

years and hundreds or even thousands of dollars out of their own pockets trying to clear their names because of identity theft often facilitated by obtaining the individual's Social Security number.

Concerns about identity theft are increasing dramatically. According to the Federal Trade Commission, identity theft is the number one consumer complaint—amounting to 39 percent of complaints received in 2004. In fact, my state, Florida, is sixth in the nation in the number of identity theft victims per 100,000 people.

Clearly, there is need for a comprehensive law to better protect the privacy of Social Security numbers and protect the American public from being victimized. Today, I re-introduce the "Social Security Number Privacy and Identity Theft Prevention Act of 2005," which is similar to bipartisan legislation introduced during the last Congress. In the public and private sector, the bill would restrict the sale and public display of Social Security numbers, limit dissemination of Social Security numbers by credit reporting agencies, make it more difficult for businesses to deny services if a customer refuses to provide his or her Social Security number and establish civil and criminal penalties for violations.

Congress must act to protect the very number it requires each of us to obtain and use throughout our lifetime. Providing for uses of Social Security numbers that benefit the public while protecting these numbers from being used by criminals, or even terrorists, is a complex balancing act. This bill achieves that balance by ensuring Social Security numbers are exchanged only when necessary and protected from indiscriminant disclosure. I urge Members to co-sponsor this important legislation.

HONORING MATT KIEHL ON
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Matt Kiehl, a constituent who at the age of 17 has been awarded the rank of Eagle Scout. Matt has been involved in scouting since the age of seven when he started as a Tiger Cub. For the last 10 years, he has worked toward this goal which culminated in his Eagle Scout project to construct a prayer path at the Shalom House in Montpelier, Virginia. He, along with about 25 volunteers, completed the project this past December 18.

Matt is an exceptional student at the Maggie Walker Governor's School. Next year, he will join the "We the People" Team. This nationwide competition is based on students' knowledge and understanding of the Constitution. He also finished second in the National Catholic Forensic League state competition this year and will compete at the national competition.

Mr. Speaker, I join the Kiehl family—his father, Mark; mother, Leslie; and his sisters Jennifer and Stephanie—in honoring and recognizing the remarkable achievements of Matt. I am confident we will hear great things from him in the future.

RECOGNIZING ANDRE SMITH

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize the accomplishments of a man who has made a strong commitment to protect and defend human dignity. On Saturday, May 7, the members of Oman Temple No. 72, of the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, will gather at their 50th Annual Potentate's Ball, where they will honor their illustrious Potentate, Andre Smith.

Andre Smith was born in my hometown of Flint, Michigan, on August 8, 1965, the youngest and only son of Elworth and Vivian Smith. He attended Flint Public Schools, and graduated from Northwestern High School in 1983. He later enlisted in the United States Army, where he proudly served for 8½ years, attaining the rank of Sergeant E-5. He received an Honorable Discharge in 1992.

In addition to his tenure as Illustrious Potentate of Oman Temple 72, Mr. Smith is also a member and Senior Warden of John W. Stevenson Lodge No. 56, Saginaw Valley Consistory No. 71, and the Flint Roller Skating Association. As a member of these organizations, he has consistently been at the forefront of campaigns and projects designed to improve and beautify the city. In addition, Mr. Smith successfully balances his time as a community leader with his employment as an Administrative Security Tech at the Great Lakes Tech Center, and as a member of Grace Emmanuel Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I am appreciative of Andre Smith's contributions to the Flint community. His civic awareness has made our city a better place in which to live. I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to please join me in congratulating him for his dedication and perseverance.

REGARDING THE DEATH OF PROVIDENCE POLICE DETECTIVE
JAMES L. ALLEN

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to express my deepest sympathy and condolences to Mayor Cicilline, Chief Esserman, the entire Providence Police Department, the friends and the family of Detective James L. Allen, a 27-year veteran of the police force in Providence, Rhode Island who was tragically killed early Sunday morning inside his own police station. I want to honor this heroic man by sharing his story with fellow Members of Congress and the nation.

Detective Allen embodied the great courage and dedication of those who risk their lives in order to protect others. His was known by his colleagues as being exceptionally talented in remembering names, faces and dates—so much so that they endearingly referred to him as "Rainman" in the department. He was also known as an extremely hard worker who never sought the limelight for himself, despite the fact that he handled high-profile cases and

acted heroically on many occasions during his over two decade-long performance of duty. In 1987, Detective Allen ran through a burning tenement house and evacuated several people who were sleeping inside. In 1989, he received a "Chiefs Award" for an outstanding act in the performance of duty. On this past Saturday night, he was once again going above and beyond the call of duty by returning to the police station after enjoying dinner with his family in order to "pull out all the stops" in the investigation of a vicious crime which had occurred earlier in the day.

He was clearly very proud of following in the footsteps of his father, retired Providence Police Captain Lloyd Allen. Out of a force of 500 officers, Detective Allen was one of the 20 longest-serving. Sadly, he is the third Providence police officer killed on the job since 1994. Incidents such as this one remind us of the daily sacrifice and risk endured by members of our law enforcement communities, who deserve the utmost appreciation from all of us. Detective Allen leaves his wife, Marguerite, and two daughters, Jennifer, 15 and Caitlin, 14, behind. Although his life ended abruptly in great tragedy, his legacy of selflessness, kindness, and service to his community will continue on.

RECOGNIZING MR. DONNIE R.
WHEELER OF VIRGINIA BEACH,
VIRGINIA, PRESIDENT OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CLEAN WATER AGENCIES, FOR
HIS SERVICE AND DEDICATION

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Donnie R. Wheeler, General Manager of the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) in Virginia Beach, VA. Mr. Wheeler is an exceptional leader and public steward dedicated to the Nation's and Virginia's environment and public health. It is a great pleasure to congratulate Mr. Wheeler on becoming the first President of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), formerly the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA). No one could be more deserving of this leadership position.

A graduate of Virginia Tech, Mr. Wheeler was employed by the Virginia State Water Control Board for seven years before joining HRSD in 1974. Mr. Wheeler's distinguished career with HRSD—a nationally recognized regional wastewater treatment utility, which serves 17 cities and counties covering 3,100 square miles of southeast Virginia—has spanned three decades. Under his management, HRSD has been honored with a host of awards from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and is recognized as a state innovator for initiatives such as Virginia's first municipal water reuse project.

On May 2, 2005, the members of NACWA elected Mr. Wheeler to be the president of the Association stemming from his exemplary commitment and dedication to the clean-water community.

With Mr. Wheeler as President, NACWA will no doubt be the leading advocate for responsible national policies that advance clean