

at the King Street Youth Center in Burlington. She currently organizes the Holiday Program at that Center.

She represents the needs and interests of the whole community, not just of children. Ms. Ely has also been a member of the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf Advisory Board for the past 14 years. She is currently a low-income representative on the Champlain Valley OEO Board of Directors, and is at the present moment serving in her second term. She does all of these things as a dedicated, spirited advocate.

Bev Priest is another dedicated advocate for low-income people. A resident of Jay, Vermont for over 25 years, she served as a low-income representative on the Northeast Kingdom Community Action Board of Directors for 10 years. During that time, she regularly attended the Low-Income Association meetings, Physically Disabled Association meetings, and other meetings in the state capital of Montpelier: at all of them she unstintingly shared with everyone her knowledge of what she learned.

Bev Priest opened a food shelf and clothing center in the Jay Town Clerk's building and provided many holiday baskets to the local families. During the Christmas season she often played Santa at the low-income children's Christmas parties; she herself acquired many of the gifts that were distributed. She has been a consistent advocate for people in crisis; she has assisted in any way she could in helping people in crisis locate the resources they needed. Bev would many times call the NEKCA office stating, "If I had transportation I would be on your desk right now." As one Vermonter in her community stated, "Bev promoted the continual awareness of others of the struggles that low-income families face by 'pointing out the squeaks in the wheel'."

Theresa Emmons has been involved with the Central Vermont Community Action Council for over 20 years. It is safe to say that without her influence, CVCAC would not have accomplished as much as it has. Theresa served on the Board of Directors as a representative of the town of Washington in Orange County. She also has the distinction of having the longest tenure on the CVCAC Board, which she has served in every possible way: as President, as Vice President, as Treasurer and as Secretary.

As if this weren't enough, she has also served on the Head Start Policy Council and has been a leader in the Vermont Head Start Parent's Association. She has been a long time volunteer for the USDA Commodity food distribution program and local food shelves; she was also involved in the conception and growth of the Vermont Food Bank. As far as Theresa is concerned, if people are in need they deserve to receive help. If there is a cause that will help someone in need, that cause deserves to be supported—and Theresa is always first in line to volunteer and to recruit others to volunteer.

Christina Crawford of Springfield, Vermont has been an outstanding example of persevering in the face of difficulties, and of triumphing over many of them.

It was seven years ago that Chris left an abusive relationship. She left with a broken foot, no transportation, four children and the clothes on her back. After three months of being homeless, she found a place to live. She studied for the GED and passed. She then began taking administrative classes at

the local high school as well as taking on a part-time job at an agency where she was given the opportunity to use the skills she was learning, although the job at the agency was temporary.

At the age of 30 Chris took driving lessons and eventually got her driver's license and a vehicle for the first time in her life. She then went to the Employment & Training agency in search of part-time, entry level work in the clerical field. She was offered an opportunity to enroll in an on-the-job training program and was placed at Southeastern Vermont Community Action. Chris has worked at SEVCA for nearly four years now as receptionist.

Three years ago, one of Chris's children was diagnosed as having an autistic disorder. She has since spent much of her time researching her daughter's disability and working tirelessly to put the needed supports in place for her daughter to be able to attend school. Chris is now in the process of trying to form a local support group for parents of special needs children.

Chris currently represents SEVCA and the southeastern part of Vermont on the Vermont Low Income Advocacy Council. She attended her first meeting in September and looks forward to attending as many as she can to use the opportunity to speak out about the struggles she has overcome and the struggles she has yet to face. She hopes to inspire other low-income people to speak out and create change.

In spite of the heavy load Chris continues to carry, she hopes that one day she will be able to go to college and obtain a degree in Human Services.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 21, 2003*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, due to an event in my district, I was unable to be present for rollcall votes 563–565 on Monday, October 20, 2003. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 563, 564, and 565.

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#### HONORING THE SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP OF THOMAS N. KUHN

### HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 21, 2003*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my respect and gratitude to Mr. Thomas N. Kuhn for 44 years of military and civilian service to his country.

Mr. Kuhn enlisted in the United States Army on July 22, 1959, and served on active duty for over 25 years, attaining the rank of Sergeant Major. While on active duty, he served overseas in Germany, Vietnam, Korea, and Italy, and in the United States at Fort Stewart, Georgia; Fort Monroe, Virginia; Fort Lee, Virginia; and Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Mr. Kuhn retired from active duty in October 1984.

Upon retiring, he was appointed Deputy Director of the Field Artillery Proponency Office

at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he previously had served as Sergeant Major. In January 1986, Mr. Kuhn then joined the Department of the Army Personnel Command Task Force in Alexandria, Virginia. Next, he became Branch Chief of the Combat Service Support Branch of the Army Occupational Survey Division in the Soldier Support Center—National Capitol Region.

Mr. Kuhn continued civilian support for his country nearly 20 years, holding numerous leadership positions such as: Deputy Chief of Staff for Operation, U.S. Total Army Personnel Command; Deputy Director, Casualty and Memorial Affairs Operations Center; Adjutant General Directorate, U.S. Total Army Personnel Command; and Acting Director.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Kuhn has been recognized with both military and civilian honors. For his military service, he was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with Four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal with Eight Awards. For his civilian service, he was awarded the Superior Civilian Service Award and the Commanders Award.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I wish to honor Mr. Kuhn's exceptional dedication to his country. I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Mr. Kuhn on 44 years of military and civilian service to the United States.

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#### EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE AND FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN, 2004

SPEECH OF

### HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 17, 2003*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3289) making emergency supplemental appropriations for defense and for the reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Chairman, when Mr. Bush told the American People he was against nation building, no one, including me, thought he was talking about America. Let me at the outset make clear my support for our valiant soldiers who are pursuing our enemies in Afghanistan, and who are securing the peace in Iraq. But the bill before us today, just as it ignites the Iraqi economy and keeps Iraqi kids out of more debt—it costs America's great great grandchildren more long term debt, while America herself crumbles.

Mr. Chairman, let us look at this bill's priorities and all of the unanswered questions it raises. There is plenty of money in here for Iraqi health care, but not one dime of the \$1.8 billion American Veterans need for their health care, which the majorities in this Congress seem hell bent on ignoring. Why is that? The White House won't fund the No Child Left Behind education initiative, but we're supposed to pay Iraqi teachers' salaries. Why is that? President Bush says he needs more than \$4 billion for water infrastructure when there are