-1178*.

SD-406

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine internally displaced persons in the Caucasus Region and Southeastern Anatolia.

334, Cannon Building

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 499, to authorize the American Battle Monuments Commission to establish in the State of Louisiana a memorial to honor the Buffalo Soldiers, S. 546, to provide for the protection of paleontological resources on Federal lands, S. 643, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with the University of New Mexico, to construct

		JUNE 12		JUNE 17
	and occupy a portion of the Hibben Center for Archaeological Research at the University of New Mexico, S. 677, to revise the boundary of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area in the State of Colorado, S. 1060 and H.R. 1577, bills to designate the visitor center in Organ Pipe National Monument in Arizona as the "Kris Eggle Visitor Center", H.R. 255, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to grant an easement to facilitate access to the Lewis and Clark Interpretative Center in Nebraska City, Nebraska, and H.R. 1012, to establish the Carter G. Woodson Home National Historic Site in the District of Columbia.			
	SD-366			
	JUNE 11			JUNE 18
9 a.m.	Governmental Affairs Investigations Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine patient safety, focusing on instilling hospitals with a culture of continuous improvement.	9:30 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation To hold hearings to examine global over-fishing.  Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine repercussions of Iraq stabilization and reconstruction policies.	10 a.m. Governmental Affairs Business meeting to consider pending calendar items.	
	SD-342			SD-342
9:30 a.m.	Judiciary To hold hearings to examine the nominations of William H. Pryor, Jr., of Alabama, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, and Diane M. Stuart, of Utah, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice.	10 a.m. Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry To hold hearings to examine the Department of Agriculture's implementation of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 and related crop insurance issues.		
	SD-266			
10 a.m.	Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.	Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions To hold hearings to examine private sector lessons for Medicare.	10 a.m. Indian Affairs To hold oversight hearings to examine Native American sacred places.	
	SD-430			SD-485
Indian Affairs	To hold hearings to examine S. 1146, to implement the recommendations of the Garrison Unit Tribal Advisory Committee by providing authorization for the construction of a rural health care facility on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, North Dakota, and the nomination of Charles W. Grim, of Oklahoma, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.	2 p.m. Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions To hold hearings to examine certain issues relative to TWA.  Room to be announced		JUNE 19
	SR-485			
2 p.m.	Judiciary To hold hearings to examine P2P file-sharing networks, focusing on personal and national security risks.	2:30 p.m. Energy and Natural Resources Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine S. 434, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain parcels of National Forest System land in the State of Idaho and use the proceeds derived from the sale or exchange for National Forest System purposes, S. 435, to provide for the conveyance by the Secretary of Agriculture of the Sandpoint Federal Building and adjacent land in Sandpoint, Idaho, S. 490, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain land in the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Nevada, to the Secretary of the Interior, in trust for the Washoe Indian Tribe of Nevada and California, H.R. 762, to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and the Mineral Leasing Act to clarify the method by which the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture determine the fair market value of certain rights-of-way granted, issued, or renewed under these Acts, S. 1111, to provide suitable grazing arrangements on National Forest System land to persons that hold a grazing permit adversely affected by the standards and guidelines contained in the RECORD of Decision of the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment and pertaining to the Willow Flycatcher and the Yosemite Toad, and H.R. 622, to provide for the exchange of certain lands in the Coconino and Tonto National Forests in Arizona.	10 a.m. Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to conduct an initial review of the ULLICO matter, focusing on self-dealing and breach of duty.	
	SD-226			SD-342
2:30 p.m.	Commerce, Science, and Transportation Competition, Foreign Commerce, and Infrastructure Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Federal Trade Commission.			JUNE 24
	SR-253			
		Commerce, Science, and Transportation Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine issues relating to cloning.	10 a.m. Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to examine controlling the cost of Federal Health Programs by curing diabetes, focusing on a case study.	
				SH-216
				JUNE 25
			10 a.m. Energy and Natural Resources Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.	
				SD-366
				JUNE 26
			9:30 a.m. Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to examine the need for Federal real property reform, focusing on deteriorating buildings and wasted opportunities.	
				SD-342
			2 p.m. Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine the Department of State's Office of Children's Issues, focusing on responding to international parental abduction.	
				SD-419
				POSTPONEMENTS
				JUNE 10
			10 a.m. Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions To hold hearings to examine the Head Start program.	
				SD-430