

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL
O'KENNEDY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and celebration of Michael O'Kennedy—distinguished barrister and public servant of Ireland, and former prominent member of the Dail Eireann, representing North Tipperary—as we welcome him to Cleveland, Ohio, on St. Patrick's Day.

For the past 25 years, Tim Collins and Thomas Scanlon have organized the St. Patrick's Day Party, a joyous event that brings people together for an enchanted evening of renewing old friendships and discovering new ones. Moreover, this event serves as a living bridge that extends across the blue Atlantic—from the north coast of Cleveland to the shores of the Emerald Isle.

Mr. O'Kennedy has dedicated his life to public service, social leadership and activism. Though retired from the political stage, Mr. O'Kennedy continues to volunteer his time to the people and causes of Ireland. Similarly, Mr. Collins and Mr. Scanlon, distinguished attorneys, continue to preserve and promote the history and culture of their beloved Irish homeland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the Honorable Michael O'Kennedy, for joining us in Cleveland as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Please also join me in recognition of Tim Collins and Thomas Scanlon for organizing this wondrous St. Patrick's Day Party each year for the past 25 years. "Ni dheanfaidh smaoineamh an treabhadh duit—You'll never plough a field by turning it over in your mind"—Old Irish Proverb.

HONORING THE WILLIAMSVILLE
NORTH SPARTANS HOCKEY TEAM

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to congratulate the Williamsville North High School Spartans of Amherst, New York. On March 21, 2004, the Spartans brought home the school's second Division I State Hockey Championship.

Williamsville North, playing in their record fourth-straight Division I championship game, defeated Seton Catholic 5–2. The Spartans displayed dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the entire season, and the Championship is a testament to the hours of hard work they put in during practice and the effort and desire to win they brought to the rink each game. The State Title was achieved by a team of 27 devoted young men. They

are: Vincent Amigone Jr, Eric Bennett, Tim Burow, Jason Burzik, Jason Dodson, Ryan Geary, Steven Jacobs, Kenny Joseph, Robert Klein, Ryan Kovel, Ryan Lydon, Ryan Moskal, Matt Nigro, Tyler Waiser, Kurt Ziemann, John Cavagnaro, Ryan Clifford, Kevin Dunn, Dan Hartman, Alex Morrison, Alex Ponitowski, Matt Ruckdaschel, Nathan Ruckdaschel, Shane Sims, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Chris Keller, and Ben Sawicki.

I would like to offer this Congress' congratulations to the team, including the Head Coach, Bob Rosen; his Assistant Coaches, Dan Mancuso, Tim Digiulio, David Smith, and John Burns; the Williamsville North Athletic Director Steve Ferenczy; and the Principal, Dr. William Krone.

The entire Western New York community is proud of all that they have accomplished.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this Congress join me in honoring and recognizing the Williamsville North Spartans Hockey team for bringing home the school's second Division I State Championship.

HONORING COACH CEAL BARRY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Coach Ceal Barry of the University of Colorado Women's Basketball Team. On February 24, 2004, in a decisive 75–56 victory over Kansas, Coach Ceal Barry distinguished herself and her team as one of the highest placed coaches in Division I history—winning her 500th game.

This is Coach Barry's 21st season with the University of Colorado. The mainstream popularity of women's basketball has certainly grown over the past couple of decades. But those of us who are fans of women's basketball have long known that when folks talk about the game, they are more often than not talking about Ceal Barry's Lady Buffs.

A generation of female athletes has grown up admiring the CU women's basketball team. The success of the Lady Buffs has served as an inspiration and a source of pride for athletes throughout Colorado. With Coach Barry at the helm, the Buffs have secured four league titles and five conference tournament wins. Her Lady Buffs have made 10 appearances in the NCAA tournament, five trips to the Sweet 16 and three journeys to the Elite Eight.

Coach Barry demands that her players develop strength of character both on and off the court. She certainly walks her talk in this regard. Her players consistently meet high academic standards that can be held up against any program in college sports. It is a testament to this expectation that in all of the years that Barry has coached at CU, all but one player who stayed until her senior year has graduated. She builds her players up by set-

ting high expectations and tolerating nothing less. She has said that she holds the belief that "people build confidence through results," meaning you not only get strong to prepare for success, but that it is only through success that you ultimately believe in your strength.

I have had the opportunity to know Coach Barry through the years and certainly consider Ceal to be a friend. Not long ago, I was partnered with Ceal against another twosome in a round of golf. I can honestly say that I have first hand knowledge of the motivating power that this fierce competitor inspires. Suffice it to say, I quickly fell in line with the obvious if not stated expectation that I bring my best possible game. And this was a "friendly" round of golf.

So I congratulate you, Ceal, on your 500th win, but I cannot say that I am surprised. Your talent, vision and leadership are undeniable. You and your Lady Buffs are a source of pride for women's basketball, for CU and for all of Colorado. Colorado salutes you. Well done, coach. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Coach Ceal Barry on this laudable achievement. I wish you continued success in the future.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
LEONE MANTZ ON HER 100TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Leone Mantz was born in Hocking Hills, Ohio on March 24, 1904; and

Whereas, Leone Mantz is celebrating her 100th birthday today; and

Whereas, Leone Mantz, a devoted wife to Howard Mantz, was a nurse for 58 years, and is a longtime active participant in the social and civic life of the community; and

Whereas, Leone Mantz has exemplified a love for her family and friends and must be commended for her lifelong dedication to helping others in Barnesville, Ohio.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in wishing Leone Mantz a very happy 100th birthday.

IN HONOR OF MARY H. MURPHY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of Mary Murphy of Brooklyn, Ohio, as she is honored as the City of Brooklyn's "Democrat of the Year."

With family central to her life, Mrs. Murphy and her late husband, Thomas Murphy, Sr.,

• 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.

raised eight children. Mrs. Murphy is the proud grandmother of eight, and she is also the proud greatgrandmother of eight.

Beyond caring for her family, Mrs. Murphy has been an involved member of the City of Brooklyn Democratic Party for nearly 50 years. In 1955, Mrs. Murphy volunteered her time to work on election day, and by the late fifties, she was elected to serve as precinct committee person—a position she holds to this day. With a quick and agile mind and an equally energized spirit, Mrs. Murphy continues to volunteer her time and talents in service to her community. Moreover, Mrs. Murphy continues to energize the Democratic Party of Brooklyn with her dedication, integrity, loyalty, and hopeful outlook.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in tribute and recognition of Mary H. Murphy, as she is being honored by the City of Brooklyn as the "Democrat of the Year." Mrs. Murphy continues to be an inspiration to everyone in her life—especially to her family and friends. Her friendship, convictions, boundless energy, joy, and good works are invaluable gifts, and her spirit of volunteerism continues to uplift the City of Brooklyn, and our entire community. We wish her continued health and happiness today, and all days to come.

HONORING WILLIAMSVILLE EAST
FLAMES HOCKEY TEAM

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to congratulate the Williamsville East High School Flames of Amherst New York. On March 21, 2004, the Flames brought home the school's first ever Division II State Hockey Championship. It was also the first state championship in any sport for the school.

Williamsville East triumphed 3–2 in an exciting overtime Division II title game. The Flames displayed dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the entire season, and the Championship is a testament to the hours of hard work they put in during practice and the effort and desire to win they brought to the rink each game. The State Title was achieved by a team of 21 devoted young men. They are: Graham Townsend, Mike Ross, Kyle Lucey, Matt Gelia, Joe Ash, Paul Clair, Mike Calzi, Alex Durinka, Mike Kaminska, Justin Rusek, Sean Sheeran, Matt McGlone, Jason Tartick, Lyle Rocker, Phil Bermel, Jarrod Etengoff, Andrew Ross, Jamie Tuchiarelli, Richard Calzi, Anthony Clair, and Jonathan Toole.

I would like to offer this Congress' congratulations to the team, including the Head Coach, Mike Torriello; his Assistant Coaches, Derek Gilham, Dan Hartman, and Manager Joe Guadagnino; Williamsville East Athletic Director Scott Taylor; and Principal Neal Miller.

The entire Western New York community is proud of all that they have accomplished.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this Congress join me in honoring and recognizing the Williamsville East Flames Hockey team for bringing home the school's first ever Division II State Championship.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PEACE
CORPS DAY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, during March, we celebrate National Peace Corps Day, honoring the 168,000 Americans who have served as volunteers since the creation of the Peace Corps in 1961. These amazing men and women have served our Nation in 136 countries. Peace Corps volunteers have made enormous contributions in the areas of agriculture, business development, education, health, and the environment, and in so doing have improved the lives of individuals and communities around the world. The Peace Corps has become an enduring symbol of our Nation's commitment to encourage progress and create opportunity in the developing world.

My own background as an educator and director at Outward Bound for 20 years taught me about the importance of national and community service. But I also have strong connections to the Peace Corps—through my great State of Colorado and through my family. Colorado has one of the highest levels of recruitment of Peace Corps volunteers nationwide, and returned Peace Corps Volunteers in the 2nd Congressional District alone number over 500. Of course, the most important Peace Corps connection for me is my mother, who served as a volunteer in Nepal decades ago.

Because of these connections I have a special interest in advancing the ability of the Peace Corps to play an important role in these new times. I believe we must work to continue to promote world peace and friendship through the people-to-people approach of the Peace Corps. That's why I worked with my colleague Representative SAM FARR last year to introduce legislation known as the Peace Corps Charter for the 21st Century Act that would strengthen and expand the Peace Corps. The bill passed the House as part of H.R. 1950, a bill authorizing programs at the Department of State. I am hopeful that the Senate will pass the bill before the end of the 108th Congress.

The Peace Corps is one of the most admired and successful initiatives ever put in place. I'm proud that the following young people from the 2nd Congressional District are presently serving in countries all over the world: Vanessa Adams, Ben Armitage, Molly E. Boyhoff, Ryan G. Burgess, Millicent S. Butterworth, Yun Chang, Shaun P. Cosgrove, Brian P. Cox, Shaun P. Cronin, Gene F. Defosse, Nicholas J. Detsch, Aryn M. Fleegler, Brooke S. Franke, David Gelvin, Marion C. Hackman, Jessica E. Hanson, Bret G. Harry, Dustin A. Hinrichs, Anna D. Jankowski, Betty J. Kelly, Joseph R. Kelly, Rebecca J. Knerl, Wendy L. Maxwell, Kerith (Kay) M. Miller, Stephanie A. Ogden, Sarah K. Oltmans, Johanna S. Patrick, Benjamin J. Ploeger, Matthew N. Rice, Paul J. Robyn, Trent W. Ruder, Kate A. Rudkin, Kathleen M. Shannon, Melinda E. Simonson, David W. Sparkman, Robert B. Sweetman, Amanda R. Tennant, Michelle L. Tinkler, Ryan P. Van Duzer, Gabrielle Varani, Michael J. Walzak, Anthony R. White, Barry M. Wick.

A pebble tossed into a still pond creates ripples that begin small and grow larger. Peace

Corps volunteers have had this same effect on the people they have touched. The Peace Corps experience exemplifies how individuals can make a tremendous difference in the lives and perceptions of people in developing countries as well as people right here at home.

National Peace Corps Day honors the volunteers, past and present, and reaffirms our country's commitment to helping people help themselves throughout the world. Today I honor all of the men and women who have selflessly and generously served our country in the Peace Corps.

A PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF
STAFF SERGEANT LESTER O.
KINNEY II

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I hereby offer my heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and community of Staff Sgt. Lester O. Kinney II upon the death of this outstanding soldier.

Staff Sgt. Kinney was a member of the 82nd Airborne Division's 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He served his great Nation in the country of Iraq as a leader in his unit. A loving husband to his wife Marisa, and loving son to his parents Jack and Barb Lloyd, Sgt. Kinney served courageously for 8 years in the United States Army.

Sgt. Kinney will be remembered for his unsurpassed sacrifice of self while protecting others. His example of strength and fortitude will be remembered by all those who knew him.

While words cannot express our grief during the loss of such a courageous soldier, I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family, friends, and colleagues of Staff Sgt. Lester O. Kinney II.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
TIMOTHY HORGAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker I rise today in honor and recognition of Timothy F. Horgan, Health Commissioner of Cuyahoga County, upon the occasion of his retirement following nearly 35 years of service and dedication to Ohio residents in the areas of public health, recreation and safety.

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Horgan focused on protecting and enhancing the health of Ohio residents of all ages. With the support of Ohio's recreation industry, he wrote the legislation for Ohio's first recreational licensing program that monitored swimming pools, campgrounds and marinas.

While serving as the Director of Environmental Health at the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, Mr. Horgan was instrumental in the development and passage of legislation that significantly updated food protection laws. He also took the lead in investigating an outbreak of infant pulmonary hemorrhaging cases, and

facilitated the investigation of an outbreak of Legionnaires' disease.

Moreover, it was Mr. Horgan's diligence, vision and persistence that initiated the construction of a new health center for the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. The new center opened its doors in December, 2003. Additionally, Mr. Horgan energized the entire Board by enhancing the scope of services and increasing staff members from 40 in 1987, to 215 employees today.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Timothy E. Horgan, whose exemplary professional life has been dedicated to the health and well-being of Ohio residents. I wish Mr. Horgan many blessings of health and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

105TH BIRTHDAY OF CAPT
DOROTHY STRATTON, USCGR

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to send best wishes to CAPT Dorothy Stratton today on her 105th birthday. CAPT Stratton is a visionary leader and patriot whose service to the United States cannot be measured.

CAPT Dorothy Stratton, USCG Reserve, Retired, was born on March 24th, 1899 in Brookfield, MO. She earned her Bachelor's Degree from Ottawa University in 1924 and continued her education at the University of Chicago and at Columbia University, where, in 1932, she earned her PhD. In 1933 she was appointed Dean of Women and associate professor of psychology at Purdue University. Dr. Stratton remained at Purdue until June 1942, when she decided to join the global war effort and took a leave of absence to join the Naval Women's Reserve.

On November 23, 1942, when President Roosevelt established the Coast Guard's Women's Reserve, LT Stratton transferred from the Navy and was sworn in as its first director. She became the first woman accepted for service as a commissioned officer in the history of the Coast Guard.

Almost immediately after being sworn in, LT Stratton set about the task of finding an appropriate name for the Coast Guard Women's Reserve, and so the SPARs got their name. Not only an acronym of the Coast Guard's motto—Semper Paratus, Always Ready, the word spar is often used to describe support structures and, in LT Stratton's words to the Commandant of the Coast Guard, "that is what each member of the Women's Reserve will be."

LT Stratton quickly ascended the Coast Guard ranks and within 2 years was promoted to the rank of CAPT. During her 4 years as director of the SPARs, CAPT Stratton recruited and led 10,000 enlisted women and 1,000 commissioned officers. She led the service throughout World War II, until the SPAR demobilization was complete on June 30th, 1946.

Following her service in the Coast Guard, CAPT Stratton continued to serve her country as Director of Personnel for the International Monetary Fund, and then as National Executive Director of the Girl Scouts of America.

On this, her 105th birthday, I honor CAPT Dorothy Stratton for her service to the United States, the Coast Guard and its Reserve, and for the inspiration and legacy she created, not only for the women of this great nation, but all our citizens.

TRIBUTE TO MR. THOMAS P.
CALDWELL

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished member of my community, Grand Master Thomas P. Caldwell. An admirable citizen and resident of Newark, Mr. Caldwell will be honored on Saturday, April 3, 2004, and I wish to acknowledge his contributions to my district.

Mr. Caldwell was born in Charlotte, North Carolina to Mattie and Melvin Caldwell and is one of eight children. He is married to Glenda Dodd, and they have one daughter, Melody. He graduated from Shaw University with a B.S. in Political Science and continued his educational experience at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey and Fairleigh Dickerson University in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

He has been a faithful employee of the New Jersey Department of Labor since 1972, and has held several positions of increasing responsibility there, now serving as Assistant Director of Programs and Services. He is a member of the International Association of Personnel in Employment Security, where he has served on the International Board of Directors and led a Labor exchange to the Republic of China and Japan. He also received the Association's highest award, "The President's Award" in 1989.

Mr. Caldwell is dedicated to community service, assisting in the development of the Vailsburg Block Association, and serving as the President of the PTA of St. Mary's Elementary School, Louise A. Spenser High School, and University High School. He has been an active supporter of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, participating in many Walk-a-Thons to help raise money to increase awareness for the fight against this disease.

He is a member of the NAACP, the Second Ward High School National Foundation, the George E. Cannon Lodge #858 I.B.P.O.E. in Vaux Hall, New Jersey, and the Vailsburg Block Association Council. He has also been very active in the Prince Hall Masonic Organization, enjoying their fellowship and providing for them an excellent and well-respected leader.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my thanks to Mr. Caldwell for his service to my community, and I invite my colleagues to join me in sending our sincere congratulations and best wishes.

RECOGNIZING MR. DAVID
WARTOFSKY'S CONTRIBUTIONS
TO NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION
WEEK

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. David Wartofsky's contributions to National Transportation Week. For the past five years, Mr. Wartofsky has closed Potomac Airfield, his private airport in Ft. Washington, Maryland, so that 1,000 school children can participate in National Transportation Week events.

This year, on May 20, Potomac Airfield will host nearly 1,000 students from Washington D.C. area elementary, middle and high schools. These children will have an opportunity to view 22 different aircraft and 18 transportation-related exhibits. In addition, the winners of several contests will be recognized. Winners of Odyssey of the Mind Aircraft Flyer Contest will demonstrate their aircraft on the runway. Winners of the Music of the Mind will perform on stage, celebrating, "One Nation on the Move." Winners of the poster contest will see their work on display.

All of this would not be possible without the cooperation and support of Mr. David Wartofsky. Fondly nicknamed the "Big Cheese," Mr. Wartofsky is a pilot and self proclaimed gadget freak. As the owner of Potomac Airfield, he prides himself on being at the "heart" of our nation's airspace, and that statement has come to mean so much more than geography. His passion for aviation is more than the business he operates; he's transformed it into an investment in our community. I applaud Mr. Wartofsky for his contributions to National Transportation Week. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. David Wartofsky and Potomac Airfield which reflects the personality of the "Big Cheese" and is often described as a "fun airport and a good bunch of interesting friends."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of Thursday, March 18, 2004, the House had a vote on H. Con. Res. 364, a resolution that would express Congress' recognition of more than 50 years of strategic partnership between the United States and the Marshall Islands. On House rollcall vote No. 71, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

CAMBRIA COUNTY'S 200TH
BIRTHDAY**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Cambria County, Pennsylvania, as it celebrates its 200th Birthday. Having adopted the ancient name for Wales, Cambria is a county rich with culture, beauty, and natural resources. This picturesque region was designated on March 26, 1804, as Cambria County, when parts of Huntingdon, Somerset and Bedford counties merged together.

In the last 200 years industrialization has dictated the progression of this land. The vast opportunities for employment in coal mining, iron production, and railroad construction throughout the nineteenth century attracted an eclectic group of workers. With origins primarily in Wales, Ireland, and Germany, the newly settled immigrants bore the cuts, bruises, fatigue and pain necessary to plant the seeds for a prosperous new county.

In 1825, coal mining became the largest industry in the region, not only illuminating countless homes, but contributing greatly to the bustling Pennsylvania steel industry. From the production of steel and iron came the construction of the Allegheny Portage Railroad, and only 20 years later, the invaluable Pennsylvania Railroad. Despite having to endure several natural catastrophes, including severe flooding and multiple mine disasters, the region continued to flourish and provide the necessary resources for this young nation so that it was able to grow.

For 200 years the citizens of Cambria County have remained loyal and committed to industry—the very roots upon which this community was founded. The rich history that has been told through the sweat and tears of Cambria's past inhabitants parallels the history of our Nation. As you immerse yourselves in this celebration of Cambria County's 200th Birthday, you are learning about the people and the events that formed the very foundation of the United States of America.

Today, the people of Cambria County have every reason to be proud of the progress that has been made. Your efforts have and will continue to benefit your children, the very heart of this celebration, who will guide this county and this nation into a successful future. Happy Birthday Cambria County!

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, this Thursday, March 25th, the people of Greece will mark the 183rd anniversary of their independence from the Ottoman Empire.

The modern state of Greece was born from a protracted, bloody war against the Ottoman Empire between the years 1821 and 1832. The significance of the Greek War of Independence transcends the bounds of Greece and its history. It was the first major war of liberation after our own revolution, and it marked

the end of four centuries of often brutal rule by Istanbul. The struggle for Greek independence drew in Europe's great powers and inspired thousands of non-Greeks to join the cause, including Goethe, Schiller, Victor Hugo, Mary Shelley, Alfred de Musset and Lord Byron.

Today, more than one million of our fellow citizens trace their origins to this ruggedly beautiful land that gave birth to western civilization, and I am honored to join them in this celebration of Greek independence. As the brilliant Romantic poet Percy Bysshe Shelley wrote in the preface to *Hellas* in 1821, "We are all Greeks. Our laws, our literature, our religion, our arts, have their root in Greece."

Twenty-four centuries after the construction of the Parthenon, the buildings that house all three branches of our government draw heavily on the architecture of ancient Greece. This is more than mere homage to the graceful beauty of ancient Greek buildings; it is an acknowledgment that our democracy, the core of American nationhood, is a gift to us from Greece. In 332 B.C. Aristotle said, "If liberty and equality, as is thought by some are chiefly to be found in democracy, they will be best attained when all persons alike share in the government to the utmost." More than two thousands years later his words still inspire us to struggle to perfect our democracy here at home, as we work to foster it around the globe. We are deeply grateful for the support of Greece in the Global War on Terrorism and Greece's participation is enhanced by its status as the cradle of democracy.

Even while we fight together to end the scourge of international terrorism in a world that seems far more unpredictable and dangerous than it did 4 years ago, people around the world look forward to the celebration of another of Greece's gifts to humanity, the Olympic Games. At a time of some uncertainty for the Olympic Movement, I welcome the return of the Olympics to Athens for the first time since the inaugural games of the modern era in 1896. I am looking forward to a spectacular Games that will reconnect the modern Olympics with its roots in antiquity and recapture the world's imagination. As an honor to the Games and its hosts, I urge the British Government to commit, before the start of the Olympics, to return the Parthenon Marbles to the people of Greece. Returning the marbles would be a noble act, in keeping with the spirit of the *ekecheiria*, the Olympic Truce.

Greeks and Greek-Americans have another reason to celebrate this year. After three decades of division, Cyprus is poised on the brink of reunification, its accession to the European Union now only weeks away. Cypriots on both sides of the Green Line hope that the island's reunification can be finalized before Cyprus joins the EU on May 1. I recently joined 45 of my colleagues in asking Secretary of State Powell and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to make some modifications to the Annan plan for reunification. As drafted, there are some provisions of the Annan plan that could render it unworkable. The changes we proposed would improve the chances for Cypriot unity and peace, and I hope that they are incorporated in the final phases of the negotiations.

If a solution to Cyprus can be finalized it would reshape the eastern Mediterranean and could lead to an improvement in relations between Greece and Turkey. I am saddened by the tense relations between these two neigh-

bors, both of which are strong friends of the United States and vital members of NATO. To quote Aesop: "A crust eaten in peace is better than a banquet partaken in anxiety."

Since the Greek War of Independence, when Congress sent money and supplies to the Greeks in their struggle for freedom, common values, shared goals, and mutual respect have been the foundation of the friendship between Greece and the United States. Those ties endure to this day, and they have enriched both peoples.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great joy and admiration that I wish the people of Greece a happy Independence Day and continued freedom and prosperity.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE CENTRAL SPRINGFIELD
LITTLE LEAGUE**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Central Springfield Little League.

In 1954, a small group of fathers headed by Harry Wood, Vic Aldridge, Bill Abrams, Jim Owens, Kent Browning, Ray Ramsey, and Frank Ralston first introduced little league baseball to the boys of Springfield, Virginia. These fathers organized and equipped 60 boys to play in a nearby league in Annandale, Virginia.

The following year, franchised Little League granted Springfield its own league which gained tremendous popularity throughout what now is considered Springfield proper. As program popularity and area population rapidly increased, the program was divided into several leagues first in 1962, then in 1971, and again in 1972, creating the North Springfield Little League, the West Springfield Little League, and the Central Springfield Little League (CSLL).

Since 1972, the CSLL has made every effort to maximize baseball development, participation, and enjoyment in Central Springfield. CSLL improvements include measures such as offering baseball clinics, using pitching machines, and creating a T-Ball program to introduce baseball to five and six year old children. The CSLL has also successfully implemented an "Adopt-A-Field" program that allows them to perform all necessary maintenance and repairs on the fields provided to the CSLL by the Fairfax County Park Authority and Franconia Park.

Since 1975, with the lifting of the "boys only" policy by Little League, Baseball, Inc. girls have become an integral part of CSLL at all levels. Later in 1993 in conjunction with the West Springfield Little League, the CSLL first fielded a Challenger Team for children with physical and mental challenges, which since has grown to the largest in the world.

For the past 50 years, CSLL has provided an invaluable service to the Springfield community. Thanks to the support of countless individuals and businesses in the greater Springfield community, the CSLL has grown into a thriving baseball league, one of the best youth baseball programs in the area.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate the CSLL on 50 years of success. I

call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the league's efforts on behalf of Springfield and in wishing the CSLL the best of luck in the many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO SANDRÉ R. SWANSON

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who has set the bar for public service, working for over thirty years for the Congress of the United States, Sandré Swanson. On March 1, 2004, Sandré retired from congressional service. The 9th Congressional District salutes and thanks him for his three decades of tireless and spirited service.

Sandr  R. Swanson met Congressman Ronald V. Dellums, my predecessor, over thirty-three years ago. Ron, at that time, was a candidate for Congress, and Sandr  was the Student Body President at Laney College in Oakland, California. Their first meeting was at an Oakland peace march protesting the May 4, 1970 shooting of four Kent State University students. This shooting ignited a national student strike that was unprecedented in the history of our country. Ron and other Civil Rights leaders were leading the march while Sandr  was leading the Laney Student Body protest. Sandr , who was not acquainted with Ron at the time, was part of a group carrying a mock casket for the fallen students. He was so impressed by Ron's speech that day that he organized scores of students for the Dellums campaign.

In 1971, Sandr  was elected, via neighborhood balloting, as the East Oakland representative for the Oakland Anti-Poverty Board. He became one of the Board's most vocal Vice-Chairmen.

In 1972, Wilson Riles Jr., who was the Northern California Coordinator for the historic presidential campaign for Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, recruited Sandr  to run the campaign's Advance Team. That was when I first met Sandr . I also recommended to Congressman Dellums that he hire Sandr  as part of his congressional staff.

On May 1, 1973, when Sandr  was 24, Congressman Dellums asked Sandr  to join the district office staff. During his tenure for the Dellums office, Sandr  served as Aide, Staff Assistant, Press Secretary, and District Director.

In the fall of 1976, judge Lionel Wilson, another significant mentor, asked Congressman Dellums to borrow Sandr  to manage his campaign for mayor. With the assistance of Sandr  as his Campaign Manager, Judge Wilson became Oakland's first African-American Mayor on May 17, 1977.

On October 25, 1977, Mayor Wilson appointed Sandr  to the Oakland Civil Service Commission, where he served with distinction as Chairman and Commissioner for two terms. The Commission's employee and union appeals caseload doubled under Chairman Swanson's leadership.

In 1990, Congressman Dellums invited Nelson Mandela to Oakland, California following his release from a South African prison after twenty-seven years. A coalition of labor, community and church groups asked Congress-

man Dellums to grant Sandr  leave so that he could serve as the Northern California Coordinator for the Nelson Mandela Freedom Tour. Working with the legendary Bill Graham and hundreds of community organizations, Sandr  brought 60,000 people to the Oakland Coliseum in support of this celebration. To complete this historic event, he organized a fund-raising dinner in Oakland for 3,000 people. The committee gave the Free South Africa movement the largest contribution of the tour.

In 1993, as a result of military base closures, Congressman Dellums asked Sandr  to spearhead the congressional district's military base conversion effort. Sandr  was the architect of the cross-jurisdictional memberships on local reuse authorities in charge of military base conversion in Alameda County. He served as Vice-Chair of the Alameda Reuse and Redevelopment Authority and Commissioner on the Oakland Base Authority for five years.

In 1998, when I took office, I hired Sandr  as my District Director. On May 1, 1999, twenty-six years after I recommended that Congressman Dellums hire him, I appointed Sandr  as my own Chief of Staff. As my most trusted advisor, he managed my Washington and Oakland offices.

Sandr  has served on countless boards and commissions. He has been the Chair and is currently a trustee for the Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association (ACERA). ACERA manages benefits for its retirees and makes the investment decisions for a 3.5 billion dollar pension fund. Sandr  is also the Vice-Chair of the Alameda Golf Commission.

After such distinguished and prestigious service to his community, Sandr  retired from congressional service on March 1, 2004. I wish him continued success long into the future, and I also thank him for his outstanding contributions to this congressional district. I take great pride in joining Sandr 's wife, Anita, and his children, friends and colleagues to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of Sandr  R. Swanson.

ORGAN DONATION AND RECOVERY
IMPROVEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3926, the Organ Donation and Recovery Improvement Act. I recently introduced this legislation, which reflects a bipartisan, bicameral agreement that was reached with the Senate late last year. I am urging all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this timely legislation.

Most of us are well aware of the great need for donated organs and tissue. According to the United Network for Organ Sharing, there are 84,138 people currently waiting for a transplant. Only 23,387 individuals had received a transplant between January and November of 2003. Additionally, 12,133 individuals had donated their organs within that same timeframe. Tragically, 6,187 individuals died in 2002 while on the waiting list.

It is our duty to do everything in our power to prevent these oftentimes needless deaths

from occurring. That's why H.R. 3926 is so important. This legislation targets federal dollars into areas that we feel will have a substantial impact in increasing organ donation rates in this country. For example, living donors represented over half of all donors in the first nine months of 2003. That is why H.R. 3926 authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants for the purpose of covering travel and subsistence expenses incurred by living organ donors. While the decision to become a living organ donor is an intensely personal one, I feel that it is our responsibility to remove any financial barriers that might prevent someone from making the "gift of life."

H.R. 3926 also provides the Secretary with \$15 million in new grant authority to assist state governments and public and nonprofit private entities in developing innovative initiatives designed to increase organ donation rates, including living donation. I am hopeful we will learn some valuable lessons from these demonstration projects that we will be able to apply on a national scale.

I also want to point out for my colleagues that this bill contains important evaluation mechanisms, so we can ensure that our targeted federal assistance makes a demonstrable impact on increasing organ and tissue donation rates. I think these provisions are critically important and will help us monitor the effectiveness of these new programs.

I would like to take a moment to note that section 4 of this legislation is modeled after the Floyd D. Spence Organ Coordination Improvement Act, which Congressman JOE WILSON introduced in the 107th Congress. I know he's worked very hard with Congressman JAY INSLEE in this area, and I'm pleased we were able to include this important provision in our broader bill.

H.R. 3926 is widely supported by the transplant community and takes a positive step forward in our effort to ensure that every American has access to a donated organ or tissue when they need it.

TRIBUTE TO MR. HARRY THOMAS

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say that one person can make a difference. One person in Seattle who made a big difference is—Mr. Harry Thomas—an unsung hero who has bettered the lives of thousands of people by advocating for safe and affordable housing.

Mr. Thomas is about to retire from the Seattle Housing Authority, and his career of distinguished public service is worthy of special note by the Congress.

Mr. Thomas served as executive director of the Seattle Housing Authority for 14 of the last 17 years. Under Thomas' leadership, the Authority won \$136 million in federal grants which leveraged a total investment of \$750 million to transform three World-War II era public housing developments—New Holly, Rainier Vista, and High Point—into vibrant new mixed-income communities.

Prior to his work with the Seattle Housing Authority, Harry served as Deputy County Executive for King County, and as the Executive

Director of Neighborhood House, a non-profit in Seattle. He also served as the Washington governor's staff director and special assistant for housing.

In the Seattle area, Mr. Thomas served as a member of the Board for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Seattle, which he also chaired from 1995–1998. He also serves as a member of the Seattle-King County Workforce Development Board.

Harry's commitment to public service does not stop with his service to the Seattle area. In 2002, he served on the Commission on Affordable Housing and Health Care Facility Needs of Senior Citizens in the 21st Century, a Congressional Commission charged with evaluating the need for senior housing in the twenty-first century. He also serves as Secretary of the Executive Board for the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities and as President of the Housing Research Foundation Board, both organizations based in Washington, D.C. that focus on federal funding and policy for low-income housing.

In recognition of his dedication and service, Mr. Thomas received the 1999 National Council on the Aging Sidney Spector Award and the 1995 Distinguished Alumnus Award from the University of Washington School of Social Work and Alumni Association.

Harry, thank you for your life-time of public service to the greater Seattle community, and your tireless work to provide decent, safe housing for the area's low-income households.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, Greek Independence Day is not only an opportunity won by the Greeks after 400 years of oppression, but also an opportunity to remind ourselves of the freedom we are able to exercise today. Americans like the rest of the world's democracies, truly appreciate the Hellenic ideals of liberty, freedom, and democracy. The ancient Greeks fashioned the notion of democracy, and our Founding Fathers drew heavily from their philosophy and political experience in forming our own representative government.

The excellence of mankind has often been symbolized by Hellenic ideals. The works of Homer, Plato, and Aristotle, have been studied by countless numbers of students over hundreds of years. The Olympics, a tournament of sports watched and enjoyed by millions, experienced its birth among the ancient Greeks. Seeking to promote friendship and peace among nations the Olympics now boast almost 200 participating countries. This summer, the 2004 Summer Olympics will return to their birthplace and now more than ever, we should be reminded of these values and strive to meet them with other nations of the world.

On Greek Independence Day we should also seek to celebrate the living history of Greek heritage. During the occupation by the Ottoman Turks, they risked harsh penalties, some extreme as death, to teach their children the culture, history, and language of their glorious ancestors. These "Secret Schools" kept alive the heritage and spirit demonstrated today. It is this dedication to Greek culture and

ideals that led them to revolt against the Ottomans in 1821.

During the Greek's 8-year revolution for freedom, many Americans fought alongside them in battle. The United States Congress sent funds along with supplies to aid the fight for independence. That friendship is still strong today as Greece and its people join us in combating terrorism that seeks to destroy the ideals of liberty, freedom and democracy which we value.

STEM CELLS, WOMEN'S HEALTH,
WEAPONS, WATER, AGRICULTURE—THE LIST GOES ON
AND ON

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the attached editorial by the San Jose Mercury News dated March 15, 2004 as an extension of my remarks earlier today.

[From the San Jose Mercury News, Mar. 15, 2004]

BUSH MANIPULATES SCIENCE DATA TO PURSUE
HIS IDEOLOGICAL GOALS

STEM CELLS, WOMEN'S HEALTH, WEAPONS,
WATER, AGRICULTURE—THE LIST GOES ON

The Bush administration has the manipulation of scientific data down to a science.

When it comes to imposing his ideology on the work of world-renowned scientists, the president is an equal opportunity meddler. Global warming. Stem cell research. The quality of our drinking water. Health issues (particularly those related to women's health). Nuclear weapons. Agricultural practices. Those are just a few of the areas in which Bush routinely uses politics to cater to big business or the religious right.

Congress last fall asked the General Accounting Office to investigate. If the GAO's report, due in April, confirms a similar investigation conducted by the Union of Concerned Scientists, Congress should immediately begin holding hearings aimed at ending future presidents' ability to distort and suppress science for political gain. And the scientific community's outrage over the administration's actions should be raised when judging the presidential candidates' credibility.

Consider the array of scientists and federal officials opposed to the administration's actions. Twenty Nobel laureates. Dozens of prominent scientists who cover the political spectrum. Even a collection of federal officials who served in Republican administrations, including President Nixon's Environmental Protection Agency administrator, William Ruckelshaus. It's also significant that no prominent scientists are surfacing to defend the Bush administration.

But it's difficult to defend distortions such as the National Cancer Institute's suggestion on its Web site that there is a link between abortion and breast cancer. The Institute posted that information despite the objections of Centers for Disease Control staff. Numerous examples of suppression or distortion of scientific data are contained in the Union of Concerned Scientists' report.

Bush has been quoted as saying, "Science and technology have never been more essential to the defense of the nation and the health of our economy."

Too bad his actions don't live up to his words.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAWN
MATHIEWS

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dawn Mathews of Hot Sulphur Springs, Colorado, on receiving the "Power of One" award at the Sixth Annual Colorado Woman Conference for her work with the Roadside Memorial Project. The conference recognizes individual women, selected by Colorado newswomen, who have made an extraordinary difference in their community. It is my privilege to recognize Dawn and her achievements before this body of Congress and this nation today.

As founder and executive director of the Roadside Memorial Project, Dawn strives to document and preserve the roadside memorials for victims of car accidents and raise traffic safety awareness. She believes that these memorials are an important way for families of the victims to deal with their loss, and that they send a valuable message to motorists about the hazards of driving. Dawn photographs the memorials and then uses computer graphics to create images that she puts on public display. While her goal is to get people to slow down on the road, she finds her personal involvement with the families of the victims as one of the most rewarding aspects of her work.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Dawn Mathews here today before this body of Congress and this nation and congratulate her on receiving the "Power of One" award. KUSA-TV's Amanda Martin selected Dawn for this honor, and it is a well-deserved testament to her dedication to her community and the State of Colorado. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING INDIANA STATE
SENATOR KENT ADAMS ON THE
OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a fellow Hoosier legislator, Senator Kent Adams, for his many years of dedicated service to the citizens of Indiana and to congratulate him upon the occasion of his retirement.

Senator Adams obtained his Bachelor of Science Degree from Manchester College. He then continued his education, earning his Masters of Arts from Ball State University and a Degree in Education from Walden University; Senator Adams also attended the State Police Academy at Indiana University.

Senator Adams has dedicated himself to public service throughout his life. Upon completing his degrees, he pursued a career in education as a teacher and a school administrator. In addition, Senator Adams also served as an Indiana State Trooper.

Senator Adams was first elected to the Indiana General Assembly in 1988. He served two terms in the House of Representatives and was named Outstanding Freshman Legislator in 1989.

Then, in 1992, Senator Adams was elected to the Indiana Senate, and currently serves as Chair of the Governmental Affairs & Interstate Cooperation Subcommittee and is a ranking member of the Environmental Affairs and Natural Resources committees. He also serves on the Pensions and Labor committee.

Senator Adams was recognized for achieving a one hundred percent voting attendance record, having been present for all 570 roll-call votes recorded during the 16 week long 2003 legislative session.

In addition to his duties at the Senate, Senator Adams has also been actively involved in his local community as a member of the Kosciusko County Historical Society and the Kosciusko County Retired Teachers Association. He has also served as a board member for the Bowen Center for Human Services and the Warsaw Community Development Corporation.

After 16 years in the Indiana General Assembly, Senator Adams recently announced that he would not seek re-election to Indiana Senate District 9 in 2004.

Upon the completion of his third term, Senator Adams looks forward to spending more time with his wife, Nancy, and their five children and fifteen grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I know his constituents will be sorry to see him leave. But both they and his family can take comfort in the knowledge that he has both capably and honorably represented District Nine for the past 16 years.

I know that all of Senator Adams' colleagues agree with me in saying that they are proud to have served with him during his long and distinguished career.

I wish him and his family well.

BOY SCOUTS HONOR STEPHEN BARROUK WITH DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS AWARD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and colleague, Mr. Stephen Barrouk, native of Wilkes-Barre, in Luzerne County, in my district, who is being honored by the Boy Scout Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

I ask that my colleagues pay tribute to him as he is awarded the Distinguished Citizens Award at a dinner tonight at Genetti's in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Steve has served as President and CEO of the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry since 1989. In this capacity, he manages three organizations including the Chamber of Commerce, Committee for Economic Growth and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Industrial Fund, Inc.

Steve attended E.L. Meyers High School in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Upon graduation, he went on to the University of Pittsburgh, where he received his bachelor of arts degree in urban studies and economics and his master's degree in public administration.

Prior to his appointment in Wilkes-Barre, Steve worked in the Pittsburgh Department of City Development in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He later worked as Deputy Director of the Allegheny County Department of Development

and Executive Director of the Allegheny County Industrial, Hospital and Higher Education Authorities. On behalf of all of Northeastern Pennsylvania, I offer my gratitude to our colleagues in the western part of the state for educating Steve on economic development. At our first opportunity, we stole him back.

Steve is a current Board member and past Chairman of the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association. He serves on the Boards of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance, the United Way of the Wyoming Valley, the Ethics Institute and Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

I am especially proud of the leadership Steve has shown as an original member of the Board of the Earth Conservancy; non-profit, charitable organization that I helped to establish to restore, preserve, and develop more than 17,000 acres of land throughout Luzerne County previously owned by a bankrupt coal company. We worked very closely together on this project, which I believe will have a profound impact on present and future generations of Northeastern Pennsylvanians. Especially in the earliest days of the organization, we endured a great deal of criticism and controversy.

Like the Earth Conservancy, the Luzerne County Convention Center Authority generated a great deal of controversy in its early days and has since been recognized as an overwhelming success for the entire region. Steve Barrouk served as chairman of this authority and continues to serve on the board. It is for his willingness to step forward and lead efforts that may be controversial but serve the long-term interests of the community that Steve deserves the greatest commendations.

Steve is also a member of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives, Northeast Economic Development Association and the International Research Council. He has also served on the Board of the Northeast Pennsylvania Philharmonic Society and was a member of the Osterhout Free Library Long-Term Planning Committee and Downtown Task Force.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to represent a man who has tirelessly served our community. Northeastern Pennsylvania is a stronger community because of the service of Steve Barrouk, and I can think of no higher compliment for a man. I am pleased to join the Boy Scouts in honoring this man who has worked so earnestly to improve the quality of life in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EDNA WILSON MOSLEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to pay tribute to Edna Mosley for her selfless dedication to the community of Jefferson County, Colorado, and congratulate her on receiving the "Power of One" award at the 2004 Colorado Woman Conference. The conference recognizes individual women, selected by Colorado newswomen, who have made an extraordinary difference in their community, and it is my privilege to acknowledge Edna before this body of Congress and this nation today.

As an active member in her community, Edna dedicates her efforts to a vast array of civic functions. Tamara Banks of KWGN-TV selected Edna for this award in recognition of her hard work and dedication toward the redevelopment of Lowry Air Force Base and Fitzsimons Army Base. When Lowry was decommissioned, Edna helped transform Lowry into a popular home development and community with shops and stores, and Fitzsimons now houses the prestigious Colorado University Health Science Center. Her extensive involvement in Aurora includes serving on the Aurora City Council for three terms, serving as co-founder of the Denver-Nairobi Sister Cities Committee, and serving as president and chair of Denver Sister Cities International.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Edna Mosley today before this body of Congress and this nation and congratulate her on receiving the "Power of One" award. Her exceptional civic service has done much for the betterment of the City of Aurora and the State of Colorado. I thank her for her service and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING THE 183RD ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE.

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition of the 183rd anniversary of Greek Independence. This special day for Greece commemorates the strength and determination of its people to restore their democratic roots and identity.

The political philosophies of both the United States and Greece have been challenged by oppressive powers, and both nations have proudly defended their right to self-government and individual freedoms. After showing a desire to be free from the Ottoman Empire in 1821, Greece endured eleven long years of war to succeed in gaining independence. American and Hellenic cultures greatly respect their tradition of independence and recognize the importance of democratic principles.

The United States and Greece have always enjoyed a friendship and alliance in international and cultural endeavors. Hellenic principles resonate in our culture and politics, since the United States was founded on the principles of democracy developed thousands of years ago in the city-states of ancient Greece. The beauty of Greek architecture can even be found while taking a walk through our beloved Capitol building. Likewise, our country's influence on Greece can be seen in their first Constitution, which was based on our Declaration of Independence and the principles behind the American Revolution.

On a cultural level, I am looking forward to this summer and the homecoming of the Olympic Games to Athens. Since Greece resurrected the Olympics in 1896, they have symbolized peace and excellence for people around the world. The Olympics show that great athletic skill and spirited competition can bring nations together despite their differences. Greece will undoubtedly serve as a gracious host of the Games, and the 25th Summer Olympics will prove again to the

world how Hellenic ideals such as equality and friendship have stood the test of time and continue to flourish at a global level. Hellenic culture, whether through its development of democratic government or its espousal of friendly competition, encourages people to come together amicably even during the most difficult of times.

Mr. Speaker, it would be hard to imagine a United States of America, or even the world, without the great contributions from Greece. I will continue to work in Congress to support Hellenic causes and our strong and important alliance. I would like to join my colleagues in congratulating Greece on the anniversary of its independence.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating this anniversary.

THE TELEVISION CONSUMER
FREEDOM ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Television Consumer Freedom Act, legislation repealing regulations that interfere with a consumer's ability to obtain desired television programming. The Television Consumer Freedom Act also repeals federal regulations that would increase the cost of a television.

My office has received numerous calls from rural satellite and cable TV customers who are upset because their satellite or cable service providers have informed them that they will lose access to certain network and cable programming. The reason my constituents cannot obtain their desired satellite and cable services is that the satellite and cable "marketplace" is fraught with government interventionism at every level. Local governments have historically granted cable companies franchises of monopoly privilege. Government has previously intervened to invalidate "exclusive dealings" contracts between private parties, namely cable service providers and program creators, and has most recently imposed price controls. The Library of Congress has even been delegated the power to determine prices at which program suppliers must make their programs available to cable and satellite programming service providers.

It is, of course, within the constitutionally enumerated powers of Congress to "promote the progress of Science and Useful Arts by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the Exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries." However, operating a clearing-house for the subsequent transfer of such property rights in the name of setting a just price or "instilling competition" via "central planning" seems to be neither economically prudent nor justifiable under this enumerated power. This process is one best reserved to the competitive marketplace.

It is impossible for the government to set the just price for satellite programming. Over regulation of the cable industry has resulted in competition among service providers for government privilege rather than free market competition among providers to offer a better product at a lower price. While federal regulation does leave satellite programming service pro-

viders free to bypass the governmental royalty distribution scheme and negotiate directly with owners of programming for program rights, there is a federal prohibition on satellite service providers making local network affiliates' programs available to nearby satellite subscribers. This bill repeals that federal prohibition so satellite service providers may freely negotiate with program owners for programming desired by satellite service subscribers. Technology is now available by which viewers could view network programs via satellite as presented by their nearest network affiliate. This market-generated technology will remove a major stumbling block to negotiations that should currently be taking place between network program owners and satellite service providers.

This bill also repeals federal laws that force cable companies to carry certain programs. These federal "must carry" mandates deny cable companies the ability to provide the programming their customers' desire. Decisions about what programming to carry on a cable system should be made by consumers, not federal bureaucrats.

The Television Consumer Freedom Act also repeals federal regulations that mandate that all TVs sold in the United States contain "digital technology." In complete disregard of all free market and constitutional principles, the FCC actually plans to forbid consumers from buying TVs, after 2006 that are not equipped to carry digital broadcasts. According to Stephen Moore of the CATO Institute, this could raise the price of a TV by as much as \$250 dollars. While some television manufacturers and broadcasters may believe they will benefit from this government-imposed price increase, they will actually lose business as consumers refrain from purchasing new TVs because of the government mandated price increase.

Mr. Speaker, the federal government should not interfere with a consumer's ability to purchase services such as satellite or cable television in the free market. I therefore urge my colleagues to take a step toward restoring freedom by cosponsoring my Television Consumer Freedom Act.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 4020,
STATE VETERANS HOME NURSE
RECRUITMENT ACT OF 2004

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing H.R. 4020, the State Veterans Home Nurse Recruitment Act of 2004, a bill to assist state veterans' homes in hiring and retaining nurses. Mr. Evans, the gentleman from Illinois and Ranking Member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, joins me as an original cosponsor of this important legislation.

H.R. 4020 would allow states which already receive per diem payments and have an established employee incentive programs to apply to receive up to 50 percent of the annual cost of such incentive programs, but no more than 2 percent of the annual amount of per diem payments per fiscal year. These funds would be paid from VA's health care budget, just as the per diem payments are now being paid.

State veterans' homes first began serving veterans in the wake of the Civil War. In 1888, Congress authorized the first Federal aid to states which maintained homes for disabled American soldiers and sailors in need of long term care. At the time, the payments amounted to about 30 cents per resident per day. In the years since, Congress has made several major revisions to the program to expand the base of payments to include specialized hospital, nursing home, domiciliary, and adult day health care.

Now the largest provider of long-term care to our nation's veterans, the state veterans' home system plays a vital role in caring for the growing number of aging veterans. The veteran population most in need of nursing home care, those veterans 85 years or older, grew from about 387,000 in FY 1998 to 870,000 in FY 2003, more than a 100 percent increase over the past five years. This veteran population is expected to continue to rise to about 1.3 million by mid-decade.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in 2002 surveyed the 50 states and Puerto Rico to learn how states are responding to needs for health care workers. Ninety percent reported a shortage of nursing staff as a major concern in their responses. In efforts to respond to these nursing and other health work force shortages, 44 of 50 states reported establishing task forces and commissions to study and seek solutions. The focus of the task forces or commissions in 25 states was to study shortages in the long-term care work force.

While the HHS study documented the extent of the problems nationally, I am aware of difficulties that the three New Jersey state veterans' homes in Vineland, Paramus and Menlo Park, have faced over the past several years in recruiting and retaining quality nursing staff. The nursing shortage in my state of New Jersey was reported by HHS to be among the three highest in the nation.

Mr. Speaker, we have an obligation to ensure that our veterans receive the benefits that they have earned through their service, including long-term care of high quality. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 4020.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BETTY
PROCTOR

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to pay tribute to Betty Proctor for her selfless dedication to the community of Jefferson County, Colorado, and congratulate her on receiving the "Power of One" award at the 2004 Colorado Woman Conference. This award is bestowed upon women who have made a remarkable impact on their community, and Betty could not be a more worthy recipient.

Betty's life has always revolved around public service, having established more than thirty non-profit organizations over the years. After retiring from the Jefferson County Social Services six years ago, Betty has dedicated her time to an organization she founded, called Helping Hearts & Hands. The organization raises money for people who need emergency

funds and cannot get finances elsewhere, and uses these funds for emergencies such as paying for car repairs so a single mother can keep her job. Betsy's enthusiasm and commitment to her community have been the driving force behind Helping Hearts & Hands, and her efforts recently secured a grant of \$12,000 from a Colorado foundation.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Betty Proctor here today before this body of Congress and this nation and congratulate her on receiving the "Power of One" award. Cynthia Hessin of KRMA-TV selected Betty for this honor, and it is a well-deserved testament to her dedication to public service in Jefferson County and the State of Colorado. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING INDIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD W. MANGUS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Indiana State Representative Richard W. Mangus. He will be retiring from the Indiana House of Representatives this year after a long and distinguished career.

Representative Mangus was first elected to the Indiana House of Representatives in November, 1972. Since that time he has served the people of St. Joseph and Elkhart counties honorably; always seeking to improve the legislative process while representing the needs and sentiments of his constituents.

During his sixteen terms in office, Representative Mangus has served as the Ranking Member on the Environmental Affairs Committee; Ranking Member on the Constitutional Law Committee; Ranking Minority Member on the Natural Resources Committee; Chairman of the Elections and Reappointment Committee; Chairman of the House Environmental Affairs Committee; a Member of the House Human Affairs Committee; and a member of the House Public Policy Committee. He is currently serving as the Ranking Minority Member on the House Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development.

He has been honored and recognized by many organizations and fellow legislators throughout his sixteen term career. Some of these distinguished awards have been: Fraternal Order of Police Legislator of the Year; Professional Firefighters Legislator of the Year; District Soil and Water Conservation Special Recognition Award for Support of District Programming; 4-H Leadership 20 Year Service Award; Izaak Walton League Environmental Achievement Award; State of Indiana Sagamore of the Wabash Award; and the Jr. Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award.

Representative Mangus was born in Lakeville, Indiana, in 1930. He and his wife Mary still remain in Lakeville where their five children were raised. Representative Mangus is a member of the Lakeville Lions Club, Lakeville Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, Scottish Rite, Order of the Eastern Star, Lakeville Commerce Association, County Line Brethren Church, and Toastmasters.

Mr. Speaker, I know the citizens of St. Joseph and Elkhart counties join me in congratulating Representative Mangus and wish him continued success in the future.

BOY SCOUTS PRESENT SEN. BOB MELLOW WITH DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS AWARD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my very good friend, the Democratic Leader of the Pennsylvania Senate, Bob Mellow, as he receives the Distinguished Citizens Award from the Boy Scout Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

I ask that my colleagues pay tribute to him as he is honored at a dinner tonight at Genetti's in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Sen. Mellow is a lifelong resident of Peckville, in Lackawanna County and he has dedicated more than two decades of his life to public service. Thanks to his fine leadership in the redistricting process, I am now proud to be Sen. Mellow's Congressman.

Sen. Mellow was first elected as senator from the 22nd district in 1970, and is now serving a district-record ninth term. He was twice elected as Senate president pro tempore, the third highest constitutional office in the Commonwealth.

Sen. Mellow attended Lackawanna Junior College, the University of Scranton and Bethel College in Tennessee, where he received his bachelor of science degree in accounting. He also attended graduate school at Marywood University and served in the Pennsylvania National Guard from 1962 to 1968.

One of Sen. Mellow's hallmark moves as Senate president pro tempore was opening the Senate to television coverage. This has become a permanent part of Senate proceedings and is an important mechanism that encourages public interest in our government.

Sen. Mellow was an early advocate of measures to protect the environment, an issue that he and I both hold close to our hearts. Sen. Mellow was instrumental in passage of the Hazardous Waste Act of 1980. When Northeastern and Central Pennsylvania fell victim to giardiasis in the water supply in 1984, Sen. Mellow introduced legislation to respond to the outbreak of the waterborne disease. Even as he worked on statewide legislation to improve the lives of all Pennsylvanians, he also dedicated himself to improving the environment of Northeastern Pennsylvania, including a park in Peckville named in his honor.

Sen. Mellow sponsored a bill that provided early retirement for public school and state employees in 1991. He co-sponsored workers' compensation legislation in 1993 that lowered insurance costs while eliminating abuses in the system and maintaining legitimate injury claims. Sen. Mellow and I have worked closely on a number of economic development issues important to Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Sen. Mellow is president of the Chic Feldman Foundation and a member of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Association, the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce, the state and national societies of public accountants, Knights of Columbus and the Italian-American Democratic League.

Sen. Mellow serves on the board of directors of the Old Forge Bank, the Lourdesmont School and the advisory board of the Worthington-Scranton Campus of Penn State. He is also a steering committee member of the Colleen Giblin Endowment Fund for Child Neurology Research and was honored in 1999 as co-chairperson of the Lupus Foundation of America.

There is no finer or harder-working public servant in Pennsylvania than Bob Mellow. Prior to the most recent redistricting, I admired from afar his tremendous skill and political acumen he displayed in leading the Democrats of the Pennsylvania Senate. Now that our districts overlap and I have become more familiar with his activities in his home district, I am even more impressed by the degree to which he is devoted to the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania and the effort he exerts to improve the quality of their lives. He understands above all that government must be responsive to the needs of the people and he never loses sight of the very real needs of individual constituents.

In the Mellow household, public service is a family affair. I am sure that Bob would be the first to admit that much of his success can be attributed to the unwavering support of his lovely wife, Diane. She and their daughters Melissa and Tressa are often by Bob's side during public events, sometimes even accompanied by Tressa's daughter Hali. The entire Mellow family is an asset to Northeastern Pennsylvania, and I am proud to have them as constituents and friends.

Mr. Speaker, as elected officials, our time in public service is extremely limited. We can only hope to have an impact as lasting as the legacy Sen. Bob Mellow has already attained in Northeastern Pennsylvania and throughout the entire state.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TERRI KLEMENTS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to pay tribute to Terri Klements, and congratulate her on receiving the "Power of One" award at the 2004 Colorado Woman Conference for her tremendous work with youth in Mesa County, Colorado. Every year, a local newswoman selects an honoree for making a positive impact in their community, and Terri could not be a worthier recipient.

For twenty-two years, Terri worked in hospital administration before she felt a calling to dedicate her efforts to the youth in her community. In 1999, she established the Tree House, a safe haven for youths who felt they had no place else to go. The center is open unconditionally to all youths, providing them a place to go when they need to talk to someone. Terri also serves as a member of the Mesa County Suicide Prevention Coalition, as Chair of the Homeless Youth Task Force, and is a registered director for RAINBOWS, an international peer support program for grieving teens.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Terri Klements today before this body of Congress and this nation, and congratulate her on

receiving the "Power of One" award. Keira Bresnahan of KREX-TV selected Terri for this honor, and it is a well-deserved testament to her dedication to the youth in Mesa County and the State of Colorado. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

COMMENDING KRISTIN KLENK

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, proudly rise today to congratulate Kristin Klenk, a science teacher from South Kingstown High School in the second Congressional District of Rhode Island. Ms. Klenk, a resident of Hope Valley, has been awarded the 2003 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Since 1983, the National Science Foundation has administered this award to exemplary math and science teachers, nominated from all 50 states and four U.S. jurisdictions. Recipients are selected and recognized for leadership in the field of mathematics and science and serve as role models for their colleagues. Ms. Klenk, known for her hands-on teaching of science and active engagement of her South Kingstown High School students, has now been recognized as one of the best teachers in this country. For her dedication to teaching science to America's children and her service to Rhode Island, I thank Kristin Klenk and congratulate her on receiving this prestigious award.

THE CHILD HEALTH CARE
AFFORDABILITY ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to help working Americans provide for their children's health care needs by introducing the Child Health Care Affordability Act. The Child Health Care Affordability Act provides parents with a tax credit of up to \$500 for health care expenses of dependent children. Parents caring for a child with a disability, terminal disease, cancer, or any other health condition requiring specialized care would receive a tax credit of up to \$3,000 to help cover their child's health care expenses.

The tax credit would be available to all citizens, regardless of whether or not they itemize their deductions. The credit applies against both income and payroll tax liability. The tax credits provided in this bill will be especially helpful to those Americans whose employers cannot afford to provide health insurance for their employees. These workers must struggle to meet the medical bills of themselves and their families. This burden is especially heavy on parents whose children have a medical condition; such as cancer or a physical disability that requires long-term or specialized health care.

As an OB-GYN who has had the privilege of delivering more than four thousand babies, I know how important it is that parents have

the resources to provide adequate health care for their children. The inability of many working Americans to provide health care for their children is rooted in one of the great inequities of the tax code—Congress' failure to allow individuals the same ability to deduct health care costs that it grants to businesses. As a direct result of Congress' refusal to provide individuals with health care related tax credits, parents whose employers do not provide health insurance have to struggle to provide health care for their children. Many of these parents work in low-income jobs; oftentimes, their only recourse for health care is the local emergency room.

Sometimes parents are forced to delay seeking care for their children until minor health concerns that could have been easily treated become serious problems requiring expensive treatment! If these parents had access to the type of tax credits provided in the Child Health Care Affordability Act, they would be better able to provide care for their children, and our nation's already overcrowded emergency rooms would be relieved of the burden of having to provide routine care for people who otherwise cannot afford it.

According to research on the effects of this bill done by my staff and legislative counsel, the benefit of these tax credits would begin to be felt by joint filers with incomes slightly above \$18,000 per year, or single income filers with incomes slightly above \$15,000 per year. Clearly, this bill will be of the most benefit to low-income Americans balancing the demands of taxation with the needs of their children.

Under the Child Health Care Affordability Act, a struggling single mother with an asthmatic child would at last be able to provide for her child's needs, while a working-class family will not have to worry about how they will pay the bills if one of their children requires lengthy hospitalization or some other form of specialized care.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress has a moral responsibility to provide tax relief so that low-income parents struggling to care for a sick child can better meet their child's medical expenses. Some may say that we cannot enact the Child Health Care Affordability Act because it would cause the government to lose revenue. But, who is more deserving of this money, Congress or the working parents of a sick child?

The Child Health Care Affordability Act takes a major step toward helping working Americans meet their health care needs by providing them with generous health care related tax cuts and tax credits. I urge my colleagues to support the pro-family, pro-health care tax cuts contained in the Child Health Care Affordability Act.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KIM TUCKER
PFENNIGS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity and congratulate Kim Pfennigs of Colorado Springs, Colorado on receiving the "Power of One" award at the 2004 Colorado Woman Conference for raising

awareness for childhood cancer. The conference recognizes individual women, selected by Colorado newswomen, who have made an extraordinary difference in their community. It is my privilege to acknowledge Kim and her efforts before this body of Congress and this nation today.

When her son Jonah was diagnosed with cancer, it became Kim's mission to raise awareness for childhood cancer throughout Colorado. Whether she raised awareness on radio, television, or even the local grocery store, Kim wanted to let as many people as possible know about childhood cancer, and the organizations that help families fight this disease. For Kim, helping with organizations like Make A Wish, Ronald McDonald, Starlight Foundation, and the National Childhood Cancer Foundation is a modest way to give back to the people who diligently work to get her son healthy.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Kim Pfennigs before this body of Congress and this nation and congratulate her on receiving the "Power of One" award. KOAA-TV's Jennifer Baker selected Kim for this award, and I am happy to say Jonah's cancer is now in remission. I would like to thank Kim for her efforts in raising awareness for childhood cancer, and wish her and her family all the best.

RESOLUTION ON THE RECENT
VIOLENCE IN KOSOVO

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution which expresses the sense of the House regarding the recent violence in Kosovo. Supporting the resolution as original co-sponsors are my colleagues on the Helsinki Commission: Mr. CARDIN, Mr. PITTS and Mr. HASTINGS.

Last week, close to 30 people were killed, hundreds were wounded and over 3,000 persons were displaced by renewed ethnic violence in Kosovo. In addition, considerable property was damaged or destroyed, in particular Orthodox Churches. In retaliation, protesters in Serbia damaged or destroyed several mosques.

This violence was noteworthy mostly in its scale. As a practical matter, the situation for minority communities in Kosovo, including Serbs and Roma, has not been good since the United Nations, backed by a NATO-led peace operation, took control in 1999. A few weeks ago, I met with Serbian Orthodox Bishop Artemije, who presented documentation of attacks on churches and monasteries in Kosovo.

As Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I recall the horrors which Slobodan Milosevic and his regime inflicted on the Albanian population of Kosovo. Attacks on places of worship and the lack of measures to stop these obviously vulnerable sites from being attacked again and again are inexcusable, as are the attacks on innocent people, be they Serbs, Albanians, Roma or anybody else.

This resolution says that the violence must stop. It supports Kosovo achieving benchmarks which, if met, would effectively mean the protection of human rights and democratic

development as well. It support the international community taking greater action, including providing more security, in order to achieve this progress.

I believe this resolution should be able to garner wide support. This House should be on record as condemning the violence and saying that the human rights situation for the people who live there, regardless of their ethnicity, must improve.

RESOLUTION

Whereas the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) successfully intervened in 1999 to stop the continued, brutal repression of the Albanian population of Kosovo by the regime of Slobodan Milosevic;

Whereas NATO has subsequently led a multinational peace operation in Kosovo, known as KFOR, while the United Nations has deployed an international civilian police force to enhance peace and security;

Whereas the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) has deployed a mission to help develop democratic institutions, including a professional and multi-ethnic Kosovo Police Service, and encourage respect for human rights;

Whereas the United States and the international community as a whole have called for all parties to respect the terms of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 (June 10, 1999) as the basis for progress in Kosovo;

Whereas the United Nations has developed benchmarks in Kosovo, progress in the achievement of which would include increased respect for human rights and adherence to the rule of law;

Whereas ethnic communities comprising the population of Kosovo, including an Albanian majority and Serb, Romani, and several other minority communities, have yet to reconcile their differences despite efforts by the international community and several nongovernmental organizations;

Whereas the OSCE has issued several reports critical of the respect shown in Kosovo for the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

Whereas ethnic tensions remain high in Kosovo due to the lack of freedom of movement, the inability of displaced persons to return to their homes, and sporadic and recurring attacks on individuals, their property, and particularly their places of worship;

Whereas separate and tragic incidents in Kosovo led to a massive outbreak of violence on March 17, 2004, which has left dozens dead, hundreds wounded, and thousands more displaced;

Whereas Orthodox churches and monasteries in Kosovo have often been targeted for attack, and in recent days several additional churches and monasteries have been severely damaged or destroyed;

Whereas mosques in Serbia have also been attacked, damaged, or destroyed, in apparent retaliation for the violence taking place against minority populations in Kosovo;

Whereas this violence in Kosovo threatens the dialogue which has just been established on issues of common concern, such as resolving the cases of missing persons from the earlier conflict; and

Whereas it should be beneath the dignity of any individual who was persecuted or otherwise suffered under the repressive regime of Slobodan Milosevic to violate the human rights of others, to support the persecution or repression of those belonging to other ethnic groups, or to encourage or participate in their ethnic cleansing: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) the outbreak of violence in Kosovo deserves the strongest condemnation by the

United States and the international community, and all sides should refrain from encouraging or engaging in any further violence;

(2) the attacks on places of worship in Kosovo and in various Serbian cities should be viewed as especially reprehensible;

(3) those who can be identified as responsible for acts of violence should be brought to justice;

(4) the elected leaders of Kosovo have a primary responsibility to take action to stop any continuing violence, to prevent future violence, and to encourage ethnic reconciliation and respect for the rights of persons belonging to minorities in Kosovo;

(5) the presence of additional military forces in the NATO-led multinational peace operation in Kosovo, known as KFOR, as decided by NATO with the support of the United States on March 18, 2004, is warranted and welcomed;

(6) the international community should take necessary measures to protect people and property facing the threat of violence in Kosovo;

(7) dialogue on issues of common concern in Kosovo, including the resolution of missing persons cases, should continue;

(8) the benchmarks established by the United Nations parallel the democratic standards established and encouraged by participating states of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE);

(9) the United States and the international community as a whole should maintain an active and effective presence in Kosovo not only until violence subsides but until there is significant progress in meeting the benchmarks established by the United Nations, including the return of displaced persons and greater freedom of movement for all persons throughout Kosovo; and

(10) authorities in Serbia should maintain efforts to protect people and property vulnerable to retaliatory violence.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, March 23, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on the following: Rollcall vote No. 72 on Approving of the Journal; Rollcall vote No. 73 on H.R. 958, the Hydrographic Services Amendments of 2003; Rollcall vote No. 74 on H.R. 2408, the National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Act of 2003; and Rollcall vote No. 75 on H.R. 2489, the Cowlitz Indian Tribe Distribution of Judgment Funds Act.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HARRY TUCKER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Harry Tucker, who has been a central figure in Buford, Colorado for nearly fifty years. He fell in love with Buford while on a hunting trip in 1936, but seventeen years of service in the Air

Force delayed his plans to settle there. When he finally moved to Buford and bought the Buford store, he became a local fixture, running the store for nearly half of its over a century of existence.

Harry grew up in North Denver and earned a teaching degree from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, which he attended on a football scholarship. Following his graduation, Harry joined the Armed Forces and served his country in both World War II and Korea. Upon returning from Korea, he settled in Buford, and in 1956 he bought the historic Buford Store, and began teaching and coaching wrestling in nearby Meeker. After teaching for three years, Harry started an outfitting business, and subsequently helped found the Colorado Outfitters Association. In 1995, his son Tom took over the outfitting business, while Harry concentrated his efforts on the Buford store.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Harry Tucker before this body of Congress and this nation, and to commend him for his outstanding service and dedication to his country, his family, and his community. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING GREEK INDEPENDENCE

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, as a proud member of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic issues, I rise and join my colleagues in honoring the 183rd anniversary of Greek independence. This is an important occasion to pay special tribute to the Greek nation and its people.

More than marking the independence achieved by the Greeks in 1821, today the House of Representatives celebrates the special relationship between Greece and the United States.

We Americans owe a special debt of gratitude to the country upon which our democratic process is founded. Greece was the cradle of democracy, the birthplace of the civic engagement so inherent in our country's social fabric. Whenever we promote freedom, civil liberties, and self-determination, we pay testament to our shared values and common heritage.

This year is particularly significant as the time when the Olympics return home. The 2004 Olympic Games in Athens will showcase both the prowess of the world's best athletes and the historical and cultural significance of a world-renowned city. Now more than ever, we look forward to seeing people from all over the globe come together in the spirit of peaceful competition, pursuing personal excellence, national pride and international cooperation.

Today, in my district in Massachusetts, thousands of Greek American families will commemorate this occasion and partake in festivities that pay tribute to their heritage. I extend congratulations to them, to all the people of Greek descent in the United States, and to the people of Greece on this important holiday.

TRIBUTE TO ARNOLD PALMER'S
50TH MASTERS TOURNAMENT

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Arnold Palmer for his service to our Nation, the game of golf and the Masters Tournament. In the world of sports there are few events that epitomize the beauty and grace of sport more than the Masters Tournament in Augusta, GA. And there are no other individuals who have done more for the game of golf and the Masters Tournament than Arnold Palmer.

Quite frankly, Arnold Palmer has forever changed the complexion of sport and golf. Golf was considered to be the sport of the privileged few until 1955 when Arnold Palmer won his first PGA tournament. But, Arnold Palmer showed the world that golf truly is a sport for the masses. Today, golf is played and enjoyed by millions of people.

Not only did Arnold Palmer inspire millions to play the game of golf, he also excelled at it. He has gone on to amass a record that would be the envy of any man alive. Arnold's victory total stands at 92 World Wide, 61 PGA Tour, and 10 Senior PGA Tour events. He was the first to ever win four Masters titles. He did this in 1958, 1960, 1962, and 1964. This April 8, 2004, Arnold Palmer will tee the ball up in his 50th Masters Tournament.

But Arnold Palmer's achievements and contributions to the game remain greater than his victory total. Arnold Palmer's magnetic personality and unwavering kindness have created a legion of loyal followers. He has never failed to acknowledge his "army" while waiting on the tee, fairway, or green. Be it an autograph, smile, nod, or eye-to-eye contact, he never fails to make the effort to let everyone know: I am here because of you.

Arnold Palmer has also given a great deal back to the community. Arnold helped create The Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children & Women in Orlando, FL, and the Latrobe Area Hospital Charitable Foundation. Even today, he often visits the hospital where he takes the time to talk with the children, take pictures and encourage them.

As Arnold Palmer once said to "Iron Man," his Augusta caddie, "the game is on." Mr. Speaker, let's hope it will forever be. I rise today to thank Mr. Palmer on behalf of all American citizens, the residents of Augusta and fans of golf worldwide. He has meant a great deal to more people than he will ever know.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RAY COCA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Ray Coca and the 1963 and 1964 Western State College wrestling teams, and congratulate them upon their induction into the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Hall of Fame. Ray Coca, a Grand Junction, Colorado native

and leader of both championship teams, has done much for the youth in his community since his championship days at Western. It is my privilege to recognize Ray and his team before this body of Congress and this nation today.

Ray Coca's rise to become one of the nation's top wrestlers is a testament to his hard work and drive for success. Even before winning championships in college, he had the honor of being named to the first U.S. national wrestling team, known as the Oklahoma-Colo-rado team as all the members were from these breeding grounds for wrestling talent. Following his brilliant collegiate career, Coca returned home to Grand Junction and immediately began serving the youth of the community by founding a Pee-Wee wrestling program and later as recreation Superintendent for Grand Junction. Currently semi-retired, he spends as much time as possible working with Partners, an organization which helps at-risk children.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring the service of Ray Coca to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation to congratulate him along with his Western State teammates upon induction into the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Hall of Fame. He has truly given back to both his sport and his community, helping to ensure that at risk children have the opportunities he was afforded through wrestling. I sincerely thank him for his service.

HONORING MILLIE JEFFERY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to let my colleagues know that we lost a national hero today. Mildred Jeffrey was a great soul who was the very embodiment of American values. I want her family to know that Millie was an inspiration to us all and that she will be very sorely missed.

Millie was a leader. She began her work in the 1930s as an organizer for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, traveling throughout the South and the East organizing textile workers. In the 1940s she joined the United Auto Workers, where she served as the Director of the Women's Bureau. Millie organized the first UAW women's conference to respond to the massive post World War II layoffs of women. Millie then ran the union's radio station, served as the Director of the Community Relations Department, and until her retirement in 1976, as the Director of the Consumer Affairs Department.

Never one to stand around when there were injustices, Millie marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the South in the 1960s. Born before women even had the right to vote, Millie spent her life fighting for women's equality. She was the founder of the Women's Political Caucus, a member of the Coalition for Labor Union Women, and was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame.

The list of Millie's accomplishments is long. Chief among those accomplishments though is the relationships Millie established along the way. Millie has served as friend, inspiration,

mentor and advisor to many of us in public service.

As President Clinton said when he awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2000, "Her impact will be felt for generations, and her example never forgotten."

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that all my colleagues rise to pay tribute to a great American hero, Mildred McWilliams Jeffrey.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to explain how I would have voted on November 22, 2003, during Roll Call votes #670 and #671 in the first session of the 108th. The first vote was to table the motion to reconsider on H.R. 1, the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act and the second vote was on a motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 877, the Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing Act of 2003.

I respectfully request that it be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that if present, I would have voted yes on both these roll call votes.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAMES
HOLSTON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise before you today to pay tribute to the life of James "Jim" Edmund Holston of Mancos, Colorado who recently passed away at the age of eighty-two. Jim was an extraordinary American, and led a life that exemplified service to his country, community, and dedication to his family.

After graduating from Mancos High School in 1941, Jim volunteered for the Marine Corps and served in the Pacific arena during the Second World War. Upon returning to Mancos, Jim married his childhood sweetheart, Ellen Garlinghouse and went to work for Mountain Bell where he helped string hundreds of miles of telephone lines in rural parts of Colorado. This important role in the history of my state was one of Jim's proudest achievements.

When Jim retired in 1978, he did not slow down, and selflessly dedicated his time to his community. He served as post commander at the American Legion, was a 4-H leader, served on the Mancos town board for twelve years, and was a member of the Mancos fire department for over twenty years. Above all, however, Jim loved spending time with his devoted family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life of James Edmund Holston. He dedicated his life toward the betterment of his community, state and nation, and he will be greatly missed. My thoughts are with his loved ones during this difficult time of bereavement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Vote No. 75, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, the Cowlitz Indian Tribe Distribution of Judgment Funds Act, I placed my card in the machine and for some reason my vote was not registered. Had my vote been recorded, I would have voted "yes."

ORGAN DONATION AND RECOVERY IMPROVEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Organ Donation and Recovery Improvement Act (H.R. 3926).

With the number of individuals who need organ donations far exceeding the number of available donors, it is imperative that we address this situation. This bill will help increase organ donations and recovery rates by providing grants for organ donation projects. This bill also improves and strengthens the organ procurement process. In addition, it supports individuals who make living donations by reimbursing expenses incurred when making their donation.

The United Network of Organ Sharing (UNOS) is based in Richmond, Virginia and serves as the clearinghouse for organ donations. On a daily basis, those who work at UNOS perform crucial work that helps save lives. They help give the gift of life. I am grateful to them and all they do.

This bill gives hope to those who desperately need new organs. I believe that hope goes a long way when you are facing tough situations. I admire the courage of those patiently waiting for organ donations. They are an inspiration to us all.

I thank my friend MICHAEL BILIRAKIS for his leadership on this important legislation, and I urge its passage.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR OUR FILIPINO-AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND FOR FILIPINO VETERANS ON FILIPINO VETERANS ACTION DAY

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, good evening, aloha and mabuhay! I rise tonight, on this occasion of national Filipino Veterans Action Day, to express my strong and affectionate support for our great Filipino-American community, as well as for our honored Filipino veterans, both here and in the Philippines, who are so well represented by the American Council on Filipino Veterans, and to highlight just some of the challenges

these communities still face and the opportunities we have to address them.

First let us remember that the relationship between the Philippines and our United States has never been stronger. Our modern-day bond began after the 1898 Spanish American War, continued through the commonwealth period into 1946, and strengthened when the independent Republic of the Philippines came into existence on July 4th of that year. For nearly 40 years, from 1907 to 1946, the Philippines in fact was represented in the U.S. Congress through nearly 15 different resident commissioners. Currently, we have a Filipino-American, Congressman BOBBY SCOTT, representing the 3rd District of Virginia. And one year ago, I was proud to be a charter member of the Congressional Philippines Caucus, which today boasts over seventy members.

Apart from the Philippines' continuing vital role in U.S. national security and economic interests in the Asia-Pacific region, our country also has a special relationship with the people of the Philippines. Many have migrated to the United States, in particular my home state of Hawaii, which commemorates the 100th anniversary of our first Filipino immigrants in 2006.

In fact, there are now nearly 2.5 million Filipino-Americans, with significant populations in California, Hawaii, Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Washington, Texas, and Florida. In Hawaii alone there are nearly 300,000 Filipino-Americans, including roughly 140,000 in my Second Congressional District, the largest number of any congressional district in our country.

This community's contributions just in Hawaii are notable, in all facets of our society, from politics to business, from teaching to sports and movie stars, you name it. Former Hawaii Governor Ben Cayetano was the first Filipino-American governor ever elected in the United States; our state legislature today has 12 members: 6 senators and 6 representatives. Angela Baraquio became Miss America in 2001. We had Ben Agbayani in professional baseball and Tia Carrera in Hollywood. And let us not forget native daughters Jasmine Trias and Camile Velasco, two of just twelve of 2004's American Idol final contestants.

But perhaps the most vital and painful contribution of Filipinos to our country was the service, and sacrifice, of our Filipino veterans, who fought alongside our troops in World War II. Their heroic efforts were indispensable to the liberation of the Philippines led by General MacArthur and thus to Allied success in that great conflagration, and earned them a place in legend at the same table as, for example, our Japanese-Americans' 100th Infantry Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Therefore, the contribution of the American Coalition for Filipino Veterans to designate today as Filipino Veterans Action Day is invaluable to assuring that we never forget. There have been similar efforts in Hawaii from community leaders like Hawaii State Representative Jun Abinsay, Joe Gonzales and Artemio Caleda, former and new presidents, respectively, of the World War II Fil-Am Vets and Ladies Auxilliary Hawaii Chapter, and Domingo Los Banos, a Sergeant with the 1st Filipino Infantry Regiment, U.S. Army, who later worked collaboratively with many others in Hawaii and the mainland in molding that great documentary on the Filipino veterans: "An Untold Triumph."

Let me turn now from what has been to what needs to be. Specifically, there are two

issues which I believe Congress must address for both Filipino veterans and our Filipino-American community at large. One is veterans' benefits and the other is immigration.

VETERANS BENEFITS

We know that in 1941, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt made a promise to the members of the Philippine Army and the Philippine Scouts who had fought and would fight for the Allies in World War II. Because they had made and would make the same sacrifices as U.S. servicemembers, President Roosevelt promised that they would receive the same veteran's benefits as those received by American veterans.

However, in the spring of 1946, just one year after the death of our 32nd President, the United States Congress went back on its promise. And that injustice stands uncorrected from that day to this, as these veterans pass increasingly from this earth along with their comrades-in-arms.

Last year, we did make some measure of progress by enacting into law H.R. 2297, legislation increasing VA benefits for U.S. resident Filipino veterans and making New Philippine Scouts living in the U.S. eligible for burial in VA national cemeteries. The House also passed H.R. 2357, which would provide VA nursing home and medical services to Commonwealth Army veterans and New Philippine Scouts residing in the U.S., assuming they meet the same eligibility requirements as U.S. veterans.

But this is clearly not enough. That is why I am a cosponsor of H.R. 677, the Filipino Veterans Equity Act, which will deem all members of the Philippine Scouts and Philippine Army as qualified to receive the full benefits denied them nearly six decades ago.

As Secretary of Veterans' Affairs Anthony J. Principi wrote: "The United States is indebted to Filipino veterans, whose heroism and self-sacrifice helped allies emerge victorious from World War II." As we all know, our Filipino World War II veterans are entering the sunset years of their lives. I implore my colleagues to get this bill out of committee and bring it to the floor for a vote this year.

IMMIGRATION

Our country has benefited from the fruits of a century-plus influx of Filipinos as new and productive citizens, and we can and should continue this rich heritage. However, our overall immigration policy has fallen particularly harshly and unfairly on legitimate Filipino immigration of late.

For example, in 1990, we provided a waiver from certain naturalization requirements for Filipino veterans, and many thereafter became proud citizens our country. But a huge gap was created when we did not also permit naturalization of the sons and daughters of these same veterans.

These are real-life issues, for the stories of families who have waited years to be reunited are heartbreaking. For example, a veteran and his wife living in Hawaii filed immigration petitions for two of their six adult children; they have waited over ten years for a visa to be issued to either. Another veteran petitioned successfully for his wife's immigration visa, but has not been as successful with the applications for their five adult children. Again, this family has been holding on for ten years with the hope that they will one day live in the U.S. as a complete family.

H.R. 3587, a bill I introduced in November of last year, would provide these sons and

daughters with priority in their respective immigration categories. I urge its passage.

Two other bills I have introduced also would correct deficiencies in our immigration system which impact Filipino-Americans disproportionately. H.R. 3306, The Compassionate Visitor Visa Act, would facilitate the temporary admission of nonimmigrant aliens in circumstances of family emergency of U.S. citizens or permanent residents. H.R. 4018, introduced yesterday, would ensure that family members who have petitioned to immigrate into the United States are not penalized as a result of an award of citizenship to a sponsoring parent or spouse.

Both bills recognize the basic concept that our country can ensure our national security, while providing flexibility for immigrants from certain countries that have longstanding close relationships with our country. The Philippines is certainly very high on that list.

In summary, Mr. Speaker, both Filipino veterans and our larger Filipino-American community have contributed immensely to our country, and I believe that the best is yet to come. On this Filipino Veterans Action Day, let us recognize that we do what is right for both the past and the future by acknowledging their contributions and committing ourselves to the unfinished business at hand.

Mahalo!

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, March 25, 2004 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 29

3 p.m.

Armed Services

Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee

To hold a closed briefing on defense science and technology programs and capabilities.

S-407, Capitol

MARCH 30

9 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine Inter-Tribal Timber Council's Indian Forest Management Assessment Team report.

SR-485

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold closed hearings to examine the second interim report of the Iraq Survey Group.

S-407, Capitol

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Aviation Subcommittee

To hold closed hearings to examine aviation security.

SR-253

Appropriations

District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the deficiencies at the District of Columbia's Youth Services Administration.

SD-192

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the implementation of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000.

SD-366

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of John J. Danilovich, of California, to be Ambassador to Brazil, and Craig A. Kelly, of California, to be Ambassador to Chile.

SD-419

Appropriations

Homeland Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for border security and enforcement and immigration services.

SD-124

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 868, to amend the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Restoration Act to provide for the cultural restoration and economic self-sufficiency of the Confederation Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians of Oregon.

SR-485

Appropriations

Military Construction Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for Defense-wide and Air Force military construction programs.

SD-138

2 p.m.

Armed Services

Airland Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the proposed Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2005 and the Future Years Defense Program, focusing on Army aviation programs.

SR-232A

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Theodore William Kassinger, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce, Deborah Hersman, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, Thomas Hill Moore, of Florida, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, A. Paul Anderson, of Florida, and Joseph E. Brennan, of Maine, both to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, and Jack Edwin McGregor, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Advisory Board of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation.

SR-253

Governmental Affairs

Financial Management, the Budget, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Federal government's role in empowering

Americans to make informed financial decisions.

SD-342

Energy and Natural Resources National Parks Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine National Heritage Areas, including findings and recommendations of the General Accounting Office, the definition of a National Heritage Area, the definition of national significance as it relates to National Heritage Areas, recommendations for establishing National Heritage Areas as units of the National Park System, recommendations for prioritizing proposed studies and designations, and options for developing a National Heritage Area Program within the National Park Service.

SD-366

4:30 p.m.

Armed Services

To receive a closed briefing on operations and intelligence.

SR-222

MARCH 31

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stephen L. Johnson, of Maryland, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Ann R. Klee, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator, Charles Johnson, of Utah, to be Chief Financial Officer, Benjamin Grumbles, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator, all of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Gary Lee Visscher, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

SD-406

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Paul V. Applegarth, of Connecticut, to be Chief Executive Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Department of State.

SD-419

Armed Services

Personnel Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005, focusing on active and Reserve military and civilian personnel programs.

SR-232A

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To resume hearings to examine the current investigations and regulatory actions regarding the mutual fund industry focusing on soft-dollar practices.

SD-538

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold a closed hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for intelligence and world wide threat assessment.

S-407, Capitol

Appropriations

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, and Office of Environment, Safety and Health.

SD-138

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-430

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider pending nominations.

SD-430

1:30 p.m.

Environment and Public Works
Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the role of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in meeting the nation's water resource needs in the 21st century.

SD-406

2 p.m.

Appropriations
Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Senate Sergeant at Arms and the United States Capitol Police.

SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To continue hearings to examine the current investigations and regulatory actions regarding the mutual fund industry focusing on fund costs and distribution practices.

SD-538

Foreign Relations
European Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the effects of the Madrid Terrorist Attacks on U.S. European cooperation in the war on terrorism.

SD-419

Appropriations
Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention programs.

SD-124

APRIL 1

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the proposed Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2005, focusing on the military strategy and operational requirements of the unified and regional commands; to be followed by a possible closed session in SR-222.

SD-106

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and Protocol to Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters Specific to Air-

craft Equipment, concluded at Cape Town, South Africa, on November 16, 2001 (Treaty Doc. 108-10), Additional Protocol Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Romania Concerning the Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment of May 28, 1992, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-13), Additional Protocol Between the United States of America and the Republic of Bulgaria Amending the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Republic of Bulgaria Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment of September 23, 1992, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-15), Protocol Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Estonia to the Treaty for the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment of April 19, 1994, signed at Brussels on October 24, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-17), Additional Protocol Between the United States of America and the Czech Republic to the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic Concerning the Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment of October 22, 1991, signed at Brussels on December 10, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-18), Additional Protocol Between the United States of America and the Slovak Republic to the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic Concerning the Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment of October 22, 1991, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-19), Additional Protocol Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Latvia to the Treaty for the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment of January 13, 1995, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-20), Additional Protocol Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to the Treaty for the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment of January 14, 1998, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-21), and Additional Protocol Between the United States of America and the Re-

public of Poland to the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Republic of Poland Concerning Business and Economic Relations of March 21, 1990, signed at Brussels on January 12, 2004 (Treaty Doc. 108-22).

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the proposed Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2005, focusing on military installation programs.

SR-232A

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine NASA fiscal year 2005 budget request.

SR-253

APRIL 7

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-485

APRIL 8

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations
European Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine anti-Semitism.

SD-419

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for foreign operations.

SD-138

APRIL 27

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine sustainable, low emission, electricity generation.

SD-366

SEPTEMBER 21

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion.

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