

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

FOSTER CARE

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of our Nation's foster care youth during National Foster Care month.

As of January 2003, there were 33,000 children in Los Angeles County foster care, which is the highest number of dependents in any county. I represent many of these youngsters who, on average, live in five different places. I co-sponsored H.R. 1534, which strives to place children in safe, loving, and permanent homes.

But what happens when these youths turn 18 and "age out?" Only 27 percent of foster care high school graduates attend college, half the national average. Foster care youths lack the funding and supportive climate college students need to succeed. I support legislation that helps foster care students with their college admissions and financing.

This week the Committee on Government Reform will meet to determine how our current foster care structure can be strengthened.

This Congress must act to ensure the future of our foster care youth is as bright as any other child's. Thank you.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ESAU PATTERSON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Army Staff Sergeant Esau Patterson, Jr. of Ridgeland, SC, who paid the ultimate sacrifice on April 29th in Iraq while on duty defending American families in the War on Terror. is a true hero and will be remembered as a patriot.

I ask all of my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

I ask that his obituary and an article from The Beaufort Gazette be inserted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

OBITUARY—ESAU PATTERSON JR., MAY 9, 2004

Staff Sgt. Esau Patterson Jr., 25, of Ridgeland, died Thursday, April 29, 2004, in Iraq.

The family will receive friends from 7 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Bostick Funeral Home.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Mount Carmel Baptist Center in Ridgeland, with burial in Patterson Cemetery in Ridgeland.

Mr. Patterson was born May 11, 1978, a son of Carrie Mae Osgood Patterson and Esau G. Patterson Sr.

He was a member of Mount Gilead AME Church in Columbus, Ga., where he was a Sunday school teacher. He was in the Army, SSG Battery C, 4th Battalion, 27 Field Artillery regiment 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, Combined Joint Task Force 7.

Survivors include his parents of Ridgeland; his wife, Kisha R. Patterson of Columbus, Ga; two grandparents, Elizabeth Osgood and Henry Osgood of Ridgeland; a daughter, Kesauna M. Patterson of Columbus, Ga; a son, Kaven M. Scott of Columbus, Ga; six sisters, Toneka P. Nelson, Tarsha P. Myers and Jamesha P. Anderson of Ridgeland, Charvia Watkis of Beaufort, Shamone Huggins of Whitehall and Marisa Patterson of Korea.

Bostick Funeral in Ridgeland is in charge.

[From the Beaufort Gazette, May 11, 2004]

FALLEN SOLDIER LAID TO REST

FAMILY, FRIENDS REMEMBER LOCAL MAN WHO DIED SERVING HIS COUNTRY IN IRAQ

(By Michael Kerr)

RIDGELAND.—Esau Patterson Jr. would have turned 26 today.

But instead of a birthday celebration, his family, friends and loved ones gathered Monday at Mount Carmel Baptist Center in Ridgeland, the Army staff sergeant's hometown, to honor and remember a man of God who fell as a hero on the Iraqi battlefield.

Patterson was killed along with seven other members of the Army's 1st Armored Division on April 29 near Mahmudiyah, south of Baghdad. He had been clearing explosives from a key Iraqi highway when a station wagon approached and detonated a car bomb, killing the eight soldiers and wounding four others.

"E.J.," as his friends and family knew him, was the only son in a family of six daughters. He left behind his wife, Kisha, 2-year-old daughter Kesauna and 4-year-old stepson Kaven Scott.

His father, Esau Patterson Sr., spoke about a son who had always made him proud before the more than 100 people who gathered in the church

"My expectations of a man are very high," said Patterson, who retired from the Army in 1992 and settled in Ridgeland.

Over the years, Patterson said, he watched his little boy exceed those expectations and become a man.

"That made me proud, and not because he was in the military," he said. "He was a gentleman at all times. He always put other people in front of him. He always carried a smile on his face and tried to do the best."

Family members and friends recited poems, sang hymns and told stories of a wonderful son, brother, father and husband. Patterson was a kind man, friends said, a man who loved his family and his country, a man who gave everything to protect them both.

"I am so proud to say, to have said, I have a family member, a first cousin, fighting for this country," said Roger Patterson, who traveled from New York to attend his cousin's funeral. "I was so proud of that. It was the ultimate sacrifice he gave, and for that I'm proud."

Patterson was more than just a soldier, his family has said. He attended church no matter where he was stationed, taught Sunday school and was always quick to help a neighbor with chores around the house.

Another of Patterson's cousins, Clementa Pinckney, the Democratic state senator from Ridgeland, grew up just a few minutes from the fallen soldier.

"He was always a good man, always with a smile . . . just happy-go-lucky," Pinckney said, standing in the family's cemetery. "His

father was a good soldier, and he wanted to be a good soldier like him."

The state Senate adopted a resolution last week sponsored by Pinckney honoring Patterson and his sacrifice.

During the service, Brig. Gen. José Riojas, assistant commander of the Army's 3rd Infantry Division based at Fort Stewart, Ga., presented Patterson's wife with the Bronze Star and Purple Heart that he earned while waging war in the desert.

Soldiers decked out in dress uniforms served as pallbearers, and later fired a three-round rifle volley to honor Patterson as the sound of taps played by a lone bugler echoed throughout the otherwise quiet cemetery.

"You couldn't ask for a better person to protect our country," Pinckney said.

HONORING HONDA MANUFACTURING OF ALABAMA

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, on May 7, 2004, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama held a ceremony to recognize the beginning of production on its second line of vehicle assembly. This event highlights Honda's growing commitment to Alabama through investment, job creation and economic development. It emphasizes the jobs created by the expansion as well as the jobs created by the suppliers who have moved to the South, many of them in Alabama.

Honda opened its first assembly line in Lincoln in November 2001. One year later, Honda began construction of the second assembly line. A \$425 million capital investment, coupled with the initial expenditure, brought Honda's investment in Alabama to more than \$1 billion. The result is 4,300 high quality, good paying jobs and a doubling of the plant's initial production capacity to 300,000 vehicles and engines by the end of 2004. Honda's Pilot SUV will join the Odyssey as the two products manufactured at Honda Manufacturing of Alabama.

The new assembly line was built adjacent to the existing facility and will mirror the current facility's operations with synchronous body and engine assembly under one roof. Operations for stamping, plastic injection molding, die-casting and machining of engines and engine assembly have been increased at the existing facility to supply both assembly lines.

The jobs created at HMA are competitive in the industry, providing quality compensation and benefits. Honda had three objectives when it came to Alabama. First, it wanted to build a plant using the company's flexible manufacturing system. Secondly, it wanted to hire and train associates with no automotive experience. Finally, Honda wanted to employ associates using advanced technology and materials. The startup of the second assembly line at the Lincoln facility is testament to the success of these objectives in Alabama.

• 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.

Congratulations to Honda and its associates for their many achievements, and thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the House's attention today on this important matter.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LIQUEFIED
NATURAL GAS IMPORT TER-
MINAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF
2004

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, to counter the negative effects of soaring natural gas prices on the economy and consumers, Representative GENE GREEN (D-Houston) and Representative LEE TERRY (R-NE) introduced legislation to simplify the siting of onshore Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals.

"In June 2003, Alan Greenspan testified before the Committee that LNG was critical for the future stability of our economy. It would be a great help to provide LNG with the same regulatory certainty we provide natural gas pipelines."

According to the National Petroleum Council, the United States is on course to pay an additional \$1 trillion in natural gas costs over the next 20 years due to shortages. Along with increased domestic production and an Alaskan natural gas pipeline, LNG projects promise to help stabilize prices, but the permitting process for LNG facilities is uncertain and disputed, without clear lines between State and Federal authority.

"We need LNG, and we must make LNG terminals safe and secure. Current safety and security procedures and other proposals will be fully considered during this debate."

"Unless we get LNG right, our Nation's \$454 billion chemical industry and 1 million jobs could go the way of the steel industry. Electric power and heating bills are also crunching consumers. The Nation needs to address LNG in a meaningful way, and this legislation moves us on the right track."

A summary of The Liquefied Natural Gas Import Terminal Development Act of 2004 is attached.

TALKING POINTS

Q: Why give FERC all the authority?

A: Like natural gas pipelines, LNG sites are national significant energy projects involving international and interstate commerce. FERC has stringent siting restrictions in place for LNG currently.

FERC believes they have this authority, but because interest in LNG projects have exploded, it may be necessary to spell FERC's authority out.

Q: What about state agencies that want to stop them?

A: We think they are making political plays. There are little if any air emissions or water discharges. The facilities have tough safety standards under FERC and tough security standards under the Coast Guard (Maritime Transportation Security Act).

We are saying that the states cannot question a "public interest" determination by FERC, because that is an interstate commerce determination.

Q: What about local zoning regulations?

A: FERC has tough siting standards that almost certainly preclude a site violating zoning standards. (There must be a buffer zone that is great enough so that flammable

vapors will not reach beyond facility property lines. FERC also enforces DOT and National Fire Administration regulations that limit siting to appropriate areas.)

If we need language to reassure on local zoning, we are open to that. We are not trying to change LNG siting standards—we just stop states from arbitrarily blocking projects.

Q: What about security?

A: All facilities will be covered by the Maritime Transportation Security Act. In addition, there are extraordinary procedures beyond that law for security, including ship inspections, escorts and site security coordination with local law enforcement.

One proposal is using American crews on LNG tankers. We are open to adding security measures to the bill if the debate we have indicates more measures are needed.

SUMMARY OF THE TERRY-GREEN LNG
LEGISLATION

WHY WE NEED TO EXPAND LNG CAPACITY

Because of its efficiency and environmental benefits, natural gas use has increased dramatically over recent years. Demand has caught up with supply, and natural gas prices are up more than 80 percent over the past four years. At the same time, U.S. natural gas production is falling at about two percent a year.

Over the next two decades, U.S. natural gas consumption is expected to rise 40 percent (and 70 percent throughout North America). It is expected that U.S. production will meet only 75 percent of the nation's demand by 2025. This is especially sobering considering that the United States consumes about 25 percent of the world's natural gas production—but holds only three percent of the world's natural gas reserves.

We must look for new options now, if we are to avoid the adverse economic implications. (According to the National Petroleum Council, the United States is on course to pay an additional \$1 trillion in natural gas costs over the next 20 years due to shortages.) The Rocky Mountains, the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska will continue to be a vital part of our supply. However, expanding our liquefied natural gas (LNG) capacity is also critical, so we may bring natural gas from more ample supplies from around the world—creating a "safety value" to provide some leverage in determining natural gas availability and prices.

LNG—natural gas chilled to -260 degrees Fahrenheit—allows the safe transportation of gas from large-producing fields in places such as western Africa, the Caribbean, Malaysia, Australia, Qatar, South America, Russia, and Eastern Europe. LNG has been safely transported by ship for nearly half a century, with countries such as Japan receiving LNG shipments every 20 hours.

Currently, around 30 LNG terminals are in various stages of planning in the United States. With natural gas prices up from \$1.50/ thousand cubic feet pre-1995 to more than \$6 today, boosting LNG's role in our energy portfolio is a sensible step.

WHAT THE TERRY-GREEN LNG LEGISLATION
WOULD DO

This legislation would compliment the pending energy bill (H.R. 6) by working to add LNG to our energy portfolio. It would also provide parity between the application/review process for on-shore and offshore terminals. Specifically, this bill would:

Eliminate jurisdictional conflicts and legal ambiguities on siting and construction of LNG terminals. Jurisdictional conflicts between federal and state agencies threaten to delay or kill new LNG projects. Since the importation of LNG is a matter of foreign commerce, the Terry-Green bill would clar-

ify that approval and siting authority for LNG facilities is most appropriately determined at the federal level, as established under the Natural Gas Act. It also clarifies that a public interest finding by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding the siting, construction, expansion and operation of LNG terminals under the Natural Gas Act is pre-emptive, and is not subject to second-guessing under state or local law.

Create a lead agency for LNG project review and permitting. Currently, several federal departments, and some state agencies, have a role in the approval process for construction or expansion of an onshore LNG terminal. This bill clarifies that the FERC is the lead agency, to streamline environmental review and permitting. Other federal agencies—and state agencies with authority delegated by federal law—keep their independent regulatory responsibilities. However, such agencies must act in a manner consistent with the public interest determination made by the FERC under the Natural Gas Act.

Set a deadline for FERC review of LNG terminal applications. Currently, there is no time requirement for FERC review of a LNG terminal application. To ensure a prompt evaluation, this bill requires the FERC to issue its decision one year after the application has been completed. The bill also gives the FERC authority to establish deadlines for other agencies making permitting decisions, taking into account timelines established by other Federal statutes.

Remove regulatory uncertainties for those building/expanding onshore LNG terminals. This bill codifies the FERC's important "Hackberry" decision on open access requirements, giving developers the certainty they need regarding economic regulation. This policy is necessary to encourage the development of new LNG capacity, especially considering a typical onshore LNG project can cost more than \$500 million.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the recorded votes on Rollcall Vote No. 196, the Goode Amendment, and Rollcall Vote No. 197, the Davis (CA) Amendment. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on the Goode Amendment and "no" on the Davis Amendment.

TO CONGRATULATE MEMBERS OF
THE WESTPORT VOLUNTEER
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE
(WVEMS) FOR THEIR OUT-
STANDING WORK

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Westport Volunteer Emergency Medical Service (WVEMS) on their Quarter Century Anniversary for their outstanding work.

The men and women who dedicate their time and energy to the WVEMS are shining

examples of civic duty. As volunteers, they are vital to the Westport community.

The WVEMS volunteers come from all walks of life. Some of them run their own businesses, some are students. They have busy lives, yet they make time because they feel the need to give something back. Some are seniors who worked hard all their life and deserve to sit back and simply relax, yet they go out and volunteer their time and energy for a greater cause.

Over the years, the many awards and distinctions from local, State and national organizations—the Veterans of Foreign Wars, designation as a Connecticut Treasure and National Gold Award for Volunteer Corps from EMS Publications just to name a few—illustrate the selfless dedication with which they help countless individuals in need.

For two and a half decades WVEMS has gone above and beyond the call of duty to provide exceptional service, providing over half a million volunteer hours to date. Their efforts have formed a truly remarkable tradition. Fifteen of the founding members of the WVEMS are still with the Service, regularly putting in time to help others. Each one of them has been designated an American Red Cross Unsung Hero. Today, I want to sing their praise: Edward and Elizabeth Audley; Patricia Audley; Sharon Barnett; Russel M. Blair; Susan DeWitt; Michael Feigin; Richard Frazier; Neil Harding; Thomas M. Keenan; Kathleen Todd; Alan Yoder; Isabel Blair; Alan Stolz; Nettie Skinner; and Pasquale Salvo—you are heroes!

Two other members have been with the WVEMS for a quarter century, and I would like to commend them for their dedication over the years: Jay Paretzky and April Anne Yoder.

I would also like to include all the other active members of the WVEMS: William Puterbaugh; Norman Coltin; Sandra McPherson; Jeffrey T. Lea; Andrew Diniz; Loretta S. Harsche; Marge Costa; Christine A. Evans; Todd M. Smith; Mark A. Blake; Anthony F. Santo; Donald E. Smith III; Thomas F. Burrows; Martha M. McGorry; Elizabeth Slattery; Chris VanDeusen; Diane Salvo; Benjamin Frimmer; Barbara F. Wood; Barbara Babash; Arlene M. Healy; Amy Smith; Linda Canterbury; Albert Bassett; Mary Jane Cross; KC Duffy; Linda Green; Carole Grob; Dorothy Harris; Gordon Joseloff; Chris Sanders; Whitney Cusa; James Flint; Nicole Donovan; Toni Cribari; Mary Minard; Terrence Blake; Michele Brewster; Michael Falbo; Cheryl Jones; Michael Quan; Rico Tiberio; Sylvia Lempit; Susannah Kehl; AnnaLiisa Joseloff; James Hinckley; Nanci Jenkins; David Heinmiller; Rainy Broomfield; Ronald Carkner; Donna Patchen; Robert Redman; Olivia Weeks; Courtenay Quinn; Joseph Devermann; Linda Gale; Jean Marie Wiesen; Nancy Strong; Gregory Coghlan; Paul Resnick; Barbra Utting; Adam Sappern; Nancy Fusaro; Wendy Hill; Megan Watson; Kristin Ancona; Kathryn Min; William Min; Susan Parks; Jamie Talbot; Michael Rickard; Marc Hartog; Michael Engelskirger; Craig Kupson; Elizabeth Jennings; Glenn Eisen; Angela Chichila; Anna Dowdle; Ashley Hawley; Andrea Hoboken; Dustin Schur; Jackie Stenson; Carol Boas; Yannick Passemart; Kerry Volmar; Michael Wilmot; Danielle Faul; David Bodach; Christin Giordano; Zack Klomberg; Jordan Kunkes; Alma Loya; Whitney Riggio; Kimber Roberts; Alicia Wong; Karen Bizzak; Margaret Russell;

Richard Arriaga; Carol Dixon; Gabrielle O'Halloran; Daniel Rappaport; Dora Sweet; Lois Benfield; Adele Donohue; Susan Shewchuk; Nancy Toll; Pamela Nenham; Matthew Rees; Richard Celotto; John Sommers; Caroline Andrew; James Gray; Stephanie Howson; Rebecca Kamins; Kaitlyn Mello; Elizabeth Parks; Christian Renne; Rob Stewart; Emma Trucks; Christina Voonasis; Maryanne Boyle; Robert Dowling; Yashasvi Jhangiani; Maribeth Nixon; and Steve Brothers.

Your service is outstanding!

HONORING THE 2004 PROVIDENCIA
AWARD RECIPIENT, MR. PATRICK
ROONEY, SR.

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of the House the achievements of Patrick Rooney, Sr., a constituent of mine from Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, in receiving the prestigious 2004 Providencia Award from the Palm Beach County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

May 2004, being National Tourism Month, is the perfect time to honor Pat, who owns and operates the Palm Beach Kennel Club in West Palm Beach and three Irish restaurants called "Rooney's Public House" located at the Palm Beach International Airport, West Palm Beach and Jupiter's Abacca. I am a patron of those restaurants and can testify to the quality of food and service and to the vibrancy they bring to the surrounding communities.

The Providencia Award was named after the coconut-laden Spanish ship that sank off the shore of Palm Beach in 1878, washing ashore its cargo bringing Coconut Palms to the island and inspiring the name "Palm Beach." Each year, it is awarded to an individual or entity that has made an exceptional contribution to the County's \$2 billion tourism industry. Past recipients include Burt Reynolds, Chris Evert, Jack Nicklaus, Alex Dreyfoos, The Breakers, The Boca Raton Resort and others. This year it belongs to Pat Rooney, who is being honored for his contributions.

Mr. Speaker, in my South Florida Congressional District, home of fervent Miami Dolphin fans, we forgive and overlook Pat's strong allegiance to the Pittsburgh Steelers, which his family owns. We focus rather on the tremendous impact Pat has on our community. Pat serves on the Economic Council, and the Palm Beach County Attractions Association. The Hanley Hazelden Foundation, Boys and Girls Club of Palm Beach, Greyhound Adoption League, Lynn University, and the American Red Cross have also benefited from his generous philanthropy.

Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Mac McLaughlin and his team for selecting another great honoree this year. To Pat Rooney, congratulations on this important recognition and I wish you good health and continued success, except when it comes to the AFC Conference Championship.

H. CON. RES. 352

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 352 and to recognize the great contributions of people of Indian origin to the United States and to strengthen our bilateral relationship with the people of India.

For decades, people of Indian origin have immigrated to the United States. They have made extraordinary contributions to our Nation, from advancements in science and technology to business development, philanthropy, literature and the arts. Their contributions have helped make the United States a more diverse and prosperous country.

In Minnesota, people of Indian origin have made their presence felt throughout our communities and neighborhoods. Small and large Indian businesses have flourished in Minnesota. Groups like the India Association of Minnesota, the Asian Pacific Policy Roundtable and CAIR Minnesota have worked very hard to promote a strong, bilateral relationship between India and the United States, raising greater awareness toward human rights and regional reform. Other organizations, like the Indo-American Association of Minnesota, have taken the lead in promoting arts, cultural, spiritual and classical music as well as entertainment. Our colleges and universities have also expanded educational exchanges and opportunities between Minnesota and India, fostering new relationships and promoting greater cooperation between our two countries.

Minnesota has also seen a rise in new and exciting Indian-American leaders, including State Senator Satveer Chaudhry, elected in 2000 and representing Senate District 50 in my Congressional District. Senator Chaudhry is the highest-ranking Indian-American elected official in the country. As a friend and a former colleague, Senator Chaudhry's leadership has ensured that Indian-American families in Minnesota, as well as all the families in his district, are well represented.

Again, I support H. Con. Res. 352 and I urge passage of this important legislation. Minnesota has benefited greatly from its Indian-American community and I look forward to strengthening our relationship with our Indian friends and neighbors in the future.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. CON.
RES. 95, CONCURRENT RESOLU-
TION ON THE BUDGET FOR FIS-
CAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the budget resolution lays out the framework for next year's Federal Government revenues, spending and borrowing. It is clearly a roadmap for continuing fiscal mismanagement and misplaced priorities.

The budget allows for further tax cuts, which primarily benefit those least in need, while increasing the nation's debt limit to over \$8 trillion. The projected \$367 billion deficit for 2005

is the result of these policies and this does not include funding for ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

A serious concern for people who care about the environment and the economy is the failure to fund even the inadequate level required by the House passed transportation reauthorization. The Republican budget resolution assumes \$273 billion for transportation, \$11 billion less than the \$284 billion provided in House legislation and \$45 billion less than the Senate-passed funding level. This is wholly inadequate and will have serious consequences for every State in America.

Tax cuts during wartime that benefit the wealthy, shifting fiscal burdens to our children, shortchanging America's priorities, risking the Social Security and Medicare funding on which retirees rely—this budget is at once shameless and shameful.

MILLER MOTION TO INSTRUCT
CONFEREES ON OVERTIME

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Representative MILLER's Motion to Instruct Conferees on Overtime.

The Bush Administration recently released their final regulations on overtime pay—regulations that originally called for the elimination of overtime pay for millions of workers including America's police and firefighters.

While the final regulations omitted this group at the last possible minute—due to extreme Democratic pressure—let's remember their true intentions, that of eliminating overtime pay to the police and firefighters of America.

It is so hypocritical for the Republicans to come up here and pass resolutions celebrating the New York City fire and police departments—and then cut their pay.

No one enters law enforcement or becomes a firefighter for the money—but Republicans had the audacity to suggest that these hard-working men and women are not entitled to overtime that they and their families depend on.

While they have had the incredible vision to reconsider their original request, everyone in this chamber knows—and more threatening to the Republicans—every police officer and firefighter in America knows—or will know—that if the Bush Administration and the Congressional Republican majorities are back next year, it is a foregone conclusion that they will revisit these overtime regulations and will succeed in their initial dream of eliminating all overtime for all cops and firefighters in the U.S.

The Administration and this Congress have a sad track record of shortchanging police and firefighters, while pretending to stand with them.

And now their revised "compassionate conservative" overtime regulations eliminate overtime protections for millions of other American workers.

I received a letter from a woman in the Bronx who is a dedicated and experienced health care provider.

She, like other health care providers that support us in our times of need, is being told

by the Republicans that she might not be entitled to overtime.

She writes that she is concerned that overtime work without overtime pay will not only hurt workers like her, but will also hurt patients.

How can that be construed as being supportive of American workers or as being supportive of America?

Sadly, this Administration's record does little to suggest that they understand or care about the needs of American workers.

This Administration's record on labor issues is horrific—besides working to destroy the entire concept of overtime pay, they have attacked and tried to eliminate the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage provisions for our road builders and building trades workers.

This Administration has started denying COLAs to federal civilian employees—COLAs they are more than happy to reward themselves with.

This Administration has opposed legislation to allow workers to create unions so that they get better wages and benefits that benefit themselves and their families.

The destruction of 3 million jobs, the serious attempt to eliminate overtime provisions in our country, and working to crack the Davis-Bacon law—this is an Administration that does not care for working people.

Support the Miller amendment and let the Republicans know—you are sick and tired of these overpaid, underworked people trying to cut your pay while raising theirs.

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY HO

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Anthony Chung Yi Ho, Senior Officer with the Taipei Economic Council and Cultural Representative and Senior Assistant to the Honorable C.J. Chen, Taiwan's chief representative in the United States. Mr. Ho has been with the Washington, DC, office of the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs for 6 years, and his presence will be sorely missed when he returns to Taiwan later this year. Mr. Ho is a true asset to the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His leadership and expertise have been invaluable in working with my Washington, DC, staff and many other congressional offices as well.

Traditionally, Idaho maintains a close relationship with the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Idaho State University has developed a strong partnership with the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in large part because of ISU's English and Professional Development Program. This unique program, the only program of its kind in the United States, provides a language and cultural education program for junior diplomatic officers in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Over 40 students have completed the program since its inception in the early 1990s, and many of these graduates now serve their country in diplomatic postings throughout the world. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Language and Culture Training Program at ISU is an excellent collaborative relationship that is strengthening our countries through a better understanding of each of our cultures.

While serving as a Senior Officer, Mr. Ho has worked closely with my office. Largely thanks to his efforts, I have been able to meet and work with many of Taiwan's junior diplomatic officers attending this program at Idaho State University. They are an intelligent, energetic group who are eager to serve their country. They are very interested in gaining as much knowledge and insight as possible during their stay in America and look forward to using what they have learned as they progress in their diplomatic careers.

Under Mr. Ho's guidance, our office has cultivated a valuable relationship with the Taiwan Foreign Ministry. He arranged a dinner among the junior diplomatic officers and myself in Pocatello, and he has also worked with our office to arrange the stay of a junior officer from ISU in our Washington, DC, office. For 2 years, I have had the privilege of hosting a junior officer from the ISU program in the Capitol.

Mr. Ho's excellent collaborative relationship with my office plays a critical role to strengthening relations between the United States and Taiwan through strong communication and a better understanding of each of our cultures. I commend Anthony Ho for his dedication and guidance. It has been an honor and a pleasure to work with him, and we will greatly miss him when he leaves Washington, DC.

RECOGNITION OF ASIAN/PACIFIC
AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the designation by President Bush that the month of May be known as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

The more than 13 million Americans who have Asian/Pacific heritage have worked diligently to enrich the culture of our Nation and of our lives.

Asian/Pacific Americans are a growing and welcome force in my home state of Illinois. Their continuing contributions to our communities, whether as large as Chicago, or as medium sized as my hometown of Collinsville, are immeasurable.

Asian/Pacific Americans bring with them a heritage of pride, hard work, commitment to family and faith, and a love of freedom that serves as an example and reminder for all of us.

I am proud of the President for his recognition of the Asian/Pacific American community and of their overall value to our nation's future. I salute the Asian/Pacific American community and join them in celebrating their heritage.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to state for the record that my vote yesterday on the amendment to H.R. 4200 offered by SUSAN DAVIS of California was intended to be a "no" vote. I oppose this amendment.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HINKLEY
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to highlight the accomplishments of a special group of students from Hinkley High School in Aurora, Colorado.

After learning about the devastating effects of land mines from African History teacher Chris Sundberg, students in the International Baccalaureate program worked to raise \$6,000 for Colorado Adopt-A-Minefield. The Adopt-A-Minefield program is part of the United Nations Association. It works to save lives by raising funds for mine clearance and survivor assistance, and to raise awareness about the landmine problems. This donation was the single largest donation ever received by the Colorado branch of the organization. The money will be used to help clear landmines from a field in Mozambique.

Minefields are often left abandoned or improperly cleared after a regional conflict. These land mines devastate thousands of lives every year by leaving civilians, particularly children, maimed for life. The students of Hinkley High School decided to reach out across the divide of culture and distance to children from another continent and help make our world a safer place.

Mr. Speaker, these students worked tirelessly to both raise money for landmine removal efforts and to increase awareness of the devastating effects of abandoned landmines. Their commitment to helping others in this way should serve as an example to us all.

TRIBUTE TO THE PROBLEM SOLVING TEAM OF THE QUEST PROGRAM AT JOHN HOWARD, JR. SCHOOL IN EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I rise to acknowledge the accomplishments of the Problem Solving Team of the Quest Program at the John Howard, Jr. School in East Orange. This team was concerned about gangs in their neighborhood and decided to take action. They established themselves as PEGASUS PUSH, meaning Peers Educating Gang Awareness Stopping Unnecessary Suffering Providing Useful Strategies for Home. The Problem Solving Team has volunteered over 1000 hours towards this project by publishing a monthly Gang Awareness Newsletter, organizing a Family Fest Night, a Fun Day Fair, creating a Pegasus Website, establishing an after school PEP PICK Program, a Day at the Ball Park, a Saturday Delight Program, a Mother-Son, Father-Daughter Night, Holiday Celebrations and Puppet Shows. All of these activities were designed to engage their peers and others in constructive projects and out of gangs. These students, namely, Khalil Banner, Jordan Clarke, Estefani Ubri, Felix Torres, Markia

Hutchinson, Shanice Thomas, Monique McDonald, Melina Reyes, Cameron Glover, Shaenice McKenzie, Safa Muhammad, Zasha Martinez and their coach, Ms. Christine McAdams are to be commended for their unselfish actions in trying to eliminate gangs where they live.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing this outstanding group of fourth and fifth grade students along with their coach for placing first in New Jersey in the junior division of the Community Problem Solving Component of the International Future Problem Solving Program. As a result of this achievement, these members of PEGASUS PUSH and students at Dr. John Howard, Jr. School will represent New Jersey at the International Competition in Lexington, Kentucky on June 2-6, 2004. The contributions made and the leadership shown by the members of PEGASUS PUSH have already made them winners in the 10th Congressional District. I wish them continued success in this very worthwhile effort.

RECOGNIZING GUNNERY SERGEANT VINCENT C. SANTIAGO FOR HIS PROMOTION TO FIRST SERGEANT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. This citation is presented to Gunnery Sergeant Vincent C. Santiago, a native of Merizo, Guam, for his promotion to the rank of First Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps.

Gunnery Sergeant Santiago is the son of Joseph and Mary Santiago of Merizo, Guam. He is married to the former Selma D. Reyes, daughter of Peter and Josephine Reyes, also from Merizo. Vincent and Selma have three children, Vincent Jr., PeterJoe, and Serresa.

Sergeant Santiago entered the United States Marine Corps in September 1989, graduating from boot camp in San Diego, California, with a meritorious promotion to the rank of Private First Class. After completing his Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) training at the School of Infantry as a 0341 Mortar man, he was assigned to Marine Barracks Guam as a Marine Security Guard where he was promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal in August 1990. Seven months later, in March 1991, he was meritoriously promoted to Corporal, eventually receiving orders to 3rd Battalion 5th Marines at Camp Pendleton, California.

In 1993, Gunnery Sergeant Santiago moved to Maintenance Management, where he became the Battalion's Maintenance Management Chief and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. After completing Drill Instructor School at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California, he was assigned to Company "A", 1st Recruit Training Battalion.

Among his many accomplishments, Gunnery Sergeant Santiago has received the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal in lieu of third award and the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal in lieu of fourth award. In addition,

Gunnery Sergeant Santiago was also Marine of the Quarter in March 1991 while stationed at Marine Barracks, Guam, and selected as Drill Instructor of the Quarter for the 1st Recruit Training Battalion in March 1996. He is also certified in the Marine Corp Martial Arts Program as an Instructor Trainer, 1st Degree Black Belt.

Gunnery Sergeant Santiago is the Drill Master at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. He will receive his promotion to First Sergeant on June 1, 2004, upon completion of his current tour of duty. He will then report to the 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division at Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, for duty as Company First Sergeant where I am confident he will continue to serve with honor and distinction.

Gunnery Sergeant Santiago's career reflects the courage and determination of the Chamorro people. We are very proud of our native son. On behalf of the people of Guam, I want to congratulate Gunnery Sergeant Santiago and his family on his accomplishments, and extend our gratitude for his service to our island and our country.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. CON. RES. 95, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, budgets should be plans for the future. They should reflect our values and provide a roadmap to the kind of country we want to be.

But this budget provides virtually no plan whatsoever. In an unprecedented sleight-of-hand, this budget only applies any semblance of fiscal responsibility—the so-called "PAYGO" rules—to the other body's budget, not this one—exempting, of course, \$55 billion in tax cuts for the wealthy. It covers only a single year of budget policy, demonstrating the Republicans' utter lack of commitment to providing the critical resources for defense, homeland security, education, veterans, and other priorities. And, for all intents and purposes, it increases the debt limit for the third time in 3 years. If budgets are roadmaps, this one puts us on a road to nowhere.

Deficits do matter, Mr. Speaker. At a time when rising health care costs, and declining wages are squeezing our middle class, deficits do not make our country stronger. They lead to rising interest rates, less business investment and declining homeownership, and make it harder for families to achieve financial security. Deficits are a problem for our children and our children's children.

At a time when manufacturing employment, once the foundation of our economy, is at a 53-year low, with many of those jobs having been sent overseas, when hundreds of thousands of Americans are giving up hope looking for work every month, it is time we choose a different course for this country—a responsible course. It is time we act with a shared sense of purpose and responsibility to address the tasks before our country. That is what this budget process should be about, and that is what this budget should do.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DONALD J.
KRAPOHL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual, Mr. Donald J. Krapohl. On May 23, 2004, family and friends will gather to honor Donald, as he celebrates his 75th birthday.

Donald is a longtime resident and tireless advocate of Genesee County. He held the election positions of Mt. Morris Township Trustee and Supervisor. In addition, Don served his community in many other capacities, including but not limited to the Beecher Board of Education, Genesee County Economic Development Corp., Genesee County Parks Commission, Genesee County Bicentennial coordinator, Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission, Mt. Morris Twp. Housing Commission, Department of Outdoor Recreation advisory committee, National Association of Counties Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement committee, Forward Development Corporation, Genesee County water and waste division advisory committee, and Chairman of the Mt. Morris Twp. Senior Citizen Board of Directors.

During his career, Don has received numerous recognitions for his outstanding community leadership. He was named an honorary Fireman by the Mt. Morris Central and Beecher Fire departments. The Mt. Morris Township Senior Citizen Center was named in his honor. To know Don is to appreciate him. He is a hard working and unselfish leader. He is an inspiration to others who are serving their community. Aside from his duties in public service, he is the coach for the Beecher Schools little league football program.

Don and his lovely wife Barbara have four wonderful children, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, as the Member of Congress representing Genesee County, Michigan, I ask my colleagues in the 108th Congress to please join me in not only recognizing my good friend Mr. Donald Krapohl for his outstanding citizenship and concern for the people of Genesee County, but to wish him a very happy 75th birthday, and many more to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in the family I missed several votes last week. Had I been present:

Rollcall No. 162 (on motion to recommit H.R. 4279), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 163 (on passage of H.R. 4279), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 164 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 352), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 165 (on motion to recommit H.R. 4280), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 166 (on passage of H.R. 4280), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 167 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree, as amended to H. Con. Res. 378), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 168 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 409), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 169 (on agreeing to the Tanner amendment to H.R. 4275), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 170 (on passage of H.R. 4275), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 171 (on motion to instruct conferees on S. Con. Res. 95), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 172 (on agreeing to the Kind amendment to H.R. 4281), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 173 (on motion to recommit with instructions H.R. 4281), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 174 (on passage of H.R. 4281), I would have voted "nay".

Rollcall No. 175 (on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.J. Res. 91), I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall No. 176 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Con. Res. 414), I would have voted "yea".

MAY IS ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and I would like to commemorate the substantial achievements of Asian Pacific Americans to our nation's history. My district, comprised of Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito Counties in California owes a particularly large debt to the Asian Pacific community. California has benefited greatly from the contributions of Asian Pacific immigrants throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. Chinese immigrants were instrumental in building the transcontinental railroad which helped open California to settlement and brought rapid economic growth to the West and along with immigrants from Japan, helped start Monterey's commercial fishing industry.

The Central Coast of California was and still is, highly dependent on agriculture. Starting in the late 1890s, Chinese, Japanese and Filipino farm laborers were the engine behind the growth and development of the agricultural industry. Farm labor work on strawberry and peach farms was often back-breaking work; laborers rose at dawn and worked until dusk, and were generally paid very poorly. Additionally, Asian Pacific immigrants were often treated horribly and harshly discriminated against. Filipino farm workers formed the first organized group in the early history of the United Farm Workers Union. Despite these conditions and obstacles, over the last hundred years, the Asian Pacific American community has grown into a vibrant community that has made substantial contributions to California and our nation as a whole. I am proud to represent a large Filipino population in my district who are active citizens of the community.

This year's theme of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month is "Freedom for All—A Nation

We Call Our Own," and exemplifies one of the best aspects of the America; that all citizens can take ownership in our society and country and work towards building a better nation. Mabuhay.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on May 19, 2004, I missed a series of rollcall votes in the House of Representatives because of a family obligation that required my presence in Arizona. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall votes 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 198, and 199. I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 197.

CLARIFICATION OF ANTITRUST
REMEDIES IN TELECOMMUNI-
CATIONS ACT OF 2004

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, the application of the antitrust laws in the telecommunications sector has produced enormous competitive benefits. Market competition has fostered innovative technologies, greatly enhanced product and service choices, and reduced prices for millions of American telecommunications consumers. The threat of treble damages for antitrust violations has provided a powerful deterrent against anti-competitive misconduct in this marketplace.

Indeed, the primary catalyst for the structural changes that have produced the enormous competitive gains and expanded consumer choice in the telecommunications fields was the principled application of the antitrust laws. The legal basis for the elimination of Ma Bell's national telephone monopoly was rooted in the antitrust laws. While the former AT&T had operated in a highly intensive Federal and State regulatory regime for decades, the government relied on the antitrust laws to provide the robust procompetitive remedy that regulation could not, did not, and will not provide alone.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Telecom Act"), was enacted "to promote competition and reduce regulation in order to secure lower prices and higher quality services for American telecommunications consumers . . . by opening all telecommunications markets to competition." In passing the Telecom Act, Congress did not create an "antitrust free zone" in which the regulatory provisions of the Telecom Act limited the historic application of the antitrust laws in deterring and punishing monopolistic misconduct in the telecommunications field.

Rather, to reaffirm the centrality of the antitrust laws in the overall regulatory scheme created by the Telecom Act, Congress included an explicit antitrust saving clause in the legislation. In clear and forceful legislative guidance, Congress said:

" . . . Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed to

modify, impair, or supersede the applicability of any of the antitrust laws.”

The inadequacy of regulation to fully deter anticompetitive misconduct is widely recognized. In fact, Federal Communications Commission Chairman Michael Powell, whose agency has authority to implement the Telecom Act, concluded in a 2001 letter to the Senate Appropriations Committee that the FCC’s current fining authority for anticompetitive violations is “insufficient to punish and deter violations in many instances . . . given the vast resources of many of the nation’s [incentives.]”

Despite Congress’s unmistakable resolve to preserve the vital role of the antitrust laws in this field, a record of considerable judicial confusion has developed in our nation’s courts. In 2000, the Seventh Circuit issued the Goldwasser decision, ignoring the plain language of the antitrust savings clause and holding that the Telecom Act “must take precedence over the general antitrust laws.”

In *Law Offices of Curtis Trinko v. Verizon*, the Second Circuit Court of Appeals sharply departed from Goldwasser’s flawed reasoning and upheld the plain language of the Telecom Act, thus preserving an antitrust cause of action for anticompetitive misconduct in the telecommunications market in addition to the regulatory regime created by the Telecom Act.

In March of 2003, the Supreme Court granted certiorari to review the case. In November of 2003, the Committee on the Judiciary conducted an oversight hearing titled: “Saving the Savings Clause: Congressional Intent, the Trinko Case, and the Role of the Antitrust Laws in Promoting Competition in the Telecom Sector.” This hearing examined the need to preserve an antitrust remedy for anticompetitive misconduct that may also violate provisions of the Telecom Act. During the committee’s hearing, I stated that “judicial circumvention or erosion of the savings clause contained in the 1996 Act will necessitate a swift and decisive legislative correction from this Committee and Congress.”

In January, 2004, the Supreme Court handed down its Trinko decision. While the Court upheld the antitrust savings clause on its face, the decision makes it nearly impossible to state an antitrust claim for anticompetitive conduct within the regulatory ambit of the Telecom Act.

In reaching its conclusion, the majority looked to the perceived institutional capacity of regulators to remedy anticompetitive misconduct. Specifically, the majority decision stated: “One factor of particular importance is the existence of a regulatory structure designed to deter and remedy anticompetitive harm. Where such a structure exists, the additional benefit to competition provided by antitrust enforcement will tend to be small, and it will be less plausible that the antitrust laws contemplate such additional scrutiny. . . .” The Court also stated that the “regulatory framework that exists in this case demonstrates how, in certain circumstances, regulations significantly diminished the likelihood of major antitrust harm.” The Court then concluded that “against the slight benefits of antitrust intervention here, we must weigh a realistic assessment of its costs.”

This is precisely the judicial analysis that the antitrust savings clause in the Telecom Act precluded. This fundamental judicial error ignores the plain meaning of the antitrust sav-

ings clause contained in the Telecom Act and the intent of Congress, and undermines remedial antitrust enforcement in a manner that threatens continued competitive gains in the telecommunications marketplace.

Last November, I stated that “judicial circumvention of the antitrust savings clause in the Telecom Act will necessitate a decisive legislative correction from this Committee and Congress.” The legislation I introduce today, with the sponsorship of Ranking Member CONYERS, delivers on this commitment. This bill reiterates Congress’s intent that the full force of the antitrust laws apply to the telecommunications field. The “Clarification of Antitrust Remedies in Telecommunications Act of 2004” merely provides that unlawful monopolistic behavior that may also violate the regulatory obligations of the Telecom Act may constitute an antitrust violation. The legislation provides an antitrust remedy for these violations irrespective of the existence of regulations that apply to this industry. In so doing, the legislation merely reiterates the plain meaning of the antitrust savings clause and the broad bipartisan intent of Congress to preserve the application of the antitrust laws in the telecommunications field irrespective of the existence of the Telecom Act.

To be clear, the legislation does not automatically transform violations of the 1996 Act into antitrust violations: this is not, nor has it even been, the intent of preserving application of the antitrust laws in the regulatory scheme created by the Telecom Act. The “Clarification of Antitrust Remedies in Telecom Act of 2004” merely reaffirms that violations of the Telecommunications Act may constitute an antitrust violation in appropriate circumstances: this legislation restores the result Congress intended; it does not transform the antitrust laws nor create antitrust obligations that the Telecommunications Act did not contemplate.

Over the last five decades, the Committee on the Judiciary has played a central role promoting competition in the telecommunications market. It has drafted procompetitive legislation and overseen its implementation. The committee has also diligently preserved the application of the antitrust laws in the telecommunications marketplace. The “Clarification of Antitrust Remedies in Telecommunications Act of 2004” continues this important tradition by ensuring that the antitrust laws continue to provide a catalyst to promote competition and consumer choice in this vital marketplace.

In that vein, I wish to comment briefly on a related matter. The committee continues to monitor the status of negotiations between incumbent and competitive local exchange carriers requested by the Federal Communications Commission in light of the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals March 2, 2004, invalidation of key aspects of the most recent FCC Triennial Review Order. While the Committee on the Judiciary does not intend to prejudice the outcome of these continuing talks, it reserves the right to review these agreements to ensure that they are consistent with the antitrust laws and promote competition and consumer choice in the telecommunications marketplace.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that the antitrust laws produce the irreversibly open telecommunications markets that we all seek, and urge their support for this critical legislation.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4200, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose the Republican Majority’s proposed rule that would limit debate on a matter as important as the Department of Defense Authorization bill, which purports to provide spending in excess of \$400 billion for Fiscal Year 2005. At a time when Members of the United States House of Representatives claim to be supporting the extension of democracy in Afghanistan and Iraq, it is unconscionable for the leadership to limit debate in the House.

There were times in the not too distant past, where a bill of this magnitude would have been debated for at least two weeks. Members would have had the opportunity to voice their position on hundreds of amendments important to their constituents and the nation. It appears that keeping with the Republican Majority’s fear that reasonable Republicans will join Democrats in actually improving the underlying bill, the Rules Committee has acceded to the Majority Leadership’s pressure and only allowed 28 of 127 amendments for debate and vote. This institution—the People’s House—deserves better, and the American people deserve better. Had the Rules Committee and the Leadership followed a practice from a time before the current Majority was in power, most if not all of the proposed amendments would have been made in order, including two amendments which I proposed and which, I firmly believe are in our common interest.

We should be able to agree that American defense workers are 100 percent committed to our armed forces and to ensuring that America has the best trained, best equipped, best led forces in the world. Unfortunately, these workers have seen their jobs vanish at an alarming rate without explanation or justification. Over the past 15 years, defense-related employment is said to have fallen by some 67 percent. This translates into over a million lost jobs. We need to do more to reverse this disturbing trend.

The Amendment I sought would place us standing firmly in solidarity with these workers. First, we would find out where the jobs have gone, and second, fight to keep them in this country.

We made a similar fight last year. We were partially successful. The House-passed version of the Defense Department Authorization bill established a “Defense Industrial Base Assessment Program” to collect new information about where defense contracts are being performed; to determine what percentage of the contract is being completed overseas; and to learn the business rationale for why contractors are sending contract work out of the United States. The bill then called for the Secretary of Defense to recommend a plan for getting back as much of the off-shored work as possible in future years. Unfortunately, that program was significantly weakened when the Senate version of last year’s authorization bill failed to include the language, and the conference report only required the Department to

use existing data to study the problem and eliminated the mandate to look at where and why these contracts are leaving this country. Some suggested that the mere existence of that program would allow us to get a better understanding of the strength and capacity of our defense base; such is not the case. A program that relies exclusively on existing data and only asks rudimentary questions will not provide the most complete assessment of our industrial base.

The Department of Defense is required by the National Defense Authorization Act of 1997 to submit, on an annual basis, a report to Congress on the amount of purchases from foreign entities for the previous fiscal year.

That, however, was inadequate, as shown when the most recent report submitted to the Armed Services Committee exposed the shortcomings with relying on 'existing data' to monitor prime contracts. The report stated, "In some instances, the exact information required by Section 827 is not available, and the Department of Defense had made assumptions to complete the report." It goes on to say that some of the other information needed to complete the report was, "not readily available in the Department of Defense database."

If we know the Pentagon's use of existing data does not fully capture our country's purchases from foreign entities, why should we have any greater confidence that it will accurately assess our country's defense industrial base? We must put the teeth back into this much-needed program—new data must be collected and the right questions must be asked.

Still, knowing what happened to this work is only the first step. We must do more than close the barn doors after the horses have left. Strategies must be implemented that restore and revitalize the defense-manufacturing base and they must be implemented right now.

My amendment also required that the Secretary, as a condition of procurement, mandate that the contractor perform substantially all, and in no event less than 65 percent, of the primary and secondary manufacturing contracts in the United States. The Secretary would be allowed to waive this requirement only in cases where products and services were not available in this country or where concerns of national security necessitated a waiver. Even when waived, the Secretary would have to notify Congress, citing the business rationale or relevant threat information for the determination. The amendment also would have required, on an annual basis, that the General Accounting Office study the number of waivers and submit a report to Congress offering recommendations on how the United States can increase capacity and further strengthen our industrial base.

It is long past time that we move beyond rhetoric about appropriately prioritizing the work to be completed in the United States and require the Secretary of Defense to work toward that goal.

Just as we in Congress continue to fulfill our patriotic promise to our men and women in uniform, we must also demonstrate an equal commitment to those men and women who build, repair, and operate the machines that sustain and strengthen our security here at home. Mr. Speaker, while I am disappointed that Congressional Republicans denied my colleagues the opportunity to vote on my im-

portant Build America amendment, I would like to commend the dedicated advocates who work tirelessly everyday to ensure American defense jobs do not go overseas. I would like to commend Armed Services Chairman DUNCAN HUNTER and Senior Democrat IKE SKELTON for inserting provisions into this bill that are intended to address the systemic problem of defense offsets. U.S. defense exports with offset agreements in excess of 100 percent are now happening regularly and it is long past time we level the playing field and ensure that our defense workers are no longer in jeopardy of losing their jobs because of their companies' offset arrangements.

The Hunter-Skelton provision is a good first step, and while it doesn't go as far as my Build America amendment does, it should, at the very least, be included within the final version of the Defense Authorization bill.

GROUND MISSILE DEFENSE

Mr. Speaker, the second amendment that I proposed, and which should have been considered today, deals with the need for operational testing and evaluation for a realistic ballistic missile defense system. The common-sense amendment would allow Members of Congress to be on record in support of operational testing before the ground-based system is hastily deployed.

As we all know, this country has already spend in excess of \$130 billion chasing the "Star Wars" scheme from the Nixon Administration to the current Administration. We have disagreements about the level of funding for ballistic missile defense; about the number of interceptors that should be deployed if the system is ever proven to work; and about how this matter should be prioritized as opposed to other critical threat related defense programs. But Mr. Speaker, no system should be hastily built and recklessly deployed prior to adequate testing.

This is a matter where there should be unanimous agreement. It simply defies common sense that we would stand idle and allow the most expensive item in the Defense Department's \$400 billion plus budget before it has been rigorously scrutinized and evaluated. The people of this country have a right to know what they are getting. So far, what they are going to get is a system that has not been consistently or realistically tested in a way that demonstrates it can handle even some of the simplest threats it may encounter.

My colleagues do not have to just take my word on this matter. Allow me to cite just a few of the most recent voices that have weighed in on this matter and arrived at a similar opinion.

In March, the GAO issued a report revealing that the tests that have been completed to date occurred under repetitive and scripted scenarios, fully repeating the same technical and atmospheric conditions over and over again. Critical parts of the system have yet to be flight-tested together.

That report goes on to say that, "only two flight tests under improved test conditions . . . are planned to be conducted before September 2004." It remains unclear, however, if the Missile Defense Agency will even go ahead with these flight tests, or if they will be cancelled or replaced with simulations.

Later in the month of March, 49 generals and admirals, including former Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Admiral William Crowe, Retired United States Air Force General Alfred G.

Hansen, and Retired United States Marine Corps General Joseph P. Hoar, wrote to the President that he "postpone operational deployment of the expensive and untested ground based missile defense system and transfer the associated funding to accelerated programs to secure the multitude of facilities containing nuclear weapons and materials to protect our ports and borders against terrorists who may attempt to smuggle weapons of mass destruction into the United States."

In plain English, these respected military authorities state some basic facts of life: (1) the system that is now proposed is not only expensive but is largely untested; (2) money being spent on building such an untested system would be better spent accelerating programs that would secure the many nuclear weapons facilities and materials around the world as well as protecting our ports and borders against terrorists who may attempt to smuggle weapons of mass destruction into the United States; and (3) essentially every threat assessment performed for us by intelligence agencies indicate that the latter threat is far more pertinent to the United States than is an attack by a continental ballistic missile.

In April, a General Accounting Office report warned that the system due to be fielded later this year would be "largely unproven" because of a lack of realistic testing.

On May 7th, 31 former government officials wrote a letter to President Bush. These officials served under Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Carter, Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and Clinton. They had worked in the Pentagon, the Department of State, National Security Council, Office of Management and Budget, and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agencies. Their letter stated clearly that "the initial defense capability being advertised by the Missile Defense agency is a sham" and they recommended that the President "drop the 2004 deployment and commit instead to a sensible research and development schedule."

Last week, the Union of Concerned Scientists released a comprehensive report that found, "no basis for believing that the system will have any capability to defend against a real attack."

Fielding a system at this time will do little more than foster a false sense of security among the American people misleading our constituents to believe they will be appropriately protected from a ballistic missile attack when the reality is they may not be.

The amendment, quite simply, enforces a 1983 statute, which the Missile Defense Agency has seemingly decided to openly ignore. Without holding the Missile Defense Agency to some standards of independent, realistic operational testing, Congress would not be fulfilling its proper oversight duties.

Mr. Speaker, because the Republican Majority chose to close down debate on this important bill, Members of Congress are missing their opportunity to represent the people of this country in demanding that the Director of the Missile Defense Agency may not proceed with the initial deployment, or any phase thereof, of a ballistic missile defense system until: (1) the Director of Operational Testing and Evaluation of the Department of Defense approves, in writing, the plans for the operational testing to be conducted; (2) the operational testing is completed; (3) the Director analyzes the results of that testing; and (4) the

Director submits a report on the results of that testing to the Secretary of Defense and to the Congressional Defense Committees.

In short, Mr. Speaker, Congress is once again abdicating its responsibilities of oversight of this Administration and marching lock-step with the Administration, wasting billions of dollars (some \$10 billion in this budget alone) on a system that military and scientific experts agree is untested, unproven and a sham.

I have to add, Mr. Speaker, that upon my request the General Accounting Office requested a review of some 50 deficiencies in the testing of this ground-based missile defense system that were identified by the former Director of Operational Testing and Evaluation, Mr. Philip Coyle. I had asked the General Accounting Office to determine whether any or which of those issues had been addressed, their current status, their status as anticipated in September 2004 (when the President indicated he intends to start wastefully building this untested project), and the degree of confidence that we might have in such a system if deployed at that time. After incredible resistance in cooperation from the Department of Defense, the report was done some 18 months later. Unfortunately, in keeping with its reputation as the most secretive Administration in history, the Administration—apparently so displeased with the results and conclusions—classified the report. At my further insistence, and again after much resistance, the General Accounting Office was able to produce an unclassified version of the report. That unclassified report, Mr. Speaker, was entirely uncomplimentary of the program and clearly indicated that the program is not ready to be deployed as a working system in which this country could have confidence. The classified version, which went into much greater detail with regards to specifics, should be de-classified. All of the information in it has essentially been known for some time and been the subject of open hearings in this Congress. The information has appeared on numerous web sites at various agency and entity locations. However, the Administration, seemingly so fearful that the actual assessment of this system's sorry state would be known to the public, has actually classified the 50 items pointed out by Mr. Coyle.

Mr. Speaker, given recent history, if the classified report had been at all complimentary we can assume that the Administration would have de-classified it in a nanosecond. As it has not, we might assume the reasons are clear. It is not right that billions of dollars will be misspent at a time when this nation's needs are so great. It is not right that the American people will be presented with false confidence at a time when security concerns are so high. It is not right that so much time, money, and resources will be concentrated on an unproven, unworkable, sham of a system that does not even address what all of our intelligence sources tell us is the primary threat that faces this nation.

Mr. Speaker, from No Child Left Behind to the Sarbanes-Oxley bill concerning accounting reforms, this Congress has not been shy about requiring testing and ensuring accountability. However, it seems when it comes to spending over \$10 billion, one of the most expensive items in this year's defense budget, there will be no accountability and testing.

As quoted above, "the initial defense capability being advertised by the Missile Defense

Agency is a sham" and the President should "drop the 2004 deployment and commit instead to a sensible research and development schedule."

This Congress should live up to its responsibilities and insist on that.

NATIONAL TOURETTE SYNDROME
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I introduced House Concurrent Resolution 430 to support the goals and ideals of a National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month.

This resolution recognizes the importance of an early and accurate diagnosis of Tourette Syndrome, appropriate treatment, and educational outreach. In short, it would enhance public awareness of this very misunderstood and often misdiagnosed disease.

Tourette Syndrome, or TS—is an inherited neurobiological disorder that affects children and adults in all racial and ethnic groups. The symptoms of TS are manifested as "tics"—rapid, repeated, and involuntary movements and sounds. In a large percentage of cases TS is accompanied by other co-occurring disorders, the most common of which are Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and nonverbal learning disabilities.

It is estimated that as many as 200,000 Americans have what is called substantially impairing TS, and more have milder symptoms of the disorder. Many of these individuals endure the stigma, isolation, and the psychological impact of a chronic disorder on a daily basis. There is no cure for this condition, although some individuals benefit from medication and other clinical treatment. Scientific researchers have made some significant advances in recent years in trying to understand the causes of the condition, but many scientific challenges still remain.

Mr. Speaker, in January of this year, the Appropriations Committee I chair appropriated funds for a new research program by the Centers for Disease Control, as well as an educational outreach program. This effort is designed to provide intensive training for the public, physicians, allied healthcare workers and teachers about Tourette Syndrome. It is our hope that this program will begin to remove the stigma and other obstacles associated with living with this complex disorder. I personally have been inspired by meeting many children and adults with Tourette Syndrome who, despite coping with the condition, are wonderfully successful in their own endeavors and provide examples of determination, perseverance and hope to their families and to us all.

Mr. Speaker, the Tourette Syndrome Association, the only national nonprofit membership organization dedicated to identifying the cause, finding a cure, and controlling the effects of Tourette Syndrome, has designated May 15 through June 15 as National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month. The goal of this effort is to educate the public about the nature and effects of TS.

Mr. Speaker, enactment of the legislation I have introduced to recognize National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month would give all of us an opportunity to familiarize ourselves with the condition. It will help us better understand the impact that TS can have on people living with the disorder, as well as recognize the importance of early diagnosis and proper treatment.

FREEDOM FOR MIGUEL GALVÁN
GUTIERREZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Miguel Galván Gutierrez, a prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Galván Gutierrez is an engineer by profession and thus a student of transforming ideas and concepts into concrete reality. As a man who studied how things work, he quickly grasped the broken and irreparable nature of Castro's infernal totalitarian regime. As a pro-democracy activist, Mr. Galván Gutierrez has committed himself to portraying the true horrors of life under the tyrant in Cuba. He has written articles for Havana Press and served as president of the College of Independent Engineers and Architects of Cuba.

As a leading advocate for freedom for every Cuban, Mr. Galván Gutierrez has been constantly harassed by Castro's thugs. According to Amnesty International, he has endured numerous interrogations and short term detentions. On March 18, 2003, Mr. Galván Gutierrez was arrested and he was subsequently "sentenced" to 26 years in the totalitarian gulag.

Mr. Galván Gutierrez is languishing in the nightmarish conditions of the totalitarian gulag because he believes in freedom for every Cuban citizen. According to Reporters Without Borders, Mr. Galván Gutierrez is suffering from abdominal and joint pain, together with an inflammation of the feet and a paralyzed arm. Reporters Without Borders has also reported that Mr. Galván Gutierrez was put in solitary confinement and deprived of water and light because he staged hunger strikes to protest the inhuman conditions in the totalitarian gulag.

Mr. Speaker, today is May 20 and on this day, 102 years ago, the Cuban people obtained their independence; the Republic of Cuba was born. Today the Cuban people, led by heroic activists such as Mr. Galván Gutierrez, continue to fight for freedom. It is my fervent hope that next year, on May 20, the Cuban people will be able to celebrate the anniversary of Cuba's independence and also celebrate the return of freedom to that long suffering island.

Mr. Speaker, we must constantly demand freedom for the Cuban people. My Colleagues, today, on Cuban Independence Day, we must demand the immediate release of Miguel Galván Gutierrez and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

HONORING WORKS OF CHATTANOOGA BAR ASSOCIATION AND CHATTANOOGA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I arise today to honor the works of the Chattanooga Bar Association and the Chattanooga Human Rights Commission in my hometown of Chattanooga, Tennessee and join them in celebrating the CBA's upcoming Law Day Luncheon on May 24, 2004. Law Day, USA is set aside each year on May 1st by a joint resolution of Congress and Presidential proclamation as an occasion for honoring the place of law in our lives. It is not a national holiday, nor is it a "lawyer's day." Instead, Law Day is an occasion for all Americans to learn more about our law, our legal system, and our rights. It is also a day to reflect on our legal heritage, our responsibilities as citizens, and the principles of our democratic government. Law Day has been a vital part of American life for several generations. Law Day has celebrated our great heritage of liberty, justice and equality under law since it was first proclaimed in 1958 by President Eisenhower. Law Day gives us the opportunity to reflect on how the law protects and guides America's quest for equal justice and equal opportunity, just as it permits us to express our opinions, select our leaders, worship where we choose, and pursue our livelihood. Thanks to the freedoms guaranteed by our Constitution, and protected by our laws and courts, we Americans have the opportunity—unmatched anywhere in the world—to develop our capabilities to the fullest.

This year, the Chattanooga Bar Association and the Human Rights Commission will celebrate the 50th anniversary of one of the United States Supreme Court's most important cases. *Brown v. Board of Education*, decided on May 17, 1954, changed the civil rights landscape in America forever. *Brown* showed that resolute citizens, served by dedicated lawyers, can strike powerful blows against social injustice through law and courts.

On May 24th, the Chattanooga Bar Association will honor the legal community of Chattanooga, Tennessee with their annual Law Day Luncheon. The featured speaker is Cheryl Brown Henderson. Mrs. Henderson is one of the children of the late Reverend Oliver Brown, namesake of the landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision of 1954. During the luncheon, the Chattanooga Bar Association will honor James R. Mapp with the 2005 "Liberty Bell Award." This award, given to a person who is not in the legal profession, is one of the CBA's highest honors. The purpose of the "Liberty Bell Award" is to recognize community service that has strengthened the American system of freedom under law. In selecting the recipient of this award, the Chattanooga Bar Association considers activities which: (1) promote a better understanding of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights; (2) encourage a greater respect for the law and the courts; (3) stimulate a deeper sense of individual responsibility so that citizens recognize their duties as well as their rights; (4) contribute to the effective functioning of our institutions of governments; and (5) foster a better

understanding and appreciation of the rule of law. I ask all Members of the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating James R. Mapp for his contributions to the Chattanooga community.

The winners of the Law Day Essay Contest, which is open to all Hamilton County, private and home school students, grades 9–12, are: 1st place winning the \$2000 college scholarship is Lindsay Frost of Girls Preparatory School. The Second place winner is Stephanie Liu of Girls Preparatory School. The Law Day poetry contest is open to all Third through Fifth graders of the same demographics. Winning 1st place is Caroline Holloway of St. Peter's Episcopal School; 2nd place is Chris Cooper of St. Peter's Episcopal School. The Law Day art contest is open to all Kindergarten through Second graders of the same demographics. Winning 1st place is Sloan Lewis of St. Peter's Episcopal School; winning 2nd place is Lauren Hood of St. Peter's Episcopal School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in thanking the Board of Governors of the Chattanooga Bar Association for their contributions and commitment to the legal profession and to the Chattanooga community. The members of the Board of Governors Executive Committee are: Lynda Minks-Hood, Executive Director; Alan L. Cates, President; Michael K. Alston, President-elect; Joseph R. White, Secretary-Treasurer; Honorable Rebecca J. Stern, Immediate Past President. Board members include: Marcia J. Eason, Steven W. Grant, James M. Haley, IV, Wade A. Hinton, Steven M. Jacoway, Jason L. Thomas and John M. Phillips.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
ABIGAIL BURKE IRWIN

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Abigail Burke Irwin. Abigail Burke Irwin has been called a fighter, an inspiration, "a one-woman community." I knew her because she was my wife's sister, the mother of my two nephews, and the wife of my friend and colleague Burke Irwin. In her short life of 46 years, Abby touched the lives of many people and made an indelible mark. But it was in her last 13 years when she struggled so valiantly against breast cancer that she truly came into her own.

She refused against all odds to give up her fight for life. But more importantly, she used the time she was given to reach out and help others who were also suffering. She packed more into her short life than most people who live to be twice her age. She started a breast cancer support group and founded a local chapter of an advocacy group for Asperger's Syndrome. She was an active and involved mother and community member. Saddled with mounting medical bills for constant chemotherapy and surgeries, she made wooden furniture to sell, and later, when she was too weak, she created jewelry and other crafts.

In the end, she willed herself to live, right up to several days before her death on April 29, 2004, when she rallied her family to a back-

yard picnic on one of the first warm spring days. She wore a bright red hat and coat—red was her favorite color—and she seemed so happy to be alive and in the midst of her loving family.

Breast cancer affects so many lives. It is the leading cause of cancer deaths for women worldwide. We must be determined to continue the fight for increased access to health care and prevention for all women, for continued funding of breast cancer research and for extending Medicare to cover all cancer drugs.

Abby Irwin spent much of her precious time and energy dealing with a flawed health care system, trying to keep ahead of her bills, struggling with the complexities and inadequacies of health insurance. We could not save her life, but hopefully we can save other women from having to deal with the difficulties she faced.

Abby was a fighter, but she never fought only for herself. She always reached out to help others struggling with life's difficulties. Ever the optimist, Abby never liked to report just the bad news. She always added something good. The bad news for her many friends and family members is that Abby has left us. The good news is that because of her strength and courage, her legacy—and her fight—will live on.

NEUQUA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
MUSIC DEPARTMENT GRAMMY
SIGNATURE SCHOOL AWARD
WINNER

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Neuqua Valley High School's Music Department. Recently, the Neuqua team was named as one of the top high school music departments in the country by the GRAMMY Foundation's 2004 Signature Schools program.

Neuqua Valley High School was chosen out of 20,000 public high schools from across the country. The GRAMMY Foundation judged applicants on the basis of sample concert programs, repertoire, and recordings of school concerts. In recognition of its achievement, the music department will receive a \$5,000 check from the GRAMMY Foundation.

Being honored for excellence in music is nothing new to Neuqua Valley High School. Although the school opened its doors only 7 years ago, this is the second straight year, and the third time overall, that its music department has been recognized by the GRAMMY Foundation as part of the Signature Schools program.

But Neuqua Valley High School's successes are not confined to its great music department. During the current school year, students have earned a number of honors for academic and athletic achievements, including the state championship for the boy's soccer team, National Scholastic Arts Competition scores for four students, National Merit Scholarship awards for two outstanding students.

Congratulations, Neuqua Valley High School, for the outstanding achievements of the boys and girls and men and women of your excellent music department and for all of

your other outstanding accomplishments. You have our best wishes for continued success in all you do.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GREAT LAKES PROTECTION AND RESTORATION COMMITTEE ACT

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce legislation that will move our Nation forward with increased environmental protection and restoration of the Great Lakes—the Great Lakes Protection and Restoration Committee Act.

The Great Lakes are a national treasure that we need to protect and restore. They contain 95 percent of our nation's surface freshwater, provide drinking water to millions of people and form the backbone for billions of dollars in shipping, trade, fishing and recreation. Progress has been made in improving environmental conditions in the Great Lakes Basin, but the lakes continue to face many threats, including pollution from contaminated sediments, stormwater and agricultural runoff, the introduction of invasive species, wetlands and coastal habitat loss, and pollutants washed into the lakes from the atmosphere.

While several federal, state, provincial and local programs have been developed to address these problems, these strategies are not well coordinated. According to an April 2003 GAO Report, "no one overarching strategy or plan unifies these strategies in the pursuit of a common goal. . . . An overarching strategy for the basin is needed to establish restoration goals, outline how restoration will occur, identify the resources needed to achieve restoration, assign accountability for restoration, and provide a mechanism for measuring progress for achieving goals."

This week, President Bush signed an Executive Order that establishes a task force to improve the coordination of federal agency efforts and to reach out to state, local, and private partners to develop consistent policies and strategies for Great Lakes restoration. I strongly support the action taken by President Bush, EPA Administrator Leavitt, and Council on Environmental Quality Chairman Connaughton because it will help bring collaboration among the broad collection of existing resources and programs in the region.

Next we need comprehensive legislation to continue to move us forward. The Great Lakes Protection and Restoration Committee Act will provide a path forward by bringing together all of the stakeholders in the basin, led by the Great Lakes State governors with the aid of relevant federal agency officials, tribal representatives, scientific experts and environmental and industry stakeholders. The Committee created by the legislation will develop a specific and comprehensive strategy for the purpose of protecting, preserving and restoring the Great Lakes.

Specifically, the task force will:

Assess accomplishments from current programs over the past 10 years;

Analyze the prospects for achieving restoration goals under current programs and authorities for the next 10 years;

Prioritize restoration goals identified by the Great Lakes governors;

Develop specific, measurable benchmarks for achieving those goals;

Recommend legislative options for obtaining such additional authority and funding as are necessary to achieve those goals;

Suggest methods to improve coordination among the existing federal, state, provincial, local, and non-governmental programs operating in the Great Lakes; and

Report to Congress and the President in one year on its findings and recommendations.

My goal is that the task force will develop a comprehensive, strategic protection and restoration program to bring together and coordinate the plethora of smaller programs that we have in place now.

This serious and measured approach mirrors the steps taken in other large ecosystem restoration projects such as the Everglades and Chesapeake Bay. Due to the complexity of those restoration initiatives, which cross over many jurisdictional lines, environmental challenges and scientific disciplines, it was essential to have an overall strategic plan in place to guide activities and funding decisions over long periods of time. The Great Lakes Basin is significantly larger and the environmental challenges substantially more complex than in those ecosystems. We need an overarching strategy in place to accomplish our vision to protect and restore the lakes.

A lack of adequate funding is certainly an impediment to successful cleanup efforts, but improved program coordination and operation under a comprehensive strategic plan is an essential first step. The Great Lakes Protection and Restoration Committee Act will move Great Lakes restoration forward to help protect and clean up this global treasure. I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL, MR. MOSHE KATSAV, AT THE PRESIDENT'S PALACE IN BERLIN, APRIL 28, 2004

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I recently attended the Conference on Anti-Semitism of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Berlin from April 28–29, 2004. I was privileged to attend as part of the official U.S. delegation, in my capacity as the Ranking Member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), commonly known as the Helsinki Commission. I was pleased to give a speech at the Berlin Conference, after visiting the concentration camps in Auschwitz, on the importance of fighting intolerance and speaking out against acts of anti-Semitism. Secretary of State Colin Powell attended the Conference and spoke forcefully about the need to combat anti-Semitism. Mr. LANTOS of California, the Ranking Member of the International Relations Committee, has already introduced Secretary Powell's statement into the RECORD. The 55 Participating States of the OSCE adopted a strong action plan, the Berlin Declaration,

which lays out specific steps for states to take regarding Holocaust education, data collection and monitoring of hate crimes against Jews, and improved coordination between non-governmental organizations and European law enforcement agencies.

During our Conference, on the evening of April 28, President Johannes Rau of Germany hosted a dinner for the President of the State of Israel Moshe Katsav. President Katsav spoke powerfully about the need to combat the rising tide of anti-Semitism throughout the world. Let me just highlight one section of President Katsav's remarks:

The violence against the Jews in Europe is evidence that anti-Semitism, which we have not known since the Second World War, is on the rise. This trend of the new anti-Semitism is a result of the aggressive propaganda, made possible by modern technologies, globalization and abuse of democracy and which creates an infrastructure for developing and increasing anti-Semitism, of a kind we have not known before * * * Many times I have heard voices saying that anti-Semitism is not unique and that it is no different from other kinds of racism. Anti-Semitism should indeed receive special attention. Hatred against the Jews has existed for many generations and it is rooted in many cultures and continents through the world. However, now anti-Semitism has become an instrument for achieving political aims * * * The genocide of the Jews was the result of anti-Semitism and was not caused by a war between countries or a territorial conflict and, therefore, anti-Semitism is a special danger for world Jewry and the whole of Europe.

Let me draw my colleagues attention to a particularly important part of the Berlin Declaration, in which the OSCE participating States "declare[d] unambiguously that international development of political issues, including those in Israel or elsewhere in the Middle East, never justify anti-Semitism." Let me be clear that I am not seeking to suppress legitimate criticism of Israel, just as I would not seek to silence those who criticize the policies of the U.S. Government. However, when individuals criticize the very existence of the Jewish state, equate Zionism with racism, and compare the Israeli Government to the Nazi regime, then all of us must say together: this is anti-Semitism, and you have crossed the line.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the full text of the Israeli President's remarks at the President's Palace in Berlin be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to read President Katsav's thoughtful remarks.

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL, MR. MOSHE KATSAV, AT THE PRESIDENT'S PALACE IN BERLIN

Mr. President, Ministers, Distinguished Guests, Heads of Delegations:

It is very difficult and sad for me to stand here today in Berlin, 60 years after the Holocaust and to speak about anti-Semitism and the ways of fighting against it.

We, world Jewry, believed that after the terrible events of the Holocaust, it would not be necessary to struggle against anti-Semitism.

We believed that the world would not allow anti-Semitism to raise its head.

We believed that anti-Semitism belonged to the old world and to distant history.

We very much appreciate this gathering in Berlin. This step to fight anti-Semitism sends a very important message that this issue has a significant place in the European

agenda, in the relations between Israel and Europe and between Europe and world Jewry. It is a sign that the security of Jews touches directly basic human values.

I am standing here as a representative of a nation which suffered a great deal during many generations of exiles, inquisition and the terrible Holocaust-Shoah.

I represent a nation which desires to live in peace without fear, without bloodshed, without incitement and without violence.

I am standing here as a citizen of a democratic and free world which is committed to the values of freedom, equality, to universal values which oppose anti-Semitism.

Anti-Semitism is a big tragedy for the Jewish people. It is a moral and historic failure for humanity. It is a failure of world leaders. It is a failure of the free world.

If humanity does not express determination and does not learn the historical lesson, the Holocaust will not remain an abstract issue for the next generation.

Among international leaders, no one in 1933 believed that the Holocaust would happen and, not even at the beginning of the war in 1939. It is very difficult to believe but the Holocaust happened in the heart of Europe, in one of the most sophisticated countries in the world, which had the best musicians, philosophers, scientists and researchers in the world.

Lately we are witnessing again the burning of synagogues and Jewish schools, the desecration of Jewish cemeteries and horrible writings.

Jews are again afraid to walk in the streets with a Star of David and a yarmulke. Jewish children are again a target of violence and the streets of Europe are again not safe for Jews, only because they are Jews.

Jews, as individuals and as a collective, are a target of physical and emotional violence.

Hostile letters, graffiti and the use of the Internet and the media are examples of instruments against the Jews.

For a long time Europe denied the rise in anti-Semitism.

The problem is not just the physical violence and damage caused to Jewish institutions. We are concerned about the hostility and incitement against the Jews and Israel in Europe.

There are some who blame the Jews for an international conspiracy and even blame them for the terrorist acts of September 11th. They accuse American Jews of cooperating with Israel in blaming Islam for these terrorist attacks.

We are witnessing a new trend by radical Muslims who are recreating the classical blood libel and who are publishing again the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion" which claim that the Jews aim to control the world.

For others, the new anti-Semitism is a way of criticizing the Jews and Israel for their treatment of the Palestinian people.

In Europe the rise in classical anti-Semitism, represents the Jews and the Jewish state as brutal devils, the source of wars and responsible for global disasters.

It is difficult for us to believe, but recently the public opinion polls which were initiated by the European Commission show that a majority of Europeans believe Israel is a danger for the stability and peace in the world.

Not the non-democratic countries which are trying to develop and achieve mass destruction weapons, not the totalitarian countries which back terrorist organizations, not the brutal bloodshed in the name of God, not poverty but we, Israel, are a danger for world peace in the eyes of some European people.

The violence against the Jews in Europe is evidence that anti-Semitism, which we have

not known since the Second World War, is on the rise. This trend of the new anti-Semitism is a result of the aggressive propaganda, made possible by modern technologies, globalization and abuse of democracy and which creates an infrastructure for developing and increasing anti-Semitism, of a kind we have not known before.

Millions and millions of people are exposed to television programs and Internet sites full of blood libels.

The silence, the closing of eyes and the slow reactions in some countries permit this incitement to become deeper and stronger.

It is impossible to fight against anti-Semitism, while permitting the demonization of Israel and its leaders and denying its legitimate right to exist.

During the last decade we took historical steps towards the Palestinian people. I would like to mention the Oslo Agreement, the Camp David conference and the acceptance of the Roadmap but during the last ten years we have had not even one quiet day and we suffered from brutal and terrible bloodshed.

Sometimes we feel that Europeans are not ready to feel solidarity with us or to recognize the suffering of the Israeli people from the terrible terrorism, which has continued for many years.

The brutality of the terrorism in the Middle East is of a type that humanity has never seen before.

It is only by cooperation, with determination and with leadership that we can overcome this hatred.

We are astonished that there are still people who deny the Holocaust.

The Durban Conference in September 2001 shocked all of us. It was meant to be a conference against racism but became a meeting of racists against the Jews and the State of Israel.

The anti-Semitism in Europe is a result of the cooperation among elements who are against the West and western values, who are against globalization and against progress, as well as extremists from the left and right and from organizations of radical Muslims.

The world of Islam is very large. There are more than a billion people who are not of one mind and opinion. There are some Muslim countries which have diplomatic relations with Israel, such as Turkey, Egypt, the Hashemite Kingdom, the Muslim Republics in Central Asia, Persian Gulf countries and others. Not all Muslims are anti-Semitic and there is no conflict between Judaism and Islam. In Europe there are 20 million Muslims. Most of them are very good people who desire to live calm and normal lives. However, they are afraid to raise their voices against the extremists. I call on the moderate Muslims in Europe and on their leaders to cooperate with us in encouraging tolerance and understanding for a free and better world.

However, we must still remember that there are still Muslim countries and organizations which are calling for the destruction of the State of Israel.

Anti-Semitism is encouraged and is given inspiration by international terrorism.

Anti-Semitism is a great danger to democracy and freedom in the world.

Where synagogues are burnt, the day will come when stones will be thrown on parliament and democracy is in danger.

Fighting against anti-Semitism with determination will deliver a strong message to the international terrorist organizations and will be a message that the free world has determination to defend its values and is not prepared to tolerate anti-Semitism, hostility and racism.

Anti-Semitism has no justification, no legitimacy and should not be shown any un-

derstanding. Anti-Semitism is a great threat to freedom. It uses human morality, democracy and liberalism for its destructive aims.

Black people are not responsible for the racism against them just as the Jews are not responsible for anti-Semitism.

We had hoped that the creation of a Jewish State would help prevent anti-Semitism. We desired to be a free nation in our homeland, like all nations. The Jewish state is a national home for every Jew and we want to be sure that never again will Jews be unprotected.

We are shocked by the accusations, which compare Israel to Nazi Germany. There is a linkage between this incitement and the violence against Jews in the streets of Europe.

We do not want to prevent legitimate political criticism against Israeli government policy, but we will not tolerate incitement against world Jewry and the Jewish state.

Many times I have heard voices saying that anti-Semitism is not unique and that it is no different from other kinds of racism. Anti-Semitism should indeed receive special attention. Hatred against the Jews has existed for many generations and it is rooted in many cultures and continents throughout the world.

However, now anti-Semitism has become an instrument for achieving political aims. It is being used by Muslims as an instrument to achieve political gains.

The genocide of the Jews was the result of anti-Semitism and was not caused by a war between countries or a territorial conflict and, therefore, anti-Semitism is a special danger for world Jewry and the whole of Europe.

Can it be that the impact of the Holocaust is not strong enough to stop and prevent anti-Semitism? Can it be that the impact of the Holocaust has become weaker in the last decades?

We must focus all our efforts, energies and wisdom on educational activities and research on the Holocaust. We must transmit the lesson of the Holocaust to the young generations.

I call to continue researching and documenting all the events relating to the Holocaust.

We must teach the young generation human values.

I call on the European leaders to increase the awareness of anti-Semitic acts in their countries, to research the origin and background in each country and to evaluate anti-Semitism on a national level.

I call for a mechanism for monitoring and controlling anti-Semitic events and for ways to fight them.

I call for increased cooperation between the countries and law enforcement authorities, in fighting anti-Semitism in Europe.

I call for legislation to prevent anti-Semitism, especially in the Internet and via satellite programs.

I call for a meeting of professionals from all over the world to set up a program and take real steps against anti-Semitism.

I greatly appreciate European governments and leaders who are fighting against anti-Semitism and I very much appreciate this important gathering in Berlin.

Most European countries have close relations with the Arab countries which are responsible for producing incitement and anti-Semitic propaganda on television, in books and in newspapers which are distributed in Europe and around the world.

We must put pressure on such countries to stop the distribution of such terrible incitement against the Jews.

It is not enough to talk against anti-Semitism. We must act.

I believe that European countries wish to do as much as possible to stop anti-Semitism and give security to their Jewish citizens.

European leaders have done a lot lately but not enough. It is necessary to do more in the fields of education, public opinion, legislation and law enforcement.

At this time, we the Jews are not alone. I can see many good friends here who are standing with us. I am aware of many people, nations and leaders who are struggling against anti-Semitism, as they understand that anti-Semitism is a danger to the stability and peace in the world, to human values.

I am aware of European governments who are our partners in our efforts and concern to provide security for every Jew and they understand that Jews have the right to live without fear anywhere.

I appreciate the governments in Europe who have already appointed special ministerial committees for fighting anti-Semitism. I appreciate countries whose parliaments dedicated special sessions on the issue of anti-Semitism.

I appreciate those countries who have decided to strongly condemn anti-Semitism in international bodies.

Indeed, now at the beginning of the 21st century, the situation is very serious. There is an increase in violence and an escalation of anti-Semitism against the Jews but there is a big difference. We are not living in the thirties. We have a Jewish, sovereign and independent state and this makes a big difference.

We know what happened in the Second World War and what racism brought upon the world and, because of this I am very pleased that there is more awareness. Now leaders are more sensitive and they protect their citizens. There is legislation and law enforcement in many countries. The leaders speak out and there are many seminars and conferences against anti-Semitism. The strong position of the United States of America in this matter is remarkable. I also very much appreciate the position of the Vatican on this difficult and tragic issue.

I am very sorry that the Irish proposal to the United Nations General Assembly in December 2003, was not adopted, because of the objection of some Muslim countries. It is very sad that a special resolution which condemns anti-Semitism and attacks against Jews cannot be passed now in the United Nations.

The European Union should continue its efforts in this important initiative and in all multilateral organizations, in fighting against anti-Semitism.

We are very proud of our Jewish heritage and history. It is a source of pride for world Jewry. I hope that the Jewish people will also be a source of appreciation, understanding and respect and not a target for hatred.

I hope and pray for cooperation for development, prosperity and tolerance instead of destruction, bloodshed and hatred.

I would like to thank, you, President Rau and Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer for this important initiative. I believe that this meeting will be very constructive and that it will help us achieve our mutual goals.

I hope that the Berlin Conference will serve as a basis for continued efforts against anti-Semitism.

I wish to express my personal appreciation to President Rau for his wise and moral leadership, for his great friendship towards Israel and the Jewish people, and his personal dedication to the fight against anti-Semitism.

We have the strength and the will to create a better world, a just world for all humanity. Let us put all our efforts together to make it possible. Let us work together.

Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO GLEN DOUGLAS

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Master Sergeant Glen Douglas' sacrifice and service to our nation, which spanned twenty-two years and three wars, the first of which was World War II.

Glen Douglas is one of the most decorated veterans in our region, having received the Distinguished Service Medal and seven purple hearts among other honors.

The following excerpts from the May 4th, 2004 weekly edition of the Colville Statesman Examiner are a testament to the sacrifice, courage, commitment and leadership Mr. Douglas displayed throughout the course of his service.

Douglas's service to our country first began as an infantryman in Europe with the 101st Airborne (Screaming Eagles) in 1944 and then in the occupation army with the U.S. Constabulary. Douglas then served in the Korean War with the U.S. 2nd (Indianhead) Infantry Division from 1950-1953 before he was med-evacuated after being wounded for the eighth time. In the incidents prior when he had been wounded and evacuated, he would be taken as far as Japan before he would disappear from the hospital, get clothes and take a boat back to his Infantry Division. "I would get very angry having somebody else lead the men and lose them." Douglas said, "I hardly ever lost a man when I was leading. After being wounded for the eighth time, Douglas nearly lost his legs and spent four years, four months and twenty-six days in the Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver before he was released. He was told he would never walk again. But Douglas had his own ideas. "I was released December 23, 1957" Douglas remembered. By 1959, "I was jumping out of airplanes again." Douglas served two tours in Vietnam with the Special Forces (Green Beret) and then again with the highly classified Studies and Operations Group before retiring after twenty-two years of service.

I was pleased to learn that Mr. Douglas was recently selected by fellow veterans from local chapters of the American Legion, VFW, and Marine Corps League to receive an all expense paid trip to Washington D.C. in order to represent them during the upcoming dedication of the National World War II Memorial later this month.

The Memorial is a fitting tribute to the great courage and selfless dedication of soldiers who fought in the Second World War and as we approach Memorial Day, I encourage my colleagues to reflect on the great sacrifices of men like Glen Douglas.

IN HONOR OF THE MILE SQUARE DAY CARE CENTER ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mile Square Day Care Center in celebration of its 25th anniversary. The Mile Square Day Care Center will celebrate with a

25th Anniversary Celebration Reception on Thursday, May 20, 2004, at The Lighthouse in West New York, New Jersey.

In 1977, a group of dedicated community minded people, with the help and guidance of Mayor Steve Cappiello, established a not-for-profit corporation to develop and run programs for young children. And through the hard work of the original board of directors, Hugh Kilmer, James Monaco, Dr. Frank Colon, Dr. Gerard Costa; and Charles A. Tortorella, the Mile Square Day Care Center was established in 1979.

In order to maintain the balance of community and parent involvement, the board of directors, since its inception, has consisted of an equal number of community members and parents. The original board of directors developed an environment that was nurturing and loving to the children. With the wide range of social, economic, and cultural groups, the activities in the Mile Square Day Care Center represented and continue to represent the diversity of its children and the city.

For twenty-five years, the Mile Square Day Care Center has touched the lives of over 3,000 families, providing the first preschool program in the City of Hoboken. Established in 1982 by former Executive Director Rosemary Fuocco, the Mile Square Day Care Center also began providing infant and toddler care for children ages three months to three years, and continues to provide preschool service for children three to five years of age. With a curriculum established with a hands-on approach, each child is given the opportunity to reach his or her intellectual and social potential.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the community leaders and dedicated parents, past and present, of the Mile Square Day Care Center, in recognition of their outstanding contributions and dedication to our children over the last twenty-five years.

TRIBUTE TO A.W. PICKEL, III, UPON THE COMPLETION OF HIS TENURE AS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MORTGAGE BROKERS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, A.W. Pickel, III, of Lenexa, Kansas, will soon be completing a distinguished tenure as President of the National Association of Mortgage Brokers (NAMB) and the Kansas Association of Mortgage Brokers. NAMB provides invaluable services for the mortgage broker industry which originates two out of three home loans in the country. It is the voice of the mortgage broker industry, with more than 16,000 members in all 50 states.

As you know, home ownership is at an all time record rate largely due to the contributions of mortgage brokers; through his involvement in NAMB, A.W. Pickel has been instrumental in shaping housing policy in this country.

A.W. Pickel, III, was the founding president of the Kansas Association of Mortgage Brokers and still serves as an active ex-officio member of the Kansas Association of Mortgage Brokers' Board of Directors. In 1999, the

Kansas Association named him Broker of the Year. He is president and CEO of Leader Mortgage Company in Lenexa, Kansas, which is in my congressional district. Leader Mortgage Company also has offices in Dallas, Texas; Des Moines, Iowa; Nashville, Tennessee; Topeka, Kansas; and Pittsburg, Kansas.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to commend A.W. Pickel for his contributions to his profession and involvement in his community and dedication to his wife Diane and daughters, Lara, Alissa, Jessica, and Rebecca. I join with the residents of the entire Third Congressional District of Kansas in applauding A.W. Pickel, III, for his successful tenure as President of NAMB and in wishing him continued success in all future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I was detained and was not able to cast my vote on Rollcall #195, passage of H. Con. Res. 424, Honoring past and current members of the Armed Forces of the United States and encouraging Americans to wear red poppies on Memorial Day. Had I been present I would have voted "aye".

REPLANTING OF TREE MEMORIALIZING THE LATE REPRESENTATIVE JOSEPH TAGGART OF KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the honor of working with the Architect of the Capitol to replant on the east Capitol grounds a pin oak memorializing the late U.S. Representative Joe Taggart of Kansas City, Kansas.

Representative Joe Taggart was elected three times to Congress from a House district including Kansas City, Kansas—in a 1911 special election, and then in regular elections in 1912 and 1914. Born in rural Iowa in 1867, Joe Taggart moved to Kansas during his childhood and graduated from Salina Normal University in 1890; after teaching school for two years in Bavaria, Kansas, he was admitted to the practice of law in 1893 in Salina, moving shortly thereafter to Kansas City. Taggart served as Kansas City's prosecuting attorney from 1907–1911, when he was elected as a Democrat to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Alexander Mitchell. Twice re-elected, he was defeated in 1916. During the First World War, Taggart served in the quartermaster corps of the United States Army. After the war, he resumed private law practice in Kansas City and was appointed judge of the Kansas Court of Industrial Relations in 1924. Joe Taggart died in Wadsworth, Kansas, in 1938 and is buried in Atchison.

In approximately 1916, Representative Taggart and his family planted a pin oak in his

honor on the east lawn of the Capitol. The Architect of the Capitol has generously provided me with several prints of photos of that event. This tree survived, although in declining condition, until the area was leveled in order to construct the Capitol Visitors' Center. The staff of the Architect of the Capitol, led by Senior Landscape Architect and Horticulturist Matthew Evans, recently planted here on the Capitol grounds, near Independence Avenue, Southeast, a young pin oak to replace the earlier Taggart memorial tree. I also want to acknowledge the generous support of the Kansas Society of Washington, D.C.; thanks to the support of the Society's current president Heather Wingate and past presidents David Kensinger and Alan Sobba, the Kansas Society donated the cost of the new tree.

The replanting of the Joseph Taggart memorial tree serves as a small reminder of the state of Kansas on the grounds of our U.S. Capitol and I am pleased to have been a part of this event.

IN HONOR OF SAINT ANTHONY HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the Congress and the nation to a story of excellence so rare that it deserves the attention of all who believe the human spirit is capable of overcoming even the greatest of odds.

This story is being written at Saint Anthony High School, a small school in downtown Jersey City whose motto is "to be all that you can be." While neither the school nor its students possess great financial resources, they are both blessed with the heart of champions.

The latest chapter of this story culminated when the Saint Anthony High School boys' basketball team won this year's New Jersey state championship with a stunning 67–55 win over Bloomfield Tech to cap a remarkable undefeated (30–0) season. With this victory, Saint Anthony High School tied a national record by winning its 24th state championship.

The team's legendary coach, Bob Hurley, has now produced an undefeated team in each of his four decades of coaching (1974, 1989, 1996, 2004).

Since Saint Anthony High School does not have a gym, the boys' basketball team has been forced to practice at a rented facility. Nevertheless, in 32 years of coaching, Hurley has compiled an amazing 826–92 record against high-caliber competition—winning an incredible 90 percent of his games.

Hurley has coached dozens of players who went on to become NCAA All-Americans and NBA stars. More importantly, he has taken thousands of boys and turned them into champions, both on and off the court. In 32 years, all but one of his players went to college.

Coach Hurley has gone on record about this undefeated 2004 team—calling them the best defensive team he's ever coached. That, I assure you Mr. Speaker, is saying something.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Coach Bob Hurley and the State Champion 2004 Saint Anthony High School

boys' basketball team in recognition of their commitment to excellence both on and off the court and for their continuing inspiration to us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of Monday, May 17, 2004, the House had votes on H. Con. Res. 420, H. Con. Res. 423 and H. Con. Res. 403. On House roll call votes #177, #178 and #179, I was unavoidably detained at the airport. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on each.

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during National Small Business Week to recognize Dr. Sam Rainey, the founder and owner the Family Pet Clinic, a small business located in my Congressional District. Dr. Rainey runs a successful veterinary clinic in Denton, Texas that employ seven North Texans—and he plans to hire another person very soon.

It is small businesses like the Family Pet Clinic that are driving America's economy today. They create the majority of new jobs and account for half of the economy's private output. In 2002, 99.7 percent of all businesses were small businesses.

Small businesses have had an enormous impact on innovation and progress in America. Historically, the bulk of breakthrough products emerged from small businesses. Small firms produce 13 to 14 times more patents per employee than large companies.

The 108th Congress has passed a number of initiatives to bolster small businesses including the Jobs and Growth Reconciliation Act of 2003 which included a provision that tripled the amount that small businesses can immediately expense and increased bonus depreciation for the purchase of capital equipment.

In addition to fiscally helping small businesses, the House of Representatives passed Association Health Plan legislation that would enable small businesses, of similar trade and profession, to pool their employees for better health care coverage benefits. By joining together, small employers will enjoy greater bargaining power, economies of scale and administrative efficiencies.

In conclusion, as we celebrate National Small Business Week, congratulate Dr. Sam Rainey and his thriving small business and urge the U.S. Senate to show their support of America's small businesses by passing initiatives, like association health plans, that are important to small businesses and their employees.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL JOHN B.
O'DOWD

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel John B. O'Dowd for his outstanding work and leadership in the New York District of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. His tenure as Chief Engineer has been one of exceptional work and dedication.

Colonel O'Dowd assumed command of the New York District of the United States Army Corps of Engineers in July 2001. Since his appointment, Colonel O'Dowd has brought great leadership, focus, and passion to his position. Responsible for the water resource development, navigation, and regulatory activities in parts of New Jersey, New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, Colonel O'Dowd has led by example and has worked tirelessly to achieve his objective.

Prior to his position with the Army Corps of Engineers, Colonel O'Dowd commanded and served as Executive Officer of the 30th Engineer Battalion at Fort Bragg. He also served as Executive Officer for the Engineer Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division in the Republic of Korea, and was assigned as the Operations Officer for the 20th Engineer Brigade during Operation "Uphold Democracy" in Haiti.

For his distinguished work and military service, Colonel O'Dowd has received numerous awards and citations, including the Meritorious Service Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and the Master Parachutist Badge.

Colonel O'Dowd received his bachelor's degree from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1978 and a Master's Degree from John Hopkins University in Environmental Engineering in 1989. He is also a loving husband to his wife and dedicated father to his three children.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Colonel John B. O'Dowd for his outstanding leadership, courage, and service to this great country. He will be greatly missed as he leaves the New York District of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. It has been an honor and a pleasure to have worked with him the last three years and I wish him all the best in his new assignment in Afghanistan.

TRIBUTE TO ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ON THEIR 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Associated Builders and Contractors of Southern California as they celebrate their 30th Anniversary.

The Associated Builders and Contractors of Southern California was established in 1974 with 78 charter members to assist businesses

large and small with the necessary skills to become a successful operation. Providing their members with management leadership skills and safety training, the Associated Builders and Contractors of Southern California have created an industry with high standards and quality employees.

Founded on the belief of the free enterprise system, the Associated Builders and Contractors of Southern California actively promote the Merit Shop Philosophy whereby contractors pay, promote and recognize their employees based on individual merit. It is this philosophy and their commitment to providing employees with adequate wages, benefits and safe working conditions that has made this association a pioneer in the construction industry.

Recognizing the valuable contributions to the industry and the community, I would like to congratulate the Associated Builders and Contractors of Southern California on their anniversary of thirty successful years.

TO CALL ATTENTION TO THE HIGH PRICE OF GAS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the increasing pressure rising gas prices are placing on the constituents of Ohio's tenth district, and consumers around the country.

Today, I received a petition, presented to me by WEWS Television Station in Cleveland, Ohio, from those in the Cleveland area who are being harmed by the recent spikes in gas prices. This petition, with over 14,000 signatures, is evidence of the strains placed on consumers in an already bleak economic market. To address these concerns, I, along with 67 other members of the House of Representatives, am sending a letter to President Bush expressing my concerns.

Effectively addressing high gasoline prices will take six steps—none of which are included in the energy legislation.

First, require oil companies to expand gasoline storage capacities, require them to hold significant amounts in that storage, and reserve the right to order these companies to release this stored gas to address supply and demand fluctuations.

Second, block mergers that make it easier for oil companies to manipulate gasoline supplies, and take steps, such as forcing companies to sell assets, to remedy the current highly concentrated market.

Third, re-regulate energy trading exchanges that were exploited by Enron and continue to be abused by other energy traders.

Fourth, discontinue filling the Strategic Petroleum Reserve while prices are high and conduct a study of building crude and product reserves that can be used as economic stockpiles to dampen price increases.

Fifth, reduce oil consumption by implementing strong fuel economy standards. Substantially improving CAFE standards over a ten-year period would reduce the oil used by one-third in 2020 and save consumers \$16 billion at the gas pump.

Sixth, request the Federal Trade Commission conduct a study of the reasons why the

market forced the closure of over 50 predominantly small and independent refiners in the past 10 years and assess how to bring fair competition back to the refinery market and thus expand capacity.

By employing all six of these strategies, substantial reductions in the price of gasoline are attainable.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in supporting these strategies to lower gasoline prices for consumers. I want to thank WEWS for their public service of bringing these signatures to Washington. The people of Ohio have spoken. It is time for Congress and the Administration to respond to meet the people's needs.

HONORING MICHAEL DOYLE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor Michael Doyle who was former Knight Journalism Fellow at Yale Law School and recent author of *The Forestport Breaks: A Nineteenth-Century Conspiracy along the Black Forest Canal*. I have had the pleasure of forming a relationship with Michael Doyle because of his continued fair and balanced Washington Politics Beat coverage in my district newspaper, the Fresno Bee. Doyle's latest literary achievement follows a string of exceptional work including numerous articles for McClatchy Papers in California's Central Valley. *The Forestport Breaks: A Nineteenth-Century Conspiracy along the Black Forest Canal* depicts a conspiracy to sabotage part of the Erie Canal system along the Black River Canal.

A *Publisher's Weekly Review* called the work "carefully researched and nimbly written . . . Doyle's account of a 19th-century conspiracy to sabotage part of the Erie Canal system is a delight to read. Completed in 1825, the Erie Canal was an engineering marvel that vastly improved commercial transportation. In 1856, canal boats carried over four million tons of goods—more than twice the load of the railroads. But by 1869, the tide had turned in favor of New York's railroads; the canal had fallen into disrepair and was subject to costly breaks that flooded the countryside. In 1895, New York voters approved \$9 million in improvements—but a subsequent investigation revealed that all but \$25,000 of the money had been spent, but only one third of the work was complete. The subsequent scandal made heads roll, including the governor's. After Theodore Roosevelt was elected in 1898, he appointed Colonel John N. Partridge as superintendent of public works. Aware that Forestport in Oneida County (which was along the Black River feeder canal) had acquired an unsavory reputation, Partridge hired the Pinkerton Detective Agency to investigate. The locals fought the Pinkertons as enemies of the working man, but the latter eventually uncovered a plot that involved nearly every family in Forestport (and, in the words of one prosecutor, had 'no parallel in viciousness') in which the canal was 'the plaything of the politically connected' while the working men assigned to protect it damaged it for a tiny slice of the pie. In the end, 13 men went to jail for

sabotaging the canal in an effort to rob the state treasury. History and mystery fans should enjoy this well-told tale.”

Again, I would like to thank Michael Doyle for his continued service to the Central Valley of California and the general public through his work in journalism and his latest example of literary excellence in *The Forestport Breaks: A Nineteenth-Century Conspiracy* along the Black Forest Canal, enlightening us to some of the history that marks the only time New York state officials have charged men with conspiring to destroy canal property and detailing the evolution of this important transportation waterway.

HONORING SMALL BUSINESSES

HON. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ Mr Speaker, I rise today to honor small businesses, especially, the small businesses in Puerto Rico. Small businesses represent the foundation of the economies of the United States and Puerto Rico. Their success both depends on and supports a successful economy. Since arriving in Washington, I have had the pleasure and honor of sitting on the Small Business Committee. Through this committee and the leadership of our ranking member, NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ, we have fought for the success of small businesses, particularly minority owned businesses.

The Small Business Committee recently sent a joint bi-partisan letter to the Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee requesting \$79 million for the Small Business Administration's 7(a) loan guarantee program in FY 2005. I hope that my colleagues will understand how severe the situation would be without this fundamental program. The 7(a) program is highly utilized in Puerto Rico. I join my Ranking Democratic Member, NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ, and the committee Chairman, DONALD M. MANZULLO, in urging the Chairman, Congressman FRANK WOLF, and the Ranking Democratic Member, Congressman JOSE SERRANO, to provide the necessary funds to continue this highly successful and highly utilized program.

I would like to close by honoring one small business owner from my district, Evaristo Freiria-Villamil. He was chosen as the 2004 Small Business Person of the Year from the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. I applaud his work as a small business owner and wish him continued success.

Lastly, I wish to applaud the efforts of all small business owners in Puerto Rico. Through their hard work and dedication, we will build a stronger economy for Puerto Rico.

CONGRATULATING UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA AS IT CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania as it celebrates its 50th anniversary on Monday at Genetti's in Dickson City, Pennsylvania.

United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania is an agency that exists solely to serve people with disabilities.

UCP was founded in 1953 by a group of people, including parents of teenagers and young adults with cerebral palsy. For the first few years, the agency consisted of volunteers who developed recreational activities for those disabled by cerebral palsy. The organization received funding from the community contributions and special events conducted by various groups.

After becoming a member agency of the United Fund, the precursor to the United Way, and through several cooperative agreements with other local organizations, UCP began providing professional services. Government funding began in 1970, and made possible the extension of the area that the agency serves.

Government funding also expanded services and increased the eligibility for services of persons with disabilities other than cerebral palsy. In fact, while the agency specializes in serving children and adults who have cerebral palsy, more than 75 percent of its clients have other related disabilities.

The growth of the agency over these past five decades mirrors the changes that have come about in society for persons with disabilities. However, the commitment of this agency to people with disabilities is something that has not and will not change. There is no higher calling than being part of an organization that served those less fortunate, and I want to take this opportunity to thank Executive Director Sarah Drob, Director of Operations Timothy McHugh, Coordinator of Residential Services Karen Himchak, Coordinator of Children's Services Cheryl Astolfi, Coordinator of Adult Services Faith Smith, Accountant Ruta Labutis, Coordinator of Communications and Development Barbara Siarkiewicz and Administrative Assistant Tessie Bauer.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly a privilege to represent this fine organization that has shown its commitment to the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Today I ask you and my fellow colleagues to join me in honoring United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT E. EBERLY, SR.

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of an extraordinary individual, Mr. Robert Eberly Sr., of Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

As with all great humanitarians, it is impossible to fully assess the impact Robert Eberly's life has had on his community and our country. A true gentleman and tireless philanthropist, known for his grace and humility as well as his passion for bettering the lives of others, Robert Eberly's generosity is legendary not only in Pennsylvania but across the country.

Bob often said that others worked just as hard as he did, but were not as fortunate because of circumstances beyond their control. Guided by this basic belief, he donated tens of millions of dollars to support education and economic development.

Robert Eberly was a man of incomparable energy and was actively involved in many of the projects he funded. Though he could have resided anywhere in the world, his heart and home remained in Fayette County, Pennsylvania where his father, a coal miner, raised him on the importance of education. His desire to help the economically depressed region in the wake of the downsizing of the steel and coal industry led him to found Fay-Penn Economic Development Council to support economic development in his home county.

He believed that education is a key to economic development—that the two are intertwined. He therefore donated heavily to colleges and universities throughout Pennsylvania as well as across the United States to promote education in the sciences and to make education accessible to those who could least afford it.

Robert Eberly passed away yesterday at the age of 85. He will be remembered for the example of true character he set for everyone who knew him as well as for the profound legacy of his work. His was a life well spent in the effort to help others. He will be missed by all whose lives he touched—and we will never know all of them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, on rcall no. 182, I was not present in the House due to a medical consultation at the Howard University hospital. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

MEMORIALIZING ROBERT MASAHIRO YOSHIKAWA

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and contributions of Mr. Robert Masahiro Yoshikawa who recently passed away. He was a pillar of the community and a personal friend of mine. Mr. Yoshikawa made an immeasurable impact on all those around him through his career, his volunteer work, and his devotion to family. His tireless efforts improved the lives of countless people in his community.

I met Robert Yoshikawa many years ago when we were both students at San Jose

State University. From that moment on he continually amazed me with his unwavering selflessness and his extraordinary dedication to the community. Throughout his life, he consistently put others before himself through volunteering and his active involvement with his church, his family activities, and his neighborhood.

For those who are unfamiliar with Mr. Yoshikawa's life, I would like to take a moment to highlight some of his extraordinary contributions. In addition to serving as President of the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, Bob served on the board of directors of both the SJBC and Fuji Towers and played an integral part on many committees. Mr. Yoshikawa was also a past chairman of church ministerial affairs and Obon committees, as well as a charter member and current president of Young Japanese Adults. In 2002, Robert was presented with the Volunteer Recognition Award by the Junior League of San Jose.

In addition to his extensive volunteer work, Mr. Yoshikawa was a wonderful husband to his wife Phyllis and father to his sons, Mark and Scott. He served as an ideal role model for his sons, teaching them right from wrong, imparting to them a spirit of service, and making time to involve himself in their lives and activities. He could often be seen videotaping his sons' football games or driving them to various Boy Scouts, sporting or church activities in his Chevy Suburban. He would constantly guide his sons with sage advice from his experience and the experiences of his own father. He was a man of strong conviction, who stood behind his decisions without wavering.

Robert Yoshikawa, a second generation American, was born in Newcastle, California in 1940. Upon graduating from high school, he attended Sierra Junior College before matriculating on to San Jose State where he received a degree in mechanical engineering and met his future wife, Phyllis Osaki. The couple first lived in an apartment in Sunnyvale, but spent the past 37 years in the house in San Jose that they watched being built. It was there they raised their two boys. Robert worked at Lockheed Martin until his retirement in 2003. At Lockheed, Robert's robust engineering skills and attention to detail were instrumental in the success of several important projects. He was praised for being accurate and efficient, and his remarkable patience and experience made him a valuable mentor to the younger engineers at Lockheed.

Upon retiring from his job at Lockheed Martin after 40 years, Mr. Yoshikawa embarked on yet another chapter in his full life. Though he and Phyllis had already traveled the globe, he had even more trips planned and was enjoying his return to improving his golf game with other retired friends. Always wanting to be useful, he also agreed to volunteer at the Japanese American Museum of San Jose as just one more in his myriad of community services. It was on March 24, while volunteering at the museum, that Mr. Yoshikawa died of a heart attack. Since he was in apparent excellent health, his passing came as quite a shock to all who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of a friend and a role model. I knew Robert for 40 years and he was as inspirational to me the last time I saw him, as he was when we first met. I know that the people of the Bay

Area appreciate everything that this wonderful man has done for them and I feel privileged for having known him.

FRED ELLIOT ROBB, USN RET.,
WORLD WAR I VETERAN AND
OLDEST LIVING MARINE

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the few remaining World War I veterans living among us. Fred Elliot Robb is an American of exceptional character, having served in our Armed Services during three major conflicts of the twentieth century.

Originally enlisting in the United States Marine Corps on July 18th, 1918, Fred served as an orderly to a Captain at Quantico, Virginia. He was discharged in February of 1919 and returned home to Sarcoxie, Missouri to complete high school and to make service his vocation by becoming a Presbyterian minister.

When World War II broke out, Fred Robb once again offered his service to his country. He joined the United States Navy as a chaplain and remained in uniform through the first engagements of the War in Vietnam, retiring as a Lieutenant Commander.

Patriotism runs deep in the Robb family. Fred's brother Jacob, also a veteran of World War I, passed away on February 29th of this year at age 105. At the age of 107, Fred, along with his wife Fern, are independent, contributing citizens of the Great State of Missouri.

Throughout his remarkable life, Fred Elliot Robb has exemplified selfless devotion to duty. When his nation needed him, Fred Robb looked with resolve at the challenges facing our nation and accepted them with bravery, determination, and service. Throughout his life he has continued to live by those ideals.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that Fred Robb calls Springfield, Missouri, his home. As we approach Memorial Day, we honor this oldest living Marine for his sacrifice on behalf of our nation and for the example that he sets for generations of Americans to come.

SMALL BUSINESSES ARE THE
BEDROCK OF OUR ECONOMY

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, American small businesses are the bedrock of our economy and the heart and soul of this country. Yet these same businesses are also unfairly burdened by red tape regulations.

As our economy matures and expands, it is important that businesses are given every advantage to compete. The amount of time and money small businesses tie up in red tape compliance is exorbitant. Small business owners account for 80 percent of new jobs created in the U.S. economy—that's 8 out of 10 new jobs for Americans created by small businesses. Yet in 2000, the costs small busi-

nesses paid in annual regulatory burdens were close to two-thirds greater than that paid by large firms. So why is it, these same businesses carry significantly more responsibility for red tape costs? That just doesn't make sense.

I know first hand how father-son family businesses build up their communities and I know first hand how they are penalized for nothing more than their size. Small businesses should be educating their employees and expanding on ideas, not wasting precious man hours pushing pencils and paper trying to find their way through all the red tape.

Mr. Speaker, we need to release small businesses from excessive regulatory costs which hurts their ability to thrive. Reducing the burden on our small businesses is right for our workers, it is right for our businesses, and it is right for our economy.

LIBERATION OF GUAM: HONORING
THE 5TH FIELD MARINES

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, this year is the 60th Anniversary of the Liberation of Guam in 1944 by the U. S. Armed Forces headed by United States Marines. The highlight of Guam's calendar of anniversary activities ever since has been the Liberation Day parade on Marine Drive in downtown Hagåtña, the capital of Guam.

Here in the nation's capital, the anniversary is traditionally observed with the Member of Congress from Guam placing a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknowns, accompanied by government officials, civilian and military.

This year, I had the honor of hosting this memorable event which had an added dimension. It was attended by about 100 special guests—Marine veterans of World War II and members of their families. Also present were sons and daughters of Guam living in the region.

As members of the 5th Field Service Depot, these veterans either participated in the liberation of Guam or served Guam during the reconstruction period following liberation. Their pride in their role in the recapture and reconstruction of Guam is a source of great inspiration to us. Their devotion to Guam, as manifested in their establishment of an academic scholarship for a Guamanian student, is one of their touching gestures—from the liberators to the liberated.

On the eve of the dedication of the National World War II Memorial, it is my privilege to enter the names of those Marines and Navy Corpsmen, present here today with their families and friends, in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of this, the House of the people of the United States: Al and Jo Aniello; Sue Barke; Armin and Lois Barth; Bish Bischoff, John and Josie Boertlein; Sandy and Dolores Bompiedi; Art Boston; Lisa Botteri; Bill Buckner; Connie Burrell; Mrs. Frank Carroll; Joe and Terry Ciecierski; Maury Claus; Christna Clausen; Florence Cottone; Cal Dart; Ed and Dot Demm; Frank and Irene Derose; Ed and Mimi Disch; Chuck Doss; Darrell and Evelyn Doss.

Lee Edwards; Fran Feiner; Lillian Feiner; Ken Freck; Arnie and Helen Gasparetti; Mrs.

Evan Geroux; Robert and Marie Gray; Walt and Madeleine Grisevich; Barrett Hackney; Christopher Hackney; Nick and Jayne Hasenflu; Ben and Dee Heath; Don and Barb Hehir; Maury and Dorothy Henderson; Fen Holmes; Elsa House; Lewis and Annella Howlett.

Bill and Willeen Hutchins; Les and Mary Jehnke; Mrs. John King; Betty Kostman; Mrs. Robert Larson; Joe and Ruth Laur; Ernie and Lynn Lee; Frank and Helen Lindsay; Rich and Eileen Little; Roy and Barb Manis; Bill and Roman Mathews; Matty and Barb Matthews; Bob Mcowan; Budd and Ginger Melanson; Ski Nalewanski; Keith Neuman; Harry Ozenbaugh; Mike and Elain Papis; Jake and Viv Plank; Dave Resenthal; Louise Sims; Rabbit and Delna Stefanow; Marge Storing; Doc and Bev Tibbitts; Jude Tonkin; Donna Trotter; Kyle Trotter; Mrs. William Wolfe; Wally and Joan Yandel.

We on Guam know what freedom is because we also know what occupation is. We celebrate Liberation Day on Guam every year as the day of deliverance from enemy occupation and the return of freedom after 32 months of enemy subjugation. We know what it means to thank Marines, Soldiers, Sailors, Coast Guardsmen, and Airmen for their sacrifices because it was not all that long ago that we were an occupied land. On this Memorial Day, 2004, as we gather in the heart of democracy to honor the greatest generation we on Guam, fellow Americans, would like to add our humble gratitude to the veterans of the 5th Field Service Depot who have returned to help us recall the sacrifices of liberation and renew our love of freedom. God Bless America. God Bless Guam. God Bless the United States Marine Corps.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL PALMER'S
DEDICATION TO THE TEMPLE
CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Michael Palmer for over 14 years of dedicated service as a member of the Temple City Unified School District Board of Education.

Mike Palmer is a dedicated supporter of public education. He is recognized and respected by the community for his unique educational vision. From November 28, 1989 through April 22, 2004, he faithfully served as a member of the Temple City Unified School District Board of Education.

Mike Palmer is an admired and integral member of the Temple City community. He is strongly committed to providing a superior educational experience for students in the district. He has been elected by the residents of TCUSD to serve four terms on the Board of Education. His outstanding leadership on the board has helped guide and influence his fellow board members to make the best decisions for students and faculty in the District.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in congratulating Michael Palmer for a truly exemplary public service career, and for his immense commitment to the Temple City Unified School District.

MOUNT VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL SE-
LECTED FOR NASA EXPLORER
SCHOOL PROGRAM

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, as far as we can remember, we have dreamed of reaching the stars. Since its inception in 1958, NASA has helped us realize those dreams. They have taken us into space, placed Americans on the moon, and opened our eyes by exceeding feats once deemed unreachable.

Today, I want to congratulate Mount View Middle School, located in Welch, West Virginia, for being selected to participate in the NASA Explorer School Program. As the first school in West Virginia to be chosen for this prestigious and exciting educational adventure, I am pleased that many of our children in Southern West Virginia will have the opportunity to be exposed to the world of science and engineering in a new and exciting way.

We must focus attention on our future astronauts, scientists, and engineers who will take us even farther than we dare to dream today. They are our children and our students, and with them our hope rests. We must nurture them and give them the resources they need to advance their studies; enhancing their learning and expanding their opportunities so that when it is their time to shine not even the darkest day will dim their light.

The NASA Explorer School Program will help train our math and science teachers and school administrators, for it is our teachers that can provide the spark that ignites our passion, and they lay the basic foundations of education necessary for the success of our future expeditions into space. Advancing the knowledge and skills of our teachers will only improve the development of our students.

The benefits of engaging and educating children in the world of science and engineering cannot be overstated. Programs such as the NASA Explorer Schools Program enable our students to explore these important subjects at a level and intensity that they might not otherwise experience. I once again congratulate Mount View Middle School for being selected to participate in this exciting program, and I look forward to hearing about their related successes.

With the impending challenges ahead, not only today but for generations to come, can we afford not to be ready? By ensuring that our students, our future NASA scientists and engineers, are well prepared for the trials ahead, we can ensure that our future in the skies is as bright as the stars above.

The future of NASA is the future of man. And, as we look toward our future we are reminded of the words of William Faulkner when he said, "I believe that man will not merely endure. He will prevail. He is immortal, not because he alone among creatures has an inexhaustible voice, but because he has a soul, a spirit capable of compassion and sacrifice and endurance."

HONORING WILLIS A. (JACK)
PANGBURN AND WARREN H.
SWARTZ

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize two individuals from my district who have dedicated their lives to making our country safer. Not only have these men served our Country in World War II, but they continue to go beyond their call of duty by providing their services to military funerals and always being available to lend a helping hand for the community.

Willis A. (Jack) Pangburn, was born on September 3, 1918 in Mystic, Iowa. He served in the U.S. Army Infantry in WWII, and was wounded in action. Mr. Pangburn received both the Bronze Star and Purple Heart Medals for his valiant actions. He married Rosemary who passed away in 1985. Together, they had one son, four daughters. Mr. Pangburn is a member of the Disabled American Veterans, and American Legion Veterans of Foreign Wars, and was Post commander (2 years) of the VFW.

Mr. Pangburn is honored as this year's Memorial Day Grand Parade Marshall in Goshen, Indiana for service as Coordinator of the Military Funeral Detail from 1987 to 1997. This unit participates in all military funerals requested by deceased veteran's families in Goshen. Honorary Color Guard, Flag Presentation, Rifle Salute, and TAPS are all included in the service. As many as 12 members participate. He presently serves as a member of this unit. Since 1946 he has helped in placing 4 inch white crosses on deceased VFW Members graves, many of these years he has been in charge of this work at Oakridge Cemetery. He continues to "Ring Bells"(Santa Claus) for the Salvation Army, passes out "Buddy Poppies" on Memorial Day for the VFW, helps purchase and delivers food baskets to the needy at Christmas time, and is still ready to contribute his time and energy at 85 years of age.

Warren H. Swartz, was born on May 7, 1924 in Millersburg, Indiana. He served in the U.S. Navy in WWII as a Gunners Mate in the South Pacific and part-time Diver. He married Gerry in January, 1953. Together they had one daughter. Mr. Swartz is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and Disabled American Veterans, and presently serving as Chaplain of the D.A.V. since 1992.

Mr. Swartz was honored as last year's Memorial Day Grand Parade Marshall in Goshen for his service as Coordinator of the Military Funeral Detail from 1997 to 2003. He still serves as a member and, as Chaplain of the D.A.V., he is called upon to present the American flag to the next of kin frequently.

He is revered by all the men of this detail, which numbers about 45, by his faithful and military presence in the fulfillment of his duties. He is willing to travel anywhere to assist a veteran in need.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004
LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP
WINNER, KELLI McCARRELL OF
PARMA, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Kelli McCarrell, winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is given to young adults who have demonstrated their true commitment to playing an important role in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Kelli is being honored for demonstrating the same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Kelli is an exceptional student at Western High School. Aside from being at the top of her class academically, she possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. She has participated in Varsity Golf and Cheerleading for four years as well as the school band. Notable among her many activities is her service as President of the Spanish Club, Treasurer of the National Honor Society, and Captain of the Math Academic Team. Kelli is also very active with her church.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to join her many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to Kelli McCarrell for her selection as winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor not only recognizes her efforts, but is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and other individuals whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, we extend our most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT
DOLPHIN**

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is truly a privilege to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Dr. Bob Dolphin, a man who for over 40 years has had a distinguished career in education and public service. After 20 years of service, Bob will be stepping down from his position as President of Fort Lewis College. As Bob celebrates his retirement, I wish to join with the citizens of Colorado in acknowledging all that he has accomplished at Fort Lewis College.

Bob arrived at Fort Lewis College in 1984 as Dean of the School of Business and a Professor of Finance. In 1986, he became acting Vice President for Business and Finance, and successfully saw the school through a major financial crisis in that same year. He began his service as President in July, 2002, and in his first year as President transitioned the school from part of the Colorado State University system into an independent college. He

has also done much for the future of the college, erecting eight new buildings, completing renovations, and wiring the entire campus for high-speed Internet service. For his service to the college and community, Bob received the Citizen of the Year Award in 1999 from the Durango Area Chamber Resort Association as well as the 2002 Achievement Award from Fort Lewis College.

Bob's active participation and involvement in the community is evident through his service on numerous boards, commissions and committees. He was President of the Durango Area Chamber Resort Association in 1988, a member of the Durango City Council from 1989 to 1993, Mayor of Durango in 1993, and chair of Southwest Colorado's United Way campaign throughout the mid 1990s. He also served on the Library Advisory board, and the Board of Directors of the Bank of Durango.

Mr. Speaker, it is quite clear that Dr. Robert Dolphin is a person who has exemplified a strong commitment and dedication toward his life's pursuit of excellence in education and public service. His incredible devotion and passion for contributing towards the betterment of the Fort Lewis College and Durango community is worthy of recognition before this body of Congress and this nation. It is my distinct pleasure to honor Bob here today, and wish him and his wife Nancy all the best in their future endeavors.

A SALUTE TO MARVIN L. GILLUM

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to recognize my friend and constituent, Manassas Mayor Marvin L. Gillum. After a long and distinguished career serving the city of Manassas, Marvin has announced that he will retire from the position of mayor.

Marvin entered public life in 1980 as a member of the Manassas School Board, serving as chairman from 1985 to 1995. In 1996, Marvin was elected mayor of the City of Manassas, an office which he has held ever since. In addition to his career as a public servant to his lifelong home of Manassas, Marvin practiced dentistry for 40 years and assumed a second career in investment advising in 1987.

Throughout his career, Marvin has worked tenaciously on behalf of the City of Manassas. Among Marvin's many accomplishments, he helped establish a system for improved communications with neighboring jurisdictions, promoted the extensive industrial and commercial expansion in the City of Manassas, led the celebrated revitalization of Old Town Manassas, fought for funding for the Loy E. Harris Pavilion and the Center for the Arts, and encouraged the development of the city's school system, facilitating accreditation by the Virginia Standards of Learning.

A humble and notoriously polite man, Marvin is referred to by friends and colleagues as a "leader" and a "gentleman," known for his good sense and judgment, and stabilizing influence on the city. He worked closely and cooperatively with his staff and the rest of the City Council, acquiring the deepest respect from his peers. Vice Mayor Hal Parrish com-

mented: "Mayor Gillum is the very soul of Manassas. He has led the City Government, the School Board and the community with thought, idealism, and caring leadership . . . Speaking for all of the City Council, we will miss his insight and guidance when the decisions get difficult."

John Foote, a lawyer and personal friend of Mayor Gillum also said, "He's one of the finest men I've ever known. He's just a wonderful mayor . . . And I don't know anyone who doesn't share my emotion toward him."

Mayor Gillum is married to Mardi Gillum and they have three daughters.

It is my pleasure to honor the achievements of Mayor Marvin Gillum today as we celebrate his eminent public career. On behalf of the people of Virginia's 10th Congressional District and the residents of Manassas, I wish to thank and congratulate Mr. Gillum for his exceptional contributions to the community.

**OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL
SENIORS**

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, the following high school students from the First Congressional District of New Mexico have been awarded the Congressional Certificate of Merit. These students have excelled during their academic careers and proven themselves to be exceptional students and leaders with their scholastic achievements, community services, and participation in school and civic activities. It is my pleasure to be able to recognize these outstanding students for their accomplishments. Their parents, their teachers, their classmates, the people of New Mexico and I are proud of them.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD WINNERS 2004

David Brown III, Mountainair High School; Theodore Chavez, Menaul High School; Jericha Phillips, South Valley Academy; Jordan Allen, Moreno Valley High School; Justin Montoya, Albuquerque Evening School; Luz Del Carmen Carreon, West Mesa High School; Emmaly Wiederholt, Del Norte High School; Brent Wylie, Hope Christian School; Alison Rice, Freedom High School; Amy Hopkins, Estancia High School; Joannie Suina & Veronica Budager, Bernalillo High School; Casey Thompson, Evangel Christian Academy; Kate Phelan, Albuquerque Academy; Shaili Ghimire, Middle College High School; JoJo Bailey, Moriarty High School; Alberto Belmares-Ortega, Albuquerque High School; Stephanie Cox, Sierra Alternative High School; Amanda Rubio, New Futures School; Ross Seeger, Sandia Preparatory School; Thomas Dimiduk, Eldorado High School; Anthony Rodriguez, Albuquerque Country Day School; Kristin Rae Grassham, Sandia High School; Victoria De Ore, St. Pius X High School; Kim Sisneros, Cibola High School; Matthew Bonner, Temple Baptist Academy; and Raellen Frick, Rio Grande High School.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004
LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP
WINNER, BOBBY JO LUDWICK, OF
BRONSON, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Bobby Jo Ludwick, winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is given to young adults who have demonstrated their true commitment to playing an important role in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Bobby Jo is being honored for demonstrating the same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Bobby Jo is an exceptional student at Bronson High School. Aside from being at the top of her class academically, Bobby Jo possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. She is very active in the National Honor Society, F.F.A., 4-H, and student government. She has also devoted a great deal of her time to volunteering with a variety of different civic organizations.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to join her many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to Bobby Jo Ludwick for her selection as winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor not only recognizes her efforts, but is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and other individuals whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, we extend our most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

IN CELEBRATION OF FLOOD
BUILDING CENTENNIAL

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Flood Building of San Francisco and to have the opportunity to express my appreciation to the Flood family for their immeasurable contributions to the City of San Francisco over four generations.

It was a great pleasure to attend the Flood Building Centennial Celebration on April 16 and to celebrate with members of the Flood family. I particularly want to thank Jim Flood and Judy Wilbur for carrying on the outstanding traditions of their distinguished family.

The Flood Building was built by James L. Flood in 1904 as a tribute to his father, James Clair Flood. Architect Albert Pissis, a master of Beaux-Arts classicism, designed the Classic Revival structure, along with many other great works throughout San Francisco. At the time it was built, the 12-story Flood Building was the largest building in San Francisco.

The building's history is one of survival. It remained standing after both the 1906 and

1989 earthquakes that devastated San Francisco. In 1950, it was scheduled to be destroyed and replaced by a three-story modern structure, but the building was saved at the last minute when the Federal government seized it through the right of eminent domain. At the time, Washington was in desperate need of a San Francisco-based office to help manage the Korean War, and the Flood Building offered an ideal solution. The Federal government returned the building to the Flood family in 1953.

Today, Jim Flood—James Clair Flood II, named after his great grandfather—owns, manages, and has his office in the building, making it San Francisco's oldest family-owned commercial building. The Flood Building has flourished under his management, undergoing a \$15 million renovation to restore the building to its original style. Architecturally, it is the most significant commercial building in San Francisco, and it was named a city landmark in 1982.

I join the Flood family and so many of my constituents in celebrating the 100th anniversary of this San Francisco treasure.

IN RECOGNITION OF ASIAN PA-
CIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, an important month in the Asian Pacific American community. Asian Pacific American Heritage Month commemorates the tremendous impact that the Asian culture has made on our Nation. Just as importantly it is a month that deserves more recognition than it usually receives, as it is often overshadowed.

It is very important that this month we pay homage to the Asian Pacific American contribution to the American culture and experience. Through the centuries they have embodied the American spirit and fostered the concept of community. Their adaptation to the Americas and resilience is something that we should all aim to emulate.

Asian Pacific American's have long served an intricate role in the development of the Americas. From the development of the transcontinental railroad to present day the Asian Pacific American community has and continues to make their presence evident in the medical field, arts, politics, science and engineering, entertainment, culinary arts, and military excellence.

It is important that not just during this month, but may we always recognize and continue to embrace the Asian Pacific American contribution to our culture. As a nation I hope that we will continue to all work and grow together. Today Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the Asian Pacific American contribution and commemorate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZA-
TION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Amendment by my colleagues Representative MURTHA and Representative WELDON that would express the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Defense should assist the Iraqi Government in destroying the Abu Ghraib prison and replacing it with a modern detention facility. This Amendment is especially relevant because it is only applicable if the Iraqi Governing Council agrees that they would like to destroy the Abu Ghraib prison and would like American help in doing so.

While I support this Amendment I do hope that this will not be the only step taken to try to undo the damage done by the Iraqi torture scandal. We may be able to erase the structure of the Abu Ghraib prison and we may be able to construct a new state-of-the-art prison facility in its place, but until we take the proper steps to bring all perpetrators to justice and correct our interrogation procedures; we will not be able to erase the image of Americans torturing prisoners that is etched in the mind of Iraqis and indeed in the mind of people worldwide. The court-martial of a few enlisted soldiers is not enough for a problem that has now proven to be endemic. There must be true accountability from the leadership in the Armed Forces. The enlisted soldiers can not be the only ones involved in this scandal, the Armed Forces have always stressed a strict chain of command and everyone in that chain must be held accountable for this multitude of despicable acts. Secretary Rumsfeld and Deputy Secretary Wolfowitz can not hide behind their office, they bear the responsibility for this scandal and so far I remain unsatisfied with their response to it.

Again, I feel that this Amendment to assist the Iraqi Government in destroying the Abu Ghraib prison and replacing it with a modern detention facility is one that is worthy of passage. This is both a symbolic and physical gesture to the Iraqi people that our troops are in Iraq to tear down the past of Saddam Hussein and rebuild a new democratic nation. We must all work to make sure that these gestures are followed by substantive actions to correct our significant missteps.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004
LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP
WINNER, OF JONESVILLE, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence that he has compiled in academics, leadership, and community service, that I am proud to salute Shea Scott Dow, winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is given to young adults who have demonstrated their true commitment to

playing an important role in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Shea is being honored for demonstrating the same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Shea is an exceptional student at Jonesville High School. Aside from being at the top of his class academically, Shea has an outstanding record of achievements in high school. Shea is very active in the National Honor Society, F.F.A., 4-H, student government, and band. He has also devoted a great deal of his time to volunteer with a variety of different civic organizations and is a very active member of his church.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to join his many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to Shea Scott Dow for his selection as winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor not only recognizes his efforts, but is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and other individuals whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to his success. To this remarkable young man, we extend our most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.

AMBASSADOR TONY P. HALL HONORED BY THE CENTER FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of the House the honoring of our former colleague Ambassador Tony Hall by The Center for Public Justice. Tony was recently presented with the center's 2004 Leadership Award.

After his distinguished career in the House from 1979 until 2002, Tony was named the United States ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture in Rome, Italy. In his time in office, Tony Hall was a leading advocate for fighting domestic and international hunger. He helped to create the House Select Committee on Hunger, and was a founding member of the steering committee of the Congressional Friends of Human Rights Monitors.

The Center for Public Justice is a distinguished nationwide civic organization striving to better the world through the active involvement of its citizens in the service of God. The Center for Public Justice's goal is the advancement of justice for all people in the community. The center's annual leadership award could not have been given to a more deserving person than Tony Hall. On behalf of all our colleagues, we salute you, Tony.

OUTSTANDING UNIVERSITY ATHLETES

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I commend the great athletic achieve-

ments of some of my constituents. This past March, the University of New Mexico's Ski Team became the first UNM team to ever win any NCAA championship.

They are all to be congratulated, but there are few people in particular that I would like to especially recognize. Firstly the team's coach, George Brooks. Mr. Brooks created the ski team at UNM and has been working with them since 1970. This landmark win can be attributed to Mr. Brook's hard work and great faith in the ability of his team.

A special recognition is due to the senior team captain, Jennifer Delch. Her leadership throughout the season as well as her individual gold medal, which she received for the giant slalom, greatly contributed to the team's success.

The team is furthermore to be congratulated as a whole. Most of its members came from other nations to ski for the UNM team. It was their willingness to take a risk in leaving their homelands that lead to both their personal victories and to the team's NCAA win.

Not only have these UNM students excelled in athletics, but have also remembered academics. In fact, the entire team's average GPA is an A-. This is a great achievement and speaks very well of the over-all ability of those who are on the team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you join me and all the residents of New Mexico in honoring the UNM ski team on their success. I would also like to wish them luck in future seasons.

IN HONOR OF SUSAN T. KENNEDY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I rise to pay tribute to the life and work of my longtime friend, Susan T. Kennedy, who passed away on April 17, 2004. Susie was a great woman and an exceptional public servant. We will miss her terribly.

Susie's life was one of service and political and community activism. Beginning with her work with the Service Employees Union, Susie was a tireless advocate of labor. At the age of 21, she was elected to the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee—the youngest ever to serve—and was reelected for the next 25 years.

In 1962, Susie joined the staff of Democratic Assemblyman Phillip Burton. Upon his election to Congress, she became his Administrative Assistant, supervising his District Office in San Francisco. She was his trusted advisor, and he depended on her great political instincts, judgment, and understanding of the people of San Francisco.

Susie was absolutely committed to the constituents and elected officials she served. After working for both Phil and Sala Burton for 25 years, she graciously and expertly helped with my transition to Congress after I won a special election in 1987 to succeed Sala Burton. I will never forget her support and friendship. Susie later joined with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to help create a lasting memorial to Congressman Phil Burton.

Susan Kennedy was a devoted wife, mother, sister, and friend. To her sons, Marc and Frank, and to her sisters and brothers, Dolo-

res, Bernie, Mary, Walter, Kathleen and Tom, thank you for sharing your beloved Susie with us. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of her family at this sad time.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004 LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER, HEATHER LUCEY, OF BLISSFIELD, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Heather Lucey, winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is given to young adults who have demonstrated their true commitment to playing an important role in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Heather is being honored for demonstrating the same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Heather is an exceptional student at Blissfield High School. Aside from being at the top of her class academically, Heather possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. She is a member of the National Honor Society and a peer mentor at school. Heather is also very active with her church.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to join her many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to Heather Lucey for her selection as winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor not only recognizes her efforts, but is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and other individuals whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, we extend our most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF PRESIDENT H. PATRICK SWYGERT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and submit for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a speech delivered by H. Patrick Swygert, the President of Howard University at a meeting called by President Enrique Iglesias of the Inter-American Development Bank to examine the challenge of social inclusion in economic development in the Western Hemisphere. President Swygert's speech points out not only the destructivity of social exclusion, more importantly he emphasizes the need for social inclusion as a means to break barriers, build bridges, and create networks as a means to achieve economic development.

I would also like to commend President Iglesias and the Inter-American Development Bank for understanding and beginning to take

the necessary steps towards a more social inclusive global community, and for affording President Swygert a forum to discuss and accelerate dialog regarding this important initiative.

It is essential in the period of economic surplus that we recognize the fact that as our wealth grows, the gap between rich and poor widens. Eventually those on the lower end of the spectrum get left behind and have very few means to catch up to their counterparts. Social inclusion, as President Swygert eloquently points out, aims to intervene in the perpetual cycle of poverty that exclusion creates.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank President Swygert for his efforts to alert us all to the growing economic inequality that is the end result of social exclusion and for his visionary leadership in advocating social inclusion as the means to achieve the alleviation of poverty in the Western Hemisphere.

SOCIAL INCLUSION, EDUCATION HEALTH AND CULTURE: BREAKING BARRIERS, BUILDING BRIDGES AND CREATING NETWORKS

(By President H. Patrick Swygert)

The IADB President—Mr. Enrique Iglesias, Other Officials of the Bank, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentleman, Greetings. First, let me congratulate the Inter-American Development Bank for this impressive effort today to accelerate the dialogue on social inclusion.

Inclusion of course, implies exclusion, its opposite. Certainly, without the recognition that the issue of exclusion is a problem and a growing one, there would not be the need for this dialogue today. I regard this meeting, therefore, as an effort to understand both sides of an issue that is destructive in the case of the one, and productive, harmonious and highly desirable in the other.

It is indeed commendable that this institution, a development bank, is leading this initiative to enhance our understanding of the importance of inclusiveness among the various human components of our societies and, conversely, that you are examining the nature of exclusion and how it thwarts the development process by relegating some people—the best resources of any society—to the fringes where they are unable to realize their ambitions as fully functioning members of the society.

This undertaking, therefore, is both significant and challenging because the issues that militate against the inclusion that we seek are centuries old and are as pervasive as they are persistent. And now, studies are showing that the process of globalization which, at one level, ironically enough, is bringing the world closer together, is at another level, fostering deeper divisions between the peoples of the world, and reinforcing the familiar and painful dichotomies of powerful and powerless, haves and havenots, and increasing the wretchedness of the wretched of the earth.

In this still brand new millennium, our failure to build a more just world and to fully harness, arguably the bulk of the human capital into the process of building better societies, better nations and a better world, remains one of the greatest failures of this civilization.

To this extent, dialogues like these are critical because they are the necessary first steps on the pathway to a greater understanding, appreciation and acceptance of our common humanity and the building of the bridges we so badly need.

For me, this is a particularly interesting time to reflect on the need for inclusion at all levels and the painful lessons that we

eventually learn when we pursue policies and pathways that are exclusive and divisive.

Come May 17, this year, Howard University will join the NAACP and the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and Educational Fund in a gala event at Constitution Hall to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*, the landmark Supreme Court ruling that desegregated public education in America and began this nation's transformation toward a more inclusive society.

As you can imagine, the Supreme Court ruling was a great day for African Americans who made their entrance to this continent in chains and struggled for centuries against the denial of their humanity, and their exclusion from all else except the forced labor that generated wealth for the masters.

The eventual end of slavery would not be the end of the struggle for them it was soon followed by Jim Crow and the segregation that ended officially only 50 years ago. Again, the end of segregation merely heralded a new struggle—that to have the society treat them as equal in accordance with the new law of the land. It would take years of agitation among civil rights groups and activists and the sacrifices of people like Rosa Parks and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. before the society finally began to implement changes at all levels.

The process continues today. We have made tremendous progress but we are nowhere near a fully integrated society. It is still a daily struggle for African Americans and other minorities to get others to look beyond the color of their skins and see a fellow human being rather than a stereotype.

Howard University, my alma mater, played a critical role in the successful *Brown* case. The University was the training ground for the attorneys who represented *Brown* and most of them were faculty at our school of law. And, it was one of our graduates, Thurgood Marshall, who argued the case before the Supreme Court.

Howard University is proud of this legacy. Proud of its commitment to a philosophy of equality and justice for all people. Proud of its dedication to help create an environment that affirms the value of all humanity; that uplifts everyone and oppresses no one.

Throughout this academic year, the University has hosted several events commemorating the *Brown* anniversary. The dialogue has been about social exclusion and inclusion, because that was at the heart of the case. African Americans in this country know about exclusion. They know it was wrong 400 years ago and it is wrong today in whatever form it comes.

It is out of this history of suffering perhaps, has come the instinctive revulsion of these kinds of artificial barriers among African Americans. They seem to know intuitively that divisions of the kind that they experienced are morally offensive; they are socially disruptive, economically unproductive and they form the breeding ground for conflict and instability in any society.

The basis of the exclusion that we speak of today is not limited to social class, but gender, sexuality, physical or emotional disabilities, ethnicity, race, skin color.

In so many countries of the world, humanity seems divided by these artificial barriers—barriers that do little except to blind us to the reality of our common bonds. With both our hearts and our intellect, we know that as citizens of the universe, we are far more alike than we are different, yet by our own attitudes or lack of action, many of us reinforce old stereotypes that ultimately become obstacles to progress and the pursuit of meaningful interactions.

Samuel L. Johnson, the great 18th century British essayist, and poet, suffered from all kinds of physical disabilities. His sight was

poor. His hearing was poor. His face was scarred by a skin disease and he suffered from Tourette syndrome. You bet that he too knew the meaning of social exclusion. In a ringing appeal for acceptance, Johnson wrote. "Men, however distinguished by external accidents or intrinsic qualities, have all the same wants, the same pains, and, as far as the senses are concerned, the same pleasures. We are all prompted by the same motives, all deceived by the same fallacies, all animated by hope, obstructed by danger, entangled by desire, and seduced by pleasure."

As human beings, we cherish a common desire to satisfy our basic needs, and beyond that to pursue what we believe will bring us a sense of fulfillment. For many of us, this often means reaching out beyond ourselves in service to others and this is where many of us truly absorb that the world is bigger than the sum total of any single individual's needs.

The truth is, our fundamental desires, with little exceptions are grounded in our humanity, not in our race, religion, ethnicity or any other such variables. Yet we persist in our creation of all kinds of false dichotomies, even as many of us embrace the notion of a Fatherhood of God. Somehow, we have failed to accept that this fatherhood of God extends itself to a brotherhood and a sisterhood of humankind.

Rather than such acceptance and the equality that it implies, we have not just subdivided humanity but we have stratified it as well. People of color—non white people—are at the low end of this hierarchy. The farther one departs from the Eurocentric ideals, which tops the hierarchy of course, the less value is ascribed to one's talents, wisdoms, cultures, contributions to civilization, needs and desires—one's humanity.

This is certainly true of the Americas. Five decades after *Brown*, for example, many of our schools remain deeply segregated. Black and Latino children disproportionately attend schools that are in high poverty areas. These schools are under-funded, under-performing and naturally turn out graduates that are ill-equipped to move forward and help their families free themselves from the shackles of poverty.

Eighty percent of black and Latino children in segregated schools are in high poverty areas, compared to five per cent of their white counterparts in similar schools. Many schools remain segregated, or at best minimally integrated, at both the level of the student body and the staff. In states such as Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania and California, the pattern is now too pronounced to ignore.

The outcome of this kind of segregation is the underperformance among the children who attend them; the high drop out rates; significantly reduced chances of post high-school success, and the eventual spiral into drugs and violence among too many children who end up with life on the streets as their vocation.

In health care, the disparities are just as obvious. According to the American Medical Association, racial disparities in healthcare in the United States, remain "chronic" with minorities benefiting the least from what it described as "marked by advances in medicine and health care." Among some of the more interesting statistics:

Thirty-one percent of minority adults, ages 18-64, do not have insurance, compared with 14 percent of white adults in the same age group.

Minority adults report more problems with receiving health care.

Forty percent say they have "a major problem with having to pay too much for care," compared to 26 percent of white adults.

Further, low-income persons, regardless of race, spend more out-of-pocket income—about 7-11 percent—on medical expenses than higher income Americans who typically only spend about 1-2 percent of their income on medical care.

The infant mortality rate in the last forty years has declined faster for whites than for blacks, with the longstanding disparity actually increasing from 1.6 times the rate for whites in 1950 to 2.2 times the rates in 1991.

Black women are twice as likely as white women to obtain late or no prenatal care; Hispanic women are three times as likely to obtain inadequate or no prenatal care as non-Hispanic white women; and American Indian women are more likely than either white or black women to obtain late or no prenatal care at all.

Overall, African Americans tend to receive lower quality healthcare than whites for everything from cancer, heart disease and HIV/AIDS to diabetes and mental health.

There is less evidence examining disparities involving Hispanics and other minority groups.

Here in America, the disparities are obvious. The availability of data and the high visibility of the society make it much easier for us to point fingers at what is happening here. And, it is true that because of the vast wealth of this country, these inequalities seem more egregious.

The truth is though, that the disadvantaged status of minority groups extends into all reaches of the Americas. Afro-Brazilians, Afro-Hondurans, Afro-Colombians, Afro-Nicaraguans, Afro-Ecuadorians, all experience the same sense of despair born from the knowledge of their marginalized status in countries where they are minorities; where their worth has been determined by their ethnicity and skin color, and their sense that nothing will change because, after all, they cannot change who they are. Whether it is the Creoles in Belize, the Gari-fun-as of Guatemala, The Arawaks of Guyana, the Caribs in St. Lucia or the Rez-a-(i)les of San Andres Islands, the same sense of hopeless and alienation characterize their existence in the Americas, though most of these populations have existed here for hundreds of years, some of them even pre-dating Christopher Columbus. While they suffer through lives of quiet desperation, they remain largely invisible to a world that barely acknowledges that they are there.

Bringing marginalized groups into the mainstream of development is an imperative for the corporate world, as it is for institutions like yours, and mine. On the surface, it may seem like a difficult and costly undertaking, but it will be less expensive than the price of conflict, malnutrition, communicable and non-communicable diseases, political instability and the absence of buying power in the market place.

Beyond the societal and economic benefits, bringing marginalized groups into mainstream society is a recognition of our acceptance of a common humanity and our embrace of such as the source of our sustenance and the basis of our quest for peace, harmony and respect for human dignity throughout the world.

In the words of Kenneth B. Clarke, the Howard University graduate, whose research supported the attorneys on the Brown Case: “. . . segregation (read, exclusion), like all other forms of cruelty and tyranny, debases all human being—those who are its victims, those who victimize, and in quite subtle ways those who are mere accessories.”

Our dialogue today recognizes the veracity of those words. So, despite what seems like a painfully fractured world, we must continue to strive for the ideals of co-existence and community, and the strengthening of rela-

tionships among disparate groups in the pursuit of peace, harmony and prosperity. The struggle for these ideals is the only basis of our hope for peace, justice and freedom from oppression.

Like the IADB, my institution is dedicated to preserving and promoting the ideals of inclusion in the Americas, and to the extent that our influence reaches, beyond.

Through institutions like the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center which encourages greater participation in global issues among the students and faculty; the Moorland Spingarn Research Center, the largest collection of research material on African heritage next to the Schomburg Center; the U.S.-Brazil project on Race, Development and Social Inequality and the ongoing study and preservation of art, music, dance, language, history and other characteristics of cultures, Howard continues to make a sterling contribution to an informed understanding of the benefits of an inclusive society.

Our programs in Health Sciences, meanwhile, are dedicated not just to the provision of quality care to the under-served, but to a discovery of causes and development of cures to the diseases that disproportionately affect those communities. Our Hispanic and multi-cultural affairs program and the International healthcare program, are significant efforts in this direction.

Finally, in all of our efforts, the fight for civil rights remains central. Howard University was founded on this very notion that all people, regardless of their race, deserve the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness and the right to live with dignity and respect.

For 138 years, we have remained committed to reinforcing these principles and pursue these ideals toward the advancement of the human race.

I would like to commend the IADB for being an ally in this process and I look forward to a growing relationship as we pursue our common goals. Thank you.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in full support of the Amendment being offered by the leadership of the distinguished Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues. I find no reason why this bipartisan Amendment should not be wholeheartedly supported by this entire body and adopted as a part of this Defense Authorization. A similar version of this amendment has already been included in the Senate version of the Defense Authorization Bill after being developed in consultation with the Pentagon, and has bipartisan support in the Senate. This Amendment would require the Secretary of Defense to develop a comprehensive policy for the Department of Defense on the prevention of and response to sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces. This policy would be based on the recommendations of the Department's own Task Force on Care for Victims of Sexual Assault, which released its report and recommendations last week concerning sexual assault in the military based on its 90-day study.

Ever since the unfortunate Tailhook scandal and the ensuing weak investigation that took place in 1991, the American public has realized that sexual assault in the Armed Forces is a major problem that unfortunately has yet to be properly addressed. The sexual assault of women in the Armed Forces is not only illegal, but it is clearly bad for morale. These men and women serve in the same units, often in extremely dangerous situations, there must be trust amongst all parties that their rights will be respected and protected by the Armed Forces that they so diligently serve.

It is unfortunate that my own Amendment to help address this problem in the Armed Forces was not ruled in order by the Rules Committee. My amendment would have directed the Department of Defense to award a contract to an independent phone bank for tending to rape and sexual assault victims in a confidential manner within three months of its enactment. That phone bank would be required to have the expertise and training programs in place to allow operators to cope with unique situations arising from sexual abuse in the military context. This phone bank would be open to members of the Armed Forces and their families. I hope we all understand the devastation caused by rape and sexual assault. However, what we often fail to recognize is the fact that members of the Armed Forces and their families are in a unique situation that is not faced by other Americans. Because of this fact it is imperative members of the Armed Forces and their families have an outlet to receive counseling and advice for issues related to rape and sexual assault without the fear that their report might be sent to their superiors in the Armed Forces without their consent.

While I am dismayed that my pertinent Amendment was not ruled in order, I still feel strongly that the Amendment being brought forth by the leadership of the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues must be agreed to by this body. A comprehensive plan to deal with sexual assault in the Armed Forces is necessary if we ever hope to achieve equal protection for all our brave fighting men and women.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004
LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP
WINNER, TYLER WILLIAM
LOSINSKI, OF BRONSON, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence he has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I salute Tyler William Losinski, winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is given to young adults who have demonstrated their true commitment to playing an important role in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Tyler is being honored for demonstrating the same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Tyler is an exceptional student at Bronson High School. Aside from his academic excellence, Tyler possesses an outstanding record

of achievement in high school. He has participated in F.F.A./4-H for four years and has served as both Secretary and Vice President. Notable among his many activities are his four years on both the Varsity Football and Baseball teams. Tyler also hopes to one day become a teacher.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to join his many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to Tyler William Losinski for his selection as winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor not only recognizes his efforts, but is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and other individuals whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to his success. To this remarkable young man, we extend our most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT
CHEN SHUI-BIAN OF TAIWAN

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate President Chen Shui-bian of Taiwan for having narrowly won his reelection on March 20. He will be inaugurated as the eleventh president of the Republic of China this May 20th.

As many of us know, Mr. Chen has a very interesting story. He came from a poor Taiwanese farming family. After his university days, he became an active political reformer and activist for many years and served time in prison for his beliefs. After gaining his release, he became a lawmaker and later as mayor of Taipei. He won his first presidential race in March 2000, the first time in Chinese society that an opposition party candidate was elected president. During his first term in office, he led his country toward full democratization and drastically improved Taiwan's human rights record. Today Taiwan's constitution guarantees its citizens basic civil liberties, including freedom of peaceful assembly and association, freedom of speech and press, and freedom of religion.

In the next four years, I am hopeful that Mr. Chen will continue Taiwan's political reforms and strive for better relations with China. Recently, Mr. Chen reiterated his determination to maintain peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and good relations with the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Mr. Chen the best of luck in all areas. As a beacon of democracy, Taiwan richly deserves our friendship and support.

INTRODUCTION FOR THE EQUAL
SURETY BOND OPPORTUNITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Equal Surety Bond Opportunity Act (ESBOA). The ESBOA will help qualified women and minority-owned

businesses to compete in the contracting business by helping them obtain adequate surety bonding. In addition, the ESBOA is directed against barriers that many qualified small and emerging construction firms encounter in obtaining surety bonding. I have introduced this bill before. I do so again because it is a common sense way to eliminate a serious form of discrimination without an additional enforcing bureaucracy.

A surety bond is issued by insurers for the purpose of guaranteeing that should a bonded contractor default, a construction project will be completed and the contractors employees and material suppliers will be paid. Surety bonding is mandatory for competing for all Federal construction work in excess of \$25,000, all federally assisted construction projects in excess of \$100,000, and most state and local public construction. However, surety bonding requirements are not restricted to government contracting. Increasingly, private construction contracts also require surety bonding. As surety bonding has become a widespread requirement, the inability to obtain surety bonding can cripple a construction firm, especially a small or a new one.

In 1992, Congress acknowledged the importance of this issue when it enacted the Small Business Credit Crunch Relief Act and included legislation to study the problem of discrimination in the surety bonding field, Public Law 102-366, that I had introduced. The survey provision required the General Accounting Office (GAO) to conduct a comprehensive survey of business firms, especially those owned by women and minorities, to determine their experiences in obtaining surety bonding from corporate surety firms.

The GAO completed the requested survey in June 1995. The survey found that of the 12,000 small construction firms surveyed, 77 percent had never obtained bonds. In addition, minority and women-owned firms were more likely to be asked for certain types of financial documentation. Further, minority-owned firms were also more likely to be asked to provide collateral and to meet additional conditions not required by others.

The ESBOA bill I am introducing today is modeled on the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1968, which prohibited discrimination in credit practices. The ESBOA requires the contractor notify the applicant of the action taken on his or her application within 20 days of receipt of a completed bond application. If the applicant is denied bonding, the surety would also be required, upon request, to provide a written statement of specific reasons for each denied request. Furthermore, the bill would provide civil liability in the form of damages and appropriate equitable relief should a surety company fail to comply with this notice requirement.

This legislation would help all contractors to have a better understanding of the reasons behind the denial of their bond applications. Furthermore, the importance of civil penalties cannot be understated for minority applicants who currently have no recourse when they suspect that the denial of surety bonding was based on considerations such as gender, race or religion.

The disclosure of pertinent information to rejected applicants is an equitable principle familiar throughout the federal acquisition process. This is the case when a small business is turned down for a government contract and

has the opportunity to demand a negative pre-award survey. With this information, the business can contest the award or use the information to be better prepared for the next award competition. The more a business knows about what is wrong with its proposal, the greater the likelihood that the next time the business will submit a better and more competitive proposal.

According to the National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC), many minority contractors reported being turned down for a bond without an explanation. When explanations are not proffered, a perception of discrimination in the surety industry is created. This perception drives minority contractors to obtain sureties outside the mainstream, often at significant additional expense and fewer protections, placing themselves, their subcontractors, and the Government at greater risk.

Civil penalties in this bill are necessary to compel surety bond companies to provide accurate and non-discriminatory reasons for denial of surety bonding. This bill will provide the applicant with the necessary civil remedy should the surety bonding company refuse to provide this important information. In addition to providing essential information for future bond applications, a clear response will identify whether surety bonding companies are using discriminatory or fallacious criteria in making these decisions.

This legislation will create an environment in which small business firms, particularly those owned and controlled by minorities and women, can successfully obtain adequate surety bonding. This legislation will enable us to ferret out continuing biases in the industry. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and help abolish the artificial impediments to the development and survival of emerging small businesses.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM "DOC"
SAMKO

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to William "Doc" Samko, in honor of his 37 wonderful years of service to Worcester Academy—my alma mater.

Doc has been the athletic trainer at Worcester Academy since the 1966-67 school year. Throughout his tenure he has been a teacher, a healer, a mentor and a friend to thousands of young students. He has guided them through injury and defeat with grace and humor.

I myself played football at Worcester Academy, although I never really got enough playing time to risk injury. I like to say I played "left bench." It's probably for the best. But I knew that if I ever got hurt, Doc Samko would be there to help.

Before his time at Worcester Academy, Doc worked at Holy Cross College in Worcester, where he helped the likes of Bob Cousy, Tommy Heinsohn, and other greats of that era. A pioneer in his field, Doc has been inducted into the Worcester Academy Hall of Fame and the National Athletic Trainers Hall of Fame.

Now in his 80's, he's still going strong. On May 22, Doc will be honored at a dinner in the Worcester Academy gymnasium, where he will be surrounded by family, friends, and admirers. I only hope the gym is big enough, because a lot of people admire and love Doc Samko.

Mr. Speaker, I know the entire House of Representatives joins me in paying tribute to Doc Samko, and we wish him and his family all the best in the years to come.

HONORING THE BOULDER CITY
HOMETOWN FIDDLERS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to give honorable recognition to the Boulder City Hometown Fiddlers. This talented youth organization is the only musical group from the state of Nevada that will be performing at the dedication of the WWII Memorial.

Mr. Speaker, these young musicians will truly be honoring our veterans and fallen heroes, including those that died in wars past, and those that have died recently in the war with Iraq. The Boulder City Hometown Fiddlers will also be paying tribute to one of Nevada's own, Corporal Matthew Commons, of Boulder City. Corporal Commons was killed while serving in Afghanistan.

They will represent the Silver State and all those within its borders who wish to pay tribute to those brave men and women who gave their lives in the name of freedom and democracy. It is with great honor that I stand here today and recognize this group of fine musicians as they convey our honor, respect, and gratitude to all those that died and risked their lives for their country.

HONORING COACH TIM
MARZUOLA'S ELECTION INTO
THE NATIONAL WRESTLING
HALL OF FAME

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a legend in high school wrestling in Texas, Coach Tim Marzuola of Highland Park High School. Coach Marzuola has been elected as a member of the 2004 induction class for the National Wrestling Hall of Fame located in Stillwater, Oklahoma. I am proud to represent Highland Park in Congress, and I have four graduates of Highland Park High School that serve in my Dallas and Washington, D.C. offices. My Washington office Chief of Staff wrestled for Coach Marzuola back when he was at Highland Park High School.

In 1999, Highland Park's wrestling team was nationally ranked and Coach Marzuola was a national high school coach of the year award-winner. The Scots won state titles in 1999, 2000, and 2003 and placed second in 2002 and 2004. Coach Marzuola has guided the Scots since 1982, and last year he was

named as a coach for the tremendously successful Team Texas program. He was inducted into Texas Hall of Honor in 1994. I am very proud that he is being recognized nationally for over twenty years of diligent service to wrestling in Highland Park.

Coach Marzuola's commitment to his team on and off of the mats is exceptional, as he has set a standard for excellence within his sport. Coach Tim Marzuola has provided his athletes with exceptional leadership and inspiration, emphasizing to each student the necessary traits of individual responsibility, accountability, and working as a team to accomplish a common goal.

I thank Coach Marzuola for his tireless efforts and service to the greater Highland Park community. In addition to his duties as the Head Wrestling Coach, he also is a superb Economics and United States History teacher inside the classroom. I wish him and the Highland Park wrestling program all the best for continued success and achievement.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF RON AND
SHARON ESKEW OF URBANA, ILLINOIS

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the marriage of my good friends Ron and Sharon Eskew of Urbana, Illinois. April 3, 2004, marked the 50th anniversary of the day that they exchanged wedding vows and started a long, happy life together. Ron Eskew, of Urbana, met his future wife Sharon Campbell at Urbana High School in the early 1950's. They were married in the spring of 1953. The bond created by their marriage has only grown stronger in the past 5 decades, even during Ron's active duty in the United States Army. After his service, the couple returned to their roots in Urbana, picking up right where they left off. I have known the Eskews for many years. In fact, when I was a young man working for a real estate business, I had the pleasure of selling them one of their first houses in 1969. Throughout the years, Ron and Sharon have filled that house with love and a family so caring and appreciative of the example they set that they believe the rest of our country's citizens should know their happiness as well. Ron and Sharon's children certainly admire their devotion to one another after all these years. 50 years is an important milestone few married couples are fortunate enough to experience. I salute Ron and Sharon Eskew of Urbana, Illinois on their 50 happy years together, and wish them the best for many years to come.

HONORING GINGER L. GRAHAM
AND DR. WILLIAM H. RASTETTER

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two leaders in the health care industry from my Congressional District who

have been elected to the Board of Directors for The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA). PhRMA companies are devoted to discovering and developing new medicines that will enable patients to live longer, healthier and more productive lives. In 2002 the companies invested more than \$32 billion in discovering and developing new medicines, marking the 32nd straight year the industry has increased its investment in R&D. PhRMA's mission is to conduct effective advocacy for public policies that encourage discovery of important new medicines for patients by pharmaceutical biotechnology research companies.

The experience and expertise of Ms. Ginger L. Graham, and Dr. William H. Rastetter will bring San Diego's unique perspective to PhRMA, the association that represents the leading research-based pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies in the United States.

Ms. Ginger L. Graham has an impressive resume. In 1986, she received her MBA from Harvard University, which began her career at Lilly. During Ms. Graham's time at Lilly she held management positions in finance, sales, marketing, and strategic planning. In 1993, she was appointed president and CEO of Advanced Cardiovascular Systems. Ms. Graham was then a part of the team that formed Guidant, a medical technology company. After taking Guidant public in 1994, she became the president of Guidant's Vascular Intervention Group. Ms. Graham also held the position of Group Chairman, Office of the President, at Guidant. She is currently the President, CEO, and Director of Amylin Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Ms. Graham is the first female ever to be appointed to the board of directors at Phrma.

Dr. William H. Rastetter received his Ph.D. in 1975 from Harvard. Between 1975 and 1982, he held numerous faculty positions at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He directed the Biocatalysts and Chemical Sciences Groups at Genentech from 1982 to 1984. From 1988 to 1993, Dr. Rastetter held the position of chief financial officer of IDEC Pharmaceuticals. Then he became president and CEO of IDEC from 1986 to 2002. During this time Dr. Rastetter was appointed chairman of the IDEC board of directors. Dr. Rastetter is currently the executive chairman of Biogen Idec, Inc.

These two highly qualified individuals have devoted their careers to improving health care by bringing new pharmaceutical products through research and development and into the marketplace. I am proud that these two companies from my Congressional District will be represented on the PhRMA Board. San Diego has attained the position as the third largest life science cluster in the world, and is also renowned for being the most highly concentrated and one of the most diverse centers for life science. As the industry in San Diego grows and develops further, these two individuals are uniquely positioned to place San Diego's fingerprint on the pharmaceutical industry. As a stalwart supporter of medical research, I am dedicated to ensuring that America's healthcare system remains the best in the world and to promoting policies that encourage increased healthcare innovation. I look forward to working with Ms. Graham and Dr. Rastetter on public policy initiatives.

TRIBUTE TO TONY RANDALL

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness to mourn the loss of award-winning actor and passionate social activist Tony Randall who passed away Monday night, May 17th. Though most remembered for his comedic role as Felix Unger in the T.V. series "The Odd Couple," Mr. Randall was a truly versatile performer with a career on stage and screen spanning over sixty years.

After serving four years in the army during World War II, where he rose to the rank of Lieutenant, Mr. Randall made many radio and theater appearances, garnering numerous accolades from critics. By the early 1950s, Mr. Randall made the shift to television, with his Emmy-nominated role of schoolteacher Harvey Weskit in "Mr. Peepers." Soon after, he added movies to his resume, with principal roles in films like the Doris Day-Rock Hudson comedy "Pillow Talk," earning the title from Life magazine of "the finest . . . comedian the movies have found in decades." He crowned his career with his Emmy-award winning role as the worrywart Felix Unger in the Odd Couple, a role that brought him a legion of fans.

However, Tony Randall will be remembered as more than just an actor. He was also a devoted social activist who for 30 years held the position of National Chairman of the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation, an organization dedicated to finding a cure for the terrible neuromuscular disease, Myasthenia. Whether it was his vociferous anti-smoking lobbying, his anti-Apartheid campaign, or his attempt to save the old Metropolitan Opera house, Mr. Randall worked with passion and zeal. Mr. Randall brought this same passion to the National Actors Theater, which he founded in 1991, dedicated to bringing classic works to the public for reasonable prices.

His tireless devotion to his craft and to social justice should be an example to us all. I would like to extend my deepest condolences to Mr. Randall's wife and two children. For years he has touched millions of Americans. He will be sorely missed.

HONORING 50 YEARS OF HISTORY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Association of Retarded Citizens of Morris County, New Jersey in my Congressional District. The ARC is celebrating fifty years of providing excellence in community service.

In July of 1953, several families in Morris County formed a unit of the New Jersey Parents Group for Retarded Children. They soon began to fill the void and developed their own services; the Play Center was established as well as the Teen Club. Several years later, the first scouting program serving boys with mental retardation was added. The groups advocated with local school districts, and, out of those efforts, special classes were started for

those people with retardation who were considered educable or trainable. By the close of its first decade, it recognized the critical importance of getting services to people with developmental delays at the youngest possible age, the unit established a nursery school for children with special needs.

In the 1960s the families of the Morris Unit continued to make strides to change the world for people with mental retardation. A second nursery school was opened and in 1969 a site was dedicated as Camp Sundial in Chester.

Federal legislation, which provided increased funding and mandated more stringent standards for institutions, was enacted, and more significantly, the appropriateness of institutional care "per se" began to be questioned. Advocates came together to create a service to fill this need. They raised the funds necessary to open the first Adult Activities Program, a forerunner of their Adult Training and Rehabilitation Centers. By the end of the 1970s, the Morris County Recreation Consortium was created, and the Early Childhood Enrichment programs developed, both of which would later evolve into programs that would represent a new era in community-based services.

In October 1982, they dedicated their first Adult Training Center, located in Flanders. In the 1980's and 1990's the ARC/Morris County Chapter continued to expand and diversify its programs and services and also developed many group homes that allowed for greater independent living. This organization went from a small parent support group, to a movement that changed millions of lives for the better, and along the way, countless other lives and communities have benefited and will continue to well into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues in the House of Representatives join with me in congratulating the Association of Retarded Citizens of Morris County, and all of the Association's outstanding staff, employees and volunteers, upon celebrating its 50th Anniversary.

RECOGNIZING LOCKHEED MARTIN-PIKE COUNTY'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVICE TO AMERICA

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute a milestone in the defense of our Nation. This month, Lockheed Martin's Pike County, Alabama missile assembly facility will mark ten years of production.

This event is more than an anniversary. It represents a decade of service to America's defense preparedness by some of the finest, best trained workers in the nation.

Lockheed Martin-Pike County has become synonymous with both precision craftsmanship and on-target results. Some of the most advanced military weapon assets on the battlefield have rolled off, and continue, to roll off the assembly lines at the Pike County facility.

From the Hellfire, to the JASSM, to the Javelin, to the Predator, to the soon to be produced THAAD and LAM systems, Lockheed Martin-Pike County is the final assembly point and the guarantee that lives will be saved on

the battlefield and our nation will be more secure at home.

This moment is also a source of pride for me as I have personally secured billions of dollars in missile system work for Lockheed Martin-Pike County over the last decade—work that has not only benefited the local economy but made it possible for our nation to succeed in the face of an ever elusive enemy.

Of particular note, I have personally advocated the further development of the THAAD anti-missile system which is also noting a milestone this month—the first rollout at the Lockheed Martin-Pike County plant. THAAD is an important component of our layered defense against a ballistic missile threat.

I am proud of the contributions of the 286 workers of Lockheed Martin-Pike County to keep our country safe. Job well done.

NAVAJO NATION HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 2004

HON. RICK RENZI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Navajo Nation Higher Education Act of 2004.

In 1868, the United States of America signed a treaty with the Navajo Tribe of Indians to provide for the education of the citizens of the Navajo Nation. At this time, the United States government recognized the trust responsibility to serve the educational needs of the Navajo people.

In 1968, the Navajo Nation created and chartered the Navajo Community College as a wholly-owned educational entity of the Navajo Nation. In 1971, Congress affirmed this effort by the Navajo Nation and enacted the Navajo Community College Act. In 1997, the Navajo Nation officially changed the name of the Navajo Community College to Diné College.

Mr. Speaker, the Navajo Nation Higher Education Act reauthorizes the 1971 Navajo Community College Act and modernizes the statute by including the mission statement and Navajo education philosophy of Diné College. Diné College educates students by applying the principles of Diné philosophy to advance quality student learning through training of the heart and the mind.

Over the years, facilities at Diné College have deteriorated, creating serious health safety risks to students, employees and the public. This legislation provides funding to address Diné College's facility needs such as modernization, repair and rehabilitation. In addition, this important legislation requires a survey and study of Diné College's facility needs.

Finally, to ensure equitable funding for Diné College, the Navajo Nation Higher Education Act provides funding for Diné College separate from the other tribal colleges and universities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Navajo Nation Higher Education Act of 2004. It is our government's responsibility to provide educational opportunities to the Navajo people in a safe and healthy environment.

RECOGNIZING MEGAN N. WORTHMAN OF THE FOURTH DISTRICT OF COLORADO FOR WINNING THE VETERAN OF FOREIGN WARS 2004 VOICE OF DEMOCRACY BROADCAST SCRIPTWRITING CONTEST

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor all of America's veterans who have served our country for the cause of freedom. The Veterans of Foreign Wars is a fine organization that deserves our praise for striving to instill an understanding of responsibility to country. This year, more than 80,000 secondary school students participated in the Voice of Democracy audio/essay competition designed to give high school students the opportunity to voice their opinion on their responsibility to our country. The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its Ladies Auxiliary selected the theme "My Commitment to America's Future" for this year's annual contest.

I am pleased to announce that Ms. Megan N. Worthman from the Fourth District of Colorado won the 2004 Voice of Democracy broadcast scriptwriting contest for this year. Her work exemplifies excellence and is worthy of recognition. It is inspiring to see such commitment to America in a young person, and I applaud her fine work.

Her essay reads as follows:

2003-2004 VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST—"MY COMMITMENT TO AMERICA'S FUTURE"

When I was about 7 years old, my grandfather gave me his Naval uniform. I listened to him for hours recounting his journeys in the Pacific. Although he was a radio operator and never saw action, I loved that he lived in such an important time, and he was sharing his experiences with me. When he gave me his thick blue World War II uniform, I was so excited. He gave me a very important piece of him, and I was proud to wear a part of American history. That same pride reflected in his eyes as I tried it on. Of course it was way too big for me, the bottom hem brushing on the floor, the sleeves well past my fingertips, and his hat falling down over my eyes and resting on my nose. That uniform is still too big for me, but I hope to grow into it. I know I will never fit into it physically, but I will grow into its image, to become a better person, and a better American.

My commitment is to become that American who embodies the image laid out over two centuries, to become the American that so many others died for. When I was in grade school, about second or third grade, I became really interested in World War II, and the history of my country. I also started to learn about the principles that were the foundation of this country. Later on in fourth grade, I had set my sights on the Air Force Academy, or at least measure up to the high standard they have. To be one of the few who can give all they possess to their country. Now, my goal is to uphold the Constitution and teach my family and those around me the morals and values that have defined America for so long. I am, and will become a more complete person and start to fit into that uniform.

Good Americans are those who work hard for what they believe in, and respect all

those trying to accomplish the same. Even today, as a young High School student, I practice the Constitutional rights entitled to myself and those around me. Everyone has an opinion and the natural right to let it be heard. Everyone also has a different background and heritage, and should be respected for it, no matter what. I will give my time and resources to others who cannot support themselves because it is my obligation. I have the privilege of family, health and happiness. Because of these gifts, I will help others find and button up their own tailored uniforms.

"We hold these truths to be self evident that all men are created equal." That is my commitment. These words echoed through Independence Hall over 200 years ago and were very important to the early framers of our nation. These words make me realize that my commitment is no small one; I will give all of me to my country and my fellow Americans.

Other Americans have set the standard, the uniform, for all of us to grow into. Other Americans have given their lives for a few words written on a piece of paper two centuries ago. The least I can do is to uphold those values and pass them on. It is my duty and my commitment to go to school and learn about the people who influenced our ideas and values of today. The people who gave their lives for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and to learn about those who tried to take it away. It is my duty to learn about my neighbor and other cultures. The great thinker Voltaire said, "I might not agree with what you have to say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." This held true many years ago, and still holds enormous value today. It is important to learn from the past, other cultures and other people. When I graduate high school and finish college, suddenly the hem on my uniform seems farther from the ground.

When I volunteer my time to my community, or help my little brother with his homework, my fingers appear at the ends of my sleeves. When I listen to both sides of the argument, my hat fits a little better. When I become a better person by reading, volunteering, teaching and learning, I start to mature and fill out the uniform. When I respect all people, when I learn about foreign cultures, my commitment begins to show and becomes a beacon for others to see.

Everyone has a different uniform. For some, it could be a military one. For others, it could be a business suit, a doctor's smock, an athletic uniform or a construction jacket. However, everyone's uniform is made of the same materials; commitment, hard work, love, respect and time. Everyone's uniform is intertwined with everyone else's, and if one of us is missing, the fabric of America cannot be whole. Everyone has an important role to play, and I intend to do my part to succeed in whatever my role may be. My commitment is a lifelong one, and it seeded when I was 7, listening to another American recount his experiences.

INTRODUCING THE DISCHARGED COMBAT VETERANS MEDICAL CARE EXTENSION ACT

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Discharged Combat Veterans Medical Care Extension Act. I offer this legislation with the distinguished gentleman from Il-

linois, Mr. Evans, the senior Democrat on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and 13 other original cosponsors.

Our bill would extend from two years to five years the time in which combat veterans may receive free care from VA medical facilities without having to document that their illnesses are the result of their military service. The legislation will also allow more time for medical assessments and data analysis for the returning veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The lack of scientific knowledge regarding the relationship between military deployment and long-term health often hinders the VA's ability to establish the required connection between service and health consequences. Although the current two-year period allows for the collection of some health information, symptoms resulting from deployment may remain hidden until years later, as demonstrated by illnesses related to service during the Persian Gulf War.

VA physicians have never treated many types of the severe brain injuries, facial trauma or illnesses from exposure to dangerous substances that result from service in Iraq and Afghanistan. Therefore, additional time is needed to stabilize, diagnose and treat those injuries and illnesses.

We made a promise to our veterans to care for them after they returned from war. Accordingly, our troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan deserve open access to VA medical facilities as they heal from injuries and as their service-connected illnesses begin to appear.

As this Memorial Day approaches, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Discharged Combat Veterans Medical Care Extension Act. This bill will go a long way toward helping our veterans recover and entitle them to the care they deserve for their valor and service to our nation.

INTRODUCTION OF GUAM WAGE PARITY BILL

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to correct an anomaly in the treatment of the Federal blue-collar workforce in Guam by providing for parity in their wage schedules and rates. These are the wage schedules issued under the Federal Wage System, the uniform pay-setting system Congress established by law in 1972 for Federal "prevailing rate employees" who are paid based upon an hourly rate (P.L. 92-392).

Administered by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), the Federal Wage System is designed to ensure that pay rates for Federal trade, craft, and laboring employees are in line with prevailing levels of pay for comparable levels of work in the private sector within a local wage area. The system is also meant to eliminate inequities that would otherwise occur within the Federal Government and between the various agencies employing citizens in a local wage area.

OPM has designated the Department of Defense (DoD) as the lead agency for establishing the pay rates and issuing all wage schedules. OPM has currently defined 131 appropriated fund and 125 non-appropriated fund

local wage areas within the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Schedules and rates are developed for each wage area based upon a survey conducted by DoD. OPM regulation however provides that a separate schedule shall be issued for Guam with rates identical to those used for prevailing rate employees in foreign areas. Regulation also provides that the rates for foreign areas shall be an average of all wage area rates set by OPM for the United States. Under these circumstances, the prevailing rate employees in Guam are treated no differently in terms of their pay rates than if they were working in a foreign area (outside the United States). This is a matter of concern to me which I am seeking to address with the introduction of this legislation.

Guam's unique economic conditions, given its geographical isolation and the fact that it is a high cost of living area, have placed the hard working prevailing rate employees in Guam at an unfair disadvantage when compared to those that are employed in an OPM-defined local wage area. Hawaii, Alaska, and Puerto Rico, unlike Guam, are each currently defined to be their own separate wage areas and benefit from wage schedules that take into account their economic situation and cost of living environment. Guam should be treated no differently and have a wage schedule that reflects the cost of living and the level of pay for government-wage-grade-equivalent jobs in the private sector.

Therefore I have introduced this bill to provide equitable treatment for Guam, not by directing OPM to establish a separate wage area for Guam but by simply applying the same rates used for the State of Hawaii, which sustains a similar island economy with most comparable trades and blue-collar workforces.

It is generally understood that the reason Guam has been issued a separate schedule each year by regulation and has not been defined as a separate wage area, is that the number of comparable positions in Guam's private industry may be insufficient under the current standards to warrant its own wage survey and designation as a separate wage area. In passing the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002, Congress required DoD, when establishing wage schedules and rates for prevailing rate employees, to consider rates paid for comparable positions in private industry in the nearest wage area that is most similar to the wage area for which wage rates are being established when there are insufficient positions in the local industry upon which to establish wage schedules and rates (Sec. 1113 of P.L. 107-107). The legislation I am introducing today is consistent with this intent.

This bill would greatly enhance the economic viability of the prevailing rate employees in Guam, is in the public interest, and is, in my opinion, in conformance with the goal of the Federal Wage System. This is a sensible policy proposal that would ensure regional equity in wage rates. I look forward to working with OPM, DoD, the House Committee on Government Reform, and the House Committee on Armed Services, in addressing the concern over the current inequity and treatment of Guam under the Federal Wage System that this bill seeks to correct.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 775

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, many of our immigration laws are no longer consistent with our national security and other vital interests.

The diversity visa or visa lottery system is one such example. The visa lottery was established by the Immigration Act of 1990 to offer the opportunity of immigration to individuals in countries that had been sending few immigrants to the United States.

Usually, immigrant visas are issued to foreign nationals that have an existing connection with a family member lawfully residing in the United States or with a U.S. employer. These types of relationships help ensure that immigrants entering the country have a stake in continuing America's success, and have the advanced skills necessary to contribute to the nation's economy. However, under the visa lottery program, visas are awarded to immigrants at random with no such safety precautions.

I have heard from immigrants who have legally come to the country, and they believe the visa lottery program is unfair to immigrants who comply with the United States' immigration laws. Also, the visa lottery program does not prohibit illegal aliens from applying to receive a visa through the program.

The program has many flaws. A recent report released by the Center for Immigration Studies shows that it is commonplace for foreign nationals to apply for the lottery program multiple times using different aliases and false personal information.

I support Congressman Goodlatte's bill, H.R. 775, The Security and Fairness Enhancement for America Act, which would terminate the visa lottery. This piece of legislation is an important and positive step in immigration reform and it is my hope that the House considers it in the near future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GIRLS
SOFTBALL TEAM OF ALEXAN-
DRIA HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Girls Softball Team of Alexandria High School in Calhoun County, Alabama. On May 15, 2004, these young ladies won the 4-A Girls Softball State Championship.

Congratulations to Amy Brown, Whitney Burt, Stevie Smith, Hollie Henderson, Allie Barker, Anna Pitts, Lindy Baird, Whitney Hurst, Haley Henderson, Hali Lash, Jordan Brown and Alyssa Brown. Thanks to Coaches Brian Hess and Toni Duncan for their leadership and the support of Manager Sara Borders and Bookkeeper Donya Barker.

I know that Calhoun County, Alabama, and the entire Third District share with me their best wishes for this accomplishment. Only through hard work, dedication and a team ef-

fort could this be achieved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

COMMEMORATING THE 63RD ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF
CRETE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 63rd anniversary of the Battle of Crete. Last year, I introduced H. Res. 244 which recognizes and appreciates the historical significance of the people of Crete during World War II.

This is a historic event with direct significance to the Allies' victory of World War II. On May 20, 1941, thousands of German paratroopers and gliders began landing on Crete. Both the Allies and Nazis wanted Crete because of its strategic location. At that time the British controlled the island. It was a very strong point on the lifeline to India and protected both Palestine and Egypt.

The Nazi invasion force included the elite German paratroopers and glider troops. Hitler felt this was to be an easy victory, yet he is quoted to have said shortly after the invasion, "France fell in 8 days. Why is Crete free?"

The invasion of Crete took 11 days. It resulted in more than 6,000 German troopers listed as killed, wounded or missing in action. The losses to the elite 7th parachute division were felt so hard by the German Military it signified the end of large-scale airborne operations.

This valiant fight by the Cretan people began in the first hour of the Nazi airborne invasion, in contrast to the European underground movements that took a year or more after being invaded to activate.

Young boys, old men and women displayed breathtaking bravery in defending their Crete. German soldiers never got used to Cretan women fighting them. They would tear the dress from the shoulders of suspected women to find bruises from the recoil of the rifle. The penalty was death.

The Times (London) July 28, 1941, reported that "five hundred Cretan women have been deported to Germany for taking part in the defense of their native island."

Another surprise for the German soldiers who invaded Crete was the heroic resistance of the clergy. A priest leading his parishioners into battle was not what the Germans anticipated. At Paleochora, Father Stylianos Frantzeskis, hearing of the German airborne invasion, rushed to his church, sounded the bell, took his rifle and marched his volunteers toward Maleme to write history.

This struggle became an example for all Europe to follow in defying German occupation and aggression.

The price paid by the Cretans for their valiant resistance to Nazi forces was high. Thousands of civilians died from random executions, starvation, and imprisonment. Entire communities were burned and destroyed by the Germans as a reprisal for the Cretan resistance movement. Yet this resistance lasted for four years.

The battle of Crete was to change the final outcome of World War II. The Battle of Crete

significantly contributed in delaying Hitler's plan to invade Russia. The invasion was delayed from April to June of 1941. The 2-month delay in the invasion made Hitler's forces face the Russian winter.

The Russian snowstorms and the sub zero temperatures eventually stalled the Nazi invasion before they could take Moscow or Leningrad. This was the beginning of the downfall of the Nazi reign of terror.

This significant battle and the heroic drive of the Cretan people must always be remembered and honored.

Democracy came from Greece and the Cretan heroes exemplified the courage it takes to preserve it.

Today, the courage and fortitude of the Cretan people is seen in the members of the United Cretan Associations of New York which is located in Astoria, Queens.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the Cretans in the United States, Greece, and the diaspora.

INTRODUCTION OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS BILL

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, if we knew that there was going to be a terrorist attack sometime in the next 5 years but did not know what kind of attack it would be, who would carry it out, or where in the United States it would occur, what actions would we take to prepare and how would we allocate our human and financial resources to do so?

The tragic events of September 11, 2001 brought home to the American people the magnitude of the danger posed by terrorism on U.S. soil. Now, almost 3 years later, we as Americans must assume that terrorists will strike again, possibly using chemical, biological, radiological or even nuclear materials. The unthinkable has become thinkable.

After the horrific September 11th terrorist attacks, the country pulled together and we began to take steps to make our homeland more secure. We enacted legislation to overhaul our airport security; we provided new border security measures; we created the Department of Homeland Security.

And yet, despite the steps that have been made, many believe that our Nation is in even more danger today than it was 3 years ago. In fact, Administration officials recently announced that they expect another terrorist attack here in the United States before November. They have resigned themselves to the inevitability of more terrorist attacks and are warning us—the American public—to be prepared.

Despite our awareness of the very real threat of terrorism here at home and despite renewed efforts to prepare since September 11, we remain, as a country, dangerously ill-prepared to handle another catastrophic attack on American soil.

That is simply unacceptable.

Much more needs to be done to make Americans safer and more secure than they are today. Securing our homeland must be the number-one priority of our Government. Indeed, our Nation's very charter—the Constitu-

tion—in its preamble states clearly that among the first priorities of Government is to provide for the common defense. Improving the safety of the American people at home must be undertaken as aggressively as pursuing terrorists in far-off lands.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce an appropriations measure that will provide the resources needed to secure our hometowns and ensure our police, fire fighters and paramedics—the Nation's first responders—are fully prepared for anything they may face.

Unfortunately, our efforts have too often been—as we say in Texas—a day late and a dollar short. In this case, however, the \$3 billion shortfall contemplated by the budget passed yesterday is dangerous and unconscionable.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce an appropriations measure that would meet these critical needs and would—

Improve Our Hometown Response Capabilities by providing: \$3.874 billion for the Office for Domestic Preparedness; \$180 million for Emergency Management Performance Grants; \$800 million for Fire Grants; \$60 million for Metropolitan Medical Response System grants; \$515 million for Hospital Preparedness Grants (in HHS); \$940 million in Bioterrorism Aid to Health Departments (in HHS); and \$250 million in Rail and Transit Security Grants.

Secure Our Borders and Meet Airport Security Mandates by providing: \$700 million for Federal Air Marshals; \$650 million for explosive detection systems purchase and installation; \$100 million for air cargo screening; \$250 million for port security grants; \$161 million for the Container Security Initiative; \$400 million on border and port inspection and surveillance technology, including radiation portal monitors in U.S. ports; \$50 million for radiation portal monitors at overseas ports (in DOE); \$100 million more for border patrol and inspector staffing; \$96 million for the northern border airwing expansion; and \$50 million more for bus, trucking and port pilot grants.

Mr. Speaker, we have nothing less than a moral obligation to ensure that our nation is fully prepared and vigorously defended. We have troops deployed around the world fighting the war on terror, but we cannot forget our frontline defenders here at home.

I urge my colleagues in this, the People's House, to act now to provide our police; officers, our firefighters, our paramedics and all other emergency personnel the equipment and support they need to protect our hometowns. I hope the House will take up this carefully drafted piece of legislation soon and provide our Nation the security we need.

PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITIES FROM WILDFIRE

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, given current drought forecasts and the condition of Utah's forests, this year's fire season is expected to be very difficult and expensive. Today, I am introducing legislation, along with my colleagues Congressman DICKS and Congresswoman HOOLEY, to provide \$500 million in

Emergency Supplemental funding for the Forest Service and the Department of Interior to maintain our nation's wildland firefighting efforts this year.

We all know how devastating it would be if the Forest Service and Department of Interior were to stop fighting fires because of a lack of funding. Without passage of this legislation, it is likely that these agencies will quickly deplete the funds that Congress designated for this fire season. When this funding runs out, the Forest Service will be forced to choose between cutting back its firefighting efforts or taking funding away from other essential forestry programs. As a result of funding concerns, the Forest Service and the Department of Interior have employed almost 3,000 fewer firefighters this season than they did at the same time last year. The legislation I am introducing today would provide the additional funding that is needed to employ more firefighters and protect our communities from the devastating effects of wildfires.

The passage of this bill is critical to protecting the health of forests and communities in my home state of Utah. We've seen too much devastation and damage in recent years due to the extreme drought conditions in the West. I am committed to the passage of this legislation as an important step toward protecting Utah's communities from the devastating effects of forest fires.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROWN v. BOARD OF EDUCATION

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, a landmark Supreme Court case that gave rise to Linda Brown's dream of equality in education in this country, a dream deferred that has become for many a broken promise.

The 1954 Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision marked a turning point in our history and incited a movement to break down barriers of race that had long plagued communities across the nation. It helped pave the road toward integral measures such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Voting Rights Act of 1965 and Fair Housing Act of 1968 and began the movement for desegregation. Chief Justice Earl Warren felt the ruling was so historic he issued a rare public statement: "We conclude that in the field of public education, the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place." In declaring segregation unconstitutional, the Supreme Court mandated a focus on equality not only in education, but also in public transportation, accommodations and commerce.

The Brown v. Board of Education decision demanded that all Americans be entitled to the fundamental right to equal educational opportunities, regardless of race, and the resources to achieve their dreams. But by the time Martin Luther King, Jr. addressed America from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1963, nearly ten years later, that promise remained unfulfilled. And half a century later, with the convulsing explosions of the Civil Rights Movement behind us, the future assured to

Linda Brown in that historic ruling has been approached, but not yet reached. And we are left to wonder, like Langston Hughes in his poem "A Dream Deferred," whether those promises, if not fulfilled, will one day cease to exist.

Fifty years ago, Linda Brown, a third grader in Topeka, Kansas, and her father had the courage to protest the long accepted "separate but equal" principle that required her to walk for over an hour every morning because she was not permitted to attend the white-only school just blocks from her house. On May 17, 1954, the Supreme Court struck down the "badge of inferiority for African Americans" that the principle of "separate but equal" had come to signify.

This week we honor all those who fought for the dream of equality of opportunity: the valiant families who came forward in these five cases; the NAACP legal defense team, including Charles Hamilton Houston, Thurgood Marshall, Robert L. Carter, Kenneth B. Clark and Judge Constance Motley; and the community which held on to the dream through years of bitter opposition and violent protest in the South. But half a century later, urban and rural schools across America lack the funding to provide equal education opportunities for all students.

An Education Trust study released last week reveals alarming statistics about the state of education: Minority students are about three years behind other students by the time they reach eighth grade; 17-year-old African American and Latino students have reading and math skills similar to those of 13-year-old white students; and African American and Latino and American Indian youth are less likely to be enrolled in full college prep coursework.

No Child Left Behind, underfunded by \$27 billion, could achieve the dream of Brown v. Board of Education if provided with the resources to dismantle unequal opportunities and enhance the quality of education for every community. Fifty years after Brown, we continue to make promises we cannot keep.

As we remember today the dream of Linda Brown and the courageous civil rights leaders to whom we owe our progress, let us remember that the most fitting tribute to them is a continued effort to fulfill their vision for our nation. Let us continue the promise of Brown by breaking down the barriers that still persist in our classrooms and giving schools the resources they need to provide a safe and productive learning environment for our children.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this historic anniversary and renewing the effort to achieve the promise of Brown v. Board of Education: equal educational opportunities for all children. Let us not defer the dream any longer.

REFORM OUR OUTDATED IMMIGRATION LAWS AND POLICIES

HON. BRAD CARSON

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge that Congress make it a top priority to reform our outdated immigration laws and policies.

The tragic events of September 11th awakened most Americans to the fact that our immigration system is seriously flawed and overwhelmed by the massive numbers of foreign visitors and immigrants flowing through it into our country. We all saw then that immigration policy has serious national security impacts and weaknesses. Since that time, Congress and the Executive Branch have made a number of statutory, regulatory and policy changes that have addressed from a homeland security perspective some of the many systemic flaws in this immigration process. Of course, a great deal remains to be done to ensure appropriate levels of safety for America.

We still have 12 to 15 million, or even more, foreign immigrants living and working here illegally. Fortunately, most are not security threats and are simply seeking to improve their economic status by working here where they can make much more than in their home countries. But, undoubtedly some number are here to do us harm either as terrorists, or, more likely, by engaging in criminal activities. We must continue working to identify and expel those who pose such public safety threats.

We also must address the fundamental issue of reducing the extraordinary immigration numbers that we are experiencing year after year. I believe that immigration is a good thing, and most immigrants are good people, here seeking the American Dream. However, I have no doubt that the extremely high numbers of legal and illegal immigrants we have been allowing to come here in recent years represent "too much of a good thing"—numbers matter, and simply put, our immigration numbers, two-thirds of which are due to legal admissions, are excessive. This is especially so given the changing nature of America's labor markets, where low-skilled workers find their jobs disappearing or wages stagnating. Our labor market clearly does not need the roughly 1½ million new immigrants who move to the United States every year. Inordinately high numbers of immigrants, most of whom are less educated and relatively low skilled are having real, and often adverse, impacts on American life.

Citizens and earlier immigrants, who often remain lower skilled and less educated, are suffering serious job and wage losses due to the continuing massive cheap foreign labor inflows. Such problems would be greatly lessened if we reduce both legal and illegal immigration to more moderate and sustainable levels. Congress today has the power to do so, by reviewing legal immigration policy and by genuinely enforcing a policy against illegal immigration.

We have been experiencing such a large immigrant inflow now for several decades due both to lax enforcement and more importantly to statutory changes made in the 1980s and 1990s that opened the immigration floodgates to an unprecedented degree. Congress essentially reset the immigration thermostat and forgot about it, despite the increasingly obvious and serious impacts this has been having.

Congress can no longer ignore the immigration numbers issue. In addition to ensuring better enforcement of our laws so as to radically curtail illegal inflows, we must readjust legal admission policies to ensure that legal immigration fits the reality of America's 21st century labor market. It has been recognized for years by those who have bothered to ex-

amine how our current system works that statutory changes are needed to eliminate a number of unnecessary admission categories. For example, the Immigration Reform Commission, chaired by the late Rep. Barbara Jordan, recommended repealing the visa lottery, which allows thousands of people to come here merely because their name was drawn in a lottery, and the extended family visa categories which spawn literally endless chain migration.

For starters, I believe that we need to reduce legal admission numbers by ending the visa lottery and the so-called extended family categories that fuel foreign worker inflow by chain migration. A positive first step in reforming our outdated immigration laws would be to pass H.R. 775, the Goodlatte bill that repeals the visa lottery. As a cosponsor of that bill, I urge the House Leadership and the Judiciary Committee to act to bring the bill before the full House for action, and to advance other legislation to ensure that our legal immigration policy, coupled with our blind eye toward illegal immigration, are reviewed.

RECOGNITION OF CLEAN OCEAN ACTION IN HONOR OF THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary work of Clean Ocean Action, and to recognize their significant contributions over the years, as they celebrate their 20th Anniversary this weekend. Clean Ocean Action (COA) was established in 1984, by individuals who had a deep-rooted concern for the environment, as well as a desire to help maintain the cleanliness of our oceans. Today, we can say with great certainty that the waters off the New Jersey and New York coast have benefited a great deal thanks to the efforts of COA, and its volunteers and the many citizens who have participated in COA activities.

In commemorating their 20th Anniversary, COA certainly has much to celebrate. Since its inception, this group has organized over 30,600 volunteers for bi-annual beach clean-ups that have led to the removal of millions of pieces of trash and debris that typically pollute our coast. COA has compiled statistical information on the trash collected during their sweeps, which provide a very valuable tool to determine the leading source of debris pollution on our beaches and in our coastal waters. The Beach Sweeps were also chosen as a "Local Legacy," for the 200th celebration of the Library of Congress.

As a passionate supporter of our oceans and our coastline, I am mindful of the world of indebtedness that we owe to this organization. The selfless acts of groups such as the COA, and the volunteers they organize, often go without official recognition or praise. However, we all benefit and are grateful for the work that they do and it is imperative that we support their efforts. Therefore, I pause today to thank Clean Ocean Action for their tireless efforts and I ask my colleagues to do the same.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate COA on their anniversary, and offer them the highest praise for the fine and

important work they have done over the past twenty years.

THE LONG TERM CARE SUPPORT
AND INCENTIVE ACT OF 2004

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about an important issue facing our community: the affordability of long-term care. People today are living longer and healthier lives than ever before.

When the Declaration of Independence was signed, the average life expectancy was 23. In the United States today, life expectancy at birth is 80 years.

While this increased life expectancy is allowing us to live fuller lives, it is also presenting us with serious financial challenges. Half of all older Americans who live alone will "spend" themselves into poverty after only 13 weeks in a nursing home.

My own family had to make difficult emotional and financial decisions when my father needed care. My dad was a pediatrician, and always lived a full life. When he needed care, my sister and I struggled to find the perfect place for him to live.

We wanted to make sure he was happy and received high quality medical care. We searched for months to find the right place for our dad and we learned very quickly how expensive long-term care is. Fortunately, we had the financial resources to take care of him, but many families do not.

My experience with my dad renewed my commitment to improve our long-term care system. I took on this mission in Congress and I am pleased today to reintroduce the Long Term Care Support and Incentive Act. This much needed legislation will make a real difference for San Diegans caring for older family members.

First, the bill will give a \$4,000 tax credit for seniors with long-term care needs and their caregivers. We know how many sacrifices families make to take care of their loved ones. They miss work, or in some cases are forced to give up their jobs. They pay for expensive medical supplies and equipment, and bare the burden of enormous medical bills. This tax credit will help ease their financial burden.

The second section of my legislation will establish a tax deduction for long-term care insurance premiums. As the long-term care needs in our community increase, we must face the reality that many seniors do not have family or friends to take care of them full time.

This is particularly important to women. Women live longer than men. Often times, women are the primary caregivers for their husbands. After their husbands pass away, there is often no one around to take care of them.

Long-Term Care Insurance can help fill this gap, but premiums can be expensive. My legislation will make long-term care insurance more affordable by allowing individuals over 65 to deduct 75 percent of the cost of their premiums and individuals under 65 to deduct 50 percent of the cost of their premiums.

In addition, I have included several important consumer protections in the bill to ensure

that people are purchasing responsible insurance plans that will adequately meet their long-term care needs.

The bill requires plans to include:
Mandatory Inflation Protection.

A Lifetime Deductible Requirement that ensures policy holders must only pay their deductible one time in their lifetime.

Mandatory Interchangeability so that individuals can determine where their benefits are spent.

A Care Coordination program that ensures seniors receive assistance in planning and securing the services they need.

By encouraging people to plan ahead for the future and purchase Long-Term Care Insurance, we can ensure that seniors live dignified and independent lives. I urge all of my colleagues in Congress to work with me to pass it quickly into law.

RECOGNIZING WATER AWARENESS
MONTH

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize May as Water Awareness Month throughout California and the United States of America.

As our most precious natural resource, water sustains all life in our planet. From humans and animals to plants and trees, every living organism needs water to live. For this reason, it is important for all Americans to protect and conserve our water from contamination and careless waste.

This year marks the 29th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act, which authorizes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to regulate public health by setting high health standards and regulating the nation's public drinking water supply. I salute all government leaders, public water providers such as the Walnut Valley Water District, and the California Water Awareness Campaign for their hard work and tireless leadership in making safe drinking water a priority and Water Awareness Month a reality.

In addition, I salute our responsible citizens, urban and agricultural water agencies, and farm bureaus in California who have made exceptional strides to improve water quality and conservation since the state's drought years of 1987-1993. Their significant work and leadership have educated communities throughout California and have set an example to other states to care for the quality of their drinkable and non-drinkable water.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Water Awareness Month and the people who work hard to make water safe for our daily consumption.

THE JEWISH STATE AND A PALESTINIAN STATE: MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE OR INCLUSIVE?

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the State of Israel has for decades been an un-

wavering friend and ally of the United States. And Israel has stood in complete solidarity with the United States in the War on Terror. So, it is critically important that we send the message to our Israeli friends that we stand in complete solidarity with them in their fight against terrorism, because you cannot negotiate with terror or trust the promises of terrorists; you can only defeat them. And the establishment of a new terror-supporting regime on the shores of the Mediterranean seems inconsistent with the strategic goal of the U.S. and Israel to defeat terrorism and stabilize the Middle East.

I recently was presented a copy of an interesting advertisement that is running in Israeli newspapers regarding the dangers of ceding Israeli territory to terrorists. This particular ad is the ninth in a series, and it focuses on the Security Significance of Judea & Samaria Mountain Ridges. I would like to have the text of this advertisement placed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD following my statement.

THE JEWISH STATE AND A PALESTINIAN STATE:
MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE OR INCLUSIVE?

THE SECURITY SIGNIFICANCE OF JUDEA AND
SAMARIA MOUNTAIN RIDGES

The Demise of Saddam Has Not Waived the Threat to Israel

The Mideast is the world's most violent and unpredictable region, which requires preparedness for the worst-case scenario, including an Eastern Front Assault on Israel.

In 1967 Israel crushed Egypt, Syria and Jordan, and grew over-confident that no Arab attack would be forthcoming. The 1973 War almost annihilated Israel.

Will the U.S. be able to stabilize Iraq? Will Bush retreat from Iraq? Will his successor (in 2005 or 2009) retreat from Iraq? A U.S. evacuation of Iraq could produce more terror than it intended to quell.

Judea and Samaria Mountain Ridges—Irreplaceable for Israel's Security

Missiles cause damage; they don't bring enemies to submission. There is a marked difference between a barrage of missiles on Tel Aviv, and the invasion of Arab tanks to Tel Aviv.

The centrality of ground forces suggests the centrality of ground features (Topographic edge and geographic depth).

The eastern mountain ridge of Judea & Samaria—rather than the Jordan Valley—constitutes the best tank obstacle in the world (3,000 foot steep slopes, controllable by a small force).

The western mountain ridge of Judea & Samaria (2,000 foot moderate slope overtopping Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa) constitutes an invader's dream platform. A withdrawal from Judea & Samaria would submit the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv-Haifa area (80 percent of the Israeli population) to daily terror.

The Judea & Samaria mountain ridges constitute the "Golan Heights" of Israeli's Soft Belly.

Until 1967, Israel limited Jordan's military presence in Judea & Samaria to 5,000, lest it become a lethal threat. The 40,000 armed Palestinian terrorists in Judea & Samaria amount to 4 brigades. A withdrawal from Judea & Samaria would make a 1973-style surprise Arab attack a lethal threat.

Technology Cannot Replace Ground Features

High-tech today becomes low-tech tomorrow, but high-ground today remains high-ground tomorrow.

Every high-tech system is eventually outflanked by an emerging system. The dominant mountain ridges of Judea & Samaria can never be outflanked by an emerging ground feature.

No nation alters its borders per technological developments.

HELP SENIORS RECOGNIZE THE BENEFITS OF THE DRUG DISCOUNT CARD

HON. MIKE FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, today we are here to discuss the immediate savings that our nation's seniors realize due to the prescription drug discount cards provided by the Medicare Law that Congress wrote last year. After years of promises, this law fulfills our commitment to our nation's seniors by providing the first ever universal prescription drug benefit under Medicare.

One would think that these new benefits for seniors, coupled with the prescription drug discount card would be a cause for celebration. Rather than educate seniors on the benefits of the discount cards, the other side of aisle has continued to play politics with this issue and resorted to scare tactic towards our nation's seniors and in some cases suggest that seniors are too dumb to make decisions for themselves. There are even those who are discouraging seniors from signing up for the discount card. Perhaps because if seniors sign up, the program will be a success; that is not just wrong, it is unconscionable and shameful, and anyone who engages in that sort of behavior should be ashamed of themselves.

In my home state of New Jersey we have a very generous state pharmaceutical assistance program called PAAD. After working with our Governor and CMS, New Jersey has the opportunity to directly enroll seniors into the discount card program. Out of the 81,000 seniors and persons with disabilities who were eligible for the transition assistance provided by the discount card, only 350 opted out of the program. As a result of the discount card and our delegation's work to get this card to New Jersey's seniors, my state will save \$90 million on the cost of prescription drugs. These savings can be put back into the PAAD program to provide expanded coverage for additional seniors. New Jersey is one example that I encourage more states to follow. By putting partisan politics aside, our delegation worked with CMS to provide a simple process which benefits our state and our state's seniors.

Defying logic, today and in the future, you will hear members on the other side of the aisle argue that the cost of prescription drugs will increase as a result of the discount card. For those members I would like to point to a May 14th study by CMS which shows that in the past week more cards have offered increase discounts for our nation's seniors compared to prices offered the previous week. Sponsors are now comparing their discounts to their competitors, more cards are offering favorable prices, and CMS is working with card sponsors to make sure that the best discounts are published for Medicare beneficiaries. This is what happens when competition is injected into the marketplace. That's how markets work. Some on the other side of the aisle would prefer a government run, command and control system where bureaucrats or politicians tell people what medicines they

can have, how much they can have and when and where they can have it. That sounds more like the former Soviet Union to me.

Today you will also hear members who will criticize the pharmaceutical industry for charging too much for prescription drugs. Yet they will not mention the miracle drugs or treatments these companies create. Representing the scientists and researchers who live in my district of New Jersey, I would like to highlight the good work that two of the pharmaceutical companies are doing to help seniors. Once a low-income beneficiary has exhausted his or her annual \$600 transitional assistance allowance, Merck and Johnson and Johnson will provide its medicines free to that beneficiary's participating discount card plan or directly to the beneficiary, through the pharmacy. Neither company will receive any fees from these programs.

In closing, I encourage all members to put aside partisan politics and help seniors recognize the benefits of the drug discount card. This can be accomplished by working with CMS to clarify any questions our seniors may have and allowing seniors to realize the discounts that are available to all seniors through the discount card.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this is National Small Business Week; a time to celebrate and recognize America's small business entrepreneurs.

I honor our nation's 23 million small businesses and recognize their vital contribution to our nation. I want to especially thank my good friend, Congresswoman NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ from New York and applaud my House colleagues for their hard work on behalf of small business. Additionally, I thank the many small business owners for their numerous contributions.

Small business is the backbone of our state and national economy. Unfortunately, many small businesses are suffering in these trying financial times. Government contracts and spending are a vital source of revenue, and have become even more so during this current economic slump. Small businesses lack high powered lobbyists, therefore it is imperative that all levels of government continue to pay diligent attention to small business in their purchasing and contracts. It is important that we ensure that businesses of all sizes have access to government contracts regardless of their ability to buy influence.

As Congress continues its work, I will dedicate myself to assuring that good news is on the way for small businesses. Both our federal and state government have an obligation to aid, assist and protect the interests of small businesses. The future of America depends on it. I will continue to strongly support federal programs that benefit small businesses.

OSTEOPOROSIS PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, May is Osteoporosis Prevention and Awareness Month. Osteoporosis and low bone density affects over 44 million Americans over the age of 50, many of whom were unaware of their risk for osteoporosis and were not able to take steps to prevent it. While both men and women are at-risk of developing osteoporosis, women comprise 80 percent of those who develop the disease. Even though the risk of a hip fracture for a woman is equal to her combined risk of breast, uterine, and ovarian cancer, most adult women are unaware of the risk factors for osteoporosis.

Like many Americans, I had no idea I was at risk for developing osteoporosis. I believed I simply had bad posture and was reluctant to be screened for osteoporosis. Yet, as I was running for Congress in 1998, I was diagnosed with this disease.

Fortunately, within 10 months of treatment I was able to stop my bone density loss and my bones actually began to strengthen again. Because of my personal experience with osteoporosis, I am committed to ensuring Americans are aware of the importance of strong bones, so they can reduce their chances of developing the disease.

I commend the National Osteoporosis Foundation (NOF) for their efforts to educate the public during the month of May. This month, the NOF has reached out to healthcare providers and consumers with the message, "Osteoporosis. Chances are . . . it could be you." Throughout the year, the NOF is dedicated to promoting lifelong bone health in order to reduce the prevalence of osteoporosis and osteoporosis related fractures and they continue to work to find a cure for the disease through research, education, and advocacy. For all those who have this disease and those who may in the future, I will continue to work with and support NOF's efforts to raise awareness of the risk factors and ways to prevent osteoporosis.

HONORING THE CREW OF THE USS "PITTSBURGH" FOR THEIR HEROISM IN WORLD WAR II

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to announce the introduction of a concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring the crew of the USS *Pittsburgh* for their heroism in World War II.

On March 19, 1945, the USS *Franklin*, as part of Task Force 58, launched an attack against Japan. The Japanese responded with an air attack against Task Force 58, striking the USS *Franklin*, killing 724 crew members and injuring 265 other crew members, and setting the USS *Franklin* ablaze.

The USS *Pittsburgh* was dispatched to assist the USS *Franklin*. The crew of the USS

Pittsburgh performed outstanding feats of seamanship, including attaching a tow line to the flaming USS *Fry* and rescuing 34 of its crew members from turbulent waters. The USS *Pittsburgh* and the USS *Santa Fe* defended against two additional Japanese air attacks while towing and escorting the USS *Franklin* to safety.

As a result of their heroic actions in saving their ship, the crew of the USS *Franklin* was highly decorated, receiving awards of two Congressional Medals of Honor, five Gold Stars, 22 Silver Stars, and 250 Letters of Commendation, and becoming the most decorated crew in the history of the Navy. The crew of the USS *Santa Fe* received a Navy Unit Commendation.

However, the crew of the USS *Pittsburgh* has never been collectively honored or recognized for their heroism and bravery. Therefore, my legislation resolves that Congress recognizes and honors the crew of the USS *Pittsburgh* for their heroism on March 19, 1945, for rendering aid and assistance to the USS *Franklin* and its crew.

As we prepare to dedicate the new World War II Memorial, it is fitting that we recognize and honor the crew of the USS *Pittsburgh*. I am pleased to introduce this long overdue concurrent resolution.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NO CHILD
LEFT BEHIND REFORM ACT

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to introduce The No Child Left Behind Reform Act, which will make three basic changes to the No Child Left Behind Act. This bill was originally authored by my distinguished colleague from Connecticut, Senator CHRIS DODD was recently introduced in the Senate. The legislation I rise to introduce today is a House companion to this bill.

No Child Left Behind was passed in 2002 with bipartisan majorities in the House and Senate in an acknowledgement that the achievement gap among our nation's children must be closed. Since its passage, I have made very deliberate efforts to communicate with educators who will be responsible for implementation of the law. Like most of them, I remain committed to the goals and the general strategy of the policy.

Toward this effort, I have established an Education Roundtable with whom I have met numerous times to discuss this reform. Through this Roundtable, I have met with more than 100 educators over the course of the last two years and have discovered that there are several common concerns. As a result, I am introducing this legislation in an effort to make the No Child Left Behind Act and even stronger educational tool. The legislation will meet the challenges brought to my attention by educators, administrators and parents who deal with these issues every day at the local level.

First, the No Child Left Behind Reform Act will allow schools to consider measures other than test scores when determining achievement. Currently, the law holds schools accountable for student achievement measured

solely by scores on two tests administered on one day. It gives schools no credit for progress on other academic indicators, such as dropout rates, the number of students who participate in advanced placement courses, and measures of individual student improvement over time. This legislation will allow schools to be recognized for succeeding in these areas.

Second, the No Child Left Behind Reform Act will allow schools to target school choice and supplemental services to those students whose group fails to make AYP. Under implementation of the current law, if a school is in need of improvement it is expected to offer school choice and supplemental services to all students. This does not allow a school to target its resources to those who are most in need. By targeting those students in groups that fail to meet AYP, this legislation presents the most efficient way to maximize the effect of these resources.

Finally, the No Child Left Behind Reform Act provides flexibility to teachers looking to meet "highly qualified" standards. As it is, the law requires teachers to be "highly qualified" to teach every subject that they teach. This is certainly a necessary component to the law but some of the educators with whom I have met have expressed concerns. The problems arise for those teachers in the fields of math and science who are now required to become certified in various disciplines such as biology, earth science and chemistry. It also applies to teachers in rural middle schools who teach multiple subjects and are struggling to become certified in all of those subjects.

The legislation I am introducing today will allow middle grade level teachers who teach multiple subjects as well as math and science teachers to take one assessment test for all of the subjects they teach. Each state will determine what the test will consist of based on the needs of their state.

Mr. Speaker, these changes will provide significant assistance to schools in Connecticut and other states across the country currently struggling to comply with the No Child Left Behind Act. Clearly, we have encountered some unintended consequences of No Child Left Behind. If we are not able to restructure the law to address these issues we run the risk of losing the worthwhile goals that motivated the passage of this important legislation. I ask my colleagues to join me in support of the No Child Left Behind Reform Act.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD A.
HELLBUSCH

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ronald A. Hellbusch, Director of Public Works and Utilities for the City of Westminster, Colorado. Ron is retiring after 32 years with the City. Combined with the 16 years as the City Manager of Brighton, Colorado, Ron has provided 48 years of dedicated service to these northern Denver communities.

Ron began his career at the City of Westminster as a seasonal laborer in the street, water, sewer and park divisions while finishing

high school and college. In 1960, he was appointed as the assistant city manager for the City of Westminster and was instrumental in developing the city's surface water supply system from its previous groundwater system when he was appointed water development coordinator by the City Council in 1963. Hellbusch left the City of Westminster in 1966 to serve as city manager for the City of Brighton, Colorado, where he served for 16 years.

He resumed his career with the City of Westminster in 1984 as the Director of Public Works and Utilities, directing the water distribution and wastewater collection systems, water and wastewater treatment, water supply acquisition, long range water supply planning and development, street operations and maintenance, street replacement and rehabilitation, and concrete replacement. The Department of Public Works and Utilities has 128 authorized employees, has an annual operating budget of more than \$24 million, and a capital improvement project budget of approximately \$7 million annually.

In 1996, Ron was selected as one of the American Public Works Association's 1996 Top Ten Public Works Leaders for his outstanding contributions to the public works profession. Ron also received the William E. Korbitz Award presented by the Colorado Chapter of the American Public Works Association at the 14th Annual Awards Luncheon in January 2000. He represented the city on various city and community groups including the Woman Creek Reservoir Authority Board, American Public Works Association Colorado Chapter and National Committees including the Leadership and Management Technical Committee, State Water Supply Initiative (SWSI) Roundtable Board Member, and the Colorado Water Congress serving as its president in 2003.

In the community, Ron has served the Westminster Presbyterian Church as a ruling elder and as the chairman of the Church's corporate affairs committee. Also, Ron chaired the stewardship committee over a four-year period and was a Sunday school teacher. In addition to the Westminster church activities, Ron was active during his years in Brighton, Colorado, both in the Presbyterian Church and community.

Ron's accomplishments with his Public Works and Utilities team include acquiring and developing a long-term, build-out water supply; the reclaimed water program; the completion of the Standley Lake dam renovation in collaboration with the cities of Northglenn and Thornton; employee driven quality service/competitive service program; the long-term street improvement strategy plan; utility planning and funding; developing a highly motivated and skilled employee team; encouraging innovation in membrane water treatment; use of technology in utility planning; a department-wide maintenance management program; numerous intergovernmental and regional cooperative agreements on water and public works programs; outsourcing programs such as street sweeping an annual trash pickup; and employee success in numerous national awards for programs and facilities, including recognition by the American Public Works Association, American Water Works Association, Water Environment Federation and the Denver Regional Council of Governments.

Ron has also been involved in the cleanup and closure of the former Rocky Flats nuclear

weapons facility just west of Westminster. For the past couple of years he has represented the City on a number of issues associated with the cleanup of this site, protecting surrounding drinking water supplies, ensuring worker safety, and with the site's future use. He was an early and strong supporter of preserving the acres of open space and wildlife habitat that exist on this site. He was instrumental in helping win the support of the neighboring communities for the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act so that this site could become an asset not only to the citizens of Westminster, but all of the surrounding communities.

Ron is an example of the important role that our local officials play in maintaining and enhancing the quality of life for our Nation's citizens. His dedication to his community and collaboration with neighboring communities stands as a shining example of the rewards that come from such service—not only to the community leader, but the lives touched by that service.

As Westminster City Manager Brent McFall stated, "Ron Hellbusch has had a distinguished career with the City of Westminster and in the field of public works and utilities. He is nationally recognized as a leader in public works and as a water and wastewater provider. His shoes will be very hard to fill. We appreciate Ron's efforts over all these years on behalf of Westminster. He will be missed."

I join Manager McFall in those comments. In Ron's retirement letter to City Manager Brent McFall, he indicates that "there are streams and lakes not fished, outdoors to explore, stories to write, vistas to photograph, music to enjoy, books not read and tennis games to play. . . it is time to retire." That may be true and I am envious of the opportunity he now has to enjoy those activities. But we cannot forget that Ron helped enhance the lives of people who live, work and raise a family right there in Westminster and Brighton.

I wish Ron well in his retirement and know that he will stay engaged in community affairs no matter where his retirement may take him.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BRYAN
SCOTLAND, RECORD-BREAKING
CHAMPION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in offering congratulations to an outstanding young man from St. Benedict's Preparatory School in Newark, New Jersey, Bryan Scotland, who set a track meet record in the 1600 meter run on May 14th. During the first day of the Essex County Track and Field Championships at Woodman Field in Montclair, New Jersey, Bryan made a spectacular finish in 4:17:88. On the following day, he also won the 800 meter run.

Not only is Bryan an accomplished athlete, he is an excellent student and a young man of the highest character. He is a credit to his school, St. Benedict's Prep, which has an outstanding academic reputation under the leadership of the Headmaster, Edwin Leahy, fond-

ly known by all as "Father Ed." Opened by Benedictine monks in 1857, the school closed for a period of time in 1972 after demographic shifts in Newark, but thankfully reopened its doors a year later and remains strongly committed to the education of our local youth.

I am proud that I chose Bryan to come to the U.S. House of Representatives to serve as a page during the summer of 2003. He distinguished himself in that position through his diligence and his dedicated service to this institution.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring this talented and hardworking young man with such a bright future ahead of him. Let us offer our congratulations and best wishes to Bryan and his proud parents, Diane and Glen Scotland of Glen Ridge, New Jersey.

COMMEMORATING THE
RETIREMENT OF RON BEATON

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ron Beaton of Paducah, Kentucky on the occasion of his retirement from WPSD-TV after 29 years of distinguished work and community leadership.

Ron has been a public face and trusted figure in Paducah and the surrounding area since he began working at the television station in 1975. He started out as an intern with WPSD immediately after graduating from Lone Oak High School and has been an on-air fixture ever since. After working on weekends and during the summers while attending Murray State University, Ron has served as a reporter, producer, anchorman, and managing editor.

As his colleagues and viewers readily attest, Ron has handled all types of news stories with professionalism and sensitivity. His coverage of political events, including ten Presidential and Vice-Presidential visits to the region, has garnered well-deserved accolades. In addition, Ron's dignified and caring manner has served the community well during trying times, such as the tragic shootings at Heath High School in 1999 and the deadly tornadoes that ravaged Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri last spring.

Spending one's entire career at a single station, as Ron has done, is increasingly rare in the competitive television news business. Despite opportunities to move to larger and more lucrative markets, Ron decided to keep his career and family in the town he knows and loves. WPSD's viewers in western Kentucky, southern Illinois, southeastern Missouri, and northwest Tennessee have been fortunate to have welcomed Ron into their living rooms for so long.

My constituents have further benefitted from Beaton's service in ways that reach well beyond the television studio. Ron and his colleagues at WPSD have worked with the Lion's Club Telethon of Stars and the Easter Seals for decades to raise millions of dollars for children with disabilities. His work with the popular "Fugitive Files" news segment has led to over 200 suspects apprehended and at least as many communities made safer. Ron has

been an active spiritual leader and teacher in his home church of Trinity United Methodist in Paducah and many other congregations. The financial counseling he has provided, both on the air and through the Money Matters financial planning business he will now attend to full-time, has helped many families reach goals they never thought attainable.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Ron for the positive example he has been for us as an anchorman, businessman, community leader, husband, and father. Tonight, when he signs off with his trademark "Tomorrow's Friday!" for the second-to-last time, he will remind us all that despite the dour outlook that prevails in much of the news media today, there is still much to be happy about in Paducah and places like it all across America. It is with great pride that I represent Ron in Congress and enjoy having his son, Benjamin, on my staff here in Washington. I am honored to bring his accomplishments to the attention of this House.

OSCODA WWII VETERANS'
RECOGNITION DAY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, as our nation prepares for the dedication of the National World War II Memorial next weekend, I rise to join my constituents in paying solemn tribute to the nearly 200 World War II veterans of Oscoda County, Michigan. Each and every one of these veterans deserves our continued gratitude for their service, for their sacrifice, and for their leadership.

On May 29th, the residents of Oscoda County will celebrate these members of the greatest generation with a parade, ceremony, and luncheon marking Oscoda World War II Veterans Recognition Day. This day has an added significance: together they will also be watching the dedication ceremony in Washington, DC for the National World War II Memorial. I am fortunate that I will have the honor of participating in this event, and will have the chance to thank these veterans in person for the sacrifice they made for our freedom 60 years ago.

I am especially pleased that this event is focused on those veterans that are still with us. On Memorial Day, our nation rightly honors those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the cause of preserving liberty. But we too often forget to thank those who came home to careers and family and civic leadership. By the grace of God they returned home, but this does not diminish their service and sacrifice. Indeed, their leadership and example since have put us further in their debt.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know, the World War II generation, and especially those who fought so bravely in Europe and the Pacific for the freedom we enjoy today, are deserving of our highest honor and deepest gratitude. We must never forget their sacrifice and their courage. I therefore ask that the House join me in paying tribute to that greatest generation, and especially to those who will be at the Oscoda World War II Veterans Recognition events.

HONORING LYNDA MINTER OF
NUCOR STEEL-TEXAS

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, the success of American companies is usually measured by market share, the strength of the balance sheet and the quality of goods and services that they produce. But many times, we can also look to the quality of a company's employees to find the true secret to their success.

Nucor Steel-Texas, which is located in Jewett, Texas, in the Fifth Congressional District, is a major economic driver in Leon County and the state of Texas. For almost 24 years, Lynda Minter has served Nucor Steel-Texas and will soon retire as Controller. Lynda's colleagues have told me that Nucor Steel-Texas' success is inseparable from her legacy of careful financial management and her superb relations with employees, Nucor leadership and with state and local community leaders.

Lynda has been characterized by her co-workers as a pillar of the mill's success, and those who know her best have testified that her kind manner, deep understanding of Nucor's business and fair dealing have been instrumental in Nucor Steel-Texas' continued growth and achievement. Her colleagues tell me that Lynda has offered Nucor Steel-Texas a steady hand, a keen intellect and a long-term devotion to service for over two decades.

I want to take this opportunity to recognize the contributions of Lynda Minter, and I want to wish Lynda all the best as she embarks on this new phase of her life.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS
WEEK

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Small Business Administration, its employees all over the nation and its resource partners during "National Small Business Week."

Mr. Speaker, small businesses play a vital role in our nation's economy. Many people have heard the phrase that small business is "the engine of our nation's economy," and perhaps no truer words have ever been used to describe how important the entrepreneurial spirit and dedication of the approximately 23 million small businesses are to the continued health and welfare of America.

Small businesses represent 99.7 percent of all employers, employ half of all private sector employees, generate 60 to 80 percent of net new jobs annually, and make up 97 percent of all exporting firms.

American small businesses are extremely diverse, and despite the current economic climate, some are thriving. In particular, female participation in business ownership has been climbing in recent years. Women now own around 40 percent of all small businesses and are growing at twice the rate of other small

firms. In fact, the 9.1 million women-owned small businesses in this country employ 27.5 million people and add \$3.6 trillion to the economy.

About 5.8 percent of small businesses are owned by Hispanic Americans, 4.4 percent by Asian Americans, and 4 percent by African Americans.

As the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Tax, Finance and Exports, I have long been an advocate for a level playing field for small businesses.

I have introduced legislation, HR 2374, which would allow minority small business owners participating in the Small Business Administration's 8(a) minority contracting program into teaming, leader-follow arrangements and joint ventures.

I have also authored legislation, HR 2375, that would change the IRS Code to allow small business owners to offer their employees greater savings opportunities under SIMPLE (Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees) IRAs.

Finally, I have introduced HR 3099, legislation that would give the SBA authority to make loans to nonprofit day-care centers. This bipartisan measure helps not only non-profit small businesses, but gives parents a viable daycare option as they work during the day.

Mr. Speaker, small businesses are indeed the engine that makes our economy run smoothly, and I urge all my colleagues to take a moment this week and reflect on the hard work of our nation's entrepreneurs, the financial and regulatory hurdles they face everyday, and the measures I have proposed to make the full-time job of running a small business easier.

HONORING GUAM'S MANAMKO'
DURING SENIOR CITIZENS MONTH

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the senior citizens of Guam who are celebrating a special month dedicated in their honor. I stand to commend and show appreciation for all they have contributed to our island of Guam, its people, and our Nation as a whole. I rise to pay tribute to them for teaching and imparting to our people a sense of patriotism and unwavering loyalty to this great Nation and American Democracy.

Guam's senior citizens lived through the horrific experience of World War II on the only American soil occupied by an enemy force. Through it all, the people of Guam never lost faith in America. Always defiant and proud, their solemn hymn was "Uncle Sam, won't you please come back to Guam." After the war, these proud Americans taught their children a love of democracy and freedom that carried them through battlefields in the Korean War, the Vietnam conflict, the Persian Gulf and now, the global war on terrorism.

With this deep love of freedom and country, Guam's seniors were always the pillars of our island community. Through them the beautiful Chamorro culture is passed on to younger generations. They keep our island traditions, our language, and our ways of life alive and vibrant. They have taught our children the love

of nature, the love of God and the love of family and neighbor and in so doing, ensure that our heritage will survive.

Mr. Speaker, I honor the seniors of Guam, proud citizens who have participated in the growth of Guam as a showcase of American democracy in the Pacific. May every American remember and give honor to the forefathers who shaped this wonderful country and who were the architects and builders of a nation founded in the love of freedom and the inalienable rights of humanity. During this month dedicated to seniors, let us all honor these great Americans and say "thank you."

CELEBRATING THE CENTENARY
OF HADDON HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the centenary of Haddon Heights, New Jersey. My family and I are privileged to live in Haddon Heights, a small town located in southern New Jersey just outside Camden and 7 short miles from downtown Philadelphia. While its proximity to one of the largest and most vibrant metropolitan centers in the country makes Haddon Heights a culturally diverse and enriched community, the town is also a world removed from the bustle of the city, reflecting values and a sense of community characteristic of small towns far removed from our urban centers.

Haddon Heights was first settled in 1699 when John Hinchman built a one-room brick house. However, the borough was developed primarily as farmland, divided between crops and orchards for nearly 200 years. The borough was named Haddon Heights because of its proximity to Haddonfield and its high elevation.

During the late 1890s, the town's first homes, church, rail station, and a general store were constructed, and by 1904, Haddon Heights had become large enough to incorporate as a borough. The town's residents elected Benjamin A. Lippincott as the town's first mayor.

Viewed as a resort town because of a direct rail connection to Philadelphia, its proximity to the lake, and the warmth and friendliness of its small town atmosphere, the population of Haddon Heights swelled during the summer months as vacationers escaped the cities. The rail station served as the hub of the town, and a small downtown began to emerge surrounding the railroad that brought the town's visitors.

Rail passenger service ended in 1965, but Haddon Heights retains to this day a character reflective of its roots as a rail town at the turn of the 20th century. Haddon Heights has a proud, rich heritage, which we continue to embrace and celebrate as we look to our shared future. I feel privileged to be a part of the Haddon Heights community, and I can think of no better place today, to raise a family or to be a child growing up. So in celebration of the past 100 years, and in anticipation of the many great things to come from our town in the next 100 years, please join me in honoring Haddon Heights, New Jersey, on the celebration of its centenary.

IN HONOR OF WOMEN IN THE
ARMED FORCES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues today to honor the thousands of courageous women of the United States Armed Forces. In particular, I am pleased to honor the 5 courageous women who were chosen to be honored by the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues at the 7th Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. These 5 women are:

Command Sergeant Major Debra Strickland of the United States Army;

Master Chief Storekeeper Kelly D. Williams of the United States Navy;

Chief Master Sergeant Margaret C. Burgess of the United States Air Force;

Sergeant Major Barbara J. Titus of the United States Marine Corps;

Senior Chief Store Keeper Corzetta "Cozy" Calloway of the United States Coast Guard.

I join my colleagues in commending these women for their bravery and self-sacrifice.

Today, women are making great contributions to our military. There are approximately 212,000 women serving the United States in the Armed Forces, including 33 women generals. For the past 10 years, women have served in combat positions. As women become a larger presence in all areas of the United States military, like their male colleagues, they are risking their lives for our country. As of April 30, 18 United States women soldiers have died in Iraq. This is a higher number of female casualties in any war since World War II. We all owe a great debt to our servicewomen who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Today, as many women in uniform are deployed overseas, it is especially appropriate to honor them and show that their service to our country is greatly appreciated and respected. It is an honor for me to recognize the worthy accomplishments of these particular 5 outstanding military women, those servicewomen who have died in service to our country, and all of the women who currently serve or have served in the United States military.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND JAPAN AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. HIRO KURASHINA

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the beginning of relations between the United States of America and Japan. One hundred and fifty years ago, Commodore Perry opened the doors of a country and started a relationship that would eventually grow into an alliance between two of the largest economies in today's world. A country which had largely isolated itself from the rest of the world, Japan,

in a very short span of a century and a half, now has a strong international presence as a strong ally of the United States and advocate for freedom and democracy in the world.

Today, America and Japan enjoy strong trade relations, economies that support each other, and equally as important, social and cultural ties that bridge the Pacific Ocean and span differences in languages and custom. The alliance between Japan and America is strong and stable. We both fiercely defend freedom and democracy and we both promote human rights in the world.

The friendship between America and Japan is magnified and continually strengthened by its peoples and their willingness to work with each other for the common goal of improving the quality of life for all citizens of the world. Both America and Japan freely extend helping hands to each other and to the most needy of the world. Both America and Japan use their combined economic might to cure disease, feed the hungry and explore the unknown in search of greater knowledge and resources.

In these efforts certain citizens of both of our great nations shine and become role models for all of other citizens to emulate. Dr. Hiro Kurashina is such a man. Motivated by the desire to make a better future by learning from the past, Dr. Kurashina, a native of Japan, has devoted many years to the development of the Micronesian Area Research Center, the premier archive and repository of the history of the Pacific Islands and its people. Dr. Kurashina's work has helped to ensure that the story of the islands will always be preserved and promoted among its peoples and shared with the world.

Through these efforts, Dr. Kurashina has created a strong bond between Japan and the islands of Micronesia and through his efforts, the University of Guam has become an active participant in the growth of knowledge about this region and its people. Dr. Kurashina has contributed greatly to making the University of Guam a valuable resource for Guam, Micronesia, and the world at large.

I consider it an honor to take this opportunity to praise Dr. Kurashina for his work and to thank him for all that he has done for our islands and people and all that he has done to continue the strengthening of the bonds between Japan, America and the islands of the Pacific.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on May 18, 2004, I missed a series of rollcall votes in the House of Representatives because of a family obligation that required my presence in Arizona. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall Vote Nos. 188, 189 and 190. I would have voted "no" on rollcall Vote No. 187.

IN OPPOSITION TO INCREASED
FUNDING FOR NATIONAL MIS-
SILE DEFENSE

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, last week, I joined several distinguished experts in the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) to commend them for the public release of their very timely, and much-needed study on the oversold and misguided National Missile Defense. It is entitled "Technical Realities: An Analysis of the 2004 Deployment of a U.S. Missile Defense System".

Sadly, Congress keeps shoveling ever greater amounts of taxpayer funds into this wasteful, dead-end program that adds nothing to our real national defense. In FY 2003, President Bush requested \$7.8 billion, Congress authorized \$7.78 billion and appropriated \$7.62 billion. In FY 2004, the President requested \$9.1 billion, Congress authorized \$9.08 billion and appropriated \$8.9 billion. Now, in FY 2005, the President has requested \$10.2 billion. This bill authorizes that full amount, an increase of \$1.1 billion or 13 percent more than the current level. It includes funding for the initial deployment of an untested national missile defense system based in Alaska and California.

To put it bluntly, our country can't afford spending upwards of \$10 billion per year for a bogus missile defense program.

First of all, many of our Nation's leading physicists view midcourse defenses as absurd. They have long believed mid-course defenses are easily defeated and won't work for fundamental physics reasons.

Second, the truth is pure politics is driving this deployment. On December 11, 2002, the last intercept test of the missile defense system failed. No tests have taken place since then. Nevertheless, on December 17, 2002, President Bush announced his decision to deploy missile defenses in 2004.

Sometime after the President's announcement, the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) cancelled or postponed every test scheduled since the speech. Nine tests have been cancelled.

Despite these cancellations, the schedule for deployment has actually moved up. President Bush simply announced deployment "in 2004." Pentagon official subsequently set a deadline of September 30, 2004. The MDA has stated "as early as this summer" for initial operations. Bush Administration officials still maintain that this is an "eventdriven" program, where results of tests and simulations determine how the program progresses.

Instead, it seems to be schedule-driven. A return to the "rush to failure" approach that Lt. Gen. Larry Welch warned about during the Clinton Administration.

The current focus of the SDI Program is wrong. As we have witnessed in other national security matters, the Bush Administration appears hell-bent on deploying missile defense, regardless of whether it works. Before taking office, George W. Bush campaigned on the issue of missile defense. As has been highlighted in Richard Clarke's book and elsewhere, before the 9/11 attacks, the foreign and defense policy of the Bush Administration

was focused not on terrorism, but on missile defense.

Post-9/11, while it should be clear that the real threat is terrorism, the missile defense program has only sped up, and funding has steadily increased. Regrettably, this bill is now brought to the House under a restrictive and no amendments pertaining to the SDI have been made in order to allow debate and votes to cut funding for missile defense or calling for realistic, operational testing before deploying more interceptors. Apparently, no dissenting votes will be tolerated and this Congress will do nothing to stop the Bush Administration from declaring some system operational some time this year.

Many SDI supporters argue that any missile defense is better than none. However, the current situation we face maybe worse than nothing. While the currently constituted SDI system will offer no real defense, Bush Administration officials often claim it will be highly effective and will give the President "more options." But it will not work well enough to affect our military posture and will only make potential enemies nervous and lead them to take offensive steps to overcome it. It may push Russia and China to maintain, improve and expand their nuclear arsenals.

When weighing the pros and cons of rushing to judgment on SDI deployment, we would do well to remember the advice and counsel of Richard Feynman, one of our Nation's greatest thinkers and most distinguished scientists: "For a successful technology, reality must take precedence over public relations, for Nature cannot be fooled."

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF
KELLY SHEA GALLO

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kelly Shea Gallo, the beloved wife, mother and teacher who lost her young life to breast cancer on May 3, 2004. Throughout her illness she was an inspiration to others, remaining strong despite the ordeal she was undergoing. Shortly after being declared cancer free, the disease recurred and she died at a San Francisco hospital, surrounded by her family.

Kelly Shea Gallo was a sixth grade teacher, a basketball, volleyball and softball coach and

a swimming teacher. As the San Mateo Times said of her, "she brought cheer into the lives of those she met. Her infectious smile brightened classrooms and endeared her to the dozens of pupils who had the honor of sharing even a moment of her brief life." The Principal of Taylor School, where she taught, remembers her as the culture and spirit of the school, a teacher who had a unique and natural rapport with her students.

Kelly Shea Gallo was born in San Francisco and was raised in South San Francisco and Millbrae. She was a graduate of Mercy High School, California State University, Chico, and earned her teaching credential from San Francisco State University.

Kelly was the loving mother of Mia, age 7, and Chloe, age 3, and the devoted wife of Mark Gallo, whom she met and married in 1995. She leaves behind her loving parents, her brothers and her sister, as well as aunts, uncles and cousins.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest sympathy to Kelly Shea Gallo's family. She was a treasure and a shining light and will be missed by all who knew her. Our community will long remember her as an extraordinary educator and a good and great woman.