

asked applicants to show they could identify dangerous objects inside luggage. In addition, the investigation by the Homeland Security Department—overseer of the Transportation Security Administration—showed that some screeners hired by the government to check baggage for bombs were given most of the answers to tests.

Also in October, the head of the Transportation Security Administration acknowledged that box cutters can get through airport checkpoints. But the chief, James Loy, blamed the lack and sophistication of technology, not his screeners.

There may be no way to prove that creating Loy's agency was necessary. But it is easy to prove that it has been costly.

The question is: Can Energy Secretary Abraham prove that a new, specialized force to protect nuclear facilities will be any more successful than the contractors already overseen by his department's specialized bureaucracy, the National Nuclear Security Administration?

And if that agency is incapable, will a new expensive bureaucracy do any better?

Other federal agencies have elite forces available—the Secret Service and FBI are but two. Could their highly trained men and women be given another mission, supported by their bureaucracy?

Surely the money saved could be spent on creating and providing the technology that Abraham says is lacking for airport screeners, technology that might well benefit the forces protecting the nation's nuclear weapons and power plants.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO ANDREW GEBBIE

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Pastor Andrew Gebbie, a man who has made a great impact on the city of Grand Junction, Colorado. As a minister, Andrew has served both the members of his church and his community, and has become one of Grand Junction's truly cherished citizens. It is my privilege to recognize the work of this exceptional man.

Andrew was born in a small village on the outskirts of Hamilton in central Scotland. At eighteen, he was fascinated by aeronautics and went to Queen Mary's College in London, but after a year felt called to the ministry and transferred to a local seminary. After spending a few years living in Belfast, Northern Ireland, a friend in Canada told him of a pastoral position that had become available in Grand Junction. After being granted legal immigration status in a very short period, Andrew and his family moved to America. He began working as pastor of the Orchard Mesa Christian Church, which he and his wife Doris pastor together. Andrew also works as the billing administrator and patient records supervisor for Hospice and Palliative Care of Western Colorado. In his spare time, Andrew enjoys teaching students in the community how to rope climb at Camp Cedaredge located on the Grand Mesa.

Mr. Speaker, Andrew Gebbie has used his Christian Faith to serve his Grand Junction community, and has touched many lives. I say to his wife Doris and the rest of his family that they should be proud of Andrew both for his

obedience in following his faith, and for all the hours he has given back to his community. I am honored to share with this body of Congress and this nation the works of Pastor Andrew Gebbie. Thank you for your service.

#### REGISTER-HERALD EDITORIAL ON PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2004*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, my hometown newspaper, the Register-Herald, of Beckley, WV, hit the nail on the head today with its editorial, "Pledge: Issue still unresolved," as the Supreme Court sidestepped a chance to help cement the moral foundation of our Nation. It used a technicality to overturn a decision by a lower court that had declared the use of the words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance unconstitutional.

For well over 200 years the moral fiber of this Nation has been built not upon the law of man, but rather upon the law of God. The Supreme Court held in its hands the people's eloquent expression of what many of my fellow West Virginians already know, that only under the watchful eye of God can all we hope for be accomplished and all we dream of come true. And, though the dismissal was welcomed, the Court's reason for the dismissal wasted an opportunity to forever strengthen our national character.

The Register-Herald best summed up the missed opportunity by our Supreme Court with the editorial that follows:

PLEDGE

ISSUE STILL UNRESOLVED

The words "under God" can stay in the Pledge of Allegiance, says the Supreme Court, whose Monday ruling actually resolves next to nothing.

Instead of taking on the substance of the issue, the court ruled on whether the man who brought the case in the first place had proper standing. He doesn't, the court said.

Three justices did indicate that they see no violation of the Constitution in the pledge's language. Good for them. The First Amendment aims to keep Congress from establishing a state religion, which would require a great deal more effort from Congress than inserting a couple of words in the pledge a half-century ago. Children cannot be compelled to recite the pledge or even listen to it if they don't wish to.

The Supreme Court will sooner or later have to delete the phrase or else rule in its defense, an action requiring only this: respect for constitutional language and a grain of common sense.

#### REMEMBERING MRS. ANN OLESKY

### HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2004*

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on June 13, 2004, the town of Immokalee, Florida lost one of its most admired and revered members of the community. At the age of 61, Mrs. Ann Olesky passed away nearly one week after under-

going major heart surgery. An avid environmentalist, Mrs. Olesky has been credited by many as the catalyst for the conception of the Lake Trafford restoration project.

As part owner of the Lake Trafford Marina and Campground, Mrs. Olesky recognized the importance of maintaining and preserving South Florida's natural environmental habitat. Eight years ago, Mrs. Olesky realized that both the environment and the community would be best served if a large scale dredging and cleanup project were to be implemented at Lake Trafford. It was Mrs. Olesky's strong drive and commitment to Immokalee which ultimately drove her to embark on a grass roots campaign which culminated with the securing of funds for the project.

In addition, Mrs. Olesky was well known through the community for her active role in civic and community life. During many Christmas celebrations, Mrs. Olesky could be seen taking part in Christmas Around the World, a yearly educational program that seeks to educate young children about the environment. Through these programs, Mrs. Olesky played an active role in raising community wide awareness of the environmental challenges facing South Florida.

Mrs. Ann Olesky will be forever remembered by the people of Immokalee for her great devotion and love for the people and community of Immokalee. While sadly, Mrs. Olesky will be unable to see the completed fruit of her eight years of labor, it is without question that her efforts will be remembered for many generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in expressing my deepest sense of condolence to the family of Mrs. Ann Olesky, as well as to the people of Immokalee. Mrs. Ann Olesky will be greatly missed.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING BERNICE BUEHLER ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2004*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Bernice Buehler is celebrating her 100th birthday today; and

Whereas, Bernice Buehler is a long-time active participant in the social and civic life of the community; and

Whereas, Bernice Buehler has exemplified a love for her family and friends and must be commended for her life-long dedication to helping others in her community.

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

#### REMEMBERING L.T. "HERBY" BALLEW

### HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 16, 2004*

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to a business associate, good