

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

#### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Corporal Forest Jostes who recently was killed in action fighting for freedom in Iraq.

Corporal Jostes was a 21-year-old from Albion, Illinois who served as an Army Corporal with the 1st Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division from Ft. Hood, Texas. He was a 2000 graduate of Edwards County High School, after which he joined the National Guard at the age of 17. He had only been in Iraq for about a week, when military personnel say his Humvee was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, killing Jostes and the driver, in a suburb of Baghdad.

Corporal Jostes is survived by his parents, Von and Diane Ibbotson; a sister, Michelle Lee Teeter; two brothers Benjamin L. Jostes and Evan R. Ibbotson; and his grandparents, John and Laura Ibbotson, Glen and Darlene Kellison and Norman and Shirley Costley. I am proud of the service this young man has given to our country and the service he and others are doing everyday. Not enough can be said about Corporal Jostes and our other brave men and women who are serving in Iraq. It is troops like him that are risking their lives everyday to ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my best wishes go out to his family and all the troops fighting to ensure freedom and democracy.

### TRIBUTE TO MR. MICHAEL ROCCIA

#### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize an outstanding member of my community, Mr. Michael Roccia. For 63 years, he has been fighting to improve the working conditions and lives of American workers. He has spent 32 years with Local 262 in New Jersey, and has served our community well.

He was Shop Chairman for Local 305, CIO from 1940–1969. During that time he organized 500 employees of the L.S. Branch Co. for Playthings, Jewelry, and Novelty Workers, CIO Local 305. When Local 305 became Local 301, he became General Organizer, and when that merged with Local 262, he continued to work, serving as Business Agent for as many as twenty shops. He would go on to serve as Local 262's General Organizer, and eventually became their President. He has been Vice President of both the IUC and the RWDSU, and has served on the Advisory Committee of the UFCW.

Mr. Roccia has lived the life of a worker and an activist. He has labored on an assembly line, organized workers, walked the picket line, negotiated contracts, handled grievances, argued arbitrations, and fought for health and welfare plans. He has led and inspired the men and women of Local 262 in New Jersey to commit to activism, working early in the morning and late at night to improve labor conditions for all workers.

In his own words, "The work of a good trade unionist can never be a 9 to 5 job—never an 8 hour day."

I salute Mr. Roccia, the oldest officer in his Union, for his lifelong commitment to serving others. I am proud to have him in my district, and I am honored to call him my neighbor.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my thanks to Michael Roccia, and I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing him health and happiness throughout his well-deserved retirement.

### IN RECOGNITION OF THE FRIENDS OF DAG HAMMARSKJOLD PLAZA, THE TURTLE BAY ASSOCIATION AND THE KATHARINE HEPBURN GARDEN

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of the Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza and the Turtle Bay Association, who on May 22, 2004 will unveil in Dag Hammarskjold Plaza Park a bench once owned by the late actress Katherine Hepburn. The ceremony will not only honor Ms. Hepburn's incomparable career, but will also recognize her role as a conservationist and community leader in the Turtle Bay neighborhood.

The bench will be placed in an area of Dag Hammarskjold Park that in 1997 was dedicated to the late actress and renamed the Katherine Hepburn Garden. The garden, built during an extensive renovation of the park, has since become a gathering place for Turtle Bay residents, many of whom were longtime neighbors of Ms. Hepburn and knew her personally. The garden includes a collection of stepping stones engraved with quotes from some of Ms. Hepburn's most memorable movie roles; additionally, Ms. Hepburn's biography is posted at the garden's entrance. I am quite certain that Ms. Hepburn, who was an avid gardener, would be very pleased with how the garden's abundant shade plants have provided her neighborhood of over 60 years with a lovely, tranquil green space—a rarity indeed amid the bustle of midtown Manhattan.

Following the garden's dedication, George Vellonakis, the park's architect, and Millie Margiotta, a board member of the Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza and a longtime member of my District Office staff, toured Ms.

Hepburn's Fenwick, Connecticut estate and chatted with Ms. Hepburn on the very bench that will be dedicated on May 22. I am so grateful that this wonderful piece of history, which at one time was scheduled to be sold at auction, will now be available for the public to enjoy.

During the upcoming ceremony, Bill Curtis, the President of the Turtle Bay Association, will share fond memories of Ms. Hepburn's efforts to save the Turtle Bay neighborhood's trees when city planners sought to widen 49th Street, along which Ms. Hepburn's townhouse sits. Though she was protective of her privacy, Ms. Hepburn actively supported the Turtle Bay Association's appeals to preserve the character of her neighborhood for future generations to enjoy.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in honoring the Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Park and the Turtle Bay Association, whose ongoing efforts to preserve the Turtle Bay neighborhood are a fitting tribute to the legacy of a true American icon, the late Katherine Hepburn. To the dedicated volunteers and friends of these fine organizations, I offer my continuing admiration, respect and support.

### IN MEMORY OF CHARLETON WILHOIT SYKES

#### HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a true public servant, the Honorable Charleton Wilhoit Sykes.

Ms. Sykes served on the Southampton County Board of Supervisors and in other positions in Virginia government for 24 years. She contacted my office often seeking assistance for others, but not once for herself. Ms. Sykes was also a businesswoman and was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II. She knew no strangers and cared for everyone.

I join the Honorable Dallas Jones, Chairman of the Southampton Board of Supervisors, when he said that he was "shocked and saddened" by Ms. Sykes' death. "She was a strong voice for Newsoms district on this board," Jones said. "She will be sorely missed by everyone." Southampton County Administrator Mike Johnson noted that Ms. Sykes was "a woman of sound judgment, outspoken candor and unquestionable commitment. Her leadership and friendship will be sorely missed."

Ms. Sykes was also a loving mother and friend who will be missed most by those closest to her. Still, her legacy lives on in her family and in the fruits of her faithful service to a caring community and a grateful nation.

• 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.

HONORING ASSISTANT SHERIFF  
RICHARD BRESHEARS

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Assistant Sheriff Richard Breshears for 35 years of dedicated service to Stanislaus County. Richard will retire from the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and will be honored at an event held in California on June 23rd.

Richard began his career as a Stanislaus County Deputy Sheriff in 1970 where he worked in Patrol and Adult Detention. He was assigned to the Investigations Crimes Against Persons Unit in 1973. He was in this unit for almost 18 years, starting out as an investigator and moving up the ranks to Lieutenant. In 1991 Richard was promoted to Captain and served as Commander in both the Custodial Division and the Operations Division. In 1997 he was appointed to Assistant Sheriff and he currently commands the Operations Division.

Mr. Breshears graduated from the FBI National Academy in Virginia in 1982. He has also been a member of numerous law enforcement committees. He is an alumnus of Leadership Modesto, a training program for up and coming community leaders. Richard has served for a number of years as chair of the Law Enforcement Day. He is currently President of the Stanislaus County Police Activities League, a position he has held for 8 years, and he is a member of the Stanislaus County Advisory Board on Substance Abuse. Richard has served on the US Attorney's Eastern District Law Enforcement Executive Council for many years. In 1999 he received the Sheriff's Department "Medal of Merit" for exceptional meritorious service, the second highest award presented by the department.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Assistant Sheriff Richard Breshears upon his retirement from public service. Although his career in public service has ended, his contributions will be felt for generations to come. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Richard a fulfilling retirement.

IN VERMONT, FOOD FROM FAMILY  
FARMS IS GOOD BUSINESS

**HON. BERNARD SANDERS**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize that two businessmen in Vermont, Steve Birge and Mark Curran, the owners of Black River Produce of Proctorsville, Vermont, were recently selected runners-up for the National Small Business Person of the Year by the Small Business Administration.

Twenty-five years ago Steve Birge began Black River Produce, today a \$27 million produce company, when he saw the poor quality of the produce used in the local restaurant in which he worked. Black River originally delivered fresh, local produce to local restaurants in the Proctorsville area of central Vermont. But after he met Mark Curran (while

hitchhiking!), the two expanded the company, working with local farmers so that they could supply restaurants with the freshest and most healthful produce available. Today, Black River delivers high-quality produce not only throughout Vermont, but also into parts of western New Hampshire, northern Massachusetts, and eastern New York. It supplies not just restaurants, but grocery stores, schools, hospitals, ski areas, and nursing homes.

Black River Produce has sales of more than \$27 million a year, a work force of 100 employees, and a fleet of 30 refrigerated trucks and two tractor trailers.

I salute Black River Produce's commitment to providing its customers with the highest quality foods. The company distributes high-quality Vermont foods, supporting not only local farmers, but other small businesses such as Grafton Cheese, Cold Valley apples, and products from Vermont Butter and Cheese. They are an integral part of the Vermont Fresh Network, which links local farms to local chefs.

Although during out-of-season periods (Vermont, after all, has long winters) Black River distributes produce from out of state, and although it buys fish in Boston, its commitment to local agriculture and local business is noteworthy. In a time when both agribusiness and outsourcing have wrought havoc with traditional American family farms and with American businesses, I salute the remarkable accomplishment of Black River Produce in supporting local access to locally produced foods. Steve Birge and Mark Curran, and their many employees, have shown businesses around the nation that distributing the products from family farms is and can be good business, and that profits can flow both from helping local businesses, and from providing consumers with healthful foods.

CONGRATULATIONS, ECO/SPRINGFIELD, LLC IN AGAWAM, MASSACHUSETTS

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it is my esteemed privilege to note the exceptional achievement of eco/Springfield, LLC, Agawam, Massachusetts as the recipient of the highest honor bestowed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to small worksites, the approval as a Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) participant in the consultation program. Currently fewer than 750 worksites in the country share this honor of SHARP recognition.

SHARP is a program created to provide incentives and support to smaller business owners who meet and exceed the OSHA standards, eco/Springfield, LLC is a strong example of such a business. With the recognition in this OSHA consultation program comes several services at no additional cost to the business owner. These services include recognizing hazards in the workplace, providing a written report that summarizes the findings of this analysis, assisting in developing and maintaining an effective safety and health program, and offering training and education to the employer and employees at the worksite.

I am very proud of all my constituents in this workforce for their tremendous efforts in working with the Massachusetts Consultation Program to receive this honor. Once again, congratulations to all of the men and women who work hard each day at the eco/Springfield, LLC, in Agawam, Massachusetts.

RECOGNIZING NATHANIEL STITT  
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF  
EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nathaniel Stitt, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 333, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nathaniel has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities and earning numerous merit badges. He has held such leadership positions as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, and Senior Patrol Leader. Nathaniel has also been on staff at the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation for the past four years. For his Eagle Scout project, Nathaniel built drying racks for the Volunteer Fire Department at the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nathaniel Stitt for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Torrey Stoffel-Gray, who was recently killed in action in Iraq.

Lance Cpl. Torrey Stoffel-Gray was a 19-year-old Marine from Patoka, Illinois. Patoka is a rural town in my district with a population around 630. At 16 he left Patoka to enter Lincoln Challenge, a military-style alternative school at Rantoul, Ill. Many friends and family say that Lincoln Challenge changed his life and helped him find his way. This young man was recently killed in action in Iraq when his convoy was struck by rocket-propelled grenades and gunfire in the Al Anbar Province. My condolences go out to his family and friends.

Lance Cpl. Stoffel-Gray is survived by his mother, Mary Stoffel, his stepfather Jerry Stoffel and his three brothers, Brandon, Russell, and Blake. Lance Cpl. Stoffel-Gray was awarded the Purple Heart, which was presented to his mother at the time of his burial. Not enough can be said about Lance Cpl. Stoffel-Gray and the rest of our brave men and women serving in Iraq. These soldiers are risking their lives every day to ensure our freedom here at home and for others throughout

the world. I salute him and my best wishes go out to his family and all the troops fighting to ensure freedom and democracy.

REMARKS FOR SERGEANT WILLIAM E. HALL, AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, on February 3, 1953, the Headquarters of the 40th Infantry Division declared that Sergeant William E. Hall (US54024606, Infantry, United States Army, 224th Infantry Regiment) distinguished himself by heroic achievement near Kumhwa, Korea, on the 16th of June and 17th of June 1952. As Sergeant Hall's platoon advanced up an enemy-held hill, the enemy who was waiting in ambush, let loose with a murderous attack. Many casualties were sustained, including Sergeant Hall, who suffered painful wounds. With complete and utter disregard for his personal safety, Sergeant Hall fully exposed himself to enemy fire in order to rally and encourage his men. All radio communications had been knocked out by enemy fire, but Sergeant Hall courageously remained exposed to enemy small arms, automatic weapons, and mortar fire in order to maintain communications by voice and call for reinforcements. The courage, outstanding devotion to duty, and determination displayed by Sergeant Hall under extremely hazardous conditions were directly responsible for maintaining vital communications and resulted in the arrival of needed reinforcements. Sergeant Hall's outstanding courage while risking his life was inspiring to his men and reflects great credit upon himself and the United States Army. Sergeant Hall entered the Federal service from Texas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JEFF FLAKE**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position on rollcall votes 177, 178, and 179. I was regrettably absent from the chamber on May 17 during rollcall votes 177, 178, and 179. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 177, "yea" on rollcall 178, and "yea" on rollcall five.

CONGRATULATIONS, ANTHONY F. HEISLER

**HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Anthony F. Heisler of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on his commissioning as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army.

Lt. Heisler is a recent graduate of the George Washington University where he re-

ceived a dual Bachelor of the Arts in German Languages and Literature and in History. A resident of Northeast Philadelphia, Lt. Heisler had always aspired to join the Army, and it is his work in college as a cadet in the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) of Georgetown University of which he is most proud.

In his capacity as a cadet, Lt. Heisler was responsible for the oversight of over 80 Army cadets. For his service, Lt. Heisler has won numerous awards, including the Lieutenant Harry W. Apraker, Jr. award, which is given to the cadet who contributes the most to the mission accomplishment of the Georgetown University ROTC program. Upon his commissioning, Lt. Heisler has been assigned to the Field Artillery branch of the Army.

I am eternally grateful to Lt. Heisler for his service to the United States, and I wish him continued success as he begins his career in the United States Army.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the history of our great Nation the cause of freedom has not come easily, but it has come to those who have the will to attain for themselves and for their countrymen. Our Nation has been blessed to have great leaders and visionaries who crafted the Constitution on a new independent Nation. Later, similar strength was needed to eliminate the scourge of slavery. Today, we continue the struggle to make sure that all men and women can taste the sweet nectar of freedom. While we rightfully praise and celebrate the great leaders and visionaries who created and shaped this Nation, let us never forget that even their great work would have fallen short had it not been for the millions of soldiers willing to surrender their life to give the cause of freedom to others.

It was Edmund Burke who once aptly stated: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." The birth of our Nation itself was due to good men who refused to submit to an unjust rule. Time after time, in battle after battle American men and women have not fled from mortal danger, no instead they have rushed towards it. Our brave soldiers built this Nation, first with independence, then with the righteousness of eliminating slavery, and finally in the last century they built this Nation in the eyes of the world, not only as a superpower, but as a Nation that values humanity and kindness over the tyranny of others. It has been said that the generation that came back from fighting World War II was in fact the 'greatest generation' and I would be hard pressed to disagree. Our brave soldiers went to Europe and the Far East to save massacred peoples; they had no choice but victory. Even now, we look back in pain and imagine the horror that could have been had they not been successful. They came back from this war to end all wars and raised a new generation of Americans. They created the greatest middle-class ever seen in the history of the world. Their domestic suc-

cess ensured a great future for our Nation, their success abroad ensured life and liberty for millions around the world.

I see this same courage and strength in the eyes of our current generation of soldiers. They bear the burden of a new world, in which the greatest threats against our life and freedom are often unseen. They also bear the hope of a Nation and a world that clings to the hope of peace and stability. It was the great statesman Adlai Stevenson who said: "Patriotism is not a short and frenzied outburst of emotion but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime." It is clear that the torch has been passed from the 'greatest generation' to a new generation of men and women willing to dedicate their lives to protecting ours. Our Nation is truly blessed in so many ways, but our soldiers continue to be the greatest protectors of our blessings.

Perhaps the greatest literary reminder we have of the sacrifice our soldiers make in battle is the poem In Flanders Field written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, MD of the Canadian Army:

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place, and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from falling hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

This poem describes the feelings of Lieutenant Colonel McCrae after the battle of Ypres in 1915. Our soldiers go to war knowing that they may not come back; they go to war knowing their comrades may not come back with them, and yet they do not relent. The courage of our Armed Forces can not be questioned, their dedication can not be taken lightly; truly their sacrifice must be honored dearly.

During this Moment of Silence I want to acknowledge the brave soldiers from my home city of Houston who died fighting for our nation in Iraq and Afghanistan:

Spc. Adolfo C. Carballo, 20, Houston, Texas, Died: April 10, 2004, Baghdad, Iraq; Pfc. Analaura Esparza Gutierrez, 21, Houston, Texas, Died: October 1, 2003, Tikrit, Iraq; Spc. John P. Johnson, 24, Houston, Texas, Died: October 22, 2003, Baghdad, Iraq; Spc. Scott Q. Larson, 22, Houston, Texas, Died: April 5, 2004, Baghdad, Iraq; Sgt. Keelan L. Moss, 23, Houston, Texas, Died: November 2, 2003, Al Fallujah, Iraq; Pfc. Armando Soriano, 20, Houston, Texas, Died: February 1, 2004, Haditha, Iraq; Cpl. Tomas Sotelo Jr., 20, Houston, Texas, Died: June 27, 2003, Baghdad, Iraq; Staff Sgt. Brian T. Craig, 27, Houston, Texas, Died: April 15, 2002, Afghanistan.

The names of those brave soldiers and all soldiers who have died fighting for our nation will always be synonymous with the cause of freedom. It takes that rare individual, who in fact does not see themselves as an individual, but as a piece of a greater mission. I hope and pray for the safe return of our soldiers fighting abroad, I cherish and honor our veterans who served before. Let us take this Memorial Day to heart, for everything we love and hold dear in this great nation of ours was

possible because our brave soldiers were willing to defend it. I leave you now with an powerful poem on the subject of our brave soldiers and veterans from the great American poet Walt Whitman:

DIRGE FOR TWO VETERANS

The last sunbeam  
Lightly falls from the finish'd Sabbath,  
On the pavement here, and there beyond it is  
looking,  
Down a new-made double grave.  
Lo, the moon ascending,  
Up from the east the silvery round moon,  
Beautiful over the house-tops, ghastly, phan-  
tom moon,  
Immense and silent moon.  
I see a sad procession,  
And I hear the sound of coming full-key'd  
bugles,  
All the channels of the city streets they're  
flooding,  
As with voices and with tears.  
I hear the great drums pounding,  
And the small drums steady whirring,  
And every blow of the great convulsive  
drums,  
Strikes me through and through.  
For the son is brought with the father,  
In the foremost ranks of the fierce assault  
they fell,  
Two veterans son and father dropt together,  
And the double grave awaits them.  
Now nearer blow the bugles,  
And the drums strike more convulsive,  
And the daylight o'er the pavement quite  
has faded,  
And the strong dead-march enwraps me.  
In the eastern sky up-buoying,  
The sorrowful vast phantom moves  
illumin'd,  
'Tis some mother's large transparent face,  
In heaven brighter growing.  
O strong dead-march you please me!  
O moon immense with your silvery face you  
soothe me!  
O my soldiers twain! O my veterans passing  
to burial!  
What I have I also give you.  
The moon gives you light,  
And the bugles and the drums give you  
music,  
And my heart, O my soldiers, my veterans,  
My heart gives you love.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. BURTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of Memorial Day and to honor three fallen soldiers from the Fifth District of Indiana who so bravely sacrificed their own lives in Iraq so that Iraqi citizens may one day share in the same freedoms as citizens of our great Nation.

America collectively grieves at the loss of her sons and daughters, but we cannot fully appreciate the enormity of the losses their family and friends have suffered. All we can do is remember that the price of our liberty bears an enormous cost. I am reminded of the words of General George S. Patton, who commanded the U.S. Third Army in the Second World War: "We should not mourn these brave men, but rather thank God that such men lived." It is the determination and willing-

ness of these young men and women to defend our Nation that safeguards all our freedom. We should not and will not soon forget our sons' and daughters' heroic service.

Private First Class Deryk Lyell Hallal (Marine Corps; April 7, 2004), Private First Class Christopher E. Hudson (Army; March 21, 2004), and Sergeant Jarrod W. Black (Army; December 12, 2003) from the Fifth District of Indiana will forever be remembered in the hearts and minds of their family and friends. These three soldiers gave their lives helping free an enslaved people while protecting the world from the scourge of terrorism. We are grateful that there are men like these who are willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for our great Nation. Memorial Day will forever serve as a reminder of their sacrifices as well as all of the past, present, and future heroes who have fought and will so bravely fight to protect our Nation.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, in times of great sorrow and confusion I often turn to the Bible for comfort and guidance.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 teaches us, "For everything there is a season, And a time for every matter under heaven . . . A time to be born, and a time to die; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; A time for war, and a time for peace."

I hope and pray that soon we will see a time for peace around the world. Brave men and women answered their country's call for duty and paid the ultimate sacrifice. They died as heroes in honorable service to our country, and words inadequately convey our sorrow.

Across Washington State, 13 families grieve over the loss of loved ones in Iraq and Afghanistan. On behalf of the nation, the House of Representatives paused recently for a moment of silence to recognize and honor our fallen heroes.

We can honor our soldiers by remembering their names and reflecting on their contributions to our lives and to our communities. Join me in honoring these brave men and women.

Second Lieutenant Benjamin J. Colgan, 30, from Kent; First Lieutenant Michael R. Adams, 24, from Seattle; Staff Sergeant Cody Prosser, 28, whose mother lives in Seattle; Specialist Jacob R. Herring, 21, from Kirkland; Specialist Jeffrey R. Shaver, 26, from Maple Valley; Lance Corporal Cedric E. Burns, 22, from Vancouver; Specialist Justin W. Hebert, of Arlington; Private First Class Duane E. Longstreth, 19, of Tacoma; Private First Class Kerry D. Scott, 21, of Mount Vernon; Specialist Robert T. Benson, 20, of Spokane; Sergeant Jay A. Blessing, 23, of Tacoma; Sergeant Curt E. Jordan, Jr., of Green Acres; and, Staff Sergeant Christopher Bunda, 29.

America is richer because of their service. America is poorer because of their loss.

The Gospel of John 14:27, offers comfort in the words of Jesus, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Kim Bigley who was recently killed in Kosovo.

Kim Bigley was an employee of DynCorp International which was serving with the United Nations as international police officers. Kim and other members were fired upon by a Jordanian police officer for unknown reason and she and two others were killed in the resulting firefight.

Kim Bigley was a 47-year-old who lived most of her life in southern and Southwestern Illinois. She was the former warden of the Shawnee Correctional Center, and had just completed her first day of job orientation when she was killed. She is survived by her parents, Jim and Janice Bigley of Greenfield; sons, Casey Morrow of Springfield and Quinn Morrow of Decatur; daughter, Karly Morrow of Paducah; and a brother, Joe Bigley of Sherman. My thoughts and prayers go out to her families and loved ones. Ms. Bigley gave her life in an effort to improve the lives of others. This sacrifice should never be forgotten.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to dedicated soldiers, marines and citizens from my district that paid the ultimate price while serving our country.

Next weekend, our Nation will commemorate Memorial Day. All too often we forget the purposes of our special days we set aside to celebrate. Memorial Day is much more than a three-day weekend that marks the beginning of summer. This day, originally known as Decoration Day, has a long history dating back to the Civil War, commemorating the sacrifices of our armed forces. During this Memorial Day it is fitting that we make a special effort to honor and acknowledge those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defending our freedom and the freedom of others in Afghanistan and Iraq.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to the family and friends who are mourning the loss of Private First Class Chad Bales, Private First Class Ricky Morris, Specialist Robert Arsiaga, Specialist Israel Garza, Corporal Daniel Amaya, and Private First Class Clayton Henson. These gentlemen served our country with courage and dignity. There is no greater valor than sacrifice in the name of freedom.

I pray for the safe return of all of our servicemen and women and thank them for the sacrifice they make every day defending our country.

## FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENISE L. MAJETTE**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 19, 2004*

Ms. MAJETTE. Mr. Speaker, When I think of Francis Scott Key's The Star-Spangled Banner, the fourth and final stanza of our National Anthem rarely comes to mind. It reads: Oh, thus be it ever when free men shall stand Between their loved homes and war's desolation;

Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land

Praise the power that hath made and preserved us a nation!

As we approach Memorial Day, it is in the spirit of these words that we honor the noble spirit of the brave American men and women who have sacrificed their lives for our nation as they served in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Their ultimate sacrifice serves as a constant reminder of the high cost of freedom and our hope for a safer and more peaceful world.

On this day, I would like to acknowledge and remember the soldiers from Georgia who have fallen while serving our nation during the past year.

We Remember: SPC Jamaal Rashard Addison, CPT Tristan Neil Aitken, SPC Marvin Antonio Campo-Siles, SGT Michael Tyron Crockett, SFC Ricky Leon Crockett, SPC Marshall Lane Edgerton, SSG Bobby Charles Franklin, PV2 Benjamin Lee Freeman, SSG Nathaniel Hart, Jr., SPC Christopher James Holland, A1C Antoine Jermaine Holt, SPC Justin Weaver Johnson, SPC Nathaniel Henry Johnson, SPC Kevin John Klinessmith, Jr., CPT Edward Jason Korn, SGT David Terrell Nutt, PFC Diego Fernando Rincon, PFC William Rodriques Strange III, MSG Thomas Ruel Thigpin, Sr., PFC Marquis Antoine Whitaker, and CSM Jerry Lee Wilson.

It is you, our brothers, and our sisters who have paid the ultimate sacrifice—and those who still fight today—who stand between our beloved home, our country, and war's desolation. It is you who will be forever etched in our memory, forever in our hearts, and to whom we will be forever thankful.

## FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, every year on the last Monday in the month of May, our Nation gathers together to remember and honor those who have so honorably served our country. We memorialize those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom and for the values we cherish so deeply.

The sacrifice a soldier makes is always in our hearts and minds, but this Memorial Day we have a special remembrance. This year, in addition to all of those brave men and women who have perished in wars past, we honor the 120 soldiers in Operation Enduring Freedom and nearly 800 soldiers in Operation Iraqi

Freedom who have lost their lives. Let us pay special tribute to these soldiers, who served their country with valor, and whose sacrifices we will never forget.

On this day, we also commemorate two important anniversaries nearly upon us. June 6th with mark the 60th anniversary of the D-Day forces landing on the beaches of Normandy. As a result of the bravery, skill, and determination of the heroic Americans who served in World War II, the invasion was successful and led to the eventual destruction of a totalitarian Nazi regime and the liberation of millions of enslaved peoples in Europe. It is fitting that today many of the "Greatest Generation" gather in Washington, D.C. to dedicated the new World War II Memorial on the grounds of the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

And June 22nd will mark the 60th anniversary of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944—what we now know as the GI Bill of Rights. We are reminded this year, by those currently returning from operations abroad and by the anniversary of this celebrated bill, of the importance of caring for our veterans as they return home. The GI Bill of Rights was one of many promises we have made to those serving our country, and one of many we must keep. We must not falter in our promise to provide veterans with quality healthcare upon their return. We must ensure that when veterans pass, their widows—who also sacrifice so much as spouses of our soldiers—receive the benefits they we've promised them. And we must provide the foundation for our veterans to continue leading healthy and productive lives upon their return, in the form of home loans, vocational rehabilitation, educational benefits, and more.

I want to also take time to honor our troops from New Mexico that have lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan: Senior Airman Jason Cunningham of Carlsbad; Army Specialist James Pirtle of Carlsbad; Air Force Special Operations pilot Captain Tamara Archuleta of Albuquerque; Marine Private First Class Christopher Ramos of Albuquerque; and Marine Corporal Aaron Austin of Lovington. I want to acknowledge these soldiers on their bravery and for representing not only our country, but also the state of New Mexico. They have truly made their families, their state, and their Nation proud.

Throughout our Nation's history, our armed forces have been on the front lines fighting for our lives with their own. We must never take for granted the freedoms for which they fought, and we will never forget the meaning of the ultimate sacrifice.

## FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

**HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor and privilege for me to participate today in this opportunity for members of the House to pay tribute to fallen heroes across the Nation and in our individual Districts.

It is difficult to find the right words to adequately express the deep respect I have for those who have sacrificed their lives for our great Nation. America would not have been

born, nor would our Nation's citizens enjoy the unparalleled blessings of liberty, freedom, and justice for all, but for the courageous and selfless sense of patriotism of countless men and women throughout America's history such as the fallen heroes we honor today.

These are the names of the heroes, with ties to the 19th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, who gave their lives for us while serving in Iraq or Afghanistan: Army Specialist Ryan G. Carlock; Army Specialist Martin W. Kondor; Army Specialist George A. Mitchell; Navy SEAL Petty Officer 1st Class Neil Roberts; and Army Staff Sergeant Kimberly A. Voelz.

My deepest sympathies go out to the family members and friends of our fallen heroes. I hope all citizens will keep them in our prayers and forever remember the selfless sacrifices that these heroes have made on our behalf.

## FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, as America celebrates Memorial Day, it is important for us to remember those dedicated soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. The freedoms we enjoy today are a direct result of the sacrifices made by young men and women throughout our nation. Each generation must renew its commitment to defend our liberties, and a new generation of young Americans are today fighting bravely for freedom's cause. The War on Terrorism has claimed over 750 American lives in Iraq and Afghanistan, and four of those brave soldiers came from my district in Colorado. I know that those who seek the true meaning of duty, honor, and sacrifice will find it in dedicated servants like Marine Corporal Randal Rosacker, Staff Sergeant Mark Lawton, Private First Class Chance Phelps, and Sergeant First Class Randy Rehn. Our nation will long endure due to the strength and character of men and women like these four courageous soldiers who served our country.

Randal Rosacker was the oldest of three children and was known as a born leader. In high school, his teammates voted him captain of the baseball team. Randal had always wanted to become a marine and joined the corps when he turned eighteen, despite scholarship offers to play college football. By doing so, Randal was upholding the finest military traditions of both his family and this nation, and I know Randal's family and friends take pride in the uniform he wore and the ideals for which he fought.

As a young man, Mark Lawton was an excellent athlete and ran track for Moffat County High School. Prior to his service with the Army Reserves, Mark spent fourteen years in the Marine Corps, serving in the first Gulf War. In his civilian life, Mark worked for a local coal company as a heavy equipment operator. Most importantly, he was a family man who leaves behind a wife and two sons. While his family's feelings of loss and sorrow are deep, they can take solace in the fact that Mark died in the service of the people and ideals of our nation.

A tall and athletic nineteen-year-old, Chance Phelps attended Moffat County and Palisade high schools where he was known for his fun-loving nature and being an avid outdoorsman. He came from a family with a rich military tradition, his father John being a Vietnam veteran, and his sister Kelley working at the Pentagon. After the terrorist bombings of 9-11, Chance knew that he had to do something for his nation, and resolved to join the Marines. As a dedicated member of our Armed Forces and as a patriot, he answered the call of duty, embarking on a journey to defend freedom and independence.

Randy Rehn was known as an athlete and a prankster. At Niwot High School, he was a football player and an all-state wrestler. He was a loving husband and the new father of a six-month-old girl. I know that Randy's daughter, family and friends take pride in the uniform he wore and the ideals for which he fought.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot fully express my deep sense of gratitude for the sacrifice of these young soldiers and their families. Throughout our history, men and women in uniform have fought our battles with distinction and courage. At the dawn of this new century, the United States military has once again been called to defend our freedom against a new and emerging threat. Soldiers like Randal, Mark, Chance, and Randy embody America's determination to lead the world in confronting that threat, and their devotion to that cause will not be forgotten. These brave soldiers have made all Americans proud and I know they have the respect and admiration of all of my colleagues here today.

### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

### HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, as we reflect on this Memorial Day and remember our fallen heroes, I would like to offer special recognition for four incredibly brave men from my district who sacrificed their lives fighting the war on terror.

On September 10, 2003, Staff Sgt. Joseph E. Robsky, Jr. of the 759th Ordnance Company was killed when an improvised explosive device he was called on to neutralize detonated. Staff Sgt. Robsky was 31 years old.

On September 15, 2003, 31 year old Staff Sgt. Kevin Kimmerly of North Creek, New York was killed in a rocket-propelled grenade attack on the streets of Baghdad.

On April 8 of this year, a rocket-propelled grenade killed Army Spc. Isaac Michael Nieves as insurgents in Bani Saad, Iraq, ambushed his patrol. Spc. Nieves, from Sidney, New York, was 20 years old.

And on April 11, Easter Sunday of this year, 21 year old Pfc. Nathan P. Brown of South Glens Falls, New York was ambushed while on patrol with his unit in Samarra, Iraq. Nathan Brown served in the Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry, 1st Armored Division out of Glens Falls, New York.

Each of these remarkable young men left behind family and friends they loved and cared for. They were cut down in the prime of

life by those who hate the very freedoms these soldiers, these Americans, these heroes, were trying to protect.

What makes their sacrifice even more special is the fact that not only were they fighting against the terrorists who have declared war on America, but that they were also fighting for millions of Iraqi citizens who yearn for the freedoms that so many of us take for granted.

With each passing day in the war on terror I think about these heroes and the ultimate sacrifice they made so our mission can be victorious. It is because of men like Joe Robsky, Kevin Kimmerly, Isaac Michael Nieves, Nathan Brown, and the hundreds of other Americans who lost their lives that we must succeed in our mission. I refuse to tarnish their memories by fighting this war in vain.

This Memorial Day, and all others afterward, will have extra significance for me. Casting a vote to send our troops into harm's way is the most difficult thing I have done since coming to Congress. While I remain convinced of the justness of our cause, I now have an even greater appreciation for our men and women fighting the war on terror thousands of miles away from their homes and families.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to honor the memories of the 20th District's bravest soldiers. I will spend my Memorial Day praying for their families, for the successful completion of their mission and for the safe return of all our troops. God bless them all, and God bless America.

### CONGRATULATING BOB LINDNER AS HE CELEBRATES HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend Bob Lindner, who is retiring from the Baltimore District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Over our nearly twenty year working relationship, there were a few times that he may not have realized that I considered him a friend, but I am proud to state for the record that I do.

Bob Lindner is a model example of the dedicated but unsung civil servants who make our government work. Those of us who are elected or appointed to policy level positions like to think we are running things, but the truth is that policy is only as good as it is implemented. Bob is a master of understanding the underlying policy and applying it in a practical way to achieve the desired outcome.

Bob, who will turn 62 next week, is retiring after 39 years of civil service. He most recently served as the Chief of the Planning Division for the Baltimore District for the past five years. He is responsible for a staff of 75 engineers and scientists. He has led a strong Civil Works Program that includes the geographic area of our Nation's Capital and portions of six States, and includes projects in the planning, design and construction phases.

Bob's career has been highlighted by numerous accomplishments, including the Scranton and Olyphant Local Flood Protection Projects, Lock Haven Flood Protection Project and numerous projects solving flood control, navigation and erosion problems. It has been

through the Wyoming Valley Levee Raising Project that I came to work most closely with Bob. In fact, it took me some time to forgive him for retiring before the project is completed; however, I have come to recognize that he has devoted much of his time in the Corps to training the next generation of managers to follow in his footsteps.

Over the years we faced many obstacles with the Wyoming Valley Levee Raising Project, including budget cuts, an audit, and conflicts among partners, but Bob always managed to keep the project moving forward. We had our battles when I thought the Corps should be more flexible, and he thought I was a bit too ambitious. However, I always knew he had the best interest of the country, the Corps, and the project at heart, and we grew to respect one another.

From 1992 to 1999, Bob was a manager in the Programs and Project Management Division. This included six years as Acting Assistant Chief of the Division. He helped oversee the development and execution of a \$2 billion dollar planning, design and construction program dispersed over 27 military installations and civil works and environmental restoration projects in the Susquehanna and Potomac River Basins and Chesapeake Bay.

Prior to 1992, Bob served as Chief of the Project Development Branch in the Planning Division, where he was responsible for the study and plan formulation phase for Civil Works water resources projects. Many of the projects constructed or in construction today, started as studies under Bob's leadership—including those in Scranton, Olyphant, the Wyoming Valley and other projects that reflect highly on the Baltimore District today.

Bob is a trusted confidante. He is known throughout the Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works community for his practical solutions to complex issues.

Bob has been honored through numerous awards, including the Army Superior Civilian Service Award, the Army Commander's Award for Civilian Service, Outstanding Supervisor of the Year for the Baltimore District and Outstanding Supervisor of the Year for the Federal Executive Board for Baltimore Region.

While Bob is a hard worker, he is completely dedicated to his wife Doris and their two children, Nancy and David. They reside in Baldwin, Maryland.

I want to thank Bob for his service to the Nation through his Army and Corps of Engineers career. Bob's knowledge, skill, and abilities developed over a lifetime of dedicated service as an engineer and civil servant, his contribution to his profession and society, and his honesty and ethical standards make him deserving of our recognition today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representative please join me in congratulating Bob Lindner and wish him all the best for a well-deserved retirement.

### RECOGNIZING THE ARTISTIC TALENTS OF TYRON MORRISON

### HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous artistic ability of a

young man from my Congressional District, Tyron Morrison of Woodland Hills High School. Tyron is the winner in the 2004 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania's High School Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery."

Tyron's piece, entitled, "T.L.," is an impressive portrait in acrylic paint of a young man's face, with a strong use of highlight and shadow.

Tyron's artwork was selected from a number of outstanding entries to this year's competition. I am certain that his family is proud of her artistic talents as well as this accomplishment.

It gives me great pride and pleasure that Tyron's painting will be representing the 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania in the national exhibit of high school students' artwork that will be set up in the United States Capitol in the coming weeks. The winners of the Congressional Art Competitions held in each Congressional District will be displayed in that exhibit.

I encourage my colleagues as well as any visitor to Capitol Hill to view Tyron's artwork, along with all of the other winning artwork that will be on display throughout the next year. It is truly amazing to walk through this corridor and see the interpretation of life through the eyes of these young artists from all across our country.

I would also like to recognize all the other participants in this year's 14th Congressional District High School Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery." I would like to thank these vibrant young artists for allowing us to share and celebrate their talents, imagination, and creativity. The efforts of these students in expressing themselves in a powerful and positive manner are no less than spectacular.

I hope that all of these individuals continue to utilize their artistic talents, and I wish them all the best of luck in their future endeavors.

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#### FALLEN HEROS

SPEECH OF

### HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marine Private First Class Chance Phelps.

PFC Phelps, who spent much of his youth in Dubois, Wyoming, died in service to his country near Baghdad on April 9, 2004, Good Friday.

Chance, just 19, had been in Iraq for a month as part of the 1st Marine Division, based at Twentynine Palms, California. He volunteered for the mission during which he was fatally wounded, serving as a machine gunner on an escort vehicle for an Army convoy from the Syrian border to Baghdad. Chance demonstrated incredible valor and courage and will appropriately be awarded the Purple Heart.

As his mother, Gretchen Mack, noted, Chance didn't have to be a Marine, he wanted to be a Marine. After the terrorist attacks of September 11, his greatest desire was to serve his country and fight to preserve America's freedom and liberty. He did it. Both his father, John Phelps, and his mother are firm in their conviction that he willingly made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of his country.

Like many Wyoming children, Chance spent time hunting, fishing and working cows at a friend's ranch. A true All-American boy, he was a star football player who made friends easily. He leaves behind a large, loving family and many friends who will miss him dearly.

The way people felt about Chance was clear at his funeral service in Dubois. Hundreds of people lined the main street, young and old, each person holding aloft an American flag as Chance was carried to his final resting place in a horse-drawn carriage. It was a spontaneous demonstration of the love and admiration Chance inspired in anyone he met, and a testament to the sense of loss, and undying love of our country, that we all feel now that he's gone.

Chance will be sorely missed, but he will forever remain a hero in the hearts of the people of Wyoming.

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#### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

### HON. JOHN KLINE

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, on this Memorial Day we honor the sacrifices of a new generation of heroes who gave their lives unselfishly for the safety and security of our Nation and our world.

Private Jim Hergott is one of these brave young Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice in pursuit of democracy, freedom, and liberty.

Last July, Private Jim Hergott became the first Minnesotan killed in action in Iraq. A graduate of Shakopee High School, Private Hergott was struck by a sniper while guarding the National Building Museum in Baghdad.

Private Hergott has set an example of service to which few will be called and for which all are grateful. Jim Hergott will be missed, but his contributions endure.

We enjoy the blessings of living in America as a result of men and women throughout our Nation's history who toiled, sacrificed, and struggled to ensure we would have an unparalleled quality of life.

These blessings remain with us today as a result of the men and women who continue to toil, struggle, and sacrifice on our behalf.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Private Hergott and all of the fallen heroes of this generation and those who came before. I ask you to join me in honoring Private Hergott and remembering his fellow heroes to whom we owe so much.

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#### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

### HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. Billie L. Miller for his dedication to his country and exemplary service during World War II. I commend Mr. Miller for his commitment to liberty and justice and for his dutiful service in carrying freedom to the world.

World War II is filled with stories of heroism, selflessness, patriotism and a relentless desire to secure a peaceful and prosperous future for the United States of America and the international community. Brave men left their ordinary lives in order to serve a cause greater than themselves. Mr. Miller was among those great men to take up the call of service and sacrifice.

A man of courage, Mr. Miller served in the 92nd Bombardment Group as a stealth gunner on a B-17 bomber and participated in numerous flying military missions. As a prisoner of war, captured by the enemy, he was forced to trudge alongside his American comrades during an 86 day, 488 mile march from Gross Tychon, Poland to Halle, Germany. A true guardian of freedom, Mr. Miller kept his morale high and persevered, earning several honorary medals and helping America achieve greatness.

I am often reminded that our country has been blessed with great people and leaders; Americans who rose to the challenge when their country was in need. I take great pride in representing a district with so many heroes.

In June of this year, the Slippery Rock Area High School of Pennsylvania's 3rd Congressional District will honor Mr. Miller for his service and bravery during World War II.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring Mr. Miller for his dedicated service to our country. The spirit of his sacrifice lives on in the strength of the United States of America.

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#### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

### HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, today we honor those men and women who have fought and died for the cause of freedom. The cost of freedom is not small, and throughout history our nation has risen to accept this mortal cost so that our fellow citizens of the world could be free.

This generation of Americans, like the generations before, has been called on to serve our great nation with honor, upholding our ideals for people at home and around the world. We are in debt to our brave men and women in uniform who have heeded the call to service in conflicts around the world throughout history, most recently in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Today on the floor of the people's House, we pause to offer a special tribute to those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our nation. Our brave men and women in uniform selflessly sacrifice their own tomorrows so that we may live in freedom. Their families, and especially their children, make sacrifices for us too. As these children grow into young men and women, we need to remind them that their sacrifices and the sacrifices of their parents were not made in vain. We must remind them that as the Bible says, "in the path of righteousness there is life, [and] in walking its path there is no death". Most important, we need to remind them that they are the inspiration for their parents' sacrifices; that their parents sacrifice so that they and their children and grandchildren may know the blessings of liberty.

The citizens of the 16th District of Texas have volunteered to preserve freedom at home and abroad throughout our nation's conflicts. We, in El Paso, intimately know and understand the sacrifices that are made by troops and their families in times of war. We are used to seeing our soldiers leave and return, as El Paso's own Patriot battalions based at Fort Bliss are some of the most frequently deployed units in the country. The soldiers, who call Fort Bliss home, even if only for a brief time, are our neighbors, our friends, and our family.

Last year, the people of El Paso gathered together in prayer for the safe and swift return of members of the 507th Maintenance Company who were ambushed by Iraqi forces outside of Al Nasirriyah. The memories of those who were lost were not forgotten in the midst of the joy of welcoming many of them home. They will forever be sons and daughters of El Paso.

As a veteran of the Vietnam War, I know what it feels like to put on the uniform of the United States and leave my family and friends for an uncertain future in an uncertain place to defend the ideals of our nation. I was one of the lucky ones who returned home. We owe much to those who are not so lucky—to them and their families, we owe our deepest gratitude for their sacrifices.

Today, I give a solemn but proud salute to the men and women from El Paso and Fort Bliss who have lost their lives in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. These fallen heroes will rest with their comrades from around our nation who paid the ultimate price for freedom. They will forever be honored with our sincere gratitude and respect.

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IN HONOR OF TOM REEFE

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and pleasure that I am able to rise today to recognize Tom Reefe, the Executive Director of Leadership Santa Cruz County. Tom has held the position of Executive Director for twelve years, and will retire this coming June.

Leadership Santa Cruz County, an organization that promotes civic participation of emerging community, political and business leaders, has grown tremendously under the tutelage of Tom. He has, for the past twelve years, dedicated a tremendous amount of strength and energy into this noble endeavor.

More than 500 people, including some of my staff, have graduated from Tom's program during his tenure as Executive Director. These graduates come from all walks of life, yet they came to Tom for a common reason: they had a desire to approach the problems, issues, and needs facing our community in a matter of fact and head-on manner.

Indeed, Santa Cruz has benefited greatly from Tom's contributions. His dedication, dynamism and spiritedness have rubbed off onto everyone who has the opportunity to work with him. Our central coast community is truly indebted to Tom Reefe.

IN HONOR OF CAMERON MCLEOD  
AND JOAN SEGERSTROM

**HON. DOUG OSE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cameron McLeod and Joan Segerstrom for being chosen as the Fair Oaks Team Teachers of the Year.

Cameron and Joan provide an enriching and exciting sixth grade program for the students of LeGette Elementary School. They collaborate on their instructional program so all students receive a consistent, standards-based, academic opportunity. Along with high academic expectations, Cameron and Joan have high expectations of behavior. They teach students ethical, responsible behavior in a sensitive and caring manner. Cameron and Joan's talents lay in bringing out the best in 11 and 12 year olds. They achieve this by honoring and respecting students and providing opportunities for them to reflect on their own goals and behavior.

Cameron and Joan have worked tirelessly as a team to provide quality educational and social experiences on and off campus. They reach beyond the classroom to excite students toward achievement. Their outdoor environmental programs are the highlight of the school year: An overnight trip to Camp Winthers and the Northstar Ropes Course and a 5-day trip to Point Bonita at the mouth of the Golden Gate Bridge, provide opportunities for new curricular learning and places to practice the team spirit, pride and ethical behavior that Cameron and Joan instill in each student.

Motivating students to succeed is foremost in their program. They tailor their lessons to the learning needs of their students to make the most of their abilities. Cameron and Joan have had such an impact throughout the years, often their former students return to thank them for the influence they made on their lives.

I am honored to recognize a dedicated team whose efforts have had a profound effect on the students they teach. Please join me in congratulating Cameron McLeod and Joan Segerstrom for being named the 2004 Fair Oaks Team Teachers of the Year.

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IN HONOR OF THE 395TH  
ORDNANCE COMPANY

**HON. MARK GREEN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize before this House the brave men and women of the 395th Ordnance Company who last week returned home after serving 10 months in Afghanistan. These soldiers played a critical role in the war on terror, and stand as a shining example of patriotism and commitment to all Americans.

In the face of great peril and threat, the men and women of the Appleton, Wisconsin-based 395th moved essential ammunition and supplies to the battlefield for their comrades. They played a vital role in securing peace and stability in a nation once dominated by terror and

oppression, and their efforts have helped nourish the seeds of democracy in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, when future generations of Americans look back on the conflicts in the Middle East, they will certainly remember the service and sacrifice of the 395th. And today, I am thankful that they are home safely with us once again. On behalf of the citizens of Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional District, and a grateful nation, it is my honor to recognize these courageous individuals.

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TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR  
EMERITUS ARTHUR C. TURNER

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to University of California at Riverside Professor Emeritus Arthur Campbell Turner in conjunction with the Citizen's University Committee Banquet being held in his honor on June 3, 2004.

Professor Turner himself explained best his role in the creation of the University of California at Riverside (UCR), in a quote to the local newspaper, the Press Enterprise, in 1988: "I was here before the beginning. I am one of the reasons there was a beginning." No truer statement could be given. Indeed, Professor Turner stands as one of the original eight founding faculty members in 1954 when the California State Legislature deemed that the Citrus Experiment Station in Riverside should become a new campus of the University of California system.

In 1953 professor Turner was recruited from the University of Toronto by founding Provost Gordon Watkins as Chairman of the Division of Social Sciences and Associate Professor of Political Science. As Chairman, Professor Turner appointed about one-quarter of the founding faculty of the College of Letters and Sciences at UCR. In 1958, Dr. Turner became a full Professor. He remained as Chairman until 1961 and was Chairman of the Department of Political Sciences until 1966. As if that is not enough, Professor Turner proceeded to be appointed as associate dean of University of California's Graduate Division, Southern Section, and as such was instrumental in the formation of a graduate division at UCR in 1961.

Dr. Turner, professor of Political Science, was born and raised in Glasgow, Scotland. He received his undergraduate degree in History from the University of Glasgow, graduate degree in History at Oxford (Queens College), and Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley. While at Berkeley he met and married Netty, a graduate student. Following his Ph.D., Dr. Turner joined the faculty of the University of Toronto.

His educational career at UCR also includes his membership on the Editorial Committee of the University of California Press from 1959-65 and 1980-83, and Chairman of the Committee from 1962-65. Professor Turner has published extensively on British affairs, international relations and the Middle East. Not surprisingly, he has been named in Who's Who in America for the past thirty years. Professor Turner retired in 1988.

Mr. Speaker, Professor Turner has given back to his community four-fold. His vivid memories of the early days of UCR, the joys of building a new university, seeing it grow and become a formidable institution, and recruiting faculty members, some of who are still on the faculty, serve to give us a foundation by which we may judge the progress of our community and future generations.

Professor Turner has been and continues to be a shining example of a person with passion and principles, who has strived to improve the cultural and political direction of our nation. We have a vast system of public higher education in this country; a network of great state universities and colleges. Today we enjoy academic excellence in America as it is enjoyed nowhere else in the world. Professor Turner is one of those responsible for that part of America's incredible educational experiment known as UCR.

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### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

#### HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, today, Congress comes together to honor those veterans who selflessly made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. More than 42 million people have served the United States in war, and more than 1 million have died in battle or service. This moment of silence is a tribute to them, but does not fully express our gratitude for their bravery and sacrifices.

Next weekend, the National World War II Memorial will officially open. More than 16 million Americans served in the Armed Forces during World War II, and more than 400,000 died. The memorial will stand as a reminder of the commitment, bravery, and sacrifice of those who died, and those who survived.

At the same time, today, more than 100,000 service members are risking their lives in the dangerous operations taking place in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere. The daily and vivid reminders of their courage provide a window into the sacrifices of the past. These reminders should harden our resolve to work for a peaceful future in a just world.

Veterans have continuously defended our democracy and renewed America's promise through their efforts. No service to our nation comes with more peril or is more deserving of our gratitude. With our silence we pay them tribute. With our actions we can begin to repay our debt.

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### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

#### HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, each year, Memorial Day gives us the opportunity to honor the brave men and women who have so selflessly stood in harm's way to protect the fundamental freedoms of our great nation. Our soldiers have made so many sac-

rifices from the Revolutionary War, to the World Wars, to the modern day engagement in Iraq. All of our military personnel deserve our utmost respect, gratitude and care. The great sacrifices that they have made must not be forgotten.

Army Spc. Kyle A. Griffin of Emerson, New Jersey, is one such brave soldier whose sacrifice we must recognize. He laid down his very own life for liberty fighting in Iraq this past year, while defending the very freedoms and rights Americans enjoy today. He did not die in vain, but with a very noble mission in mind—to protect our nation and our citizens against those who wish to see us fail. We must always remember the valiant efforts of Spc. Griffin and continue to pay tribute to all soldiers who have paid the ultimate price.

In 1868 Major General John A. Logan established a "Decoration Day" on May 30 as a day of remembrance for the dead of the Civil War. General Logan ordered his posts to decorate the local cemeteries "with the choicest flowers of springtime" to honor the thousands killed during those four terrible years.

General Logan's original Decoration Day proclamation called us to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice, "We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance . . . Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic."

However, the remembrance and dedication General Logan meant to preserve through Decoration Day, seems to have gotten lost over the many years. A recent Gallup poll found that just 28% of Americans are able to explain why we celebrate our modern day version of Decoration Day—Memorial Day.

We may sometimes take for granted the many liberties we enjoy in America, but they have all been earned through the sacrifice paid by so many of the members of our armed forces. Many soldiers have died for our liberty and prosperity. They acted with patriotism and commitment to their country. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

I urge you to take this charge to heart and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country by stopping what you are doing at 3:00 p.m. on Memorial Day to participate in the National Moment of Remembrance. Consider what the world might look like if not for the service of generations of Americans in uniform. Take a moment to remember those who gave their lives, so that you may have freedom. But, don't just stop there.

Take time throughout the rest of the year to reach out to the members of our armed services who are fighting freedom's newest enemies. While we take this day to honor those who have given so much for our freedom in the past, our thoughts should also be drawn on a daily basis to the brave men and women of our armed services who are fighting for the cause of freedom and democracy around the globe today. Tell them that the citizens of our state and nation are grateful for their service, and thank them and their families for the daily sacrifices that allow them to serve.

We must always remember our fallen soldiers, our veterans and our military currently serving as we celebrate Memorial Day. They deserve the highest praise of all.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD BEDAL

#### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard W. Bedal, a dedicated member of the Santa Cruz community, upon his retirement. Beginning his commitment to public service in 1970 as a Legal Clerk in the Superior Court Clerk's Office, Mr. Bedal has continued to serve the county of Santa Cruz for over 30 years. Mr. Bedal will be enjoying his retirement in the company of his family and wife, Martha.

In 1975, Mr. Bedal became a Judge Pro Tem in the Small Claims and Traffic Court before accepting the position of Assistant County Clerk in 1976. After spending 6 years supervising the Superior Court Clerk's Office, Mr. Bedal was elected in 1982 and then re-elected in 1986 and 1990 to the position of County Clerk-Recorder for the County of Santa Cruz. His public service took a new turn in 1994 when he was elected to the consolidated office of County Clerk-Recorder and Treasurer-Tax Collector, continuing to serve in this office until his retirement this year. Though a well deserved retirement, Mr. Bedal's long dedication to the county of Santa Cruz will be missed.

In addition to serving the county of Santa Cruz, Mr. Bedal also has been the President of the California Association of County-Treasurers-Tax Collectors, President of the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Cruz, President of the County Recorders' Association of California, and President of the Santa Cruz County Employee's Credit Union throughout his many years of service to his community. An avid biker, Mr. Bedal has also completed the California AIDS ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles and once even biked from Santa Cruz to Santa Barbara to visit his daughter.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize Mr. Richard W. Bedal's accomplishments and contributions to our community. I am immensely grateful for his dedication and I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF SYBILLE IRWIN

#### HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional teacher at Bella Vista High School, in Fair Oaks, California. Sybille Irwin, after 32 years of dedicated service, has been chosen as the Fair Oaks Teacher of the Year.

Sybille Irwin is a German teacher who has single-handedly managed the German Program at Bella Vista High School. All German classes, German 1 through Honors German 5 are taught by Ms. Irwin. Her classes are rigorous and her standards are high. At the same time, she creates a classroom atmosphere of friendliness and fun. Over the years, her creativity, her organization and her passion for the language have resulted in many cultural events including the annual Oktoberfest celebration for the entire Fair Oaks community. She has organized trips to Germany

for her students as well as invited German students to spend the year in Fair Oaks. Sybille is advisor of two clubs and opens her classroom and her heart to students who need help.

Her colleagues and students consider Sybille as the ultimate professional educator. She is always willing to take on challenges and risks to help the school and her students. She is always willing to "wear another hat" when needed. She has been the WASC (School Accreditation) Coordinator, a Department Chair, a master teacher for student teachers and a district Site Leader. Additionally, when staffing needs dictated, she has taught French and English to help the master school schedule. She has always encouraged collaboration with colleagues from all departments and is consistently on the cutting edge of new techniques in teaching. For example, she was responsible for the initial introduction of portfolios and rubrics in the Bella Vista Foreign Language department before they became routine.

I am honored to recognize an individual who has committed her life to the enhancement, enrichment and education of our youth. Through her efforts, her professional expertise and her striking and energetic personality, Bella Vista has managed to maintain a thriving German program of which we are very proud. Please join me in congratulating Sybille Irwin for being named the 2004 Fair Oaks Teacher of the Year.

## FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

### HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I join my fellow colleagues in recognizing the extraordinary contributions of our men and women in uniform who have lost their lives while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

As Memorial Day approaches, Americans are reminded of the sacrifices made by all our military service members. These courageous individuals spread the seeds of democracy to oppressed nations around the globe, helping protect and preserve the freedoms we all cherish. There's no question, our world is a safer place today because of their valiant efforts.

Today, another generation of American service members is fighting for peace and stability in the Middle East. Although they have seen great peril, these individuals, like their predecessors, continue to root out evil and terror wherever it hides. They bring honor and dignity to their mission, and they continue to make all Americans proud.

Mr. Speaker, many Americans have lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan—some of which were my constituents—Private First Class Nichole Frye, Staff Sergeant Warren Hansen, Private First Class Ryan Jerabek and Corporal Jesse Thiry. Their sacrifice is a stern reminder to us all that peace comes at a heavy price, and America will not soon forget their contributions to freedom. It is with solemn honor that I, along with the citizens of Wisconsin's 8th Congressional District, recognize today the efforts of our fallen warriors.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR L.  
LITTLEWORTH

### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of our Nation's and California's eminent civic leaders and authority on water law. On May 27th, Arthur L. Littleworth was presented with the Frank Miller Civic Achievement Award for his contributions to the community. This annual award, given by the Mission Inn Foundation in Riverside, California, is a small step towards recognizing the enormous contributions by Art for his community, state and Nation.

Art Littleworth has always done the work of four men. His civic and professional engagements cannot help but serve as model to us all and include: senior partner at the law firm Best Best & Krieger, respected expert in water law, former board president of the Riverside Unified School District—playing a leading role in steering the district into voluntary integration of the schools in the mid-1960s, member of the task force that examined Riverside Police Department's use-of-force rules after the 1998 Tyisha Miller shooting, and first board president of the foundation that is honoring him. A dedicated leader, Art has willingly and unselfishly given of his time and talent to make our community and Nation a better place to live and work.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Art went to Yale University on a full scholarship earning a Bachelor of Arts with Honors in American History. He later entered the U.S. Navy and saw battle in the Pacific during the final months of World War II. Returning home he proceeded to earn a Masters in American History from Stanford University and J.D. from Yale Law School in 1950. That same year he joined Best Best & Krieger.

Art soon found himself representing a local group of ranchers in a federal case regarding Santa Margarita River water in 1958. The case would be in court for five years and have Art emerge as an expert on water law. His expertise grew to a point that the United States Supreme Court appointed him "Special Master," in 1987, in a water rights case between the States of Kansas and Colorado involving the Arkansas River. The Supreme Court unanimously approved his first major finding in this case which became precedent setting in determining damages and awarding prejudgment interest approved by Court, 533 U.S. 1. The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear his most recent ruling in this case this fall.

On the hometown front, Art's reputation also continued to grow as he served on the Riverside Unified School Board from 1958 to 1972, the last 10 years as its president. As president, Art Littleworth played a leading role in overseeing the voluntary desegregation of the district's elementary and middle schools. The feat made Riverside Unified School District the first large school district in the Nation to voluntarily integrate its white and black school children populations and brought the community together as one.

In 1976, Art took the helm as founding President of the Mission Inn Foundation to help the City of Riverside take over the bankrupt hotel and revive it to its historical beauty.

The foundation was able to improve the hotel to the point where it was able to be sold to a hotel developer a few years later. It now stands as a testament to the City of Riverside's progress and growth as a city.

Mr. Speaker, Art's tireless passion for water law and vital social issues has and will continue to contribute immensely to the betterment of the community of Riverside, the state of California and our Nation. I know that many community and national leaders are grateful for his service and salute him for his acceptance of the Frank Miller Civic Achievement Award—a fitting token of our appreciation and esteem.

RECOGNITION OF BENJAMIN F. WILSON AS THE IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, longtime resident of the District of Columbia Benjamin F. Wilson is the immediate past chairman of the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics who served as a member of the Board since June 29, 1990 and as its Chairman from October 1, 1991 until May 24, 2004 having been appointed by three different Mayors of the District of Columbia.

The District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics, a Charter independent agency, comprised of a three-member Board who are unpaid volunteers charged to carry out the agency's mission. The mission of the Board is to enfranchise eligible residents, conduct elections, and assure the integrity of the electoral process.

Since the Board's inception in 1955, he is the first chairman to serve continuously for a period of fourteen years without interruption in his service providing exceptional public service to the citizens of the District of Columbia. He is the longest serving Chairman of the Board in its 49 year history.

Mr. Wilson is to be commended for leading the Board while it carried out its mission of administering the electoral process which requires wisdom, courage, and the desire to remain focused on its vision of conducting free and impartial elections conducted in a fair, efficient, and accurate manner.

He has maintained the highest level of integrity in performing the duties of the Board displaying courage and stamina while protecting the public's interest from manipulation for personal or partisan gain respecting the rights of all and maintaining the highest level of integrity.

He has taken to heart the Board's mandate to administer an impartial electoral process for the citizens of the District of Columbia both in the conduct of elections and his commitment to assuring the integrity of our election system in the Board's role as the gatekeepers of Democracy.

Mr. Wilson has been at the forefront of the core of the Board's mission which is voter education, registration, and electoral advancement in the areas of support and technology. He has served on the Board while addressing

issues such as the right of homeless individuals to gain and maintain access to the franchise, developing the process for compliance with the National Voter Registration Act, Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, the support of the right of college students to register and vote, and the Help America Vote Act.

During his long tenure on the Board, he has led the expansion of voting precincts to provide greater voter accessibility for disabled and elderly voters leading the District of Columbia to be the first major jurisdiction in the United States to provide dual voting systems in the polling place allowing blind and other disabled voters to vote in privacy and secrecy without assistance.

He has also led the Office of Campaign Finance to successfully revive and stabilize programs which were formerly dormant and addressed a backlog of cases that existed at the time of his first appointment as Chairman regarding investigative matters.

He has insisted on education for voters, candidates, and the public at-large regarding campaign finance and conflict of interest laws and on imposing and collecting fines to enforce the ethics laws in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Wilson has done outstanding work at the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics, sometimes under trying conditions. For example, the Board conducted a flawless election with new voting machines that had never been used before when the two leading candidates for Mayor of the city were write-in candidates. He successfully led the Board and its staff during an extremely difficult period.

In addition to his service on the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics, Mr. Wilson has actively served the community by serving as the former Chairman of the Board of Directors of Healthy Babies, Incorporated; former Co-Chairman of the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law; former Chairman of the Board of the Dwight Mosley Foundation; and former Chairman of the Advisory Board of WAMU public radio.

I commend Mr. Wilson for his volunteer public service to the citizens of the District of Columbia.

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HONORING THE DEDICATION OF  
MICAELA CONNERY

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2003*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary dedication of a young woman from West Hartford, Micaela Connery, who has been awarded the 2004 Prudential Spirit of the Community Award. This award program was created five years ago and is part of a broad initiative by Prudential to encourage young people to become involved in community service. This year's honorees received national recognition, a \$1,000 cash award, and an engraved silver medallion.

Among the 20,000 applicants, Micaela is one of only 104 students who received the Prudential Spirit of the Community Award for her acts of volunteerism. As a sophomore at

Conard High School, Micaela was inspired by her cousin with special needs and single-handedly created a program that showcases the talents of students with and without special needs in theatrical performances. The first production of Micaela's Unified Theater, consisting of 20 students, half with special needs and half without, raised over \$500 in donations. The success of Micaela's hard work has spread throughout Connecticut and led to the formation of Unified Theater, Inc. which provides start-up assistance to other schools.

Micaela demonstrates the highest level of compassion, dedication and achievement among the youth today. As a young adult, she already understands the positive nature of community as she describes through her work in the program, "every member is an equal. Every member works together in equal collaboration. What makes Unified Theater different is that we see ability where others see disability."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in thanking and honoring Miss Micaela Connery for her inspiration and dedication to the West Hartford Community.

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THANKING THE STUDENTS OF AL-  
COTT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR  
SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

**HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude to three classrooms at Alcott Elementary School in San Diego: Mrs. Dee Murphy's class in Room B-4, Ms. Natalie Crain's class in Room 9, and Ms. Cindy Weiss' class in Room 20. All of the children in these three classes sent letters of support to my District Director, Nathan Fletcher, who is a Marine Corps reservist currently deployed in Iraq.

The students' letters included words of support, and reminders of San Diego for Nathan and his unit who are deployed out of Camp Pendleton. Their letters included funny jokes, anecdotes about the students' families and pets, praise for our armed forces for their efforts to keep America safe, and thanks for their work to liberate the children and people of Iraq.

Mrs. Murphy's class also sent "Flat Stanley" to visit with Nathan in Iraq. In the book, Flat Stanley, by Jeff Brown, Stanley is squashed flat by a falling bulletin board. One of the many advantages is that Flat Stanley can now visit his friends by traveling in an envelope. Flat Stanley has joined Nathan on patrols, and has sent pictures back to Mrs. Murphy's class from his many adventures. The students also sent books and newspapers, and some small snacks and treats.

I am so proud and appreciative of the students from Alcott Elementary. Their simple act of sending a letter has lifted the spirits of Nathan's Unit. In the midst of many long monotonous days, while our troops are missing their families and loved ones at home, these letters reminded our marines from Camp Pendleton of the wonderful things that wait for them when they arrive back home. At the same time, the students are learning about events in the world. I also hope that this exchange will

help the students to better understand how very fortunate they are to live in America. Many of the children in Iraq have no shoes, and poor medical care (if any). There isn't enough room for everyone to attend schools, so often the girls go to school in the morning and the boys go to school in the afternoon. Through their interaction with Nathan, the students of Alcott Elementary are catching a glimpse of the lives of a handful of Iraqi children.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking the students of Alcott Elementary for their support of our troops. Their letters and gifts have helped to remind our troops that America stands firmly behind them and anxiously awaits their safe return home.

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HONORING LANCE CORPORAL  
JAMES A. CASPER

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, throughout our history, when our country called, millions of American men and women have made the ultimate sacrifice so that our Nation could enjoy peace and prosperity. From Bunker Hill to Baghdad, many of America's best and brightest have paid the price of our freedom with their lives, leaving behind their friends, their families and their futures.

Recently, the Fifth Congressional District of Texas lost one of our best. Lance Corporal James A. Casper of Coolidge, Texas, was a twenty-year-old Marine assigned to 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines, 1st Division, who lost his life near Al Asad, Iraq, while serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lance Corporal Casper served this country well, as did the other brave men and women who have lost their lives in Iraq, helping to fight our enemies far away in order to prevent them from attacking us again here at home. Undoubtedly, it is through their sacrifice that future generations of Americans and others will enjoy freedom from terror.

As our families and friends gather together this Memorial Day to enjoy barbecues and baseball games, let us not forget the solemn purpose for this national day of remembrance.

Freedom is not free—it comes at an incredible cost. Today, let us show our deep appreciation for those who fought for our freedom and let us honor those, like Lance Corporal Casper, who died defending it. Let us commend their courage, their patriotism, their service and their sacrifice.

In the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we may always be free."

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IN HONOR OF M.R.C. GREENWOOD

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of both Members representing Santa Cruz County, California, myself and Representative ANNA G.

ESHOO, I rise today to honor M.R.C. Greenwood, former Chancellor of the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a dedicated member of the Santa Cruz community. Ms. Greenwood has recently left her position at UCSC to become Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs for the University of California. I rise today to honor her contributions both to UCSC and to the community of Santa Cruz County.

As soon as she stepped foot on the UCSC campus in June of 1996, Ms. Greenwood began revolutionizing the institution. During her tenure, she was instrumental in the creation of the Baskin School of Engineering, as well as two new colleges on campus. As an accomplished scientist herself, Ms. Greenwood was responsible for the development of many fine research institutions including the Institute for Advanced Feminist Research, the STEPS Institute for Innovation in Environmental Research, the Center for Justice Tolerance, and Community, and the Center for Ocean Health. By the end of her tenure, academic programs had been enhanced and enlarged and graduate and undergraduate enrollment increased to more than 14,000 students. With the campus now reaching a regional annual economic impact of almost \$1 billion, her leadership has proven advantageous not only to the students at the university, but to the local community as well.

In addition to her dedication to the campus and academic life, Ms. Greenwood has also made important contributions to our local community. As member of the Board of Directors of Sutter Hospital, the Second Harvest Food Bank, and the United Way of Santa Cruz County, Ms. Greenwood has earned the title of "Woman of the Year" from the Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, Representative ESHOO and I would like to extend our gratitude to Ms. Greenwood for her friendship and dedicated service to the UC-Santa Cruz community. Her leadership has benefited the lives of countless students and has improved our community beyond our greatest expectations. We wish her the best of luck in her new role with the University and have no doubt that the entire University of California system will continue to flourish under her guidance.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 20, 2004, I was unable to vote on the Levin Substitute amendment to H.R. 4359, the Child Care Preservation and Expansion Act (rollcall 208). Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

Additionally Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 20, 2004, I was unable to vote on passage of H.R. 4359 (rollcall 209). Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

IN HONOR OF THE GREAT NECK  
VIGILANT FIRE COMPANY

**HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Great Neck Vigilant Fire Company. On June 6th, a parade will be held in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the founding of this extraordinary organization.

The rich history of sacrifice surrounding this courageous volunteer organization is a testament to the spirit that binds our communities together. Its medical personnel and firefighters have spent generations caring for their neighbors. At this moment, as many as sixty thousand individuals, including officers of the United States Merchant Marine Academy, depend on these brave fire and rescue volunteers to stave off potential disaster.

In their unflinching century of service to the people of New York, the members of the Vigilant Fire Company have exemplified the remarkable fortitude and courage America has come to associate with its firefighters. Selflessly volunteering to serve Great Neck and the surrounding communities, they have saved countless lives without expectations of reward.

Adaptability and a willingness to be innovative have long been hallmarks of this volunteer Company. It is often on the cutting edge of technological improvements in medical services and fire-fighting techniques. The Vigilant Fire Company aided in September 11th disaster relief and knows firsthand the value of preparedness. Under the leadership of Chief Conrad Singer, it has once again begun proactively engaging the community in planning for the unthinkable.

It is an honor to represent such a collection of generous individuals. Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House to join me now in recognizing this exceptional group of citizens.

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EXPRESSING THE GRATITUDE OF  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-  
TIVES TO ITS PARLIAMEN-  
TARIAN, THE HONORABLE  
CHARLES W. JOHNSON

SPEECH OF

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, as many have already stated, and as many more Members are eager to express, Charlie Johnson's departure will be a loss to this great institution we serve, and which Charlie has served so well for an amazing 40 years.

While a tremendous amount has changed in this country, and in this House, over the last 40 years, one thing that has remained constant is Charlie's dedicated service to this great institution.

Throughout his tenure, Charlie has been a wise counselor, a trusted confidant, and an impartial adjudicator who has served both parties without pride or prejudice. He has served seven Speakers, and he has served each of them—and each of us—admirably.

For those who don't readily grasp the significance of the role of Parliamentarian, it is the

Parliamentarian who makes sure that we can continue to conduct the House's business every hour of every day.

Those visiting, or watching at home on C-Span, may understand the importance of the House Parliamentarian as Members come and go from the Speaker's Chair. When they see Members in the Chair making procedural decisions, they also see the Parliamentarian's staff providing helpful advice on a timely basis.

For those of us who serve in the House, the Parliamentarian is an absolute lifeline. He's also the occasional judge, father confessor, and calm in the storm of the House floor as Members and parties seek to advance their own interests.

Although it seems that we increasingly can't find ourselves in agreement on many things, too many things for that matter, one thing that is beyond dispute is that Charlie has embodied the ideal of the civil servant who tirelessly has served the interests of the American people.

I, like so many others, am proud to have served with him.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this chamber on April 28, 2004. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 138.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Vote Number 182 on passage of H.R. 3722, the Undocumented Alien Emergency Medical Assistance Amendments of 2004, I inadvertently voted "yes" when I fully intended to vote "no." The rush of constituent meetings off the floor at the time of this vote caused confusion resulting in this erroneous vote.

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FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

**HON. PETER T. KING**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, as Memorial Day approaches, today I rise to honor the many men and women who have died in the service to our great country. Throughout our nation's history, men and women have fought for freedom and democracy; not only here in the United States, but also around the world. These people have put themselves in harm's way and paid the ultimate sacrifice so that we can continue to live the lives that we do.

This year's anniversary has special meaning for two reasons. First, our country is again at

war with members of our armed services deployed to hot zones in Iraq and Afghanistan. While these two conflicts are challenging, we are committed to staying the course and assisting the new governments in creating democratic institutions. Second, the long overdue World War II Memorial will finally be dedicated this Saturday to honor arguably the "greatest generation" of Americans. This is a fitting tribute to the millions of veterans who served overseas as well as those civilians who worked on the home front.

At this time, I would like to make special mention of a constituent of mine who recently lost his life in Iraq. Marine Corporal Kevin T. Kolm of Hicksville died last month while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Once again, I would like to offer my deepest sympathies to Kevin's family. There is nothing more honorable or praiseworthy than serving one's country. It is because of brave servicemen like Kevin Kolm that our country will remain free and proud.

MEMORIAL DAY 2004: HONORING  
THE MEN AND WOMEN OF OUR  
ARMED FORCES

**HON. ANDER CRENSHAW**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, this past Memorial Day, as we paid tribute to the men and women who fought and died to preserve our freedoms in the past, our Nation is at war, and once again, members of our military are paying the ultimate sacrifice. This Memorial Day as we gathered in our towns to pay tributes to the sacrifices of those from past wars, we also remembered the burdens of the soldiers and sailors who followed in their footsteps and serve us today.

As in all battles, soldiers and sailors do not go to war to become heroes. They do not fight because they enjoy the heat of battle. They do not die because they do not love life. They go to war because we, as a Nation, ask them to go and because they are honorable. They go because they believe deeply in the cause of freedom, and they understand the evils of terrorism and the threats it presents to our independence. They die because their lives are taken from them on battlefields. Nevertheless, the loss of even one life weighs heavily on my heart and the heart of every American.

Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom have once again brought our young men and women to the front lines of battle. And, as in the past, at the core of America's military are the same type of men and women, who like their ancestors, have answered the call to arms. And like you, they will draw strength from those who served before them. On D-Day, General Dwight Eisenhower spoke to the troops and said, "You are about to embark upon the great crusade toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. . . . I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle." These same words are as true today as they were on June 6, 1944.

This Memorial Day, as in the past, we gathered in cemeteries and in parks across America. In Washington, D.C., we dedicated the long overdue World War II Memorial. We read

markers and inscriptions that pay honor to our brave patriots. But, the living commemoration for them is not etched in stone on walls or tombstones but in the hearts of free men and women.

To the men and women who have served our nation so well, thank you for all that you have done for our country, continue to do to rekindle the memories of those who are no longer with us, and the support you give to those who carry the burden this day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, and 152, on May 6, 2004, I was unable to cast my vote because I was attending my son's commissioning as a Second Lieutenant in the Army National Guard as well as his graduation at Clemson University.

Had I been present, I would have voted the following:

Rollcall 147, Ordering the Previous Question on Providing for Consideration on Deploring the Abuse of Persons in United States Custody in Iraq, I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall 148, the Motion to Instruct Conferees to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for Fiscal Year 2004, to amend various laws administered by the Coast Guard, and for other purposes, I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall 149, the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree on Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the urgent need for freedom, democratic reform, and international monitoring of elections, human rights, and religious liberty in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall 150, on Agreeing to the Resolution on Deploring the Abuse of Persons in United States Custody in Iraq, I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall 151, the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree on Expressing the Sense of Congress regarding the arbitrary detention of Dr. Wang Bingzhang by the Government of the People's Republic of China and urging his immediate release, I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall 152, the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree on Expressing the Concern of Congress over Iran's development of the means to produce nuclear weapons, I would have voted "aye."

RETIREMENT OF BUDDY AND PAT  
DEAS

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to rise today to recognize the retirement of Buddy and Pat Deas. For over 35 years, Buddy taught students of all ages, and his wife Pat was by his side in the classroom during much of that time.

I had the great privilege of learning from Mr. Deas in my high school agriculture class. As a teacher, Mr. Deas always believed in "focusing on the student rather than the subject being taught," and that "while the subject matter is important, it is often the media through which we can teach those larger lessons of life." Buddy Deas emphasized the civic duties each of us has to our nation, and why it is important to always think of ways to help others.

Buddy also influenced me in many areas other than agriculture. In fact, he taught me about public speaking and parliamentary procedure. Without that early influence and knowledge, it is difficult to imagine where I would be today. As a mentor, he taught me how to use these skills; as a friend he taught me why I should use these skills to work for other people. Buddy transcended many areas of education as he coached state champion public speakers and state champion agriculture mechanics teams. He also encouraged others to take up teaching, and even supervised student teachers as they came into their new profession. Furthermore, he taught me other life skills that I continue to use today. Outside of my own parents and God, Buddy Deas had the single largest influence on me as a young man.

Mrs. Deas has been recognized on more than one occasion as an exceptional school volunteer. She and her husband worked exceptionally well together, not just as husband and wife, but also as teachers in the same classroom. In 1993, Alachua County, Florida, recognized Mrs. Deas as its Outstanding School Volunteer of the year. The very same year, she was named the Outstanding School Volunteer for the 19-county Crown Region of the State of Florida. Mrs. Deas was one of 15 school volunteers from around the state recognized at the Commissioner of Education's Outstanding School Volunteer Awards Banquet.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate and offer my sincere commendation to Buddy and Pat Deas for reaching out and touching the lives of thousands of our nation's young people.

TRIBUTE TO KATHLEEN HYNEMAN  
ELAM

**HON. JOHN S. TANNER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable woman, Kathleen Hyneman Elam, who will turn 90 on June 10th.

After graduation from high school in Corinth, Mississippi, Kathleen Hyneman moved to Washington, D.C. to work at the Treasury Department where she became a supervisor. She also met the love of her life while in Washington, Thomas French Elam. They were married in 1945 in Washington and later moved to Union City, Tennessee.

She and her husband, Colonel Tom, quickly became stalwarts of the community, encouraging businesses to move to the area. They were instrumental in getting the Goodyear Company to locate a plant in the area and it today remains one of the largest employers in Obion County. Kathleen was right by her husband's side in this endeavor, always ready to

entertain prospective business clients at a moment's notice.

Mrs. Elam is an active member of the First Christian Church of Union City. An avid gardener, she served as a member of the City Beautiful Committee for Union City. Her husband, Tom, died in 1998. During his life, Tom was a prominent supporter of the University of Tennessee. He served as a Trustee for the University as well as chairman of the Athletic Committee. After his death, Mrs. Elam continued his legacy of support to the University by serving on the UT Development Council and various other committees. Both she and her husband recognized the importance to West Tennessee of the University's campus at Martin and have made generous donations particularly in the area of capital improvements.

Mrs. Elam also supports St. Jude Children's Hospital, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, Freed Hardeman University, Lexington Theological Seminary, the Masquerade Theatre of Union City and the Union City High School. As you can see, her philanthropic endeavors know no bounds.

One of her latest endeavors has been, along with Bill and Carol Latimer of Union City, to provide the building funds for a spectacular new library for Obion County.

While beset with health problems and confined to a wheelchair for the last few years, Kathleen Elam is still very much involved in her business endeavors and farming interests and can be seen almost on a daily basis surveying her concerns. A product of her rural roots and the great depression, Kathleen Elam is best known for her quick wit, grace, charm and unpretentious nature. She is definitely a shining example of the Greatest Generation, and a true asset to her community, her state and her country.

HONORING EDWARD L. WAYTULA

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a heroic veteran of World War II, Mr. Edward L. Waytula, who at age 82 still devotes his time and continues to serve our country, most recently by participating in the Chicago World War II Veterans Anthology.

Technical Sergeant Edward L. Waytula served in the U.S. Army's Signal Corps with exceptional ingenuity, bravery and resolve. His diligence in the field helped keep supply lines open in the European theatre and throughout France.

Supplies were delivered to the general depot where Sergeant Waytula was stationed but without any precision or method of organization that could be easily or quickly extracted, as was so often needed to save American and Allied lives in the haste of war.

Among the many supplies that arrived at the depot were urgently needed components of mobile communications equipment. Under fire and tremendous pressure to meet time sensitive demands, Sergeant Waytula quickly sifted through the innumerable supplies.

Relying on sound instincts and a little good luck, he swiftly assembled this equipment vital to gathering and analysis of strategic intelligence under chain of command of General George S. Patton.

This is one story that Sergeant Waytula has shared with the Chicago World War II Veterans Anthology and the United States Library of Congress. Like so many members of "the greatest generation," Sergeant Waytula has rarely spoken of his memories of the war. I am therefore particularly grateful that he agreed to recount those experiences and for his efforts to encourage his fellow veterans to also share their recollections for the World War II Veterans Anthology.

As Memorial Day approaches, Mr. Speaker, and as we prepare to dedicate the National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC, I am privileged to pay tribute to retired Technical Sergeant Edward L. Waytula of the United States Army, one of our Nation's surviving World War II heroes and honored veterans. On behalf of a grateful Nation, we thank him for his contributions to the Chicago World War II Veterans Anthology, and more important, for his service and commitment to our Nation and the liberty we enjoy today.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARLINGTON COMMITTEE OF 100

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate the Arlington Committee of 100 on its 50th anniversary this year. With its monthly forums on citizen education and discussion of local and regional public affairs, the committee has helped keep the citizens of Arlington County informed of the issues confronting their community.

In 1954 the Arlington Committee of 100 was formed to help counteract the polarization that developed throughout the county between the new arrivals and the established business and professional people in the community after World War II. The founders hoped to improve the quality and level of communication that existed between Arlington County's diverse communities and neighborhoods. In the past, poor communication had often led to animosity and misinformation between neighbors. Seeking to turn conflict into constructive discussions, the Arlington Committee of 100 brought residents together in an atmosphere conducive for them to get to know each other as people with similar concerns, thoughts and ideas for Arlington County.

For the past 50 years, the Arlington Committee of 100 has brought these groups together for a dinner-forum session preceded by a social hour to create the right atmosphere and achieve the goal of thoughtful discussions of community concerns. The committee has come together to discuss issues such as the Arlington County budget, the environment, affordable housing, community safety, public education, transportation, economic development, the death penalty, and the arts. As a citizen education group, these discussions allow for the free exchange of ideas and discussion among its members without the committee ever taking an official position.

Currently, the Arlington Committee of 100 has more than 300 members and is constantly seeking to broaden its membership to reflect the ever increasing diversity found in Arlington

County. Through the committee's forums people are able to share the concerns of their friends and neighbors and help the county achieve so many great things due to this diversity. The Arlington Committee of 100 has successfully built bridges across divisive issues and strengthened a community that stands ready to deal with the challenges of today and tomorrow.

I am very pleased to congratulate and commend the Arlington Committee of 100 for its 50 years of outstanding service in providing an educational forum for Arlington's residents to learn about and discuss the local and regional affairs of their community. I wish the Committee of 100 many more years of success and serve to Arlington's diverse and vibrant community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday May 13, 2004, I was unable to be present for the final two votes of the week, rollcall vote No. 175 on House Concurrent Resolution 414 and rollcall vote No. 176 on House Joint Resolution 91.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both rollcall No. 175 and No. 176.

I strongly support House Concurrent Resolution 414, which expresses the sense of Congress that all Americans are encouraged to observe the anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education with a commitment to continuing and building on the legacy of Brown.

I also strongly support House Joint Resolution 91, which recognizes the 60th anniversary of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, legislation which has been of great benefit to the Nation's men and women of the Armed Forces.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer a personal explanation. On May 20, I was en route to my congressional district for official business during rollcall votes 208 and 209. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 208 and "no" on rollcall vote 209.

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BROWN FAMILY FARM IN ORLEANS COUNTY, NY

**HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Brown Family Farm in Waterport, NY, now known as Orchard Dale Fruit Farms and

Brown's Berry Patch. The survival of this family farm over two centuries is a remarkable store of passion and hard work.

In 1804, Elijah and Bathshua Brown bought a 100-acre farm along the Oak Orchard River, just south of Lake Ontario, in what is now Waterport, NY. While moving his family to their new home, Elijah died, and Bathshua was left to settle her five sons and seven daughters in the unbroken wilderness of Upstate New York. Elijah Jr., planted the first apple trees in the county, and thus the Brown Family Farm began.

Bathshua began to build what would become one of the most historic and celebrated farms in Upstate New York. Years before, during the Revolutionary War, the British pillaged and burned the Browns' first farm on Fisher Island, CT. During the War of 1812, British war ships again threatened the Brown family as they patrolled the shores of Lake Ontario. In a remarkable coincidence, the very same captain who had burned the Brown's first farm was captured on the shores of Oak Orchard River and brought to Bathshua, the area's matriarch, for judgment. She let him go with a warning never to return.

Leadership of the Brown Family Farm passed from generation to generation. In 1895, Brown descendants Harry and Pearl began growing fruit on the farm. At one point, the family was said to have the largest quince orchard in the world. In the 1940's, the family transitioned out of growing fresh fruit, and began selling apples, quince, cherries, pears and plums for processing. Around 1980, Robert Brown II and his wife Deborah again transitioned the farm back into one that produced fresh fruit for consumption. They planted strawberries, raspberries, and blueberries for people to come pick themselves.

Today, under the leadership of Robert II and Deborah Brown, and Eric and Margy Brown, Brown's Berry Patch is one of the most popular agritourist destinations in Western New York, and a highly successful direct marketer of fresh produce. In 2003, the North American Farmers Direct Marketing Association Conference chose Brown's Berry Patch as a Farm Direct Marketer of the Year Finalist.

Visitors to Brown's Berry Patch come away not only with fresh, nutritious produce, but with memories that will last a lifetime. In an age when so many family farms struggle to survive, it is gratifying to know that Brown's Berry Patch is thriving, continuing to provide Western New York with fresh fruit and a greater understanding of traditional American agriculture. I congratulate Brown's Berry Patch on their 200th anniversary, and for their dedication to promoting tourism and agriculture in Western New York.

RECOGNIZING LEONARD PITTS, JR.  
FOR BEING AWARDED THE 2004  
PULITZER PRIZE IN JOURNALISM  
FOR COMMENTARY

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Leonard Pitts, Jr. of The Miami Herald, winner of the 2004 Pulitzer Prize in Journalism for Commentary.

As a long-time fan of Mr. Pitts' work, I am delighted that he has been honored with this very prestigious award.

Leonard Pitts is a hugely talented writer with a sharp eye and a sharp wit. Newspaper readers in Miami and around the country who are fortunate to read his column would surely agree. Mr. Pitts' work is an important contribution to the social and political debate in America, and I am immensely grateful for his dedication to upholding the highest standard of his craft.

Formerly a pop music critic, Leonard Pitts was hired by The Miami Herald in 1991. By 1994 he was writing about race and current affairs in his own column. Syndicated nationally, Leonard Pitts 1999 book *Becoming Dad: Black Men and the Journey to Fatherhood* was a bestseller.

After the September 11 attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., Pitts' Herald column headlined "We'll Go Forward From This Moment" was widely circulated on the Internet and frequently quoted in the press. In the column, Pitts bluntly expressed his anger, defiance and resolve to an unnamed evil terrorist. He wrote, "You monster. You beast. You unspeakable bastard." These words, which I remember reading the first time, expressed what so many of us were feeling at the moment and still feel today.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share this moment with Leonard Pitts, Jr. and his family. On behalf of this body, I express my congratulations to him and wish him well.

### HONORING THE VETERANS OF ST. PAUL'S HOUSE

### HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the veterans of World War II who now make their home at St. Paul's House and Health Center in Chicago.

Their wartime experiences are as varied as the paths they took following the war, but all remain united to defend the values that shape our identity as a nation: love of freedom and respect for human dignity.

Few members of "greatest generation" spoke about their wartime experiences without evoking painful physical and emotional recollections of the horrors of their experiences in World War II.

Still, in their seventies and eighties, the veterans of St. Paul's House are again demonstrating their heroism and commitment to this country by recounting these memories for the Chicago World War II Veterans Anthology and the United States Library of Congress.

As Memorial Day approaches and we prepare to dedicate the National World War II Memorial in our nation's capital, it is my honor and privilege to pay tribute to the each of St. Paul's World War II veterans—and their families—who proudly wore the uniform of their country, endured the rigors of the war, and fought for our liberty and the freedom of future generations of Americans:

Betty Barouski, Lawrence Bunge, Betty Bunge, Edward Bylica, Loraine Bylica, Milton Cohen, Leslie Cousins, Hilda Cousins, spouse, Harry DeCourres, Mildred Eiman,

Margret Ehmann, Sima Eckma, Henry Faeth, Alice Faeth, Henry Grantschnig, Henry Kaster, John Lasser, Heinze Ledtje, Vladan Markovic, John Persson, William Prielozny, Fred Schubert, Frank Sontowski, Bruno Solback, Lydia Sollberger, Charles Tennent, George Wahl, Albert Wood, Lucille Wolf.

### A TRIBUTE TO AMERICHoice

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of AmeriChoice for its ten years of quality health care services to the many residents of Brooklyn.

AmeriChoice began serving residents of Brooklyn in January 1994 as Managed Healthcare Systems (MHS), and today, it is a premier health plan available to beneficiaries of Medicaid, Medicare, the Child Health Plus Program and the State's Family Health Plus program.

AmeriChoice is one of the few for-profit companies that has long been and continues to remain committed to the vital public sector segment of the health care market. Currently, it serves more than 100,000 members with a staff of 170 dedicated employees.

In spite of its growing members, AmeriChoice has maintained a personalized focus to members' health care needs using the innovative Personal Care Model which extends beyond the traditional borders of health care to involve families, community organizations and government agencies in developing practical solutions which maintain the highest possible functional health status for members.

AmeriChoice has received a national HERA Award from the American Association of Health Plans which recognizes the significant work this health plan has done to increase the number of children receiving five or more comprehensive well-child visits with a physician during the first 15 months of life.

Mr. Speaker, AmeriChoice has been a valued organization of the Brooklyn community for ten years, serving as a premier health plan available to beneficiaries of Medicaid, Medicare, the Child Health Plus Program and the State's Family Health Plus program. As such, it is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable organization.

### RECOGNIZING THE MARLA BENNETT ISRAEL DISCOVERY CENTER AND GARDEN

### HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden at the Shalom Institute Camp and Conference Center, home of Camp JCA Shalom, located in the beautiful Malibu mountains.

The Center will be dedicated on June 6, 2004 in honor of Marla Bennett, a remarkable

and vibrant young woman whose life was tragically taken on July 31, 2002 in the terrorist attack in the cafeteria at Hebrew University Mt. Scopus campus in Jerusalem.

Marla was a 24-year-old recent graduate of the University of California at Berkeley who was studying to obtain her masters' degree at Hebrew University. She was also training at the Pardes Institute to become a Jewish educator.

Marla was well-known to the Jewish community at Berkeley and was a familiar face at countless organizations, including Hillel and Bayit, the Jewish student cooperative of UC Berkeley.

Marla grew up at Camp JCA Shalom as a camper, counselor-in-training, counselor, unit head and, during the summer of 2001, the program director. During her time at Camp JCA Shalom, she touched the lives of thousands of campers and staff.

Her infectious personality and compassion for others will be memorialized in the Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden this weekend. The Center is an interactive hands-on learning center that teaches about the land, history and people of Israel; the flora and fauna of modern and ancient Israel; the relationship between Judaism and the environment; environmental awareness and protection; Jewish traditions, thoughts and values; and organic gardening and farming.

During the summer, thousands of Camp JCA Shalom campers ages seven through 17 will have the opportunity to experience the Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden. Throughout the year, the Center will be open to the community for field trips, weekend retreats and long-term educational studies.

The Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden is housed at the Shalom Institute Camp and Conference Center. Nestled in a beautiful wooded canyon in the Malibu Mountains and only 45 minutes from downtown Los Angeles, the Shalom Institute provides campers of all ages positive Jewish experiences, a greater appreciation for the environment and lots of fun activities. From children to seniors, the Shalom Institute offers exciting programs throughout the year for campers of all ages.

The Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden will be a welcome addition to the Shalom Institute and will serve to keep Marla's exuberant spirit and memory alive. I ask my colleagues to join me in the dedication of the Marla Bennett Israel Discovery Center and Garden.

ST. JOHNS RIVER VETERANS  
MEMORIAL BRIDGE

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, on Memorial Day, May 31, 2004 a ceremony was held in Central Florida in commemoration of naming the new Interstate 4 bridge connecting Volusia and Seminole Counties as the "St. Johns River Veterans Memorial Bridge".

The designation of this structure, a principal transportation link, was made possible by action of the Florida Legislature; by an Act signed into law by Governor Jeb Bush on May

13, 2004; and by resolutions adopted by the Seminole County Commission and the Volusia County Council.

While it was my privilege to recommend naming the bridge in honor of all veterans who have served our Nation, I would like to express my appreciation—and that of all Florida veterans and citizens—to those State and local leaders who made this tribute to our veterans and special designation possible:

Governor Jeb Bush.

Members of the Florida Senate representing Seminole and Volusia Counties—Sen. Evelyn J. Lynn, Chair of the Volusia County Legislative Delegation; Sen. Lee Constantine; Sen. Anna P. Cowin; Sen. Anthony C. "Tony" Hill, Sr.; Sen. James E. "Jim" King, Jr.; Sen. Bill Posey; and Sen. Daniel Webster.

Members of the Florida House of Representatives representing Seminole and Volusia Counties—Rep. David Simmons, Chair of the Seminole County Legislative Delegation; Rep. Sandra "Sandy" Adams; Rep. Carey Baker; Rep. Joyce Cusack; Rep. Suzanne M. Kosmas; Rep. David J. Mealor; Rep. Pat Patterson; and Rep. Joe H. Pickens.

The Seminole County Commission—Chairman Daryl G. McLain and Commissioners Carlton D. Henley; Grant Maloy; Randall C. Morris and Dick Van Der Weide.

The Volusia County Council—Chairman Dwight Lewis and Council Members Joie Alexander; Frank Bruno, Jr.; Jack Hayman; Joe Jaynes; Bill Long and Patricia Northey.

Furthermore, I would like to recognize four families who lost loved ones in service to our Nation and who participated in the Memorial Day dedication ceremony. These eight individuals represented many other families and Americans who have made similar, great sacrifices:

Jesse and Arbutus Beall. Their son, Specialist 4 Charles Richard Beall, was killed in action in Kontum, South Vietnam on March 6, 1968 while serving in the United States Army.

Jim and Sandy Wetmore. Their son, Airman 1st Class Brian William McVeigh of the United States Air Force, was killed in a terrorist attack on the Khobar Towers Military Complex in Saudi Arabia on June 25, 1996.

Mrs. Jill Roberts and her son, Jacob. Jill's husband and Jacob's father, Corporal Robert D. Roberts of the United States Army, died on November 22, 2003 while serving in Baghdad, Iraq.

Mrs. Minna Earnest and her son, Brian. Minna's husband and Brian's father, Commander Charles M. Earnest of the United States Navy, perished at sea during combat operations in North Vietnam on November 28, 1972, and Minna's son and Brian's brother, Charles Bradley Earnest, a member of the United States Army Special Forces, died on August 21, 1999 from injuries previously sustained during combat training.

Each day in Central Florida as tens of thousands of travelers cross the St. Johns River Veterans Memorial Bridge, they will be reminded of the price these and thousands of other veterans and their families have paid for the freedoms all Americans enjoy.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND  
HEALTH SMALL EMPLOYER AC-  
CESS TO JUSTICE ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DELAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this legislation. The bills before us today do not merely amend or modernize the historic Occupational Safety and Health Act, which put in place critical workplace protections—rather, they undermine it.

One discourages OSHA from citing small employers who would otherwise be in violation of the law, while another weakens the ability of the Secretary of Labor to enforce those laws. Another allows this Administration to stack the OSHA commission for political purposes, while the last gives employers more leeway in challenging OSHA citations.

In every sense, these are blatantly anti-employee changes to existing law, intended to take power away from average working people and put it in the hands of employers in the hope that they will not abuse that power. All of this is being done under the guise of "reducing red tape."

But I suppose we should not be surprised. After all, this is merely another in a long line of anti-employee acts taken by this Administration and majority. First it was throwing out a decade of research that went into those carefully crafted ergonomics regulations—in a day, Republicans sent the American people a clear message that the corporate bottom line was more important than safety in the workplace. Then it was ramming through overtime rules that took away time-and-a-half pay for 8 million workers and endorsing the outsourcing of American jobs to other countries. Now they decimate a historic law to protect American workers from unsafe working conditions.

The American people are increasingly finding themselves at odds with this Administration and its reckless disregard for working people—and it is no wonder. To them, regulations that protect people in the workplace are, quote, "red tape."

Mr. Speaker, tell that to families of the 60,000 employees who die every year from job-related injuries or illnesses. Tell that to the 4.7 million people who are injured each year at work. Because legislation like this not only insults the work the people of this country do everyday—it reveals a total lack of appreciation for the people, the institutions and the values that built this country and made it great. Oppose these unfair, un-American bills.

CONGRATULATING BRUCE V.  
RAUNER OF CHICAGO

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my good friend Bruce V. Rauner of Chicago and the Rauner Family Foundation for being honored by the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago, which is awarding Bruce with its prestigious Humanitarian Award at the

Second Annual Hometown Heroes Awards breakfast.

The Chicago Red Cross Hometown Heroes Awards are presented to individuals "whose actions went beyond the call of duty, and whose leadership and commitment made a significant difference to a person, cause or community." This year's special Humanitarian Award is being awarded for the "critical support" provided by Mr. Rauner and the Rauner Family Foundation "for Chicago's education, health and youth development organizations." I applaud the Red Cross for its excellent selection of Bruce Rauner, one of Chicago's finest citizens, and a shining example of leadership and commitment to public service in our city.

Bruce Rauner's philanthropy benefits the entire Chicagoland area. In addition to supporting the Red Cross, Mr. Rauner has dedicated his time and resources to many other local non-profit organizations. Among them include his service on the board of The Chicago Public Education Fund, The Teacher's Academy of Mathematics and Science, The Ravinia Festival, The Golden Apple Foundation, The Academy for Urban School Leadership and the YMCA. The Rauner Family Foundation has also made generous contributions, to the YMCA of Metro Chicago and Pilsen, and the Chicago Public Education Fund.

Earlier this year, the Rauner Family Foundation donated \$3 million for the construction of the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago's new state-of-the-art command center, which is designed to enhance disaster response capabilities for the entire state of Illinois. The new Rauner Center houses local Red Cross offices and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency to coordinate response in the event of a major disaster. The Rauner Foundation's generous contribution will go a long way toward helping establish this center as the model for the country of effective and life-saving disaster response.

Professionally, Mr. Rauner continues to be one of the leaders of Chicago's financial center. He currently serves as the Chairman of GTCR Golder Rauner, LLC, a \$6 billion private equity and venture capitol firm in Chicago. Mr. Rauner joined GTCR in 1981 after working in strategic consulting with Bain and Company and in econometric analysis with Data Resources, Inc.

Before his impressive career was launched, Mr. Rauner graduated with top honors—from Dartmouth College Summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa and from Harvard Business School. He and his wife Diana live in Winnetka and are the parents of Elizabeth, Stephanie, Eric, Margaret, Matthew, and Katherine.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois and indeed all of Chicago, I am privileged to congratulate Bruce V. Rauner and the Rauner Family Foundation for this impressive honor, and I applaud the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago for bestowing this celebrated award on such deserving recipients.

ON THE OCCASION OF MEMORIAL DAY

**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, this Memorial Day we pay tribute to those who have given their lives in defense of our great Nation. The freedoms we enjoy here at home do not come cheap. They are paid for with the blood and treasure of true American heroes.

Today we reaffirm our commitment to the liberties they fought to defend. And we pledge never to forget their sacrifice.

This year, Memorial Day has a special poignancy. Here in Washington, veterans of the Second World War finally received the monument they so richly deserved. The World War Two Memorial dedicated on the National Mall provides a fitting tribute to a generation of young men and women who defended the United States against the specter of a tyranny as horrible as any the world has known. The 400,000 Americans who gave their lives in the European and Pacific theaters will never be forgotten.

In addition, this Memorial Day is special because it affords us an opportunity to honor the young men and women who are currently engaged in the War on Terror. Halfway around the world, a new generation has been called to battle. And like those that defeated our enemies in the 1940s, this new generation of Americans has faced the enemy with strength and determination. Almost 1,000 men and women have lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan. Those of us who enjoy the freedom they have sacrificed to defend should be immensely proud and eternally grateful.

This weekend, as we take a moment away from our normal routines, let us say a prayer and remember both those who have gone before us and those who continue to defend freedom from oppression. Our thoughts should be with those families that have lost loved ones in battle. And our thanks should go to all those who honor us by taking up arms to defend the United States.

God bless our men and women in uniform. And God Bless America.

STATEMENT OF ERIC ROSENTHAL, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES (USCID) AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MENTAL DISABILITY RIGHTS INTERNATIONAL, ON "INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY RIGHTS: THE PROPOSED UN CONVENTION"

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on March 30th, the Congressional Human Rights Caucus held a groundbreaking Members' Briefing entitled, "International Disability Rights: The Proposed UN Convention." This discussion of the global situation of people with disabilities was intended to help establish disability rights issues

as an integral part of the general human rights discourse. The briefing brought together the human rights community and the disability rights community, and it raised awareness in Congress of the need to protect disability rights under international law to the same extent as other human rights through a binding UN convention on the rights of people with disabilities.

Our expert witnesses included Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Mark P. Lagon; the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Ecuador to the United Nations, Ambassador Luis Gallegos; the United Nations Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Johan Schölvinck; the distinguished former Attorney General of the United States, former Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and former Governor of Pennsylvania, the Honorable Dick Thornburgh; the President of the National Organization on Disability (NOD), Alan A. Reich; Kathy Martinez, a member of the National Council on Disabilities (NCD); and a representative of the United States International Council on Disabilities (USCID) and Executive Director of Mental Disability Rights International, Eric Rosenthal.

As I had announced earlier, I intend to place the important statements of our witnesses in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, so that all of my colleagues may profit from their expertise, and I ask that the statement of Eric Rosenthal be placed at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE U.S. CONGRESSIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CAUCUS: MEMBERS' BRIEFING ON THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

It is a great pleasure to be here for this historic occasion. I would like to thank Representative Lantos, the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, and the Disability Rights Caucus for making this possible.

I'm a member of the board of the U.S. International Council on Disability (USCID) and executive director of Mental Disability Rights International (MDRI). I have spent more than ten years in the field doing international human rights work for people with disabilities—documenting human rights abuses and training activists. There has been little recognition of the vast worldwide pattern of human rights abuses against people with disabilities that exists in the world today—either by the U.S. government or the United Nations. Thus, it is a great step forward to bring these concerns to public attention today. This hearing provides an invaluable opportunity to discuss what practical next steps the U.S. Government can take to bring long over-due attention to the rights of people with disabilities worldwide.

The most important leadership by a U.S. Agency, to date, has been the work of the U.S. National Council on Disability (NCD). Over the last few years, NCD has made an invaluable contribution to advancing discussion and action on international disability issues by convening International Watch, a group of experts and leaders in the U.S. disability community involved in international activities. In addition, NCD has brought attention to this issue by commissioning two important reports. In 2002, NCD commissioned Janet Lord of the Landmine Survivors Network to write a detailed legal and policy analysis of the need for a new UN disability rights convention. I recommend that report as essential background to today's discussion about the need for a UN convention.

In 2003, Professor Arlene Kanter and I had the honor of serving as consultants to NCD as authors of a report, *Foreign Policy and Disability: Legislative Strategies and Civil Rights Protection to Ensure Inclusion of People with Disabilities*. In this report, released at a U.S. Senate briefing on September 9th, 2003, NCD cites numerous reports over the last 10 years identifying the failure of U.S. foreign assistance programs to respond to the needs of people with disabilities. Not only have construction projects been inaccessible to people with disabilities but many programs have not been accessible to people with physical or mental disabilities. More broadly, there has not been a concerted effort to document, challenge, or overcome the vast problem of human rights abuses to which people with disabilities are subject worldwide.

NCD has called for the reform of U.S. foreign policy and foreign assistance to ensure the inclusion of people with disabilities in U.S. foreign policy, foreign assistance, and all U.S. government and its activities abroad.

If we stand for the human rights of people with disabilities, we must stand for it in our own actions as the U.S. government. We must ensure that U.S. funded assistance programs don't discriminate. Indeed, we must ensure that foreign assistance programs respond to needs and are fully inclusive of people with disabilities.

We have recently made tremendous progress in Congress. I would particularly like to acknowledge the work of Senator Tom Harkin who championed historic new legislation in the last session of Congress. The new legislation requires any construction funded by USAID around the world to be accessible to people with disabilities. It requires all U.S. programs in Afghanistan and Iraq to be accessible to people with disabilities, in conformity with USAID's Policy Paper on Disability. The most innovative new provision of legislation makes enforcement of disability rights a precondition for countries to receive funding under the new Millennium Challenge Account. By creating financial incentives for governments to take action on disability rights, this law establishes a specialized tool of foreign policy that will help bring attention and pressure on governments to take action. In the spirit of the NCD report, it is my hope that MCA views this as more than a tool to use against governments. It should be viewed as a mandate to help governments, and non-governmental disability organizations around the world, to meet these human rights and disability rights goals. The NCD report calls on Congress to create a "Fund for Inclusion," setting aside funds to support for the development of non-governmental disability rights organizations.

Turning now to the question: why a convention? In ten years, MDRI has documented human rights abuses against people with mental disabilities in 21 countries on three continents. I have seen untold human suffering in every country I have visited. I've seen people locked away for their whole lives in psychiatric hospitals, as well as institutions for people with developmental or other disabilities. I have seen children and I've seen grown men and women left naked, covered in their own feces. MDRI recently documented a situation in Paraguay where two boys were placed in an institution by family members unable to care for them at home without any form of governmental support. When the boys were placed in the institution they probably had some form of intellectual disability, but they wore clothing, they talked, they interacted with people around them. For at least four years, these boys were held naked in isolation with no clothes,

no toilet, no place to sleep other than a mat the floor of a barren cell. They ate their food off the floor. According to doctors at the facility, they became psychotic as a result of the years of isolation and abuse. When we visited them, they could no longer speak. All they did was scream, howl, and grunt.

Their lives had been thrown away. The lives of 400 men and women in that same psychiatric facility have been thrown away. They live in isolation with little hope of returning to society. Many are denied basic medical care, much less the dignity of some privacy or their own clothing. In wealthier countries, people may be detained in clean institutions with new clothing. But their isolation from society and their pain at being denied human contact may be much the same. Does the international community speak out about these abuses? No. In almost every country of the world, you can find people relegated to the bleak, back wards of institutions—or abandoned on the streets. That same experience has been going on in many societies throughout the world. And the world has failed to speak out time and time again.

The U.S. administration has said that the proper way to deal with this is through domestic legislation, rather than international human rights legislation. I beg to differ on this point. As a matter of international law, there is a very important difference between matters of purely domestic concern and issues of international human rights. The international legal framework is built upon the notion of state sovereignty. Matters of social policy and of educational policy, are protected by state sovereignty. And a government may do what it will in that area. But the international community has come to realize there are certain principles of government practice that are not just matters of state sovereignty. When governments deny their citizens basic human dignity and autonomy, when they subject them to extremes of suffering, when they segregate them from society—we call these violations of fundamental human rights. And when a country sinks so low as to deny the fundamental rights of its citizen, the world will speak out. We will hold governments accountable for the most extreme abuses. That is why we need a convention. It's not enough to offer technical assistance on how to improve the law, we must hold governments accountable for their violations.

Based on my observations as a human rights investigator over the last ten years—and based on the near void of activity by established human rights oversight bodies—I believe that the abuses experienced by people with disabilities around the world are the greatest international human rights problem that goes unacknowledged in the world today.

There are at least 600 million people with disabilities in the world. How many thousands of people are segregated from society in closed psychiatric facilities? By the thousands, children and young adults with disabilities are placed in orphanages and other institutions. I have met families in Armenia, Turkey, Russia, and Mexico who were heartbroken about placing their child in an institution—or who were afraid that they might have to do so one day if they could no longer provide care. I have met adults with mental disabilities living a life of terror that they may be one day forced into an institution if they cannot keep it together to fend for themselves. I have met fathers, mothers, brothers, husbands, wives who wanted to keep a relative at home with them, but their governments do not provide services that will allow families to stay together in the community. Heart breaking as it is, parents are often forced to put their children in or-

phanages. These are not orphans. These are children orphaned by social and medical policy that say they're different and shouldn't have a chance to live as a part of society at large. Social policies that needlessly segregate people from society are a form of discrimination. Legal systems that do not protect against arbitrary detention permit ongoing violations of human rights.

These are just a few of the abuses that can be addressed by a disability rights convention. This is why we must commit ourselves to speaking out. We must make it a priority of our human rights agenda to end such intolerable abuses against people with disabilities everywhere.

This Congress has adopted legislation establishing that human rights will be the core of our foreign policy. We must ensure that this promise extends to people with disabilities. When governments strip whole groups of citizens of their rights because of a disability, when governments put people away, or when they allow them to die on the streets with no dignified form of assistance, those are human rights abuses. Challenging such abuses should become the core of our foreign policy.

In its last session, this Congress made invaluable steps in the right direction by revising our foreign assistance laws. Now let us explicitly recognize the concerns of people with disabilities as part of the pantheon of international human rights issues. I strongly encourage and appreciate the work of those members of Congress who have supported resolution 169. I call on all members to do the same.

I would like to leave you with one last thought. Over the years, I have personally encountered hundreds of children and adults, old men and old women who have spent most of their life behind bars. It is amazingly easy to write these people off as subhuman. As if they are already the walking dead. Yet I have also seen a glimpse of hope in their eyes. With the smallest amount of respect for their dignity, people come to life. The tiniest hint of a possibility that a man or woman might one day leave the institution can give that person a reason to go on living. What does it matter that people far across the waters care about them and their rights? It is a reason to go on living. Members of Congress, you have a chance to contribute to their reason for living. You have an ability to contribute to give them hope. In your careers, this may be one of the least costly and greatest opportunities to challenge abuses of hundreds of millions of people. Please take that action. Please support Resolution 169. And please support the U.N. Disability Rights Convention.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAMES C.  
MOORE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart after learning that Colorado has lost one of its truly great citizens. James Moore of Pueblo, Colorado recently passed away at age eighty-six. He spent his life serving those he loved, and James loved about everybody. As his community and family mourn his passing, I believe it appropriate to recognize the life of this exceptional man before this body of Congress and this nation.

James showed up everyday at his job as an insurance agent for Equitable Life Assurance

Agency with an infectious smile and a humble heart. It was no surprise when Equitable's agency managers' recognized James as their "National Honor Agent" for exemplifying excellence in professional achievement and community service from among the company's 7,500 member agency.

James' work throughout his life went far beyond the insurance industry. He answered his nation's call to duty, serving as a meteorologist in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. His extensive involvement in the community included serving on the Parkview Episcopal Hospital's executive committee and as finance chairman of the campaign for the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project. He also served as financial planner for the Pueblo Regional Library, worked as an officer at the local YMCA, and served on University United Presbyterian Church's board of elders and building committee. He mentored those who would listen, gave money to those who asked, and loved those who needed a kind word.

Mr. Speaker, James Moore will be sorely missed, and although we grieve over the loss of this incredible individual, we take comfort in the lives he touched and the legacy he leaves behind. I say to his wife Mary, his son Jim, and daughter DeAnn, that I am truly honored to pay tribute to his life and memory today. He was a great person and a great American, he will be sorely missed.

#### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, it is with great reflection that I rise to recognize the hundreds of thousands of soldiers serving in our armed services today around the world, and to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the protection of our great country.

This has been a difficult year for many families in Minnesota, particularly those who have loved ones serving overseas in the armed forces. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and the global campaign against terrorism have required much of the American people and the sacrifices are significant. War has separated thousands of Americans from their loved ones. Many families have not seen their fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, or friends and relatives for many months.

Today, the House rises in a moment of silence to recognize our fallen heroes. I would like to specifically mention the eight Minnesotans whose selfless acts of heroism in Iraq over the past year cost them their lives: Jim Herrgott, 20, of Shakopee; Brian Hellermann, 35, of Freeport; Dale Panchot, 26, of Northhome; Patrick Dorff, 32, of Buffalo; Matthew Milczark, 18, of Kettle River; Levi Angell, 20, of Cloquet; Moises Langhorst, 19, of Moose Lake; and Tyler Fey, 22, of Eden Prairie. Their service and their spirit live on in the memory of all Minnesotans.

This Memorial Day, I urge all Minnesotans to pause and remember those who have served our nation and those that continue to serve today. The debt of gratitude we owe these brave men and a woman is great and

we must never forget their sacrifices for our freedom.

#### CAROL AND JERRY BERMAN'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate my friends Carol and Jerry Berman as they celebrate their sixtieth wedding anniversary. Carol Berman met Jerry Berman at the University of Michigan, in 1941. Their surname was the same. In 1943 they became engaged. Jerry enlisted in the Air Force, and Carol graduated from college. They were married in 1944 and after a brief honeymoon, Carol traveled with Jerry to thirteen different Air Force installations where he was an airman, and she worked on various newspapers and magazines.

After the war they returned to Ann Arbor where Jerry received his degree in mechanical engineering, thanks to the GI Bill, and Carol worked as an Editor. After a while they moved back to New York and set up housekeeping in Lynbrook, Long Island. Jerry worked as an engineer, and Carol worked for a public relations firm. Their daughter Elizabeth was born followed by their son, Charles. They then moved to their present home in Lawrence, Long Island.

Carol devoted much of her time to the school, serving as President of two PTA's and then elected to the Lawrence-Cedarhurst Board of Education. While Carol was busy with this, Jerry, who now was in the family's insurance business, served in many capacities at his beloved Beth Shalom Synagogue, serving as Chairman of the Board for two terms.

Carol and Jerry also became politically active in the Democratic Party. Carol ran campaigns for many candidates and then the local offices for Assemblyman Eli Wager and Congressman Herbert Tenzer. She became a Vice Chair of the Nassau County Democratic Party. Carol was elected to the State Senate in 1978, serving for three terms, and is still the only Democrat elected to that body from a district solely in Nassau County. Her public service continued when she was appointed by Governor Cuomo to the State Division of Housing, to the Lobby Commission, and to the State Board of Elections, where she is still Commissioner.

Because of her political expertise, the community drafted her to head their fight against the SST Concorde landing at Kennedy Airport. That fight made history and just recently ended with the complete demise of the Concorde.

Terry was Democratic Leader of Lawrence-Cedarhurst, and President of the Five Towns Democratic Club, and was a close political associate of both Congressman Herbert Tenzer and Jim Scheuer. During the Vietnam War, he was appointed to the Draft Board, where he served for fifteen years. In that capacity, he accompanied Rabbi Edward Sandrow on a visit to General William Hershey, which resulted in a history making decision that enabled servicemen of other than the Quaker faith to claim Conscientious Objector status.

In addition, Jerry and Carol have donated much time to civic endeavors: among them

the building of St. John's Hospital. They have been honored by the Hospital, UJA-Federation, Israel Bonds, Congregation Beth Shalom, the Five Towns Democratic Club, Cancer Care, Nassau County Democratic Party, the Village of Lawrence and Carol by NOW and The Nassau Coalition Against Domestic Violence, as well as many other civic associations.

The greatest joy and love in their lives are their children: Elizabeth married to David; and Charles, married to Lisa; and their beloved grandchildren, Sarah, Jeremy, Rebecca and Ben.

Jerry and Carol emulate the ideals of citizenship in our country, through their concern for others, their service to the community and active participation in our government. I wish to congratulate and thank my good friends, Carol and Jerry, for all that they have done for my district, their community, the State, our Country, and me.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 1, 2004, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall Nos. 210, 211, and 212. The votes I missed include rollcall vote 210 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Con. Res. 295, Congratulating and saluting Focus: HOPE on its 35th anniversary; rollcall vote 211 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended to H. Res. 612, Recognizing the firefighters, police, public servants, civilians, and private businesses who responded to the fire in Richmond, Virginia, on March 26, 2004; and rollcall vote 212 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Con. Res. 417, Honoring the Tuskegee Airmen.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 210, 211, and 212.

#### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Staff Sergeant Joseph Fales, a World War II veteran who gave his life fighting against tyranny so that we might live free.

In honor of Memorial Day, I had the pleasure of recognizing Staff Sergeant Fales for his heroism and bravery as a U.S. Soldier who fought in the Second World War until his death in October 1943.

Staff Sergeant Fales served in the Army Air Force and heroically performed the perilous job of a waist gunner aboard a B-17 bomber. His plane was shot down over the Adriatic Sea, and an American Hero was lost. Sergeant Fales was only 20 years old.

I had the honor of presenting his family with medals Joseph Fales earned during his service to our nation. They included the World War

II Victory Medal, the Honorable Service Lapel Button, the European Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one bronze star, the Good Conduct Medal, the Air Medal and the Purple Heart, the oldest military decoration in the world more than 50 years overdue.

I am humbled by the courage and sacrifice of Joseph Fales. I am thankful for the gift of freedom that he fought to protect. We must never forget Joseph Fales and those soldiers who paid the ultimate price on our behalf.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAVID  
LORENZ

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the importance of our community parks, and their caretakers. Often parks and cityscapes go overlooked during our busy days. However, keeping open spaces green, clean and well-kept is not an easy task. For this reason, I rise to pay tribute to David Lorenz for being awarded the 2003 Manager of the Year Award by the Special District Association of Colorado.

Mr. Lorenz has been the executive director of the South Suburban Park and Recreation District for the last 17 years. His accomplishments include overseeing the Goodson Recreation Center and the Sheridan Recreation Center. He has worked to preserve 3,000 acres of land for parks and open space, as well as a comprehensive 120 mile trail system used by walkers, joggers, and bicyclists.

David Lorenz has shown devotion to the community by maintaining and designing a variety of outdoor activities for the residents of South Suburban. He also received Honorable Mention in the Special Projects category for the "Living Well" initiative which helps to fight obesity in children and adults.

Mr. Lorenz' dedication, and the dedication of other caretakers, to the provision of recreation activities and the upkeep of our parks serve as a great benefit to all Americans.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN  
ALAN L. TEBRINK

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, to place your life in danger for the sake of others is an honorable and noble task, and that is exactly what police officers do regularly. Captain Alan TeBrink of the Colorado State Patrol will be retiring after twenty-five years of dedicated service, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for the important role that he has played in protecting and serving the people of Colorado.

Alan graduated from the Colorado State Patrol Academy in 1979, and was assigned to Telluride where he was the only state trooper stationed at that location. In 1983, he transferred to the Colorado State Patrol Academy and was a staff instructor for four years before being promoted to Sergeant and transferring

to the Colorado Safety Institute serving as an instructor and supervisor. In 1989, Alan was reassigned as a first line supervisor for the newly created Hazardous Materials section where he was active in creating the emergency response and enforcement section, as well as developing training techniques for section personnel. Alan was promoted to the rank of Captain in 1994 and assigned to Troop 5A in Durango where his leadership and dedication earned him the admiration of his fellow troopers and community.

As a dedicated member of the Durango community, Alan is also well known for his civic participation. He is a referee for high school basketball games, and plans to continue as a referee for both basketball and football during his retirement. He is also active in the First Presbyterian Church, where he frequently teaches Sunday school and is and formerly served as church Elder.

Mr. Speaker, Captain Alan TeBrink acted with great commitment and leadership in all that he did throughout his career as a Colorado State Trooper. Alan never forgot that safety and protection came first and foremost for the people he served. It is my pleasure to recognize Alan before this body of Congress and this nation. I would like to extend my appreciation to him for everything that he has done and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

CHILD CREDIT PRESERVATION  
AND EXPANSION ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today the House considers H.R. 4359, to make the increase in the child tax credit permanent and expand it for taxpayers in the \$110,000 to \$300,000 range. Instead of taking responsible steps to make permanent a tax cut to help working families with children, this bill balloons our federal debt and gives thousands of dollars in extra tax breaks to the very wealthiest Americans.

Meanwhile, those who need help the most, low- to moderate-income working families with children, receive little benefit under this bill. And those at the very bottom get nothing. Even worse, this bill threatens middle-class families as the legislation fails to pay for these tax cuts—increasing record deficits that threaten economic growth, raise interest rates, and cost jobs.

I support middle-class tax cuts and the child tax credit, but middle-class families would be much better off if these tax cuts were paid for and targeted to those who need them most. I support the Democratic alternative which makes sure these tax cuts are paid for through 2010, increases the child tax credit for more than 31 million middle-income families with children, over 75 percent, currently receiving the credit, and provides the child tax credit to an additional 2.5 million working families, instead of showering more tax cuts on those who have already benefited under the Bush tax cuts.

HONORING FRANCIS (FRANK) A.  
DEMITA

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Francis (Frank) A. DeMita on his retirement from the Board of Directors of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU). Mr. DeMita has devoted much of his life to the credit union, with more than 50 years' experience as a volunteer in the credit union community. There is no doubt in my mind that our good friends at NAFCU will feel a great void once Mr. DeMita departs.

Mr. DeMita's devotion to the credit union community was evidenced by his service as Chairman of the Board of the Nassau Educators Federal Credit Union for over 30 years. A retired teacher himself, Mr. DeMita has not only been active in the credit union movement, but also with many charitable organizations and causes on Long Island. For the last six years, Mr. DeMita has balanced his time as NAFCU Board Member in addition to his leadership at the Nassau Educators Federal Credit Union and in the Long Island community. However, one element has remained constant—Frank has always given selflessly of his time to promote and enhance the lives of credit union members in the great state of New York, as well as across the nation. But he also has remained committed to the educational background that he came from. Mr. DeMita helped start a scholarship program in 1990 that has awarded 75 scholarships every year since to outstanding high school seniors in Nassau County. To date, the program has provided over \$300,000 to help these students attend college.

As a member of the NAFCU Board of Directors, Mr. DeMita worked tirelessly to enhance the federal credit union charter by working with Congress for regulatory relief legislation for credit unions. His work has helped maintain NAFCU's status as a leading credit union trade association.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mr. Frank DeMita on all of his fine work throughout his illustrious tenure as a Board Member of NAFCU. I have worked with Mr. DeMita on issues that are important to the credit union community in the past and I am committed to continuing to do so. Congratulations on your retirement from the NAFCU Board, Mr. DeMita.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 20, 2004, I was unavoidably detained, and unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall numbers 203 and 204. The votes I missed include rollcall vote 203 on the Tauscher Amendment to H.R. 4200, the Defense Authorization Act for FY 2005; and rollcall vote 204 on the Ryun (KS) amendment to H.R. 4200.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 203 and "nay" on rollcall vote 204.

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FALLEN HEROES

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sheldon Schulman, a Vietnam Veteran who gave his life fighting for our freedom and security.

In honor of Memorial Day, I had the pleasure of recognizing the late First Lieutenant Sheldon Schulman for his heroism and bravery as a U.S. Soldier who fought in the Vietnam War until his death on June 19, 1967.

Lieutenant Schulman served his country as an officer in the Army. He was killed as the result of a gun shot wound inflicted during a battle on the Mekong Delta. Also lost that day were three of his closest friends who had served with him since their days in Officer Candidate School. Lieutenant Schulman was only twenty four.

I had the honor of presenting his family with medals Lieutenant Schulman earned during his service to our nation. They included Silver Star, Bronze Star, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, the Sharp Shooter Badge and Rifle Bar, and two Marksman Badges, Machine Gun Bar, and Rifle Bar, as well as the Purple Heart, the oldest military decoration in the world.

I am humbled by the courage and sacrifice of First Lieutenant Sheldon Schulman. I am thankful for the gift of freedom that he fought to protect. We must never forget Sheldon Schulman and those soldiers who paid the ultimate price on our behalf.

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PAYING TRIBUTE TO ANDY  
MCKEAN

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to pay tribute to an individual who has worked tirelessly to bring awareness of our U.S. Constitution to both school children and adults alike, Andy McKean. Mr. McKean was awarded the 2004 Daughters of the American Revolution Medal of Honor for his efforts to educate children about our common heritage and founding documents.

Mr. McKean established a large summer-time "Earning by Learning" program in Denver-area libraries to encourage young children to read more often. While visiting one of those libraries, Mr. McKean was shocked to learn that none of the children knew the true meaning of the Fourth of July.

Mr. McKean decided that the children of America ought to learn about the founding of our nation and system of government before the fifth grade, when most kids are first taught a course in American history. Mr. McKean be-

came president and eloquent spokesman for Liberty Day, the nationwide educational organization.

Mr. Speaker, Andy McKean is a person who possesses dedication, commitment, and passion for his life long pursuit of educating young people and contributing to the betterment of America's youth. It is my distinct pleasure to honor Andy here today, and wish his all the best in his future endeavors.

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PAYING TRIBUTE TO SHERI  
ROCHFORD

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to Sheri Rochford, a talented fundraiser and admissions counselor from Durango, Colorado. Sheri is a dedicated Fort Lewis College employee who has been helping to educate students in Colorado for twenty-six years. She is a benevolent and kind-hearted person who has been an asset to the Fort Lewis College community and I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing her tremendous service and dedication to higher education.

Sheri's association with Fort Lewis College began when she was working her way through school doing odd jobs in the business school and the president's office on campus. She attributes her enthusiasm and commitment to Fort Lewis as a result of the initial encouragement she received from a college administrator. Since 1978, Sheri has had many roles at the college including Dean of Admission and Alumni Development, and Dean of Development and Alumni Relations. She will now become the Director of Foundation relations.

Sheri has made a great contribution to Fort Lewis College that will inspire many future generations to pursue their education in Durango. During her tenure, she helped to almost double the college's enrollment, raised more than one million for the Alumni Association scholarships and communications programs, and played a key role in raising funds for both the Community Concert Hall and the Center of Southwest Studies. She is responsible for raising the Fort Lewis College Foundation's assets to more than 13 million dollars. Sheri is the past recipient of the Fort Lewis College outstanding Achievement Award, and the Durango Chamber of Commerce's prestigious Athena Award for outstanding women professionals. Sheri has also served on numerous national boards and councils for college admissions, the American College Testing Program, and collegiate records associations.

Mr. Speaker, Sheri Rochford is a devoted individual who is actively involved in the education of our next generation of leaders. Sheri has demonstrated a love for Fort Lewis College that resonates in her compassionate and selfless service to the University Community. Sheri's enthusiasm and commitment certainly deserve the recognition of this body of Congress and this nation. Congratulations on your new job Sheri, I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

PAPERWORK AND REGULATORY  
IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union has under consideration the bill (H.R. 2432) to amend the Paperwork Reduction Act and titles 5 and 31, United States Code, to reform Federal paperwork and regulatory processes:

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2432, the Paperwork and Regulatory Improvements Act of 2004. The paperwork and regulatory burdens on businesses could certainly use improvement. Unfortunately, this bill is actually an underhanded way to weaken important regulations that protect our clean air, clean water, public lands, and workplaces. This bill would diminish, rather than improve the process of developing federal regulations by elevating the interests of industries over all other considerations. This bill also fails to address real current problems in federal regulation, such as the pressure on agencies to misuse or ignore science for political ends.

I strongly support the Waxman-Tierney amendment to establish an independent commission on the politicization of science in the regulatory process. The amendment responds to a growing concern among scientists and the environmental community that the Bush administration is placing politics above science. Just last month the Bush administration issued a new policy that would allow hatchery-raised salmon in the Pacific Northwest to be included in wild salmon population counts, which could have a significant impact on whether or not the species are listed under the Endangered Species Act. It has been reported that this was done over the objection of an independent panel of scientists commissioned by National Marine Fisheries Service to advise them on the issue.

I am deeply disappointed that H.R. 2432 takes us in the wrong direction by advancing a misguided concept that elevates the interests of regulated industries over the health of our communities. I understand the burden that many businesses, especially small businesses, face in filling out government paperwork. This bill, however, is more about coming up with excuses to undermine vital health, safety, and environmental regulations than about relieving the growing paperwork burden.

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HONORING TUSKEGEE AIRMEN  
AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION IN  
CREATING AN INTEGRATED  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the Tuskegee Airmen for their service, sacrifice and dedication for our country during World War II.

The National Airman's Association, an organization comprised of African-American pilots,

along with then Senator Harry Truman worked to allow Black pilots to serve in the Civilian Pilot Training Program. This laid the foundation of the forming of the Tuskegee Airmen. The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African-American pilots in any military branch. Prior to their arrival blacks were continuously excluded from aviation training programs in the military. But they proved to be the equal of white pilots.

Under the command of Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who later became the Air Force's first Black General, the Tuskegee Airmen fought in the aerial war over North Africa, Sicily and Europe. Tuskegee pilots received hundreds of Air Medals, and more than 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses. More importantly, and most impressively, none of the bombers they escorted was lost to enemy fighters. Their lasting legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen is the desegregation of the Air Force.

By the end of the war, 992 men had graduated from pilot training at Tuskegee, 450 of whom were sent overseas for combat assignment. During the same period, approximately 150 lost their lives while in training or on combat flights.

When we remember the "Greatest Generation" and recall with appreciation the sacrifice they made to preserve our freedoms and guarantee our rights, we must include the Tuskegee Airmen. It is important to remember our history and they played a large part creating it. Without them it would have been more difficult for the United States, and our allies, to be victorious and because of this we owe them a large debt of gratitude.

#### SUMMARY OF OUACHITA/BLACK RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM FUNDING TESTIMONY

#### HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following for the RECORD.

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATURE AT CAMDEN, ARKANSAS, APRIL 29, 2004

(Prepared by the Arkansas Waterways Commission, 101 E. Capitol, Suite 370, Little Rock, AR 72201)

This summary provides a digest of testimony presented both verbally and in writing to the Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Economic Development of the Arkansas Legislature. Although not a verbatim transcript, the summary is intended to faithfully represent the facts, statements and comments made during the hearing.

#### ECONOMIC CATASTROPHE

Catastrophic job loss and far reaching economic and environmental disruption to south Arkansas and northeast Louisiana will result from failure to fund Corps of Engineers' operations and maintenance of the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System. An approximately \$8 million savings to the Army Corps of Engineers would result in a net loss in tax revenue to the federal treasury.

The above summarizes unanimous consensus of more than two dozen representatives of city, county and state government, business and industry who testified in sup-

port of continued funding of the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System during a meeting of the Arkansas Legislature's House and Senate Interim Committees on Agriculture, Forestry & Economic Development, April 29, 2004 in Camden, Ark. The hearing was attended by some 150 interested participants.

The 336-mile long Ouachita/Black River Navigation System that includes 117 miles in Arkansas, is facing a \$8.2 million funding cut in the proposed 2005 budget that begins in October, 2004. The budget proposal of \$1.9 million budget for recreation on the system will not only eliminate maintenance on the system's four locks and dams, two of which are in Arkansas, but will prohibit their operation, thus eliminating navigation on the waterway. This also puts many of the other economic, environmental and recreational activities supported by the river system in jeopardy.

The waterway was targeted for a budget cut because it falls into a category of waterway considered by the federal Office of Management and Budget as "low-use." OMB considers waterways as low-use if cargo shipped on the system is less than 1 billion ton-miles annually. The Ouachita/Black River Navigation system had more than 800 million ton miles of usage in 2001. Other economic factors or benefits of waterways projects are not considered in the "low use" definition.

Representatives from private industry, river associations, municipalities in Arkansas and Louisiana as well as federal and state agencies presented concerns in terms of the industry and economic losses in light of two possible scenarios: if navigation on the system were discontinued or if the navigation pools created by the system locks and dams were not available. Environmental and recreational losses were also addressed.

A representative from Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee's office and congressional staff members from the Arkansas delegation presented statements in support of continued funding of the waterway at current levels. Their concerns have been expressed to the President and appropriate committees in the U.S. Congress.

Consensus emerged on several key points:

The savings to the federal government by reducing funding on the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System would be far outweighed by the tax revenue lost.

Reduction in the funding of the river system has much broader consequences than simply the loss of navigation. The river has become a source of economic development, jobs, power and water supply as well as recreation. Considerable investments by private businesses and governments to harness the resources of the river were made with the assurances that it would continue to be available for use.

Before any decision to close or change the operation of the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System is made, a thorough study should be made to identify long term environmental, social, economic and hydraulic impacts.

The modern day history of the Ouachita River begins with settlements at Monroe, La. and Camden, Ark. in 1783. More than \$700 million was invested in construction of the current four locks and dams.

Colonel Rick Clapp, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, said the Vicksburg District is capable of using as much as \$18 million annually on the river system for operations, and maintenance. Clapp said the district is evaluating possible reduced operation alternatives if the Ouachita River receives only the \$1.9 million as proposed in the 2005 budget.

He anticipated that in that case, the lock gates would be shut and the locks would

cease operation on October 1, 2004. The dam gates would be positioned and most of the project staff would be moved or furloughed. Minimum staff would remain for safety and security purposes. Clapp speculated that the 2 budget would be used for these minimum activities and to initiate a study that would identify long term environmental, social, economic and flood control impacts of project closure. No studies have been done on the impact of closing the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System.

Clapp said that if the project were put into caretaker status, meaning the locks closed and dam gates set with minimal maintenance performed, there could be deterioration on the project that could take significant funds to put it back into operation at a later date.

#### LOSS OF NAVIGATION

Closure of the locks on the river system would eliminate navigation and significantly affect the area's industry and economy.

Denny McConathy, owner of Cross Oil Refining in Smackover, Ark. testified that his company, in business since 1923, uses the river to bring oil via barge from Louisiana and Texas gulf coasts to make products that go into a variety of oils, adhesives, metal working fluids, rubber compounds and other materials.

Last year the company brought 79 barges of oil up the river and expects to bring up more than 100 barges this year. That oil is valued at more than \$68 million. It would take more than 11,000 trucks to transport that volume- a task that would be physically and logistically impossible as well as economically prohibitive.

Cross Oil has more than 500 customers and projects 2004 sales of between \$125-150 million. Cross Oil employs 125 people, has an annual payroll of \$6.5 million and the majority of employees live within 25 miles of the plant. In 2003, the company paid property taxes of more than \$350,000 to Union and Ouachita Counties. Of that, \$290,000 funded the Smackover school system and more than \$16,000 was paid to the city of Smackover.

Investments the company has made in its facilities were made with assurances that the Ouachita River would be available for use. Loss of the use of the river threatens the company's existence and the local economy. In 1995 the company invested more than \$47 million in the refinery, packaging plant and river terminal and a \$2 million expansion of the lube oil packaging plant that is underway with completion expected by July. Local companies performed all the expansion work. In addition, the company has 970 accounts payable vendors, most within 100 miles of the plant, who were paid approximately \$100 million in 2003.

"Cross alone puts more money back into our government in the form of payroll taxes, employee income taxes, income taxes, etc., to more than pay for the costs of maintaining the navigation system," McConathy wrote in a letter to the Arkansas Waterways Commission.

Keith Garrison, executive director of the Arkansas Waterways Commission, said that waterborne transportation has a significant economic impact in Arkansas. A 2002 report by the Mack Blackwell Center for Rural Transportation concluded that waterborne transportation had an \$811 million annual economic impact on the state. He emphasized the efficiency of barge transportation, pointing out that one barge can carry the equivalent of 60 semi-trucks or 15 freight cars. It would take an additional 40 million trucks on our nation's highways or 10 million rail cars to carry what is not carried on our inland waterways nationwide, he said.

Garrison said that cuts in funding to the Corps of Engineers budgets for navigation

maintenance have been going on for more than 12 years while there have been steadily increasing repair and maintenance needs on our nation's waterways.

With freight movements predicted to double to 12 billion tons by 2015, the use of the waterways will be even more important. More than 70 percent of freight currently moves by truck. Without increased use of our waterways, the U.S. would have to more than double the interstate highway miles available to meet that demand.

Paul Revis, executive director of the Ouachita River Valley Association, emphasized that the river's four locks and dams are critical to the operations on the river system. Maintenance work is 20 years behind schedule because of continued budget cuts to the Corps of Engineers. International competitors like Europe, China and Brazil have recognized the value of their inland waterways and are investing more money in them while the U.S. is cutting waterways budgets, making the U.S. less competitive. He said that benefits used for authorizing a project are frequently different from those needed to keep it open, referring to the impact the river has on industry and the economy in the area beyond its intended navigation benefits.

Doug McNeely of Bunge North America, said his company is part of the world's largest processor of grains and oil seeds. It operates in 19 states on the Mississippi River and its tributaries. Bunge employs 100 people at 13 facilities in Arkansas and 250 people in 14 locations in Louisiana. McNeely manages two grain elevators on the Ouachita River in Louisiana. These elevators purchase soybeans, corn, wheat, and sorghum from 400 local farmers. In a half-century of presence on the river, he said that the use of waterways to move grain has significantly increased farm income. McNeely said any decision by the federal government to abandon its investments in rivers like the Ouachita and Black will be immediately felt in the pocketbooks of local farmers and communities. His company estimates that loss of river transportation for the grain and soybeans shipped by these facilities would add transportation costs and decrease prices paid to farmers by approximately 14 cents per bushel. This could mean a loss to farmers of \$1.4 million each year.

Greg Richardson of the Louisiana Port of Columbia, located about 25 miles south Monroe, La. on the Ouachita River, said public ports in Louisiana contribute \$33 billion to state's economy each year and create 270,000 jobs. He said that the volume of tonnage has always been a problem on the Ouachita River system and that this funding battle is fought every year. Richardson emphasized the need to actively fund the river system to make it more user-friendly.

Ouachita Terminals is working to develop, construct and operate an intermodal/multimodal containerized cargo facility in West Monroe, Louisiana. With the continuance of the Ouachita's nine-foot navigation channel, Ouachita Terminals believes the facility has the potential to bring in enough cargo to end the future concerns over the ton mile criteria used for funding the river system.

In addition, representatives from Davidson Terminals and Sunshine Oil Company; Tressenderlo Davison Chemical LLC; Louisiana Oil Marketing Association; West Monroe, Louisiana Port; Placid Oil & Refinery; Valero Petroleum; Tensas Basin Levee District; and Petron, Inc. presented oral or written testimony outlining their concerns about the effects that would result from the inability to use the Ouachita River for navigation.

#### EXPECTED JOB LOSSES AND INCREASED COSTS

Tressenderlo said it would be a loss of 50 jobs and the jobs associated with \$11 million spent on barge use.

Cross Oil, loss of 125 jobs, revenue to area including money paid in taxes and to outside vendors.

Estimated \$1.4 million loss to farmers resulting from lower prices paid from Bunge.

Placid Oil, gasoline and fuel manufacturer, said closure of terminal on Black River in Archie, LA would cause prices to rise because oil would have to move by truck, increasing costs by \$500 million and wear and tear on roads.

Valero Energy estimates fuel prices could rise up to 8 cents per gallon for consumers around the Monroe, LA area if terminal in Monroe is closed due to loss of navigation on Ouachita River.

The Tensas Basin Levee District in LA fears loss of navigation will mean bank destabilization, threatening 120 miles of flood control levees that would put many towns and citizens in danger with no identifiable source of revenue to fund bank stabilization projects and levee setbacks.

#### LOSS OF NAVIGATION POOLS

Closing of the Ouachita/Black River Navigation system presents not only a challenge for navigation, but also threatens industry and economic development as well as the economy of south Arkansas and northeast Louisiana. Although the system was built as a navigation project, over its more than 100-year history, the river's resources have been used to provide water to local communities as well as a benefit to industry. Any changes to how the river is operated and maintained has the potential to change the quality and quantity of pools of water formed between the locks. These pools of water have served as the life-blood of many cities and industries. In addition, without the ability to use the waters of the river, restrictions on the use of the ground water of the already-stressed Sparta Aquifer would have to be put into place to insure the area would have a viable water supply in the future.

Pete Parks, vice chairman of the El Dorado Water and Wastewater Commission and Ken Rudder, vice president of the Union County Water Conservation Board said El Dorado and Union County have invested \$6.8 million over the last 5 years to develop the Ouachita River as an alternative water source other than the Sparta Aquifer. The aquifer, which currently provides potable water to areas along the Ouachita River and in Louisiana, is in a critical ground water area. Water from the Sparta Aquifer is being used faster than it can be replenished. The entire project will cost more than \$67 million and area businesses have invested millions of dollars more in water conservation measures in addition to donations of land and right-of-ways for facilities. In addition, Union County is working on a multi-million project with several area companies to provide treated discharge water back into the Ouachita River. The great pools of water available now allow for dilution. If the water would have to be further treated to meet EPA and ADEQ standards, additional millions of dollars would have to be spent by El Dorado and Union County. This could possibly result in the closure of two El Dorado plants.

In deciding to use the Ouachita River for its water source, the Union County Water Board explored every other option to come up with a water supply. This included looking at creeks and hollows to build a dam to create a lake for water and it was not possible because the necessary water resources in that part of the state do not exist. The river was the best, most economical and viable source of water.

Georgia-Pacific Corporation, which operates seven facilities along the river in Arkansas, provides more than \$2 billion to the economy of Arkansas along with more than

3,200 jobs. These plants and jobs would be threatened if Georgia-Pacific could not use the Ouachita River for its operations.

The Arkansas Electric Cooperatives use the Ouachita River to both run a power generating station near Camden and receive the fuel oil used at the facility.

The plant uses river water for power generation. The pool levels maintained as part of the navigation system are vital for allowing the plant to generate, especially during periods of low river flow and high temperatures, when electrical demand is peak. If the pool level were no longer maintained, the plant may be forced to discontinue operation during these periods due to operational concerns and environmental restraints. This would cause not only an impact on the electrical system in the area, but could result in a loss of jobs and a blow to the local economy.

Mark Bowles, environmental support manager for Entergy Services, Inc. said two Entergy power plants located in Monroe, LA rely heavily on a dependable water supply from the Ouachita River as cooling water for the power production process. The company's Sterlington plant uses its river intake system to take in approximately 1.5 million gallons of river water per day. Both plants were built along the Ouachita River in the 1950's and early 1960's with the belief that there would be an adequate and dependable supply of water to meet the area's electricity demands. The loss of pool elevation along the Ouachita River would require modifications to the intake facilities that would cost several million dollars at each plant. These costs would be passed along to ratepayers. The loss of minimum river levels would immediately cease operations at both plants and make future operations of these plants at a reasonable cost unlikely. Loss of these plants would impact Entergy's ability to provide low cost power to customers, especially during the peak electricity demand summer months.

John Terry of the U.S. Geological Survey, testified that the inability to use the water supply of the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System, would further endanger the Sparta Aquifer, the region's ground water supply that is already stressed.

Todd Fugitt, of the Arkansas Soil and Water Conservation Commission, testified that a budget cut in the operation and maintenance budget of the Ouachita/Black River Navigation Project would force the commission to consider water use permits and associated allocation of water from the river in south Arkansas. Budget cuts to the river system would threaten the growth and sustainable use goals of the surface water and ground water resources of all of southern Arkansas, and would impact Louisiana as well. If water from Ouachita River could not be diverted for use, the Commission would be forced to consider regulation of groundwater to bring areas like Union County within reasonable, sustainable water use scenarios. This would mean a reduction of about 64 percent of the current ground-water use in Union County.

James Tilley, manager of Camden Water Utilities, said that the city of Camden's only source of potable drinking water has been the pools of water created by the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System. If the river system was closed and the pool elevations change, Tilley said it would be highly likely that there would be periods during the year that Camden would be unable to provide water to its customers. In 2003, Camden drew about 900 million gallons of water out of the Ouachita River to supply 6,000 domestic customers and four water associations in the surrounding area. Recently, Camden has spent more than \$11 million in upgrades to

the water system. The city has no alternative water source.

In addition, representatives from TECO/Union Power Station; Union County Water Board, El Dorado Chemical/Great Lakes Chemical/Lion Oil; International Paper; and the City of Monroe, LA presented oral or written testimony expressing their concerns about the effects to their businesses or cities if the navigation pools on the Ouachita River were not available for use.

EXPECTED RESULTS OF LOSS OF POOLS ON  
OUACHITA/BLACK RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM

Increased depletion of the Sparta Aquifer resulting in ground water restrictions for areas of south Arkansas and resulting economic impact of those restrictions.

The loss of millions of dollars already invested to develop the river as a water source for El Dorado and Union County and increased expenses to treat water being returned to river by industrial users to meet EPA and ADEQ standards.

Potential closure of three electric power plants serving the area along with increased costs to area consumers for electrical power.

Potential closure of seven paper products facilities located on the Ouachita River and elimination of as many as 3,200 jobs.

Potential loss of water supply for the city of Camden, AR and resulting undetermined costs of studying and developing an alternative water source.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND RECREATIONAL LOSSES

The precise dollar value of changes to the environmental and recreational climate of to south Arkansas if the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System is closed are difficult to calculate.

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission believes the loss of the navigation pool on the Ouachita River would have far reaching environmental and recreational impacts. The river has a high recreational value and attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors each year for fishing, boating, hunting and other recreational activities. These visitors pour millions of recreation dollars into the local economy.

In Arkansas alone, there are 37 public access areas constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and other groups on the Ouachita and Saline Rivers. Changes in the operation of the lock and dam system would make many of the rivers' boat launching sites unusable. These changes will also affect the environmental characteristics of the river and associated wetlands and overflow areas.

The Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism reports that in 2003, travelers in the five Arkansas Counties in the Lower Ouachita River Valley spent more than \$118 million, generating more than \$9 million in tax revenue to state and local governments.

SUMMARY

Closure of the Ouachita/Black River Navigation System would have a profound, far-reaching effect on the economy and environment of south Arkansas and northeast Louisiana. Although the system was built as a navigation project, its economic benefit has gone far beyond its value as a navigation system. The river has become the very lifeblood of many cities, industries and recreational pursuits. Its value to the environment and as a water resource supporting the continued growth and economic vitality of south Arkansas and northeast Louisiana is beyond measure. Operation of the navigation project should not be closed, nor should it be changed, without a comprehensive study of the consequences of such actions.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DOUGLAS P.  
ZIPES, M.D.

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Douglas P. Zipes, M.D., Distinguished Professor of Medicine and of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the Indiana University School of Medicine. Dr. Zipes is retiring as Director of the Division of Cardiology and Director of the Krannert Institute of Cardiology at the Indiana University School of Medicine on June 30, 2004. Though not a native Hoosier, Dr. Zipes is a credit to his adopted state of Indiana and the institution to which he has devoted his professional life, Indiana University.

Dr. Zipes began his academic career at Indiana University School of Medicine in 1970. Despite many offers over the years to move to higher academic positions at other prestigious institutions, Dr. Zipes remained at Indiana University. There he developed the premier program dedicated to discovering the causes and treatments of heart rhythm disturbances, a leading cause of death in the United States and around the world.

The name Doug Zipes is known in every hospital and school of medicine in the world that deals with cardiovascular medicine. His research into heart rhythm disturbances has been prodigious. His publications of seminal original research in this area number in the hundreds. His breadth of knowledge in this arena, based on personal investigation and original research, is unsurpassed. His basic scientific evaluations have led to clinical studies which have, in turn, been translated by Dr. Zipes into everyday therapies in clinical medicine. His work has saved the lives of countless individuals around the world.

Dr. Zipes has been honored across the globe for his contributions to cardiovascular medicine. He has delivered the most prestigious lectures, chaired the most important committees, edited the most-read and most authoritative textbook, advised governments and trained scores of physicians who now have assumed positions of authority in cardiovascular medicine.

Through all this, Doug Zipes remains a local physician, engaged in the community through his leadership in the Indianapolis Opera Company and other civic affairs.

He remains a physician most of all because, despite his debilitating schedule of publication deadlines, national and international travel, lectures, committee attendance, administrative details and the like, he regularly insists on attending to patients for whom he has cared for decades.

Dr. Zipes is a national and international treasure for whom the country and the world should rise and applaud. I speak for all Hoosiers when I wish him the best in his future endeavors and thank him for his contributions to the art and science of medicine, the State of Indiana and the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 1, 2004, I was necessarily and unavoidably unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall 210—House Con. Res. 295, congratulating the Focus: HOPE organization, "yes."

Rollcall 211—House Con. Res. 612 recognizing and honoring those fighting the March 26, 2004, fire in Richmond, VA, "yes."

Rollcall 212—House Con. Res. 147 honoring the Tuskegee Airmen, "yes."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH  
REISER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise and pay tribute today to Joseph Reiser of Arvada, Colorado. A true American patriot, Joe is a decorated veteran of World War II. The service and dedication that Joe has displayed in his commitment to our nation is truly remarkable, and it is my honor to recognize his achievements here today.

A native of Pennsylvania, Joe entered the Army in 1943, and with a background in maintenance, served as an automotive mechanic. In 1944 Joe was sent to Normandy and served in the European Theatre until the end of the war. His courageous service earned him numerous awards and citations, including the Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, and European African Middle Eastern Service Medal with five Bronze Stars. After Joe returned from the war, he took a position with the United States Postal Service, becoming Postal Supervisor for the Wyoming Valley Post Office Maintenance Garage.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the service and dedication of Joseph Reiser before this body of Congress and this nation. The freedoms we enjoy today are a direct result of the sacrifices made by veterans throughout our nation. I sincerely thank him for his dedication, and wish him and his wife Clara all the best.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, Memorial Day this year has new, sharp meaning for us, as we remember the deaths of the American soldiers who have so recently given their lives for our freedom. By the grace of God, no soldier from my district has died in Iraq or Afghanistan, but I join the whole Nation in mourning the men and women who have given their lives in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring

Freedom. These service men and women join the ranks of those we remember this Memorial Day—those who have died defending America, who have “fallen in the cause of the free” since the founding of our Nation.

These heroes were lowly privates and bemedaled generals. They were green volunteers and gray veterans. They were minute men and Navy seals. But the men who died at Lexington and Concord are the same as the men who died at Kandahar and Fallujah—men of dauntless courage, united in their love of country and their supreme self-denial.

Uniforms and weapons change; valor does not.

The men and women who have died defending America have kept our homes and our liberties secure for the past 228 years. More than that, they have held out to the whole world the promise that a nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to the equality of all men can indeed endure. They have preserved the fire of liberty not just for America, but for all men. We owe them a debt we cannot hope to pay, least of all with mere words.

Memorial Day is set aside for us to remember. But this day should not just be a day of remembrance, but a day of resolve. The memory of their sacrifice should inspire in us a firm purpose to live our lives in a way that will honor the heroes who have died for us—to emulate their courage in defense of the right and their devotion to the cause of liberty. We cannot honor the memory of our heroes with words alone; rather, we must honor them with actions worthy of their memory.

Today we offer our gratitude to the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces who have fallen defending our nation. We thank them for protecting us, but most of all we thank them for reminding us, in the midst of a world torn by ugliness and war and pain, of the highest things—of duty, honor, courage, sacrifice, and love. We thank them for reminding us, even when “the machinations of tyranny” stare us in the face, “that a man can stand up.”

#### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

#### HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, on March 11, 2004, Charlotte, NC, lost a hero, Chris Hill. Chris was originally from California, but located to Charlotte in recent years. He had already served four years in the Army when he decided to re-enlist. His wife, Cheryl Hill, said Chris was determined to go to Iraq last year: “He just couldn’t stand the fact that this was going on and he wasn’t doing anything about it,” she said. “He wanted to help.”

Chris re-enlisted in April and went to Iraq in the fall. He was assigned to the 1st Infantry Division based in Ft. Riley, Kansas. Chris’ friends and family will remember a man who was outgoing and fun and loved to sing. He even had his own karaoke machine, and he never turned down a chance to imitate Elvis Presley.

After moving to North Carolina to be near his wife’s family, Chris was saved in a Baptist church. His brother-in-law, Rick Cope, a Christian songwriter, has written a song for his

niece called “Praying for You: Cierra’s Song.” Rick said, “(We) wanted his daughter to know that he’s there when she rides her bike. He’s there when she gets married. He’s there in spirit.”

Christopher Kenneth Hill was buried with full military honors. He was awarded a Purple Heart and Bronze Star for bravery. He was survived by his wife, and his daughter Cierra who is 14 months old.

Chris will be missed, but we will never forget his sacrifice for our freedoms.

#### TRIBUTE TO FAYETTEVILLE-MANLIUS HIGH SCHOOL’S SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAM

#### HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Fayetteville-Manlius High School’s Science Olympiad Team which won first place in the national Science Olympiad Tournament.

The team won the regional and the New York State competitions to qualify for the national level where they competed against 53 other teams from the United States. At the tournament, there were 23 events related to science with medals given to the top five winners in each event. The Fayetteville-Manlius team brought home four Gold medals, five Silvers, one Bronze, one 4th place and two 5th places from the national competition, a truly exceptional accomplishment.

The Fayetteville-Manlius team is comprised of 15 members and coached by Jamie Cucinotta. Team captain Jeff Izant led Brian Bayes, Christine Chin, Mary Collins, Grayson Fahrner, Leyla Isik, David Marsh, Jordan Mandel, Samiksha Nayak, Shridha Nayak, Sarah Rahaman, Zaki Rahaman, Brian Stoeckel, Bianca Verma, and Nora Ward in representing Fayetteville-Manlius so successfully at the tournament.

I would like to express my congratulations to the team for such an outstanding achievement and wish them luck in all their future endeavors.

#### HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

#### HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD an exchange of letters between Chairman DAVIS and me concerning committee jurisdiction with regards to the bill H.R. 4060.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM,  
Washington, DC, May 10, 2004.

Hon. HENRY J. HYDE,  
Chairman, Committee on International Relations,  
Rayburn House Office Building,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: On March 31, 2004, the Committee on International Relations ordered reported H.R. 4060, the “Health, Safe-

ty, and Security of Peace Corps Volunteers Act of 2004.” As you know, the Committee on Government Reform was granted an additional referral upon the bill’s introduction pursuant to the Committee’s jurisdiction under Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

Because of your willingness to consult with this Committee, and because of your desire to move this legislation expeditiously as an individual bill, I will waive consideration of the bill by this Committee. By agreeing to waive its consideration of the bill, the Committee does not waive its jurisdiction over H.R. 4060. In addition, the Committee reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provisions of the bill that are within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this legislation. I ask your commitment to support any request for conferees by the Committee on H.R. 4060 or related legislation.

I request that you include this letter and your response in the Congressional Record during consideration of the legislation on the House floor.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

TOM DAVIS,  
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,

Washington, DC, May 11, 2004.

Hon. TOM DAVIS,  
Chairman, Committee on Government Reform,  
Rayburn House Office Building,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR TOM: On March 31, 2004, the Committee on International Relations ordered reported legislation to promote the improved safety and security of Peace Corps volunteers.

H.R. 4060, the “Health, Safety and Security of Peace Corps Volunteers Act of 2004,” will make a number of important reforms related to volunteer safety and security through amendments to the Peace Corps Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2506) and the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.). As you are aware, amendments to the latter are under rule X of your Committee’s jurisdiction, X jurisdiction, and accordingly, H.R. 4060 was additionally referred to your Committee by the Speaker.

By this letter, I request you permit this legislation to go to the floor without the necessity of your Committee’s marking it up. I understand that by waiving your Committee’s consideration of H.R. 4060 in order to allow it to proceed to the floor vote without delay, you do not waive jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in the bill, and I will urge the Speaker to name Members of your Committee to any conference committee which may be convened on this legislation.

I appreciate the cooperative manner in which our Committees have worked on this matter.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

HENRY J. HYDE,  
Chairman.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAY LOFING

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Jay

Lofing and thank him for his dedication to Colorado as a member of the Otero County Road and Bridge Crew. For thirty-one years, Jay worked as a heavy equipment operator and road foreman for the county. As Jay celebrates his retirement, I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing his tremendous service to Otero County and the State of Colorado.

In 1973, Jay was hired as a heavy equipment operator by Otero County, and in 1994 became road foreman of the Road and Bridge Crew. When he first began working on the crew, he had to work completely exposed to the elements. With technological advancements, operators now get to work in air-conditioned cabs, sheltered from the weather. As much as Jay enjoyed his recent position as road foreman, he really took great pleasure in operating the heavy equipment. Now that Jay is retired, he plans on traveling with his wife Linda and spending lots of time with their granddaughter Kelly.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring the career and service of Jay Lofing to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation, and I would like to congratulate him on an outstanding career. His tireless work and leadership have helped ensure the safety of our roadways, and I wish him and Linda the best in their future endeavors.

THE PRICE OF GIVING BAD  
ADVICE

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, William A. Whitlow is a retired major general in the Marine Corps. During his service to our nation, he served as director of the expeditionary warfare division in the office of the deputy chief of naval operations. He wrote a compelling and informative opinion piece, which appeared in last Sunday's Washington Post. In the piece, Mr. Whitlow discusses the dismal situation in Iraq, and the poor counsel the president received from his advisors leading up to the conflict.

I ask unanimous consent that this piece appear in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and I encourage all of my colleagues to read it.

[From the Washington Post, May 30, 2004]

THE PRICE OF GIVING BAD ADVICE

(By William A. Whitlow)

As the war in Iraq drags on, conservative citizens, mostly Republican, face a growing dilemma in the November election.

In the face of growing evidence that the president was deceived and misguided about the cause and urgency for waging war on Saddam Hussein, it is time for those responsible to stand forth and accept accountability. True, the president is ultimately responsible for the actions of his vice president, his Cabinet and the executive departments. But it has become clear that the counsel the president received from the vice president, secretary of defense, deputy secretary of defense and senior uniformed leadership was severely flawed and uncorroborated. Whether the president was intentionally misled by neoconservatives or whether their advice was a result of pure incompetence remains to be seen. The fact is that he was misled sufficiently to require

him to take bold action to restore his diminished credibility.

The supposedly urgent need to attack Iraq was based partly on inflated, creative intelligence information, some of which originated with Ahmed Chalabi, an associate of the vice president and deputy secretary of defense. The information from Chalabi led the vice president and defense secretary to believe that war with Iraq would be a "cakewalk" and U.S. forces would be received with open arms. This belief resulted in a fatal flaw in developing a complete war strategy. A principal tenet of forming a strategy—have a "war termination" phase—was neglected. Although the tactical and operational phases of the war were conducted flawlessly by superior field commanders, the absence of a complete strategy has needlessly cost lives.

Our service members are the ultimate victims of this incomplete strategy, misguided policy and false intelligence. It is inconceivable and derelict not to have a viable war termination strategy for an operation as complex as a major theater war. America's citizens and our service members deserve far better for their sacrifices. This combination of things—misleading the president with false intelligence and omitting a principal element from our war strategy—is reason enough to seek change in the vice presidency and senior defense leadership, civilian and military.

It is our patriotic duty to speak out when egregiously flawed policies and strategies needlessly cost American lives. It is time for the president to ask those responsible for the flawed Iraqi policy—civilian and military—to resign from public service. Absent such a change in the current administration, many of us will be forced to choose a presidential candidate whose domestic policies we may not like but who understands firsthand the effects of flawed policies and incompetent military strategies and who fully comprehends the price.

RECOGNIZING JARED PAUL  
SALESKI FOR ACHIEVING THE  
AWARD OF GOLD MEDAL OF  
ACHIEVEMENT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jared Saleski, son of Paul and Elizabeth Saleski, a fine young man who has exemplified the optimum qualities of citizenship and leadership by actively participating in the Boy Scouts of America and earning the most prestigious award, the Eagle Scout. He is scheduled for his Eagle Court of Honor on May 25, 2004.

Jared has been very active with his troop from the age of six, participating in many Scout activities. In that time, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol Leader, Den Chief, Troop Guide, and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. He progressed through the rank of Tenderfoot Second Class, First Class, Star, and Life. Jared has earned forty-one merit badges in his career with the Boy Scouts. Besides these achievements, he has earned the religious emblems presented from the Catholic Church of Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius VI. Jared is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, Chapter Seven and a Fire-Starters member of the Tribe of Mic-O-

Say. He has attended camp at Camp Naish and six sessions at the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation in Osceola, Missouri, as well as a Packard High Adventure Camp in Salida, Colorado. Jared's Eagle Scout Project was to construct a concrete driving slab for the barn at the Immacolata Manor Home for women in Liberty, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jared Paul Saleski for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE  
MCMANUS DEMOCRATIC ASSO-  
CIATION AND ITS HONOREE,  
BRIAN O'DWYER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of Brian O'Dwyer, who on May 24, 2004 will be honored at the McManus Democratic Association's Annual Spring Cocktail Party. I am very pleased to offer my warmest congratulations to both the McManus Association, for another year of outstanding service to New York City residents, and to Mr. O'Dwyer, who has long been a leader in the New York community.

The McManus family has been a fixture of New York City politics for more than one hundred years. For the past three decades, the leader of the McManus Democratic Association, James McManus, has been an advocate, ombudsman and friend to residents of midtown Manhattan. The Association, an active social-service organization, helps its members to find jobs, housing, educational opportunities and better medical care, and continually strives to promote the interests of working-class New Yorkers through collective action. The Association has also made a longstanding commitment to young New Yorkers, introducing students to the political process and to government service. I commend the McManus Association for its tireless efforts on behalf of midtown residents; time and again, the Association exemplifies the notion that we work best when we work together.

Like Jim McManus, Brian O'Dwyer is also part of a long and proud tradition in New York political life. Mr. McManus's father, Paul, served as New York City Council President from 1974 to 1978, and his uncle, William O'Dwyer, was the Mayor of New York City from 1946 to 1950. Mr. O'Dwyer currently serves as senior partner in the law firm of O'Dwyer & Bernstien, a firm known for its work in labor law, personal injury cases and civil rights litigation.

Mr. O'Dwyer has never forgotten his roots as a descendant of Irish immigrants and has steadfastly worked to promote the rights and well-being of new Americans, regardless of their country of origin. In 1995, Mr. O'Dwyer, serving as the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Emerald Isle Immigration Center, accompanied President Bill Clinton on his historic trip to Ireland. He has also served as Counsel to the Department of Community Affairs of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and was recognized by the Governor of Puerto Rico for his efforts on behalf of the Puerto

Rican people. Brian O'Dwyer is the recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor Award, the Outreach Project Annual Service Award, the New York City Council Spirit of New York Award and, in July 2000, was named a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre by Edward Cardinal Egan of New York.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Brian O'Dwyer and the McManus Democratic Association. To Mr. O'Dwyer and the dedicated professionals, volunteers and friends of the McManus Association, I offer my continuing admiration, respect and support.

RECOGNIZING ALBERT RICHARDS,  
CAIRON AUSTIN-HILL, AND  
MARQUAY WRIGHT FOR EXTINGUISHING A FIRE

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three remarkable young men from my district.

Albert Richards, 14, Cairon Austin-Hill, 14 and Marquay Wright, 12, were walking to school in April 2004, when they noticed a fire burning in an empty field. With no thought for their own safety, they raced over and stamped out the blaze before it could cause any injuries or property damage. Their quick thinking may have averted a major disaster.

As we so often hear about the bad things young people do, it was refreshing and, indeed, encouraging to learn of Albert's, Cairon's and Marquay's actions. These young "firefighters" are examples of the best of America's young people. Their bravery and selflessness are very laudable qualities in people of any age, especially children. I am very pleased to have such fine young men living in my district.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2004 ALL-AMERICAN BOY AND GIRL PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the students in the Third Congressional District of Illinois who participated in the All-American Boy and Girl Award Program. I am proud to report that eighty remarkable students from schools located on the southwest side of Chicago were recognized for their achievements.

I started this program in the late 1960's when I was a Recreation Supervisor for the Chicago Park District. After over thirty successful years, this program is still the cornerstone of my efforts to identify and recognize young men and women who get involved in their community while excelling in the classroom and participating in extracurricular activities.

The All-American Boy and Girl Program recognizes 7th and 8th grade students who live and attend school in the Third Congressional

District of Illinois. The final award winners are selected by a panel of judges comprised of local community leaders, teachers and elected officials.

I would like to pay special tribute to the winners who were announced at a ceremony held on May 7, 2004. Third place was awarded to Emily Masek, Steve Rosenbaum, Ellis Fagan and Robert Edstrom. Second place went to Amanda Meza, Tom Costello, Jessica Jurevis and Jonathan Braun. Finally, first place was awarded to Christine Marie Molina, Damien Fox, Brooke Borowiak, and Andrew Jarzebek.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2004 All American Boy and Girl Award winners and participants on their academic and leadership achievements, and extend to them my best wishes for much success in the future.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MAGGIE  
CAMPBELL

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise before you to pay tribute to a remarkable woman from my district. Maggie Campbell of Montrose, Colorado has dedicated the last thirty-two years working for the Montrose County School District, and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize her commitment to the Montrose community before this body of Congress and this nation today.

During her career reviewing lunch forms and paying the bills for the schools in her district, Maggie has seen nine superintendents pass through the school district. While Maggie understands that it is unusual to stay in the same position for an entire career, she has the pride of seeing her office grow from the ground up.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise before this body of Congress to pay tribute to Maggie Campbell. Maggie has demonstrated a tremendous commitment to Colorado's youth in her service to the school system and the community of Montrose. Maggie will be sorely missed and I wish her all the best in her retirement. Thank you for your service Maggie, and good luck in your future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MAJOR R. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably absent and missed rollcall votes No. 210, No. 211 and No. 212. If present I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for votes in this Chamber on

April 2, 2004. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 115, 116, and 117.

In addition, I was inadvertently delayed and missed votes on June 1, 2004. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 210, 211, and 212.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH ACABA,  
FIRST PUERTO RICAN EVER IN A  
NASA ASTRONAUT CLASS

**HON. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ**

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Joseph Acaba, the first Puerto Rican ever in a NASA Astronaut class. Mr. Acaba, a mission specialist and educator in Dunnellon, Florida, was recently chosen as a member of the 2004 Class of Astronaut Candidates. He is one of three mission specialist-educators, selected from a field of more than 1,000 applicants, who will train with more than 100 astronauts at the Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Joseph Acaba, 36, was born in Inglewood, California. His father Ralph was born in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, and his mother Elsie was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Mr. Acaba has been teaching math and science at Dunnellon Middle School since 2000. He has degrees from the University of California at Santa Barbara and the University of Arizona. He is a former Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic and also managed a research station in the Bahamas.

Space travel has intrigued Joseph Acaba since childhood. His father would show young Joseph filmstrips he had saved of the first landing on the Moon. Now, Joseph Acaba is one step closer to being the first Puerto Rican in space or even the first "Boricua en la Luna" ("Puerto Rican on the Moon"), the title of a famous and beloved poem—later turned into a song—by Puerto Rican poet Juan Antonio Corretjer.

Mr. Acaba has said that, besides family photos and hot tamales, he plans to bring the Puerto Rican flag into space. We hope to live to see the day when this happens. In the meantime, we are very proud to have in Joseph Acaba a young, talented and dedicated Puerto Rican who will continue to educate and inspire others through his hard work, his example, his commitment, and his pioneering spirit. How fitting that the first Puerto Rican space trainee is also a much-admired middle school teacher of science and math who has broadened his students' minds.

I ask that you join me in honoring Joseph Acaba, the first Puerto Rican ever in a NASA Astronaut class.

TRIBUTE TO ELDER EDWARD  
STANTON, SR.

**HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay well deserved recognition to Elder Edward Stanton, Sr. of Memphis, Tennessee.

An ordained minister with the Memphis-based Church of God in Christ, Elder Stanton has earned a special place in the heart of his community for his service to others. Having served our country faithfully in both World War II and the Korean War, Elder Stanton carried this superior level of dedication into his 25 year tenure with the U.S. Postal Service and into his role as Assistant Pastor of Temple Church of God in Christ. His commitment is further observed in his longstanding devotion to his wife of over 50 years, Helen, as well as his entire family.

Elder Stanton's faith in action has been a guiding force for people across the Memphis community. In addition to his volunteer efforts as a District Chief Probation Officer with Memphis's Juvenile Court system, Elder Stanton has earned a special place in the hearts of many for his work to help the homeless and destitute citizens of his community. For a number of years, he owned and operated a boarding house that took in homeless individuals and others who lacked housing options. In an act of Christian love, Elder Stanton helped to manage the finances of many of these individuals and provided all of the residents with an array of amenities and free-of-charge services in an effort to help these individuals reach a better quality of life. For these services, the Memphis City Council has appropriately named the street on which this facility was located in honor of this noble man.

However, even with the street renaming, one of the most fitting and profound credits to the legacy of service he continues to bequeath is that Elder Stanton's family has followed in his sizeable footsteps by positively impacting the civic, political, non-profit, educational, business, and religious communities in Memphis.

For his over 40 years of service to his denomination and his example of leadership for his family and city, I would ask my colleagues in the U. S. House of Representatives to join with me in honoring Elder Edward Stanton, Sr.

TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND FRANCIS  
ROURKE

**HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to Raymond Francis Rourke who passed away on Monday, May 24 at the age of 86. Ray was a loving father and husband, an outstanding public servant, and friend and mentor to many including myself.

I ask unanimous consent to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the Lowell Sun's Editorial from May 26:

RAY ROURKE. 1917-2004

If Lowell could build a pantheon to its all-time great civic leaders, a statue of Ray Rourke would stand on a pedestal alongside those of Paul Tsongas, Telemachus "Mike" DeMoulas and others.

Rourke, who died Monday at the age of 84, was a Mill City icon and a throwback to an era of Irish gentlemen who succeeded in combining a valued family life with an equally strong commitment to public service.

In his essence, Rourke was a good listener and a specially good adviser. He never told people how to think; instead he kindly coun-

seled them as to the importance of what they should be thinking about. It was a philosophy that won him hundreds, if not thousands, of lifelong friends.

Of all his many accomplishments, Rourke considered his greatest legacy to Lowell and the state of Massachusetts to be his seven children. "I added to the economy seven times," he would proudly say at Mr. Al's Barbershop on Middlesex Street.

Rourke will go down in political annals for his long and distinguished public service as a city councilor, mayor, state representative and state Deputy Secretary of Transportation in both the Dukakis and King administrations. Yet if we could write a fitting epithet for his statue, in our pantheon of Lowell greats, it would read:

"Ray Rourke [1917-2004], one of those humble yet great working-class men from Lowell's 'Flats' neighborhood who decided to do something good for the community and succeeded."

Ray is survived by his wife, Rita; his two daughters, Maureen A. Cohen and Nancy L. Vieira; his three sons, Raymond R., Richard P., and John P.; and his sixteen grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BRENT  
CURTICE

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Brent Curtice of Paonia, Colorado, on being recognized by the Colorado Association of Secondary School Principals as the Colorado High School Principal of the Year. The award acknowledges leaders who have provided high quality learning opportunities for students. In honor of Brent's award, the Town of Paonia also declared April 7 as "Brent Curtice Appreciation Day." This award is a well-deserved testament to his achievements in education.

Brent began his career in education twenty-two years ago as a teacher and athletic director at Hotchkiss High School. Thirteen years later he accepted a position at Paonia High School. His leadership and dedication have helped to take the school to the upper echelons of academic excellence, including achieving a top five ranking among 2A schools in Colorado for the ACT college entrance exam. Brent, however, is quick to note that it is the work of the students and teachers that really make the school a success.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the service and achievements of Brent Curtice before this body of Congress and this nation. His efforts to continually challenge his students through a demanding curriculum is truly remarkable, and the recognition he received from the Colorado Association of Secondary School Principals as their 2004 Colorado High School Principal of the Year is a well-deserved testament to his tireless efforts. I sincerely thank Brent for his service.

HONORING MR. KENT GIBBS

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Kent Gibbs of the Orange County Council Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Gibbs became President/Scout Executive of the Orange County Council Boy Scouts of America in 1982. Immediately after he assumed his new post, his organization was faced with severe funding cutbacks and a forced thirty percent staff reduction. Despite all of these hardships, Mr. Gibbs was still able to provide services for young men and women across Orange County.

Mr. Gibbs was also heavily involved in the undertaking of a \$21 million Major Gifts Initiative to provide funding to support outreach efforts into the inner city communities and needed capital improvements.

The Orange County Council has been recognized as a Quality Organization by the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America, and Mr. Gibbs was a recipient of the James E. West Fellowship and Heritage Society Award.

I would like to extend my best wishes to Mr. Gibbs on the occasion of his retirement and thank him for his service to the communities of Orange County.

2004 ENERGY STAR FOR HOMES—  
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARDS

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the following homebuilders from in or around my congressional district for their recent recognition as Oncor 2004 ENERGY STAR for Homes—Outstanding Achievement Award: Ashton Woods Homes; Beazer Homes of Dallas; Buescher Homes; Coleman Homes; D.R. Horton; David Weekly Homes; Highland Homes, LTD; History Maker Homes; KB Homes; Landstar Homes; Legacy Homes; Lennar Homes; Mercedes Homes; MHI; Morrison Homes, Oak Creek Homes, Optima Homes, Paul Taylor Homes, and Ryland Homes.

Forty-six builders participated in the 2003 Oncor ENERGY STAR Homes program. Each of the Award recipients registered with the EPA and constructed at least 50 ENERGY STAR homes in 2003. Collectively, winners built 11,505 ENERGY STAR qualified homes.

The ENERGY STAR program is a government industry partnership for promoting energy efficient products. ENERGY STAR eligible homes use considerably less energy than standard homes. Because of lower energy usage, ENERGY STAR homes save homeowners money because they cost less to heat and cool. In addition, they help to reduce air pollution—a particular concern in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Nationwide almost 20 percent of air pollution results from energy used in homes. Just one ENERGY STAR home can

reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 4,500 lbs per year.

Energy efficiency is an important part of a balanced energy policy. That is why President George W. Bush and the U.S. House of Representatives included a provision in H.R. 6, The Energy Policy Act of 2003, which would expand the ENERGY STAR program.

The homebuilders who participate in the ENERGY STAR program recognize the importance of energy conservation. Once again, I would like to thank these 21 North Texas homebuilders for their commitment to constructing ENERGY STAR qualified homes.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
KENTUCKIANS OF NEW YORK

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of The Kentuckians of New York. This congressional recognition will be presented on June 3, 2004 in New York City to a gathering of more than 325 persons at a Gala Dinner Dance. On the occasion, the following six Kentuckians will be honored for their distinguished careers in their chosen field, for their contributions to their community for public service, and their impact both nationally and globally: Owsley Brown II, John Y. Brown, Jr., Martha Layne Collins, Bob Edwards, Phil Simms, and Bill Samuels, Jr.

The Kentuckians of New York was organized on April 27, 1904. The first president was John C. Carlisle, who served six years. During the turn of the century, several state societies were formed. Those who had chosen New York as their new home longed to maintain contact with persons from their home state. The Kentuckians of New York is one of the few, which remain today and have reached this milestone. In the early days, it was a men's organization, which met periodically to enjoy fellowship and sampling of some of the principal Kentucky products, tobacco and bourbon.

During the term of President James C. Bowling (1974–76), Peggy Silhanek and Myra Leigh Tobin became the first two women members. I joined the organization soon after membership was opened to women. I met, not one, but all four criteria for becoming a member: born in Kentucky, lived in Kentucky for at least five years, graduated from a Kentucky college or university, and a son or daughter of a Kentuckian.

The society currently has both resident and nonresident members. The primary purpose of the organization is to share fellowship and the love of our Kentucky heritage at two dinner meetings each year. At these meetings, a reception is followed by dinner and a talk about some aspect of Kentucky by a distinguished speaker from Kentucky or with ties to Kentucky.

I was invited to be a speaker in October 2001, which followed the terrorist acts on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. It was a very somber time in New York City and in the country. The Kentuckians of New York lost two of its members, James R. Paul and Thomas W. Hohlweck, Jr., who worked in the World Trade

Center. My remarks focused on re-assuring members that Members of Congress were addressing terrorism and were concerned about the safety and security of its citizens, and in bringing justice to those who committed the terrorist acts of 9/11.

Many illustrious speakers have addressed the organization. One memorable evening was the time when former Governor A.B. "Happy" Chandler was speaker, following his induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame. Former President Richard Nixon came to the reception unannounced to extend his congratulations to "Happy" Chandler and to extend greetings to The Kentuckians of New York.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of The Kentuckians of New York's 100th Anniversary, I join with its members and other Kentuckians who will celebrate in its contributions to New York, to Kentucky, and to our nation.

TRIBUTE TO RALPH LIBERTO

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dear friend and selfless public servant, Ralph Liberto. Ralph's dedication to working families spanned a lifetime, from his early days as a Marine Raider in World War II, through his service as a union leader, and finally as a trusted County Commissioner representing southwest Warren for the past 14 years. Ralph died on March 15th at the age of 80, after quietly battling leukemia.

For more than 30 years, Ralph played a major role in defining and changing Macomb County. Ralph Liberto distinguished himself as a friend to the working families and senior citizens in Macomb County, a friend to military veterans, and as an honest, dedicated and respected public servant.

After proudly serving his beloved country from 1940–1946 in the United States Marine Corps, he began working at a Chevrolet Gear and Axle plant. He quickly earned the respect of his fellow union employees, who elected him to the highest UAW office in the plant, shop chairman. He continued to champion labor rights as UAW Local 160's first president, then union leader for the AFL–CIO, and government relations director for AFSCME.

Ralph Liberto saw public service as a way to continue his deep sense of duty to the community and to his fellow citizens. A spirited political leader, he began cooking spaghetti for countless political and charitable fund raisers, providing his famous pasta at events from the shores of Lake St. Clair to Lansing.

In 1990 he was elected to Macomb County's Board of Commissioners, where he served on a variety of committees. His colleagues relied on his negotiation and debate skills, eventually electing him Vice Chair of the Board from 1996–2001. As a member of the Parks and Recreation Board and a fan of big band music, he started senior citizen swing dances held at the Freedom Hill Park and Metro Beach. To honor Commissioner Liberto's legacy, Independence Hall at Freedom Hill County Park was recently renamed "Ralph A. Liberto Independence Hall."

Later in life, Ralph continued to fight for causes he believed in. He diligently worked to

raise funds for Washington D.C.'s World War II Memorial honoring his fellow veterans.

Whatever endeavor or job Ralph took on, he did it with his whole heart and a deep sense of duty for serving those around him. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Ralph Liberto for all his tireless work on behalf of our community and citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present yesterday during rollcall No. 210, I would have voted "aye." During rollcall No. 211, I would have voted "aye." And, on rollcall No. 212, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING THE WINNERS AND SPONSORS OF THE 24 CHALLENGE MATH TOURNAMENT IN SAN DIEGO, CA

**HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the winners of the 24 Challenge Math Tournament in San Diego, CA and to express my appreciation to the sponsors who helped to make the tournament possible.

The 24 game is played with decks of cards with each card displaying four numbers. The numbers vary in complexity from single digits to fractions, decimals and exponents. Students combine the numbers to make 24 by using basic math operations and mental calculations. The 24 Challenge involves tournament-style programs using the 24 game to spark in-class, school wide and regional mathematics competitions. Students prepare for tournament play by practicing games both in and outside the classroom for eight to twelve weeks prior to year-end regional championship competitions.

In San Diego, the regional tournament is held each year during the Congressional Memorial Day recess at the San Diego Aerospace Museum. This year's tournament was held on Wednesday, May 26. I would like to recognize the winners of San Diego's 24 Challenge: (Alvin Balmeo of Las Palmas E.S., Grade 4/5 winner; Ling Yeung of Del Mar Hills E.S., Grade 6 winner; Sofie Christlieb of Standley M.S., Grade 7/8 winner; and Michael Kim of Standley M.S., Platinum Master.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding these dedicated and hardworking students. I also encourage my colleagues to host tournaments in their Congressional districts. Over the years, this exciting math program has engaged millions of students from all backgrounds. The 24 Game provides students with a common ground for developing math fluency and game play helps children develop skills such as number sense, pattern sensing, problem solving and mental math. At the same time, the 24 Challenge math tournaments encourage students to embrace the spirit of competition.

I would also like to thank the sponsors of the San Diego 24 Challenge Tournament: The San Diego Chargers; NBC 7/39; WestEd; SONY; Gen-Probe; and Greater San Diego Math Council.

These sponsors have recognized the need for students to build strong skills in problem solving, mental math and reasoning. The support of these sponsors is absolutely critical for helping San Diego's students to achieve by applying the skills that they learn in the classroom. I would like to offer a special "thank you" to Gen-Probe, a biotechnology company headquartered in my district, who sponsored the tournament for the first time this year. I would also like to thank Bob Sun and Nan Ronis for the tireless efforts to make these tournaments all across the country a success. In closing, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievement of the winners of the San Diego 24 Challenge Math Tournament, as well as the commitment of the sponsors who helped to make it possible.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRED  
KROEGER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Fred Kroeger and thank him for the remarkable civic contributions he has made to his Durango community and the State of Colorado. A lifelong resident of the Durango area, Fred was recently recognized by Club 20 for his service to Western Colorado with the prestigious Vanderhoof Award. It is with great satisfaction that I congratulate a good friend of mine for his significant contributions to the Durango Community.

Fred was born and raised in Durango where he graduated from Durango High School. He later attended Fort Lewis College for two years, and went on to receive a degree in Agronomy from Colorado State University. Using his degree, he managed his family's agriculture supply business. His natural leadership in the business arena aided in his election to the Board of the National Retail Hardware Association in 1965 where he went on to serve as the Association's President.

Fred has spent a lifetime supporting local civic matters, from the Fort Lewis College Foundation Board to the Board of the First National Bank of Durango. His most lasting contribution to Western Colorado however, will be the decades of leadership which he has contributed to Colorado's water arena. He served on the Colorado Water Conservation Board for twenty-one years, and the Southwest Water Conservation District Board since 1954 where he served the District as President. The District covers six counties and portions of three others in Southwest Colorado. Fred also dedicated countless hours over the years to secure the passage of the Animas La Plata water project, which gives the Ute Indian Tribe the water resources promised to them in an earlier treaty.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Fred Kroeger before this body of Congress and this nation, and congratulate him on receiving the Vanderhoof Award from Club 20.

The award is a well-deserved testament to Fred's willingness to provide his time and experience to his fellow citizens. It is my privilege to extend to Fred my sincerest thanks for his years of dedicated service and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE POEMS OF STUDENTS  
FROM RIDLEY HIGH SCHOOL,  
FOLSOM, PA

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I had the great pleasure and honor to participate in the Ridley High School Memorial Day Program on May 28, 2004. I was presented with a very special compilation of poems composed by the students from Ridley High School's Advanced Placement American History/Honors English classes. The assignment was voluntary and those students, whose work is reflected here, searched their hearts for their feelings about America's military men and women. The result was a wonderful collection of poetry that expresses their pride and gratitude for those who make personal sacrifices to protect our freedoms and democracy.

I join with these students in their continued support and appreciation for our troops at home and abroad. I hope my colleagues find both inspiration and gratitude in their words so beautifully expressed.

WITH EVERY STEP

With every step through your daily life  
Quietly, they whisper  
Whisper courage to the young children  
Playing under the warmth of the sun  
Whisper sacrifice to all  
Enjoying the freedom they provided.

From their peaceful rest they whisper  
Going under with the honor of a nation  
And their love of country  
The willing force for freedom  
Makes the land of the free  
The home of the brave.

In kind words, we whisper  
Do not forget the contributions  
Of our fallen countrymen  
In this time of terror  
They protect us still.

Tabatha Sabatino

OUR SUNS

Running laps, chasing circles, rounding  
wheels  
inside a mind fall back in time now  
answer questions, which before could change  
a life.

Still inside is such a yearning once repressed  
in idol lines.  
Decisions made remain unchanged  
once again it's no surprise.

Unending conflict risk of fears so unfair and  
still not right  
To rock the boat? To sink the boat? To loose  
the boat?

To rise? As rise the sun and sons do rise  
before the settling of the matter  
What matters more won't make it right  
Forget what is right to love the latter.

Sara Rothemel

ORDINARY PEOPLE

War is not a poem I can write,  
There were men in marshes in Asia once  
Swallowing a lump in their throat

and running through a steel, cold rain  
and we couldn't understand why.

Peace is not an ideal blowing among the pollen  
from the windswept daisies.  
There were men trapped in foreign countries  
once  
battling for the freedom of oppressed people  
and assuring that America remained most  
free.

Justice is not found in the barrel of a gun  
It is not found in a switch or an engine  
It is not in the hand of the person in control  
of any of those

It is in the name of intuition  
and belief in a system

A whole

One nation

where most men have found freedom  
found a pursuit

A man will step on the battlefield as a soldier

the hero of middle America

and return to his home

his job, and his life

like an ordinary man

our nation is watched over

by the vigilance, the gunshots,

the air patrol, the patience,

the dedication and discipline

of ordinary people.

Kim Leszak

THE SOLDIER

The American soldier emits an ineffable  
presence

To represent our country and to be revered  
He holds his duties with a profound dignity  
And sacrifices his character to defend our  
country

He witnesses battles, and scourges, and  
deaths

And gambles himself to defend our freedom

His mission should be respected by all

As he aims to keep safety for our American  
future.

Chris Gross

MY DADDY WAS A SAILOR

The little boy had found the trunk  
Hidden beneath the bed  
And when he opened the dusty lock  
Old visions filled his head.

He saw his father's picture

He was dressed in starchy white

He saw the ship that carried him

And his eyes filled with fright

He picked up all the medals

As his eyes filled with tears

For his father had died long ago

And he had forgotten all these years

He admired his father's bravery

For he knew the story well

His father protected his honor

It is a story he loves to tell

"My daddy was a sailor

He wore his chevrons proud

And though he cannot tell you

He made us safe and sound

My daddy gave his life

Fighting for our country

And I think it's safe to say

His virtues are in me.

I want to serve my country

I want to stand up tall

I want to be like my daddy

I want that most of all."

The little boy grew up that day

He became a sailor too

He know the dangers facing him

But his honor was brave and true.

He will pass on the glory

That his father gave to him

He will fight for our country's honor

He will be there through thick and thin.

I want you to know I serve my country  
Not because I have to  
I do it because I love being free  
I hope it is important to you.

*Jessyca Allen*

#### AMERICAN SOLDIERS

The sun shines on a distant land  
American soldiers arise to the surrounding  
sand.

The heat is great, the sun is hot,  
But they still fight with all they've got.  
They think of home, warm and free  
The yellow flags that line the street

The hopes and prayers from family and  
friends  
Reminds them that their efforts do not go  
unnoticed.

But we as a nation must continue to show  
Support for our troops both near and far  
And though it's dirty,  
We must not forget the war.

*Brianne Brennan*

#### WHY THEY FIGHT

They fight for a simple word  
Engrained within our past  
They leave their lives and families  
To protect our cherished land.  
Leaving behind everything familiar  
These individuals unknown to the masses.

But continue on for us,  
We Americans.  
Our fearless, proud defenders return  
Our simple idea is still safe  
Our simple, single idea.  
They defended the meaning of America  
With their valor, bravery and honor.  
They fight to protect our freedom.

*Jeanne Fasello*

#### WAR

Many things represent war and what it  
means to America today.  
Each citizen is touched by war and affected  
in a different way.  
Young men are called to battle and learn to  
fight with pride.  
They learn to support their country despite  
the fears they hold inside.  
Husbands and fathers uphold their duties and  
kiss their family goodbye.  
Even though their wives grow worried and  
their children begin to cry.  
Little boys play happily with toy guns and  
G.I. Joes  
Dreaming of the day that they can waltz in  
their camouflage clothes.  
Women and girls begin to step up and defend  
us with their hearts.  
Eventually the country will unify in war and  
everyone will take part.  
Even the ones who stay at home offer sup-  
port with the small things they do.  
They hang up yellow ribbons and waves flags  
of red, white and blue.  
It is through these American symbols and  
citizens,  
Supportive and courageous, that makes the  
fighting worth it,  
No matter how dangerous.  
We are all Americans, all sacrificing and  
standing tall.  
In times of war our country proudly sings  
their patriotic song.  
So let us take the time to recognize the  
brave on this Memorial Day  
For they will always be remembered as he-  
roes in every way.

*Meaghan Shinkle*

#### ONE LONELY STAR

One lonely star.  
All alone in the front window,

Five blue points bursting from a white  
ocean,  
Outlined with a red bank,  
Yellow ribbon holds it in place,  
So they may return home safe.

She sees her son out the door;  
One final kiss  
Good-bye.

Her motherly instincts straighten the uni-  
form,  
And she stares, pride filling her heart.  
Her eyes fall to her other son,  
And she wishes that he too would become  
such a man,

That fateful day.  
Two pillars of strength—  
Gone.

Destruction, Confusion, Fear  
What's to come? ,  
The news comes, as everyone knew it would.  
War.

But will he go?  
Yes.

She cries, her baby all grown up.  
He's no longer her baby,  
He's her Hero, her Protector, her Strength.

Letters come faithfully.  
But her nerves are never calmed  
Negative newscasts—fodder for fear,  
She prays her star not turn gold.

One lonely star,  
All alone in the front window,  
Five blue points bursting from a white  
ocean,

Outlined with a red bank,  
Yellow ribbon holds it in place.  
May they return home safe.

*Chrissy Stief*

#### I'LL WALK BESIDE YOU

I'll walk along beside you  
and sometimes take your hand,  
as you suffer for my innocence  
and I'll grasp a bit tighter  
as you die for my smile.

I still don't know your name  
but I am a close friend with happiness,  
Though we have never met  
you introduced me to Hope  
Who had always been shy before.  
And Pride, elusive as always,  
is a mutual companion we can share.  
You know pride through sacrifice  
and your sacrifice helped familiarize me with  
Pride.

One day we will meet,  
at a party I suspect,  
and though we have never seen each other  
I'll know you.  
I'll know you protected me millions of times  
for I can see myself in every person I meet,  
though we are not familiar.  
But we all know you, a still and silent sol-  
dier  
who bears the scars of our freedom.

*Colleen Beatty*

#### MEMORIAL MEMORIES

Gazing out of my window, wondering,  
Looking at the differences abounding,  
From luscious, green, growing trees  
To uniform streets connecting.  
How did all of this happen?  
America bears certain freedoms.  
Having to sustain our personal gains,  
We have to fight for our protected rights.  
So, we continue to live remembering the  
fight.

Needing pride to stop the vain,  
We have to remember those living and dead.  
Who have given their lives for the cause of  
freedom

Our lives continue to flourish because of our  
veterans and fighting soldiers.

*Shaleen Spuglio*

#### THE WARRIOR

As he charges shield raised  
Into the midst of battle  
He remembers those who fought before  
Gallantly dying in order to save the lives of  
others.

Woe though death's bite is strong  
And quick on their mortal bodies,  
The pure passion of battle carries their bod-  
ies like a trance,  
Cutting down any opposition in his way.  
Warrior, you are stronger than I,  
For you fight for a cause much greater than  
mine,

*David Benner*

#### FREEDOM ON YOUR SHOULDERS

We are the shadows,  
The whispers on the wind  
Of one lost  
For a sea of triumph.

We are the ants  
Marching in a line  
To harvest a field of freedom  
For you.

We are the giants  
And freedom rests upon our shoulders.

*Cynthia Casebere*

#### OUR PROTECTORS

The Fates, the three  
Hunched over in wait  
With the cord spinning  
The color of dried blood and trench mud  
The color of years sacrificed  
The cord, the thread keeps spinning  
And another generation is tugged by it into  
the loop.  
Becoming protectors around our naked spool  
Barely missing the cool, hard scissors  
That threatens courageous souls.

*Adrienne Showalter*

#### FALLEN HEROES

##### SPEECH OF

#### HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

##### OF ARKANSAS

##### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate you holding a moment of silence for our fallen heroes during legislative business on Thursday, May, 20, 2004. On the eve of Memorial Day, it was extremely important that we all paused to remember the brave men and women who have given their lives in the War on Terror. I am also grateful for the opportunity to submit the following remarks on Specialist Dustin McGaugh and Private First Class Brandon Smith, the two brave servicemen from the Third District who gave their lives fighting the War on Terror in Iraq.

Specialist Dustin K. McGaugh grew up in Springdale, Arkansas. He was killed in a "friendly fire" accident in Balad, Iraq, last October.

Private First Class Brandon Smith was a resident of Fayetteville, Arkansas. He was killed in action in Al Qaim, Iraq, late last March when the Humvee he was traveling in ran over a land mine. That Humvee was rushing to assist U.S. troops who were under enemy fire.

For both these brave men, just getting into the military was quite a challenge. Dustin enlisted in the Army prior to the September 11th

attacks, but he broke his shinbone in basic training. He was so intent on becoming a soldier that he completed his last three weeks of basic training despite an injury that would have sidelined most of us.

When Brandon joined the Marines, he told his friends that he had found his life's calling. However, for Brandon fulfilling his lifelong dream was no simple task. Every morning, he had to run laps around Asbell Park, lift weights and literally lose 80 pounds to be in shape for Marine Boot Camp.

Dustin and Brandon served as inspirations to their fellow soldiers in Iraq and to Americans back home. On the battlefield, Dustin's fellow soldiers said that regardless of the dangers, he could often be found handing out candy to Iraqi children. And back home, community members signed a banner in Brandon's memory, recalling the bravery of a fallen Marine who put his country and his neighbors ahead of himself.

Mr. Speaker, Dustin and Brandon made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. They selflessly put themselves in harm's way so that future generations can live in a world free of terror. Dustin McGaugh and Brandon Smith are true American heroes. I ask my colleagues to keep their family and friends in their thoughts and prayers.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE MINNESOTA DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ON RECEIVING THE 2004 MARK TRAIL AWARD

**HON. MARK R. KENNEDY**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Minnesota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the Minnesota Department of Transportation on receiving the Mark Trail Award of 2004. Two Minnesotans, Rochester resident Troy Schmidt from the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Woodbury resident Terri Smith from the Minnesota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, are accepting the award at a ceremony tomorrow, June 4, 2004 in Washington D.C.

Since approaching the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service in 2000, the Minnesota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the Minnesota Department of Transportation have expanded the Minnesota NOAA Weather Radio Transmitter network from 12 to 32 transmitters, with 4 more about to go into service. As a result, 99 percent of all Minnesotans are now within broadcast range of a National Weather Radio transmitter.

The statewide NOAA Weather Radio Transmitter network will provide Minnesotans with weather announcements and other emergency messages when necessary. When tragedy strikes, this network will allow for notice of emergencies such as fire, flood, tornado or accidents involving hazardous materials to be broadcast so Minnesotans will be aware of the

emergency procedures, and can keep their families safe.

Mr. Speaker, it is important services, such as the National Weather Service, that provide a safe environment for the public. It is my privilege to recognize two outstanding Minnesotans, Troy Schmidt and Terri Smith, for their work. I would like to express my appreciation for the sponsors of the Mark Trail Award and for the Minnesota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the Minnesota Department of Transportation for their help and achievements in coordinating county, state, and federal services.

HONORING BETTY JANE GORIN-SMITH

**HON. RON LEWIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable individual from my home state of Kentucky. Betty Jane Gorin-Smith has been a longtime volunteer and leading voice in the historic preservation efforts of the Heartland Civil War Trails Project. This extraordinary endeavor is only a footnote to her many years of service in the Taylor County community, as a distinguished teacher, author, and historian.

Mrs. Gorin-Smith taught U.S. and world history in local schools for more than two decades. She has also taught at Campbellsville University and Lindsey Wilson College. Her academic and civic awards are numerous. She has written numerous published articles and is presently completing a book on the life of Civil War General John Hunt Morgan. In addition to her work with the Heartland Civil War Trails Commission, Mrs. Smith is recognized as a primary leader of the preservation effort at the Tebbins Bend Civil War battlefield.

I would like to recognize Mrs. Gorin-Smith, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for her exemplary citizenship and community engagement. Her efforts, past and present, make her an outstanding American, worthy of our collective respect and honor.

On the occasion of the Civil War Trails Commission ribbon cutting, I publicly endorse Betty Jane Gorin-Smith as Historian Laureate for the Heartland Region of Kentucky.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL MARITIME DAY

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take a moment to remember the valiant efforts of their neighbors and fellow citizens of the U.S. Merchant Marine.

America is a nation of the sea. Our oceans, lakes and rivers have left an indelible mark upon the American existence. The American Merchant Marine—both the industry and mariners who ply the oceans of the world under our Flag—are a critical part of our national infrastructure. During peace time they move the

goods that keep America moving, and during war time, they protect us by ensuring that our soldiers abroad have the equipment, food and medicine that keep them fighting.

As President Ronald Reagan said in his 1988 National Maritime Day proclamation, “. . . the merchant marine continues its roles in trade and defense—and the sailors of our commercial fleets continue to exhibit the patriotism and the many skills that have ever characterized them and their predecessors. It is truly fitting that we pause to salute these seafarers and all other Americans who support them and guard the lifelines of the sea that sustain us all.”

Yet despite the critical role in our national infrastructure that the maritime industry plays, it is all too easy to forget them. We see trucks every day on our roads, and we see airplanes in our skies. We do not see the hundreds of ships that sail our oceans brimming with cargo, bound for our malls and supermarkets. We do not see the thousands of men and women who leave behind their families for months at a time to crew these vessels and ensure that the goods we need to survive make it to our shores.

Every May 22, we as a nation come together to celebrate National Maritime Day, a day to remember those men and women who are so often forgotten. Today, just as it was at our nation's founding, the American Merchant Marine remains an important part of our national experience.

IN MEMORY OF SPC. MICHAEL CURTIS CAMPBELL

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I inform the House of the death of Spc. Michael Curtis Campbell of Marshfield, MO. Spc. Campbell was killed when his combat patrol was attacked with an improvised explosive device and small arms fire near Samarra, Iraq.

Spc. Campbell chose to serve his country early. Upon graduating from St. Paul's Lutheran High School in Concordia, MO, in 1988, he entered the United States Navy where he spent four years, serving during Operation Desert Storm.

As a member of the National Guard, Spc. Campbell was called to serve following the September 11th terrorist attacks. He was first tasked with hauling debris from the remains of the World Trade Center. He was assigned to Headquarters Troop, 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, in Schweinfurt, Germany. He arrived in Germany in December, 2003, and left for Iraq in February of this year.

Mr. Speaker, Spc. Michael Campbell answered the call to service when his country needed him most. I know the Members of the House will join me in offering condolences to his friends and family.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONNIE  
DELANEY

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to pay tribute to the life and memory of Connie Delaney, who recently passed away at the age of eighty. I knew Connie and her family very well, and she was a devoted mother, a dear friend, and a beloved member of her Glenwood Springs, Colorado community. As her family and community mourn her passing, I believe it is appropriate to recognize the life of this exceptional woman before this body of Congress and this nation.

In 1946 Connie married Robert Delaney and moved to Glenwood Springs and became an active member of her community. She dedicated most of her efforts to Valley View Hospital, accumulating over 8,000 hours of volunteer service. She was the hospital's auxiliary president in 1968, and again in 1983. Serving as the auxiliary's historian, she attended all of the hospital's functions, taking pictures at every event. She then spent many hours putting together scrapbooks that serve as a wonderful history of the hospital. She was always willing to help out in any way she could, with open arms and a beautiful smile.

In recognition of Connie and her husband Robert's extensive community involvement, the Colorado Mountain College honored them during the College's prestigious Calaway Honor Series reception. Above all of her achievements, Connie was most devoted to Robert, sons Rob and Ralph, and daughter Diane.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Connie Delaney. I am proud to have known such a great woman who enriched the lives of her family and community. My heart goes out to her family, friends, and Glenwood Springs community during this difficult time of bereavement. Connie, we will miss you.

HONORING LOIS HALE

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lois Hale. Lois Hale has dedicated her life to education and the community of Ballico has benefited greatly from her efforts.

Signum scientis est posse docere. The touchstone of knowledge is the ability to teach.

Ms. Lois Hale has this special ability and has selflessly utilized it to the benefit of her community for nearly 40 years. In addition to successfully teaching thousands of our children essential math skills so they may have a solid foundation for future success, Lois Hale has dutifully served as a leader and role model for both students and fellow faculty members.

Ms. Hale has served as President of California's Central Valley Math Council. She has, for many years, offered herself as a mentor to her

students. She has also taken upon herself responsibility for organizing and directing student activities such as the annual Math Superbowl and the biennial Washington DC trip.

She has received the recognition of her peers for her accomplishments. She has been honored with such recognitions as being a California Presidential Award Finalist, twice being listed in the Who's Who Among America's Teachers, and receiving the George Polya Award for Outstanding Teaching.

Perhaps more important and telling than her individual awards and recognitions is the success and accomplishments of those she has taught. This year alone, her Math Superbowl team brought back 28 trophies and countless other recognitions. This is notable, given the fact that her school district has little more than 300 current students.

Ms. Hale has proven her depth of knowledge and character over the past 40 years, and has embodied the idea that Signum scientis est posse docere.

We are honored to have people like Ms. Hale aiding in the development and progress of our children and our community. I would like the House to join me in thanking Ms. Hale for her many years of dedicated and honorable service and to wish her the best in her retirement.

CONGRATULATING MARK A.  
ANGELSON

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mark A. Angelson for joining RR Donnelley & Sons Company and on being selected as its Chief Executive Officer and as a member of its Board of Directors.

RR Donnelley has a rich and storied history. Founded over 140 years ago in Chicago, the firm has grown to become the largest commercial printer in North America, with 50,000 employees serving clients across the globe. Aside from its unparalleled business achievements, RR Donnelley has established a reputation as a model of good corporate citizenship in the Chicagoland area and around the world.

Through the active participation of its employees in youth education projects, and through the RR Donnelly Foundation and its Corporate Giving Program, RR Donnelley has enhanced the lives of thousands of children and has made lasting contributions to the vibrancy of our communities. I applaud RR Donnelley for serving as a shining example of leadership and commitment to civic responsibility in our city.

Mr. Angelson's distinguished background as an attorney, financier and leading corporate executive will serve him well at the helm of RR Donnelley. Prior to his election as CEO of RR Donnelley on February 27, 2004, Mr. Angelson served as CEO of leading printing firm Moore Wallace Inc. He was instrumental in spearheading the merger between Moore Wallace and RR Donnelley earlier this year. Before joining Moore Wallace, Mr. Angelson practiced law for twenty-one years, including fourteen years with Sidley Austin Brown & Wood, served as a senior executive with Big

Flower Press Holdings, and was Deputy Chairman of Chancery Lane Capital, a New York-based private equity firm.

Before launching his impressive career, the Caldwell, New Jersey native graduated from Rutgers University, where he received Phi Beta Kappa honors, and from Rutgers Law School. Mr. Angelson and his wife are the proud parents of three daughters.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois and indeed all of Chicago, I am privileged to congratulate Mark A. Angelson for his achievements and to welcome him to Chicago.

HONORING TUSKEGEE AIRMEN  
AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION IN  
CREATING AN INTEGRATED  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

SPEECH OF

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 1, 2004*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 417 and in recognition and gratitude for the lifetime of service provided to his country by Central Coast resident and Tuskegee Airman, Mr. Art Hicks.

The Tuskegee Airmen were a group of brave Americans who volunteered to become this country's first African-American military pilots. These courageous men flew airplanes for their country in the war against fascism, while enduring and waging their own struggle against racism and segregation here at home. Despite the predictions of many defenders of segregation that the Tuskegee Airmen would end in failure, they developed a record of unparalleled skill and courage.

One hundred fifty brave Tuskegee Airmen were lost during training or combat, but they destroyed more than 1,000 German aircraft. Unbelievably, despite flying over 200 bomber escort missions during the war, they never lost a single bomber under their escort.

No one exemplified the honor and service of the Tuskegee Airmen more than Art Hicks. He was born in Georgia in 1922 and grew up under the dark cloud of segregation and its daily dangers, indignities, and humiliations. During World War II, he volunteered to become a Tuskegee Airman.

He eventually served 28 years in the military, retiring in 1971. But after the War, he continued to encounter the racism that also greeted so many of his fellow comrades.

In 1989, nearly single-handedly, he fought and won a battle to remove a barrier to integration at the Elks Lodge and eliminate a stain from this venerable and honorable institution. Doubtless fueled by the same courage and commitment to fight wrong that had propelled him to sign up to be a Tuskegee Airman some four decades earlier, Mr. Hicks fought to eliminate the rule that allowed any three members of the Elks Lodge to block admission of potential members. In many cases, this rule helped to continue a pattern of exclusion based on race or religion. Mr. Hicks began a local letter-writing campaign, was eventually joined by the NAACP, and saw the rule abolished at the Elks national convention later that year.

Mr. Speaker, the Tuskegee Airmen exhibited bravery, skill and sacrifice for their country, while often facing mistreatment from the

society they were defending. They showed the best of America, and we are all so proud of their accomplishments. I am privileged to count one of them among my neighbors on the Central Coast of California.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID BENSON,  
SUPERINTENDENT OF THE BLUE  
VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT IN  
JOHNSON COUNTY, KS

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize Dr. David Benson, who is retiring this month as superintendent of the Blue Valley School District in the Third Congressional District of Kansas. Since 1993, Dr. Benson has led this outstanding school district, which has experienced exponential growth in facilities and in students. All the while, the district has continued to score exceptionally on all standardized tests and by any other measure of school excellence is one of our nation's outstanding school districts. I am lucky to represent in Congress some of the best schools in the United States, and many, many of them are in the Blue Valley District.

During his time at Blue Valley, the district has grown by 8,000 students. This phenomenal growth required two successful bond campaigns, led by Dr. Benson, and the construction of two new high schools, four middle schools, and six elementary schools. A seventh elementary school will open next fall. During Dr. Benson's tenure, the average growth in Blue Valley enrollment was larger than the total enrollment of most Kansas school districts!

During his years at Blue Valley, the district developed new programs, including foreign language programs for all elementary schools, a broadcast technology program, a new Wilderness Science Center (with wetlands and prairie environments), an alternative high school program, and a program to teach independent living skills to students 18 to 21 with moderate to severe disabilities.

In 2001, Dr. Benson was named Kansas Superintendent of the Year by the Kansas Association of School Administrators. In 2000, he was selected as Communicator of the Year by the Kansas School Public Relations Associations. His leadership extends beyond the education community. Recognizing the importance of the business community's support for public education, Dr. Benson has served as a board member for the Greater Kansas City and Overland Park Chambers of Commerce, and also served as president of United Community Services in 1999 and 2000.

Dr. Benson began his career teaching high school in Joplin, Missouri. He has served in various capacities in Salina, Moundridge, Junction City, and Kingman, Kansas, school districts; and also served as superintendent in both Fort Madison, Iowa, and Moundridge, Kansas. I know each of these districts has benefited from this outstanding public educator.

I wish Dr. Benson and his wife Donni the very best in their new community. While Dr. Benson will be missed by all students, teach-

ers, staff, and patrons of Blue Valley, the district will continue under the excellent leadership of Dr. Tom Trigg, currently the Deputy Superintendent of Administrative Services for Blue Valley.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

**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 pay tribute to an amazing generation of Americans, a generation that possessed both the courage and the strength to defend the United States against its fiercest enemies.

I refer, of course, to those who served our great nation during World War II, the brave Americans who stormed the beaches of Europe and who fought to defend our territories in the South Pacific.

Just this weekend, Mr. Speaker, we gave our World War II veterans the commemoration they earned and deserve with the dedication of a new memorial on the National Mall.

Visiting this new monument in person made me think about all of the great sacrifices this generation made on our behalf.

Mr. Speaker, I can only imagine the enormous pressure they faced. The Japanese had already sunk some of our greatest battleships and were gaining ground in the Pacific and across Asia.

German and Italian forces were marching across Western Europe and were gaining ground against our allies.

With the goal of world dominance, the freedoms and liberties of the United States were in jeopardy like never before.

We would have to defeat some of the most powerful military forces in history if we were to keep our independence intact and to prevent a new era of tyranny around the world.

Despite this intense pressure and the great dangers before them, our young men signed up by the thousands and were willing to take on any task no matter what the risk.

They would fight in heroic battles and many of them would never return home or would spend a lifetime with severe injuries.

Working closely with my veterans in San Diego, I have heard firsthand accounts of the heroics on the battlefield and what our young men had to endure to win the war, including one who survived the attack on Pearl Harbor, another who fought in the famous Battle for Midway, and one who was held as a prisoner of war by the Japanese for several years.

We achieved victory only because these service members were willing to fight and willing to do whatever it took to win. We must also not forget the others who were crucial to our great victory.

Women were not eligible for full military status at the time, but this did not prevent them from making vast contributions. Women worked as laborers, engineers, and managers to produce the equipment our soldiers relied upon in the battlefield.

Women also put themselves directly in harm's way by working as medical personnel in battle zones.

Women performed so well and were so crucial to our victory, the War Department would

soon establish women's corps in the different branches leading to full military status for them.

We also broke stiff racial barriers during World War II. The Tuskegee Airmen, a squad of African-American pilots, were among the most elite who flew during the war and are credited with contributing to the desegregation of the Air Force.

We must also remember those from other nations who took up arms for the United States—specifically the Filipino veterans who fought alongside American soldiers in the Pacific.

As we dedicate the World War II Monument on our National Mall and celebrate the 60th Anniversary of D-Day, I hope we will remember the commitment by all of those who were crucial to our victory. Please join me in paying tribute to those who would become known as the "Greatest Generation."

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our military troops fighting for liberty in Iraq and Afghanistan. As we celebrated Memorial Day this past weekend, it is fitting to remember not only those heroes who have passed on, but also those who promote freedom around the world today.

I also want to take this opportunity to remember the fine young men of the 17th District of Texas who made the ultimate sacrifice for us all in Iraq and Afghanistan. They made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom and liberty, and I extend my condolences to their families and loved ones. Today I honor:

Lt. Nathan White of Abilene, Texas;  
Chief Warrant Officer Scott Jamar of Granbury, Texas;  
Sgt. Roy Wood of Graham, Texas;  
Lt. Doyle Hufstедler of Abilene, Texas;  
Lance Corporal Elias Torres of Grape Creek, Texas;  
Staff Sergeant Rene Ledesma of Abilene, Texas.

These men are patriots, and I salute them and thank them and their families for their priceless sacrifice.

This Memorial Day, we were especially aware of the sacrifices made by the Greatest Generation, those men and women who fought and won the most important war in our history. Last weekend, we opened a memorial to these brave men and women in a prominent location on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., in a grand setting that befits the strong and indomitable nature of these true heroes.

The veterans of World War II earned their greatness through their blood and sacrifice for a global conflict that destroyed the ambitions of tyrannical regimes. Our soldiers' dedication to country, to freedom, and to duty persevered over frightening threats to our society and way of life.

The Greatest Generation fought against these threats with the best qualities that America had to offer—courage, strength, determination, resourcefulness, fearlessness, and independence. They fought against those who

would steal our freedom and replace our way of life with blind obedience enforced by secret police and fear. Today's soldiers are fighting an enemy with similar goals. Our soldiers are fighting an enemy that would take our freedoms through acts of terror and fear. But these enemies cannot defeat our indomitable spirit and our love of freedom. Our enemies cannot and will not defeat us.

This is not the first time that the United States and her allies have gone into a country representing freedom. As we remember the Greatest Generation we certainly recall the epic D-Day Invasion during World War II when we asked our military—today's distinguished veterans—to place themselves in danger to liberate Europe from the occupation of Nazi Germany. We did not ask for much in return when our troops were victorious.

And our World War II troops did not ask for much from America when they returned home. Most of them did not return to hometown parades, they just returned to their everyday, pre-war lives, even though they had not seen their loved ones in several years. In return for all they had given up, they simply came home, desiring that the world would remain free. We helped Europe, the West, and Japan rebuild under democratic principles, and today we see the fruits of that labor. We have the golden opportunity to do that for Iraq, to help them rebuild into a free country after years of tyranny.

I give my thanks, respect and gratitude to today's military who will be tomorrow's veterans. These individuals represent the long and distinguished tradition of our armed forces as exemplified by the Greatest Generation. Our current service men and women can look to those who came before them as examples of honor and courage, the very lifeblood and creed of the military, and the principles that will always carry the United States to victory.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on May 19 and 20, 2004. The following is an explanation on how I would have voted had I been present:

Rollcall No. 191 "Yes," Previous question—budget rule.

Rollcall No. 192 "Yes," Adoption of the budget rule.

Rollcall No. 193 "Yes," Previous question—DOD rule.

Rollcall No. 194 "Yes," Adoption of the DOD rule.

Rollcall No. 195 "Yes," H. Con. Res. 424—Memorial Day resolution.

Rollcall No. 196 "Yes," Goode amendment (DOD) military on border.

Rollcall No. 197 "No," Davis (CA) amendment—abortion.

Rollcall No. 200 "Yes," Kennedy (MN) amendment—BRAC delay.

Rollcall No. 201 "Yes," Weldon (PA) amendment—destroying Abu Ghraib.

Rollcall No. 202 "Yes," Slaughter amendment—sexual assaults policy.

Rollcall No. 203 "Yes," Tauscher amendment to H.R. 4200—bunker buster.

Rollcall No. 204 "Yes," Ryun amendment to H.R. 4200—Taiwan training programs.

Rollcall No. 205 "No," Democrat motion to reconsider.

Rollcall No. 206 "Yes," DOD final passage.

Rollcall No. 207 "Yes," S. 2092—Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

Rollcall No. 208 "Yes," H.R. 4359—Child tax credit.

#### TRIBUTE TO SHEILA LOCKWOOD

### HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on a bittersweet mission—to honor a most cherished staff member, Ms. Sheila Lockwood, on her retirement from the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Sheila began her federal government service career in Washington as a clerk-typist for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). After six years at HUD, Sheila joined the staff of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

For the past 24 years, Sheila has served the Members of the Committee and its staff with grace under pressure, uncommon ability, and an irreverent style that endeared her to all. She has worked for six different Chairmen and Ranking Democratic Members including Harold "Bizz" Johnson, Jim Howard, Glenn Anderson, Bob Roe, Norm Mineta, and me. She has held many titles and roles—staff assistant, assistant office manager, assistant to the Chief Counsel, executive staff assistant, office manager, and systems administrator—to name but a few.

But titles have never mattered to Sheila; helping people and completing the job have. From Chairman of the Committee to the unpaid intern, she has always been available to help. She has been the glue that has held our Committee and its staff together and we truly appreciate her many important contributions.

Sheila has spent many years supporting our legislative staff in the preparation of documents, charts, tables, and statements. She has the innate ability to create easy-to-read materials that enable Members to read documents and charts and quickly discern the critical information. Having worked for the Full Committee for so many years, she has seen it all and always found a way to get it done.

In addition, although she began her career with the Committee using a typewriter, Sheila always served as our in-house systems administrator. With each new computer program, Sheila became the expert to whom all would appeal with any computer problem or question, of which there are always many. From Word 11 to Microsoft Word, she always had the answer—and the patience to explain it.

One prime example of both Sheila's can-do work ethic and considerable computer skills was her work on the Committee's Democratic Web site. Several years ago, we needed to find a way to more efficiently update our Committee's Democratic Web site. We wanted to be able to provide the public with immediate access to the Democratic position on Committee issues and legislation. Sheila took it upon herself to become our "Web diva", as she would say, teaching herself how to post information on the site. Over time, she redesigned the site to make it more user-friendly

and to enable users to conduct searches for issues. Within the past four years, the site has received more than 50,000 hits and has become an essential tool for the transportation community.

Sheila's greatest contribution to the Committee flowed from her personal qualities—her genially irreverent style, her interest in her colleagues, and her absolute grace under pressure. Sheila started each day with the theme song to her favorite TV show, Hawaii Five-O, and, after her dance to the song, her "complaining" began—she made us all laugh. She genuinely cares about her colleagues and has always been there to help. In essence, Sheila has simply made the Committee a much better place in which to work.

Mr. Speaker, after 30 years of public service, Sheila returns home to Woodland Park, Colorado, to have the opportunity to spend more time with her beloved family, especially her mother. She carries with her our gratitude for her service, and our prayers for good health and happiness in the many years ahead.

#### HONORING RAYMOND T. WHITE

### HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Raymond T. White. Mr. White is stepping down from his outstanding service to veteran advocacy, and his work deserves our respect, gratitude, and admiration.

Mr. White's commitment to veteran affairs is rooted by his own service to this country. In 1953, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force to fight in the Korean conflict. His tenure is marked with distinction, and he served as a combat air policeman, a forerunner of the Green Berets. He completed his tour at Mitchell Field, Long Island, and there began his family with his wife, Roberta.

This week, Mr. White relinquishes his duties as commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America, Department of Florida. He has also served in similar capacities over the past 20 years with veteran organizations such as the American Legion and the Disabled American Veterans. In addition, Mr. White's civic commitment led him to serve as Mayor of New Hyde Park Gardens, NY, in addition to his tenure as Chief of Police in Albertson, NY.

I am happy that Mr. White will enjoy this day in the company of his wife, five children, and nine grandchildren. I am reassured that Mr. White's service to his fellow soldiers has been returned in blessings with a bountiful family.

#### AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, this year, the American Lung Association proudly celebrates their 100th Anniversary. On this momentous occasion, I would like to recognize this organization for their invaluable

contributions to our Nation. The American Lung Association was founded in 1904 for the purpose of eliminating tuberculosis. As they neared that goal in the middle of the century, they also turned their attention to research, education, and advocacy against other lung ailments, including lung disease and asthma, and their environmental triggers. Each year, more than 360,000 Americans die of lung disease. Responsible for one in every seven deaths, lung disease is the third highest cause of death in America. While the death rates for diseases such as heart disease and cancer are beginning to decrease, the lung disease death rate is climbing. The American Lung Association is needed now more than ever, and I am confident that they will continue to fight to end asthma and other respiratory ailments. I would like to thank their excellent staff and countless volunteers who work around the clock to bring attention to these diseases and educate our communities. I am honored to have worked with this association during the past ten years in Congress, and I would like to once again congratulate the American Lung Association on 100 years of advocacy.

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### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

### HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer some reflections on this past Memorial Day. Every year, we as a Nation take time at the end of May to remember those men and women who have given the ultimate sacrifice—their lives—to protect and defend our great country.

For many, Memorial Day Weekend has become the traditional start of the summer season. Parades and celebrations are held across the country, and many families take their first trip of summer to the beach, or hold a big backyard barbecue, or go swimming at the newly reopened community pool. In Indianapolis, we spend the holiday weekend hosting this country's greatest auto race—the Indy 500—where we revel in the thrill of speed and marvel at the latest advancements in automotive design and engine development. The Indy Car fans and the Indy Car family of racers have shown themselves to be among the most patriotic of Americans, and I'm proud to celebrate Memorial Day weekend with such a tremendous group of people year after year. Yet, I fear that in the rush to enjoy the fruits of summer, we all too often forget that we are only able to hold these celebrations, and enjoy the freedom to travel where we want when we want, because of generations of men and women who put their lives on the line to protect and preserve our freedoms.

As our young men and women risk their lives in a global War on Terror, and continue to fight for peace and stability for those who spent years living under tyranny and oppression in Afghanistan and Iraq, I would hope that each of us will pause to remember the true meaning of Memorial Day, then give thanks, and perhaps pray, for those who have willingly put themselves in harm's way to keep us free. Each one—from the most decorated General and Admiral to the lowest ranking enlisted

man or woman—from the fighter pilots and gunners to the mechanics, quartermasters, and the cooks—each and every one is a hero.

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### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

### HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, as we return from observing Memorial Day in our districts, I rise to pay a tribute to a man who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country during the Vietnam War. This weekend, I had the honor of presenting Staff Sergeant Adrian J. Anglim's family with the two Bronze Stars he earned during his service in the United States Army, but never received until last year. His story serves as a shining example of courageous service to his country.

Adrian Anglim was born on January 9th, 1934 in Ironwood, Michigan. After attending St. Ambrose High School in Ironwood and Northern Michigan University in Marquette, he joined the Michigan National Guard. He was serving as a Junior ROTC instructor for Bessemer High School when he was called up to active duty and assigned to Fort Riley, Kansas where he joined the First Infantry Division.

Staff Sergeant Anglim arrived in Vietnam in April 1966 and served with distinction as a member of the First Infantry. His courage and leadership in combat earned him two bronze stars which, thanks to the efforts of his platoon leader, his family has finally received.

To illustrate the debt that our country owes Adrian Anglim, I would like to read two passages from the citations for his bronze stars. The first describes then Staff Sergeant Anglim's performance throughout his combat service. It reads:

For meritorious achievement in connection with ground operations against a hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 28 April 1966 to 25 August 1966. Through his untiring efforts and professional ability, Staff Sergeant Anglim consistently obtained outstanding results. He was quick to grasp the implications of new problems with which he was faced as a result of the ever changing situations inherent in a counterinsurgency operation and to find ways and means to solve those problems. The energetic application of his extensive knowledge has materially contributed to the efforts of the United States Mission to the Republic of Vietnam to assist that country in ridding itself of the communist threat to its freedom. Staff Sergeant Anglim's initiative, zeal, sound judgment, and devotion to duty have been in the highest tradition of the United States Army.

The second citation accompanied Sergeant Anglim's Bronze Star with a "V" device, signifying valor. This medal was awarded for Anglim's heroism the day that he gave his life for his country. It reads:

For heroism on 25 August 1966 in the Republic of Vietnam while participating in an operation in Binh Duong Province when called to assist a Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol heavily engaged with the Viet Cong Phu Loi Battalion. As his company approached the enemy camp it encountered intense enemy fire. At great personal risk, he moved among the platoon to establish a defensive position. His leadership under intense

fire enabled his men to occupy defensible terrain in front of the enemy trench line. By this time, his element had been reduced to himself and one rifleman. Using one remaining radio and company mortars, the platoon leader and Sergeant Anglim devised a plan to suppress enemy mortars directly to their front. While under constant enemy fire, Sergeant Anglim was able to provide directions for the adjustment of company mortars, forcing the enemy to displace twice. While directing fire on their third location, he was killed instantly by enemy small arms fire. His heroic actions enabled other units to maneuver to engage the enemy and block their escape. Sergeant Anglim's exemplary courage was in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to mention Sergeant Anglim's family. After his tragic death, Sergeant Anglim's wife Marilyn raised their three children on her own, which is no small feat. Today, their twins Van and Ann are 46. Van is an employee of the Defense Department working on missile systems. Ann is working as the facilities manager for the Ann Arbor Public Schools in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Their son Paul is 42 and a Lieutenant with the Wyoming, Michigan Police Department.

As Adrian Anglim's children grew up and tried to learn more about the father they never really knew, they talked to James Holland, who was their father's platoon leader in Vietnam. They were able to learn what had happened to their father from someone who was there, and who benefited from his heroism.

When Mr. Holland realized that Sergeant Anglim's family had never received the additional medals that he had earned, he took steps to see that those recommendations reached the Army and that Sergeant Anglim was finally recognized for his bravery in battle. I had the honor of presenting those medals to Marilyn Anglim and her children in a ceremony at the American Legion Post #71 in Gladstone, Michigan this past weekend.

Mr. Speaker, Adrian Anglim served his country bravely and deserves our deepest gratitude for his service and his ultimate sacrifice. I ask that the House join me in honoring this fallen American soldier.

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### FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

### HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the brave men and women who lives have been lost in the War on Terror. I am privileged to represent several military installations, including Edwards Air Force Base, China Lake Naval Air Warfare Center, Weapons Division, Camp San Luis Obispo and Camp Roberts. Thousands of active duty military, Reservists, National and California Guardsmen and women and civilian defense contractors serve our country at these installations every day. Four young men from the 22nd Congressional District of California, that I represent, have given the ultimate sacrifice for their country, and I would like to honor them today.

Army Private First Class Michelangelo Mora Jr., age 19, of Arroyo Grande, California, was

killed in Najaf, Iraq on May 14, 2004. He was buried at the Arroyo Grande District Cemetery on May 24, 2004. Pfc. Mora attended the military-style Grizzly Youth Academy at Camp San Luis Obispo and received his GED there. After working for a year, Pfc. Mora enlisted in the Army with his family's support. His family and the community of Arroyo Grande mourn the loss of an outgoing young man who was looking forward to returning home after his tour with the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division.

Army Sergeant Marvin Sprayberry III, age 24, of Tehachapi, California, was killed in Balad, Iraq on May 3, 2004. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on May 14, 2004. Sgt. Sprayberry's family journeyed across the country to bury a young man they remember as a loving husband to his wife Nadja and a devoted son who called home every Saturday to tell his parents he was okay. Sgt. Sprayberry joined the Army soon after his 1997 graduation from Tehachapi High School, and he spent a tour in Germany where he met Nadja, and two tours in Kosovo before his deployment for Operation Iraqi Freedom as a Bradley tank mechanic. The community of Tehachapi mourns his loss.

Army Staff Sergeant David S. Perry, age 36, of Bakersfield, California, was killed August 10, 2003 in Baqubah, Iraq. Perry was assigned to 649th Military Police Company, U.S. Army National Guard, Camp San Luis Obispo. Staff Sgt. Perry's 'real job' was as a prison guard at Wasco State Prison, and he was known for his reliability and love for his family. He joined the military after high school, and then later joined the National Guard; he had been assigned to the 649th for about 10 years. Staff Sgt. Perry's wife and children, along with the citizens of Bakersfield, mourn his loss.

Staff Sergeant Brian "Cody" Prosser, age 28, of Frazier Park, California, was killed in Afghanistan on December 5, 2001. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on December 17, 2001, and I was privileged to join his family and fellow Green Berets to pay tribute to this young man who chose to leave his close-knit community in the Los Padres National Forest to serve his country in the Special Forces. Frazier Park remembers Staff Sgt. Prosser as the captain of the Maricopa High School football team and the 'Most Spirited' in his senior class.

In addition, I would like to remember two other soldiers who died in Iraq and who are mourned by their families that are constituents in my district.

Army Sergeant Michael W. Mitchell, age 25, of Porterville, California, was killed in Sadr City, Iraq on April 4, 2004. Sgt. Mitchell's father lives in Atascadero, California, and he has been deeply affected by the loss of his son. Sgt. Mitchell was assigned to the Army's 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division, Ray Barracks, in Friedberg, Germany, where he met his fiancée, Bianca. He is remembered by his community as a dedicated and disciplined athlete.

Army Staff Sergeant Richard A Burdick, age 24, of National City, California, was killed December 10, 2003 in Mosul, Iraq. Staff Sgt. Burdick's mother lives in Ridgecrest, California, and his wife and children were living in Lancaster, California at the time of his death. He loved his family and was dedicated to his

country, coming from a family of military men. Staff Sgt. Burdick's great-grandfather served in WWI, his grandfather served in WWII, and his father served in the Navy for 21 years. His local communities mourn his loss.

I ask my colleagues to reflect with me on the lives of these six men and the many others from past and current conflicts who have given their lives in service of their country.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for the following: Rollcall vote No. 212, H. Con. Res. 417, Honoring the Tuskegee Airmen and their contribution in creating an integrated United States Air Force, the world's foremost Air and Space Supremacy Force;

Rollcall vote No. 211, H. Con. Res. 612, Recognizing and honoring the firefighters, police, public servants, civilians, and private businesses who responded to the devastating fire in Richmond, Virginia, on March 26, 2004; and

Rollcall vote No. 210, Congratulating and saluting Focus: HOPE on the occasion of its 35th anniversary and for its remarkable commitment and contributions to Detroit, the State of Michigan, and the United States, I would have voted in the affirmative.

#### CONGRATULATE AND HONOR 28 OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL ARTISTS FROM THE 11TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, once again, I come to the floor to recognize the great success of strong local school systems working with dedicated parents and teachers in raising young men and women. I rise today to congratulate and honor 28 outstanding high school artists from the 11th Congressional District of New Jersey. Each of these talented students participated in the Annual Congressional Arts competition, "An Artistic Discovery." Their works are exceptional!

Mr. Speaker, I would like to list each of them, their high school, and their contest entries for the official Record.

We had 28 students participate. That is a tremendous response and I would very much like to build on that for next year's competition.

This year, Mr. Speaker, the winner of "An Artistic Discovery" was Elaina Filauro from Morris Knolls High School for the work entitled "Birthday Baby." Second place went to Lina Chung from Millburn High School for "Me." Third place and the Viewer's Choice Award was given to Mark Tumiski from Ridge High School for the work titled "Interface."

Honorable mentions were awarded to Sophia Casas of Ridge High School for "One Love," Jeffrey Hanft of Ridge High School for

"From the Window," Patrick Marvin of Mount Olive High School for "The Fade," Eileen Choi of Millburn High School for "Still Life," Chih Chun Mei of Livingston High School for "My Life," and Miguel Cruz of Roxbury High School for "Patriotic Still Life."

Excellent art work was also submitted by Boonton High School's Cydney Pina "Self Portrait," Sarah Castronovo "Clashing," Jonathan Tindall for "Self Portrait," Nataliya Yermolenko for "Self Portrait;" Livingston High School's Nadar Lipkin for "Last Minute Study," Paul Imperio for his untitled work, Dave Krause for his untitled work, Joey Sbarro for "Transcendence;" Roxbury High School's Ryan Jouas for "Self Portrait #1;" Morris Knolls High School's Cassandra Condit for "Rock Ridge," Allyson Harvey for "Mindful Solitude," Erin Gotthelf for "Looking In a Box;" Millburn High School's Sarah Maurer for "Oska," Sarah Burford for "Two-Faced;" Montville High School's Elizabeth Lagerstrom for "Reflection and Shadow," Julia Hermanowski for "Colors of Self-Reflection," Jenny Kong for "Apple Picking," Yena Lee for "Art Museum;" and Ridge High School's Alice Yan for "Through the Looking Glass."

Each year the winner of the competition's art work hangs in a special corridor here at the U.S. Capitol with other winners from across the country. Every time a vote is called, I get a chance to walk through that corridor and am reminded of the vast talents of our young men and women.

Indeed, all of these young artists are winners, and we should be proud of their achievements so early in life.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating these talented young people from New Jersey's 11th Congressional District.

#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VILLAGE OF WOLVERINE LAKE, MICHIGAN

### HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the Village of Wolverine Lake, Michigan on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Incorporated on April 5, 1954 under the State of Michigan's long tradition of Home Rule, the Village of Wolverine Lake's caring citizens, diligent community leaders, superior schools, and vibrant economy accumulate and constitute an exceptional civic life for its citizens.

The Village of Wolverine Lake's rich history dates back to 1919, when Dr. Howard Stuart's efforts led to the construction of a dam connecting several area lakes to form Wolverine Lake. Local residents then established the Consolidated Subdivision of Wolverine Lake Neighborhood Association to maintain and protect the beauty of Wolverine Lake. The Village of Wolverine Lake has now grown to a population of more than 4000 residents. Undoubtedly, the Village of Wolverine Lake will continue to fulfill its promise of boundless opportunity and beauty for its people.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask you and my esteemed colleagues to please join me in congratulating the Village of Wolverine Lake on their very special anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR C.J.  
CHEN OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, soon Ambassador C.J. Chen of the Republic of China (ROC) will be returning to Taiwan after serving as his country's chief representative in the United States for the last four years. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and salute Ambassador Chen for everything he has done to improve the political, economic, and cultural ties between the United States and Taiwan during his service here in Washington, D.C.

The Republic of China has been one of our most important and loyal allies in the World; and Ambassador Chen has worked diligently to strengthen the ties that bind our two great Nations despite the lack of formal diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Taiwan. Today, U.S.-Taiwan relations are the best they have been since the late 1970s. In fact, Taiwan and the United States are friends and partners, not merely allies, and I think that in large measure this is due to the tireless efforts of Ambassador Chen.

An expert in international law and diplomacy, Ambassador Chen has spent 37 years in the diplomatic service of the Republic of China on Taiwan—with over half of his career spent here in the United States. In fact, he has been assigned to Washington, D.C., three different times, beginning as a third secretary in the ROC Embassy in 1971. In 1983, he began a seven-year stint as Deputy Representative for Taiwan's Representative Office, and in 2000, he started his present job as Representative. Over the course of his long and distinguished career, C.J. has also held several prominent positions within Taiwan's government, serving as Foreign Minister, Government Spokesman, and Legislator.

During the past four years, Ambassador Chen has forged many close personal relationships and made hundreds of friends—I am proud to count myself among that company—proving that he was one of the hardest-working diplomats and also one of the most gracious hosts, on Embassy Row. With respect, graciousness, and a keen sense of humor, wit, Ambassador Chen has helped many American audiences, large and small to more fully understand the sometimes difficult issues relating to Taiwan, such as Taiwan's recent Presidential elections and national referendum. He has also helped put into perspective Taiwan's military needs, Taiwan's efforts to join international organizations like the World Health Organization, and Taiwan's economic and political achievements, especially in the area of human rights and freedom of the press, where the actions of Taiwan stand in stark contrast to the brutal perpetrators of the Tiananmen Square massacre.

Mr. Speaker, I am personally sad that Ambassador Chen and his beautiful wife, Yolanda Ho, are leaving Washington. It is a little-known fact that Yolanda—a renowned designer in Taiwan's textile and apparel industry—actually designed the wedding gown for Linda Hall Daschle when she married the current Senate Minority leader, TOM DASCHLE of South Dakota. I hope that they will both look back fond-

ly upon their years in Washington as a valuable and rewarding time. The diplomatic and cultural community of Washington will certainly be diminished by their absence. Nevertheless, we are grateful for the time they could spend here, and I know that they will both continue to make lasting contributions to the future enrichment of relations between Taipei and Washington. I wish them all the best for a successful and happy future, which they so deeply deserve.

RECOGNIZING THE BRAMLEY  
FUNERAL HOME IN DIVERNON, IL

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bramley Funeral home in Divernon, Illinois on the occasion of its 80th anniversary on June 6, 2004.

Bob Bramley helped his late father, Chester Bramley, in the family's mortuary business many years ago. Bob graduated from high school in 1939 and went to work as a clerk for the C & IM Railroad; served in the armed forces from 1942 to 1946 as a Master Sergeant in the Army Medical Corp. In 1947, he attended mortuary school in Saint Louis, Missouri and graduated in 1948. Bob and his wife Carolyn were married on December 27, 1947, and worked with his father until his father passed away in 1967. The Bramley's also operated an ambulance service, which discontinued service in 1981.

Tim Bramley, Bob and Carolyn's son, went to mortuary school in Carbondale, Illinois and received his license in 1979. Tim then went to work at the Bisch Funeral Home in Springfield, Illinois for 13 years. Tim left Bisch Funeral Home and went to work with his father when the Bramley's opened a second funeral home in Auburn, Illinois on June 4, 1991. Tim's daughter Sarah graduated from the Carl Sandburg Mortuary School in Galesburg, Illinois in May of 2003 and is currently serving as an apprentice with her grandfather and father.

In addition to the family's business, Bob has also worked for the Postal Service for 22 years, kept books for the Divernon School District for 30 years, and worked as the Village treasurer for 49 years. Bob also served many years the secretary and treasurer of the Divernon Fire Protection District and is currently the secretary and treasurer of the Brush Creek Cemetery Board, a position which he has held for 45 years.

Bob states that his wife, Carolyn, has always been there in the background; her help and support have been invaluable to him throughout the years. Mr. Bramley feels strongly about providing this service to the community, even though being in a small town is difficult because every person who passes away is your friend. Mr. Bramley has dedicated his whole life to the community and the village of Divernon has recognized June 6, 2004 as "Bob Bramley Day."

FALLEN HEROES

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the brave men and women who have served our nation by paying the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom and democracy.

While we should honor all our nation's veterans both living and dead throughout the year, on this particular Memorial Day, we pay tribute to the nation's World War II veterans. On May 29th, the World War II memorial, a fitting tribute to "the Greatest Generation," will be dedicated on the National Mall. Hundreds of thousands of World War II veterans and their families will visit the memorial which is a permanent reminder to us and to future generations that the sacrifices made by the soldiers who served overseas, their families, and the Americans who were on the homefront, saved the world from tyranny. From the beaches of Normandy to the Battle of Midway to the construction of the China-Burma-India Road, these soldiers fought for a cause bigger than themselves.

One of these heroes, Michel Thomas, resides in my congressional district and recently was awarded the Silver Star for his extraordinary courage during World War II. I, along with Senator John McCain (R-AZ), worked with the Department of Defense on Mr. Thomas's behalf so that he finally would receive the honor he so justly deserves.

Michel Thomas was born in Poland to a Jewish family with a thriving textile business. In 1933, he fled Hitler's regime in Germany for France. Thomas last saw his family in 1937. He later learned they were all murdered at Auschwitz.

During the war, he survived two years of concentration and slave labor camps in Vichy France and narrowly escaped deportation to Auschwitz. He joined the Secret Army of the French Resistance, where he was active for two years as a commando leader. In 1943, Thomas was caught by and escaped from Klaus Barbie, the notorious Butcher of Lyon. The next year Thomas served in Combat Intelligence in the 180th Regiment of the U.S. Army 45th Division, The Thunderbirds, and was nominated for the Silver Star for his bravery.

On April 29, 1945, Thomas, an agent in the U.S. Army's Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC), arrived at Dachau concentration camp on the day of liberation. Thomas interrogated and photographed the crematorium workers. Two days later Thomas captured the "Hangman of Dachau," Emil Mahl, who was subsequently convicted of war crimes.

In early May 1945, Thomas tracked a convoy of trucks to a paper mill outside Munich, where he rescued from destruction the Nazi Party's worldwide membership card file of over ten million members. The Nazi leadership had shipped the cards, along with tons of other important Third Reich government documents, to be pulped in the final days of the war. These documents became the heart of the collections of the U.S.-run Berlin Document Center, and were crucial in the Nuremberg war crimes trials and in the denazification of Germany.

In 1946, Thomas helped to capture Gustav Knittel, who was convicted of war crimes for

his role in the Malmedy massacre of American POWs at the Battle of the Bulge. I am proud to honor Michel Thomas for his heroism.

On Memorial Day, it is fitting that we honor all the men and women of the Armed Forces who have served their nation throughout history including those who are currently risking their lives around the world, including in Afghanistan and Iraq. I have been to both countries twice and have visited with soldiers from New York and across the country. I especially want to note the contributions of the 10th Mountain Division from Fort Drum under General Austin's leadership, and the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Division of the New York Army National Guard, located in my district, who just shipped out to Iraq on Monday. While they are serving in Iraq, I will be fighting to pass legislation to ensure that they receive full military retirement credit for their days of service at Ground Zero after the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

I am pleased to note that today we are passing legislation to correct a longstanding inequity in survivor benefits for the spouses of our fallen veterans. The "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005" provides for a 5-year phase-in to eliminate the Widow's Tax. This unfair tax penalizes the widows and widowers of military retirees by reducing their Survivor Benefit Plan benefit from 55 percent of the retiree's pension to 35 percent once they reach age 62, normally the same age she or he is eligible for Social Security. The Social Security benefit the surviving spouse receives is often less than the reduction in the benefit, which results in a net loss of income. This legislation brings long overdue relief to the surviving spouses.

I will continue to support the members of Armed Forces in every way that I can. We owe all of them a debt of gratitude which we can never repay. They helped to make this country what it is today, and they have brought peace to other nations across the globe.

I would like to thank my colleagues from New York Representatives RANGEL and WALSH for organizing today's moment of silence for America's fallen soldiers.

HONORING THE FRATERNAL  
ORDER OF EAGLES AERIE 629  
(DORT HIGHWAY)

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to bring to your attention that during the month of February 2004 the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 629 (Dort Highway) of Flint, Michigan celebrated their 100th year of brotherhood.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles formerly known as the "Seattle Order of Good Things" was founded in Seattle, Washington on February 6, 1898. The organization's informal slogan is "People Helping People" (F. Hector Gauthier, North Uxbridge, Mass.) Six short years later, on February 17, 1904 the Flint Dort Highway Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 629 chapter was chartered with 61 members. Former Flint Mayor George McKinley was the chapter's first President and Floyd Simson a Pharmacist/Drugstore owner was the Sec-

retary. The club held meetings in the old Woolworth building twice a month until they relocated to the 2nd floor of the State Theater in June of 1905. In 1907 they moved to Castel Hall where they occupied the entire 3rd floor. As the organization's location changed so did its membership. In 1938 their Auxiliary was chartered with 71 members while located at the Smith and Waters building, which was purchased from Dort Motor Company in 1922. The club added a 10,000 square foot addition to the building which they called home until a fire destroyed the building and forced them to move to the second floor of the Samons building located at First and Garland. They remained there until 1980 when they purchased the building known as the Freeman Ice Cream Building. The organization began remodeling efforts immediately, with most of the work being done by its members. The building was completed in 1981 and a banquet hall was added just in time for their 1984 District Wide Initiation. New candidates from all the clubs in District Four were initiated during the event. The Fraternal Order of Eagles is an organization committed to the American people. Throughout its 100 years, they have strived on a daily basis to make this country a better place for all. This is an extraordinary club of men working for the betterment of our nation. I am proud to say that there is a chapter in my hometown of Flint addressing the needs of my community.

Mr. Speaker, many people have greatly benefited from the generosity of these fine men. They are indeed men of moral character committed to improving the welfare and dignity of those in need. I ask my colleagues in the 108th Congress to please join me in paying tribute to the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 629 (Dort Highway) Flint Chapter as they celebrate 100 years of solid brotherhood and in wishing them the very best in future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE MERCURY  
NEWS FOR ITS ARTICLE "DIS-  
COUNT CARD DOUBT"

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 2, 2004*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding piece of journalism that appeared in The Mercury News in San Jose, California. The article, "Discount Card Doubt" presents the realistic confusion Medicare beneficiaries face in choosing a discount card. As the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and individual card sponsors bombard beneficiaries with glossy marketing materials, I am proud to know that my constituents are receiving a fair and balanced account of the drug card debacle. I would like to thank Barbara Feder Ostrov for her exceptional reporting, and for informing the people of my district about the benefits and dangers of the Medicare approved drug discount card program.

It is with pleasure that I submit the attached article, "Discount Card Doubt," for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The article originally appeared in the May 26, 2004 edition of The Mercury News.

DISCOUNT CARD DOUBT

COMPLICATED SYSTEM: CHOOSING ONE OF 73  
PLANS IS A HASSLE, SENIORS SAY

(By Barbara Feder Ostrov)

Betty Cozzi is trying to keep an open mind about the new Medicare discount cards. Last week, she dutifully sat through a presentation with a nice lady showing PowerPoint slides at Cambrian Center, the San Jose senior apartment complex where she lives.

But the whole thing is pretty annoying, in her view.

"They've made it so complicated," said Cozzi, who is 71. "We should be able to sit down and read the information without being talked to like we're second-graders. And I don't even know if the card will help me."

As Medicare drug discount cards go "live" next Tuesday, seniors like Cozzi are wading through a swamp of conflicting and sometimes downright inaccurate information as they assess which card they want to buy—that is, if they want to buy one at all.

The cards, which offer Medicare recipients discounts on both brand-name and generic prescription drugs, are the first of a series of Medicare prescription drug reforms providing temporary relief from rising medication costs until a larger benefit takes effect in 2006.

Some cards are free, while others can cost up to \$30. They offer discounts of 15 percent to 20 percent on the average retail prices for brand-name drugs, with deeper discounts of 30 percent to 60 percent on generics, according to the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, the federal agency that oversees Medicare.

About 3.2 million seniors in California could benefit from the discount cards, saving about \$515 million on their medications in 2004 and 2005, the years when the cards will be available, according to a study released last week by the Business Roundtable, a trade group for chief executives of large corporations. The study also found that about 105,000 California seniors will qualify for a \$600-a-year credit for low-income people that can be applied toward drug purchases made with the cards in 2004 and 2005.

But seniors may find deeper discounts purchasing from Canadian pharmacies, U.S.-based mail order houses or even Costco, as a Mercury News analysis of 10 common drugs shows (see chart).

NOT MUCH SAVINGS

A little-known state program in which participating pharmacies offer prescription drug discounts to California Medicare recipients was the most expensive option for some drugs, the analysis shows.

Cozzi, a retired executive secretary, isn't poor enough to qualify for the \$600-a-year credit, but her income is limited enough that she only takes Plavix, an expensive drug that prevents strokes and heart attacks, every other day, rather than the daily dose her doctor recommends.

Plavix, which isn't available as a cheaper generic, can cost nearly \$1,500 annually, and Cozzi must also take other medications like Lipitor, which can cost an additional \$800-plus each year. She tries to save money by ordering her drugs through a U.S. mail-order service offered by her supplemental Medicare insurance.

Cozzi said she is just starting to research which Medicare discount card might be best for her, but it's a trying endeavor. There are 73 different Medicare-approved cards, and every one covers different drugs, with pricing that can change weekly. Once Cozzi buys a card, she won't be able to buy a different one this year.

She has a few options: She can call (800) MEDICARE and ask a representative which

cards cover the medicines she takes. She can call the Health Insurance Counseling Assistance Program, which helps California seniors navigate Medicare, where a counselor can help her determine which card will provide the lowest prices on her medications.

"This should be a lot more simple," Cozzi said. "But I guess some discount is better than nothing."

Although Medicare was rapped earlier this month for long waits on its telephone hotline, it has added workers to ease the backlog. On two different afternoons last week, there was only a one-minute wait to speak to a representative on the hotline.

Cozzi also can go online to [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov), where she will encounter a complex drug search engine that some seniors have criticized for providing inaccurate information. And she can visit her local pharmacy for card applications, but if it's a chain that offers its own card, it may not display information about competing cards that might save her more.

#### NOT WORTH IT FOR SOME

"People are finding it very complicated," said Vicki Gottlich, an attorney with the Center for Medicare Advocacy, a public-interest law firm.

"We're hearing from highly educated, highly competent people that it just may not be worth it," Gottlich said. "They're not sure the discounts are that great and the information they're finding is accurate."

Gottlich recommends that seniors verify with their own pharmacists the information they receive from the Medicare Web site or telephone representative, because in some cases, pharmacists haven't been notified about the discounts or whether their pharmacy is in a particular card's network.

#### HMO DISCOUNT CARDS

While Cozzi has a supplemental Medicare plan that allows her to purchase any card she wants, some seniors with Medicare HMOs such as Kaiser Permanente's Senior Advantage may only apply for the cards offered by their HMO.

That irks Kaiser member Caroline Castiglione of East Palo Alto. Castiglione could purchase Kaiser's Medicare discount card for \$30, but it will save her only \$1.40 a year on Fosamax, a brand-name osteoporosis drug, at Kaiser pharmacies. She called a nearby, non-Kaiser pharmacy to see what discount the Kaiser card might offer, but the pharmacist didn't know.

"To pay \$30 to save \$1.40, it doesn't make sense," said Castiglione, who is 81. "I don't buy a pig in a poke, I want to know what I'm buying. I'm very frustrated."

### DISAPPOINTMENT WITH REVISED CONFERENCE REPORT REGARDING THIS YEAR'S HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE BUDGET PROPOSAL WITH RESPECT TO MINORITY HEALTH AND THE HEALTH OF AMERICA'S MOST VULNERABLE

#### HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share my deep disappointment about

the revised Conference Report regarding this year's Health and Human Service budget proposal and how it impacts change for minority health and the health of America's most vulnerable populations. The House conference report can only be viewed as a slap in the face and an insincere gesture to address systemic health problems faced by minorities and women. With few exceptions, the conference report includes policy-based numbers only for 2005 and provides but meaningless placeholder numbers for 2006 through 2009.

The Budget Act requires that the budget resolution cover five years: this conference report clearly violates the spirit of that requirement by providing in essence only a shell of a five-year budget resolution. It has been a quarter of a century since a budget resolution conference report covered only one year.

Mr. Speaker, this budget mainly benefits the healthy and the wealthy, because the conference agreement provides only \$864.3 billion for 2005 discretionary funding, including the \$50 billion for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Excluding funding for these operations, the total is \$8.6 billion less than the President's already dismal budget sent to Congress back in February.

The conference agreement increases funding for both national defense and homeland security, and cuts 2005 funding for domestic programs by \$7.6 billion—below a freeze at the 2004 enacted level and by \$18.3 billion below the level needed to maintain services at the 2004 level. Excluding the increases for homeland security, the conference agreement cuts the remaining domestic programs even more. The conference agreement contained deep and arbitrary cuts to healthcare programs that are critical to serving minority populations.

Over five years, the budget cuts spending for mandatory health programs by \$905 million. Medicaid constitutes over 90 percent of the dollars for these programs, so it is likely that Medicaid will bear the brunt of these spending cuts, if they are enacted. But this is just the beginning Mr. Speaker. The budget cuts funding for the uninsured by slashing HCAP, the Healthy Community access program, from \$120 million to \$10 million.

The House's conference report slashes Health Professions funding by 70 percent, from \$409 million to \$126 million, eliminating funding for important programs to address the nursing shortage and to train health professionals for cultural competence. New York alone will receive a cut of \$22 million.

The House's conference report cuts the Public Health Improvement accounts in half. Reductions to this account not only jeopardize the electronic information infrastructure, and other activities needed to monitor and respond to bioterrorism, but also affect programs to eliminate racial disparities.

The House's conference report slashes rural health activities by \$91 million below this year's enacted level—or by 64 percent. This cut includes eliminating the \$39 million rural health flexibility grant program and drastically cutting back rural health outreach grants, used to expand clinical services in rural areas.

The House's conference report provides an inadequate increase of only 2.6 percent for NIH. According to patient and research advocates, NIH must receive budget increases of 8 to 10 percent to capitalize on the progress being made in biomedical research. The Bush budget will not even allow NIH to continue existing grants.

The House's conference report cuts funding for the Office of Minority Health by 15 percent from this year's enacted level. This office supports disease prevention, health promotion, service demonstration, and educational efforts that focus on health concerns that cause the high rate of disease in racial and ethnic minority communities. In addition, it does not propose to reauthorize the Office, whose authorization expires in 3 years. This is a very bad omen, in the face of the large and growing healthcare disparities in minority communities.

The House's conference report cuts bioterrorism hospital preparedness grants by \$39 million. This will leave a host of unfunded Federal mandates and will further burden already strained resources at hospitals that serve minority and rural communities.

The House's conference report zeroes out the healthcare facilities improvement projects, halting all healthcare infrastructure projects that are supported through Federal contracts. Many of the projects are in rural and urban communities that serve minority populations.

The House's conference report only levels grant programs for organ transplantation and bone marrow donor registry, which has helped a number of people in underserved communities to get transplants.

The House's conference report also levels funds the telehealth program, which has been instrumental in providing healthcare in rural and Native American communities that currently lack healthcare infrastructure and service providers.

The House's conference report freezes funding for the Indian Health Service's health professions program, diabetes grants program, and medical equipment program. Native Americans have the highest rate of diabetes and the lowest production of health professionals in the Nation.

The House's conference report freezes funding for the mentoring of children of prisoners, for programs that address developmental disabilities, violence against women, and runaway and homeless youth programs in the Department's Administration for Children and Families.

In addition it cuts \$33 million from the Early Learning Fund and \$3 million from the Child Abuse Discretionary Activities account. Both programs support a number of organizations in minority communities.

Mr. Speaker, our healthcare system in this country is currently in peril. It is falling short on promise and contributing to the disabling illness and premature death of the people it is supposed to serve. The picture is the worst for minority populations, who for almost every illness are impacted most severely and disproportionately.

Today we know that much of it happens because, even when minorities have access to care, the medical evaluations and treatments that are made available to everyone else are denied to them—not only in the private sector but in the public system as well. Acknowledging this, we worked with the other minority caucuses and the progressive caucus to close

the gaps in funding for programs that would close these gaps in the CBC budget. While our measure garnered a record number of votes, it failed.

We also worked with the Senate and got an amendment included in their budget resolution for an additional \$400 million to be dedicated for minority health, and it is our sincere hope

that the amendment is included in the final budget report and that it will be treated as a clear signal to appropriators on the need to address the health concerns of minority populations.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 3, 2004 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 4

9:30 a.m.  
Joint Economic Committee  
To hold hearings to examine the employment situation for May. SD-628

10 a.m.  
Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine pending judicial nominations. SD-226

JUNE 8

10 a.m.  
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
Aging Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the arthritis epidemic. SD-430

Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Suedeon G. Kelly, of New Mexico, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. SD-366

Finance  
To hold hearings to examine the Medicare Drug Card, focusing on delivering savings for participating beneficiaries. SD-215

Indian Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine S. 2436, to reauthorize the Native American Programs Act of 1974. SR-485

Judiciary  
To hold an oversight hearing on the activities of the Department of Justice, focusing on terrorism and other related topics. SD-226

2 p.m.  
Judiciary  
Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine hostility to religious expression in the public square. SD-226

2:30 p.m.  
Governmental Affairs  
Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the challenges and successes the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has experienced since the passage of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994. SD-342

Energy and Natural Resources  
National Parks Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine S. 931, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to undertake a program to reduce the risks from and mitigate the effects of avalanches on visitors to units of the National Park System and on other recreational users of public land, S. 1678, to provide for the establishment of the Uintah Research and Curatorial Center for Dinosaur National Monument in the States of Colorado and Utah, S. 2140, to expand the boundary of the Mount Rainier National Park, S. 2287, to adjust the boundary of the Barataria Preserve Unit of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve in the State of Louisiana, and S. 2469, to amend the National Historic Preservation Act to provide appropriation authorization and improve the operations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. SD-366

JUNE 9

9:30 a.m.  
Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings to examine international intellectual property piracy. SD-419

10 a.m.  
Governmental Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine the amount the Department of Defense spends on unused airline tickets. SD-342

Indian Affairs  
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the No Child Left Behind Act; to be followed by a business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SR-485

Judiciary  
To hold an oversight hearing on activities of the Department of Homeland Security, focusing on terrorism and other related topics. SD-226

11:30 a.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-366

JUNE 10

9 a.m.  
Armed Services  
To hold hearings to examine the transition to sovereignty in Iraq, focusing on U.S. policy, ongoing military operations, and status of U.S. Armed Forces. SH-216

JUNE 14

3 p.m.  
Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Thomas Fingar, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research, and Ralph Leo

Boyce, Jr., of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Thailand. SD-419

JUNE 16

10 a.m.  
Indian Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine S. 1530, to provide compensation to the Lower Brule and Crow Creek Sioux Tribes of South Dakota for damage to tribal land caused by Pick-Sloan projects along the Missouri River. SR-485

2 p.m.  
Indian Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine S. 1996, to enhance and provide to the Oglala Sioux Tribe and Angostura Irrigation Project certain benefits of the Pick-Sloan Missouri River basin program. SR-485

JUNE 17

9:30 a.m.  
Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings to examine Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime (the "Cybercrime Convention" or the "Convention"), which was signed by the United States on November 23, 2001 (Treaty Doc. 108-11), United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (the "Convention"), as well as two supplementary protocols: (1) the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and (2) the Protocol Against Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, which were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on November 15, 2000. The Convention and Protocols were signed by the United States on December 13, 2000, at Palermo, Italy (Treaty Doc. 108-16), Inter-American Convention Against Terrorism ("Convention") Adopted at the Thirty-second Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States ("OAS") Meeting in Bridgetown, Barbados, and signed by thirty countries, including the United States, on June 3, 2002 (Treaty Doc. 107-18), and Protocol of Amendment to the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures done at Brussels on June 26, 1999 (Treaty Doc. 108-6). SD-419

JUNE 23

10 a.m.  
Indian Affairs  
To hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian Tribal Detention facilities. SR-485

JUNE 24

10 a.m.  
Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings to examine U.S. policy toward Southeast Europe, focusing on unfinished business in the Balkans. SH-216

SEPTEMBER 21

10 a.m.  
Veterans' Affairs  
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion. 345 CHOB

POSTPONEMENTS

JUNE 16

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the ground-  
ing of multi-engine fire-retardant air-

craft, steps the Forest Service and Department of the Interior have taken to provide alternative aerial support for initial attack and extended attack fire fighting operations in the short run, and the feasibility and desirability of designing and implementing an inspection process to allow the use of multi-

engine fire-retardant aircraft in the future.

SD-366