

way to sell their coffee. Millions of small farmers are cheated out of their fair share of income as they receive as little as 1 percent of the final retail price of their coffee. This meager price is nowhere near enough to support their families and their communities. Instead of having enough money to spend on food, education and health care, coffee farmers are being thrust into a cycle of debt and poverty. The situation is so bad that some farmers have turned to producing cocaine and opium to support their families while others have given up in despair and even committed suicide.

As a major purchaser of coffee, the United States has a responsibility to ensure that small coffee farmers are being adequately compensated for their work. And here in Congress we should do our part to ensure that we pay a fair price for the coffee that is purchased for our own use. If companies like Starbucks and Dunkin' Donuts can successfully offer fair trade coffee in their stores, there is absolutely no reason why the federal government cannot do so as well. While fair trade coffee is already served in some of the House of Representatives cafeterias we need to do more to send a signal to the rest of the country.

The fair trade economic model is a unique way of providing small farmers with a living wage that has been proven to work. Coffee is fair trade certified when: (1) Coffee importers agree to purchase from small farmers included on the international trade register; (2) farmers are guaranteed a minimum "fair trade price" of \$1.26 per pound for their coffee; (3) coffee importers provide a certain amount of credit to farmers against future sales to help the farmers stay out of debt to middlemen; (4) importers and roasters agree to develop long term relationships with producer groups that cut out the coffee middlemen.

Small farmers are certified to be producing fair trade coffee if they are organized into democratic cooperatives and use environmentally friendly and sustainable growing methods.

The development of these criteria has made the fair trade economic model a viable solution to the coffee crisis. Both major coffee trade associations, the National Coffee Association of U.S.A. and the Specialty Coffee Association of America have recognized this fact. So have numerous universities around our nation. UC Berkeley, Harvard and many others have already enacted policies promoting the sale of fair trade coffee on their campuses. It is time that Congress recognized that fair trade coffee is one step in solving the humanitarian emergency caused by the coffee crisis.

By providing \$1.26 per pound for coffee, fair trade certification provides small farmers with enough money to sustain their families and be able to contribute to their communities. Furthermore, by cutting out the middlemen, the price of fair trade coffee for consumers is the same as any other specialty brand of coffee. Besides being comparable in cost to other specialty coffee it is also comparable in taste. Fair trade coffees from all over the world have won awards such as Food & Wine Magazine's "Best Coffee" award and 1st place in the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Board's Blind Coffee Tasting for 2002 competition. With comparable cost and taste compared to other coffee, it is hard to justify not purchasing fair trade coffee. Seeing how there is more than 165 million pounds of fair trade coffee being

produced and only 35 million pounds being sold, there is plenty of it. All that needs to be done is to create an awareness of the benefits of fair trade coffee among the public and this resolution does exactly that.

This resolution sends an important message to the American public about the willingness of our Federal Government to aid poverty stricken farmers in other countries. We set an example for the rest of the country to follow by recommending that the Legislative Branch and the Executive Agencies make fair trade coffee available for all events and at all our government food service venues. Taking this small step on our part can go a long way toward helping thousands of small coffee farmers around the world. I urge my colleagues to support passage of this resolution.

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#### IRAQ'S WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 25, 2003*

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, on April 8, 2003, the Congressional Liaison Office of the United States Marine Corps, came to my office to notify me of the death of First Sergeant Edward Smith, age 38, who was killed in the line of duty while participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom. On April 4, 2003, 1st Sgt. Smith was shot in the head while engaging with enemy forces in Iraq. He died on April 5, 2003 in Doha, Qatar as a result of his wounds.

My colleagues, Sgt. Edward Smith was not only a soldier, but a father, husband and son. According to the Defense Department, Smith was the ninth soldier from the Illinois area to die in Iraq. Sergeant Smith, a career soldier, was nearing the end of a 20-year military career and was anticipating retirement when he sustained his fatal wound. Born and raised in Chicago, Edward Smith graduated from CVS High School, moved to Anaheim, California in the 1980s, where he married and raised a family. He leaves behind a wife and two sons in California and a mom and dad and friends in the Chicago area. All of our thoughts and prayers are with Sergeant Smith's family.

Mr. Speaker, as this House begins a month-long district work period, we are still waiting for the answer to the question: Where are the weapons of mass destruction? Where are the weapons for which 1st Sergeant Edward Smith, and so many others, gave their lives?

With each passing day, the American people and I, continue to wait.

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#### TRIBUTE TO JERRY CLARENCE PARKS

**HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 25, 2003*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I'm writing to express my condolences on the recent demise of the late Jerry Clarence Parks. Indeed, words are so inadequate at this time to personify my sadness. However, I hope that my humble prayers would somehow assuage the pain that now burdens the Parks family.

Indeed, the passing away of a good and faithful steward who toiled and sacrificed his life for countless people and this grateful community provides us with the sobering thought of the dignity of the human spirit and the fragility of life. Amidst the sorrows, however, let us remind ourselves that it is precisely during times like this that we must find the hope and assurance in Christ's words when He promised us: "I am the Resurrection and the Life; he who believes in me, even if he dies, shall live." For those of us bonded together in the Christian Faith, we firmly believe that Jerry's life has not ended; it merely changed for the better.

I pray that the Parks family anchors itself on these words. And while we remember Jerry Parks, his loyalty and commitment to the members of the Bible Baptist Church, the City of Miami Retired Fire and Police Association and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, let us thank God for having let him grace our lives with the full measure of his love and devotion to the ideals of Christian stewardship and caring for the less fortunate members of our society.

May God comfort Beverly Parks, his daughter and his family and loved ones with the blessed assurance of His love and peace in this period of bereavement.

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#### IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 2815, LEGISLATION EXPANDING AND MAKING PERMANENT THE EXPENSING OF ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION COSTS

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 25, 2003*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, I introduced bipartisan tax legislation with the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. WELLER, and the gentlewoman from Connecticut, Mrs. JOHNSON, to expand and make permanent the expensing of environmental remediation costs of America's brownfields.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines brownfields as abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion, redevelopment or reuse is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. Estimates of the number of brownfield sites range from 500,000 to a million. In general, these sites face a paradox: they are generally not eligible for remediation funding under the Superfund program because they pose a relatively low public health risk while, at the same time, developers may avoid them because of significant cleanup costs thereby stalling economic development.

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 included a tax incentive to address this concern and help spur the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields in distressed urban and rural areas. Under the brownfields tax incentive, environmental cleanup costs are fully deductible in the year they are incurred by the developer, rather than having to be capitalized. This incentive has helped to bring thousands of abandoned and under-used industrial sites back into productive use, providing a foundation for neighborhood revitalization, job creation, and the restoration of hope in our nation's cities and distressed rural areas.

Unfortunately, this provision of the tax code is set to expire at the end of 2003. At a minimum, Congress must extend this provision for several more years. A better approach, however, an approach supported by the Bush administration in fact, would be enactment of the Weller-Becerra-Johnson legislation which would make this common-sense tax incentive a permanent part of the federal tax code. In addition, the bill would modify current law by amending the recapture provision and modestly expanding the class of substances that can be expensed to include petroleum, a contaminant commonly found at brownfields sites.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation. Its passage will ensure the continued availability of this valuable tool for improving the livability and economic prospects of blighted, decaying communities and reclaiming idle land for more productive uses.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FUGETSU-DO AND THE KITO FAMILY

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 25, 2003*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fugetsu-Do, a family-run bakery in my Congressional District, who this year celebrates its 100th anniversary.

In 1903, Seiichi Kito and his family began working in a small shop to produce batches of mochi, manju, and other Japanese sweets. This burgeoning business, however, was unexpectedly closed in 1942 when Executive Order 9066 forced the Kito family to relocate to an internment camp in Heart Mountain, Wyoming.

Like countless other Japanese American families, the Kitos endured dehumanizing and often cruel living conditions—including brutally cold and windy winters and scorching summers. Yet despite these hardships, Mr. Kito and his son Roy, a pastry chef, gave comfort to their fellow internees by creating dessert from their meager sugar rations.

At the end of the war, the Kito family returned to Los Angeles where Roy and his wife reopened the doors of Fugetsu-Do, overcoming great financial obstacles.

Today, Brian Kito—youngest son of Roy and Kazuko Kito and grandson of Seiichi—continues the legacy of Fugetsu-Do as head of the family business. Brian continues his family's tradition of community loyalty as an active member of the Little Tokyo community. Several times a year, he demonstrates to youngsters in the community how to make the tasty treats sold in his shop and he coordinates a citizen safety patrol in Little Tokyo with the Los Angeles Police Department.

As part of Fugetsu-Do's 100th anniversary celebration, more than 150 members of the Kito family will come together for a family reunion in Little Tokyo from August 7th through the 12th. It is my pleasure to welcome them to my congressional district and to express my best wishes for a successful reunion.

For a century, the Kito family's dedication to the values of hard work and meticulous care in confectionary production has led Fugetsu-Do to much success.

Mr. Speaker, the 100th anniversary of Fugetsu-Do is yet another milestone in the rich history of the Kito family, the Little Tokyo community, and the City of Los Angeles and I join them in celebrating this wonderful legacy.

MEDICARE PAYMENT UPDATE FOR CERTIFIED-NURSE MIDWIVES

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 25, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, there are approximately 2 million women with disabilities in the Medicare program. The Agency for Healthcare Policy and Research reported that these women are without appropriate access to primary care services. Their average time between gynecological visits was 10–12 years. They were also less likely than the general population to have received a recent mammogram. Certified Nurse-Midwives and Certified Midwives are qualified through their unique training to deliver the appropriate health services to this population.

Research studies have shown that special populations seek out care from midwives and that their health outcomes are improved. The Medicare program reimburses Certified Nurse-Midwives at 65 percent of the physician fee schedule, resulting in an average payment of only \$14 per annual exam. Midwives who serve these women are forced to subsidize care with their own money or turn away patients because they cannot afford to operate at a financial loss. Like physicians, skyrocketing professional liability premiums for midwives are leaving no monies to subsidize care. Congress has not provided an update in payment of midwifery services since 1988.

The legislation that I have reintroduced today with my colleague, the gentleman from Michigan, Mr. UPTON, increases the level of reimbursement to 95 percent of the physician fee schedule. This amount is based on studies using the relative value methodology. Additionally, Certified Nurse-Midwives serve as faculty members of medical schools. For over 20 years, they have supervised and trained residents. This legislation clarifies the fact that midwives who are medical school faculty members may bill for Medicare Part B services in accordance with CMS residency training regulations. The bill also includes technical corrections that will clarify the reassignment of billing rights for midwives who are employed by others and recognize that Certified Nurse-Midwives and Certified Midwives have hospital admitting privileges. I urge you to support this legislation, which is in the best interest of women with disabilities across this Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO FACILITATE YAVAPAI RANCH LAND EXCHANGE

**HON. RICK RENZI**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 25, 2003*

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, along with Congressman J. D. HAYWORTH, I rise today to in-

troduce the Northern Arizona National Forest Land Exchange Act of 2003. This legislation facilitates a land exchange in northern Arizona of private land within the Yavapai Ranch for Forest Service land in the northern portion of the state.

Mr. Speaker, in the past few months, I have received many letters and phone calls in support and in opposition to this exchange. I have visited and toured the Yavapai Ranch and witnessed first hand the beauty of this unique property. Bringing the Yavapai Ranch into federal ownership is in the best interest of the public, and the Forest Service has indicated that it would otherwise be unable to afford to acquire these parcels.

This legislation accomplishes many goals in northern Arizona. First, it provides the City of Flagstaff with the opportunity to acquire land to expand and improve Pulliam Airport. In addition, this legislation will allow the City of Flagstaff to develop a new city park and recreational areas and obtain ownership of land near their water treatment plant. This is critical to the City of Flagstaff's future by providing economic development and affordable housing.

The Northern Arizona National Forest Land Exchange Act will also allow the City of Williams to acquire land for its well sites, water storage tanks and wastewater facility and drinking water treatment plants. In addition, this will provide Williams with the opportunity to expand their airport, the municipal golf course and the town park.

In the Verde Valley, this bill provides Camp Verde with a unique opportunity to acquire land for open space to protect their view shed. The Camp Verde Fire District will be provided with land adjacent to Interstate 17 for an emergency response and urgent care facility for faster response. A planned development along Interstate 17 will provide Camp Verde with additional tax base and job opportunities.

A residential development in Clarkdale and Cottonwood will diversify the housing market and provide new lands to their tax base. I have ensured that language in this legislation ensures that water conservation and water use restrictions must be met for any future development.

Finally, this legislation ensures that five summer camps have the opportunity to acquire the land and benefit from full ownership and management of this land. Included in this exchange are Young Life Lost Canyon Camp, Friendly Pines Camp, YMCA Sky Y Camp, Temple Beth Israel's Camp Charles Pearlstein and the Roman Catholic Church of Phoenix Patterdell Pines Camp.

Mr. Speaker, I have held several town halls and town meetings in the district to discuss the many issues clouding this exchange. First, this exchange provides Camp Verde with land for open space for their view shed, but it is my understanding that plans are already underway to construct an interchange that would affect the view shed in the Verde Valley.

Second, this legislation addresses the water concerns associated with this exchange. Language is included to ensure that developments comply with water use and water conservation requirements. Covenants will limit the amount of water use to sustain the current zoning at 2 houses per acres. In addition, any development must comply with the State of Arizona's surface and groundwater laws.

Finally, this legislation addresses the issue of federal permittees that may be affected by