

On Friday, June 23rd, Lance Corporal Charette died near Fallujah, Iraq, when her unit was attacked by a vehicle-borne explosive device. She was serving with Headquarters Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, out of Camp Lejeune, NC. Lance Corporal Charette grew up in Coventry, Rhode Island, and was an avid athlete who enjoyed competing as part of the field hockey team and cheerleading squad. She made the decision to enlist with the Marine Corps in 2002, desiring to serve her country after the attacks of September 11th. When her company completed training at Camp Lejeune, Lance Corporal Charette was deployed with them to Iraq in an administrative position, charged with handling the correspondence of her fellow Marines keeping touch with their friends and loved ones. She is survived by her mother, Regina Roberts, stepfather Ed Roberts, her father, Raymond Charette, three brothers and her fiancé.

The loss of Lance Corporal Charette gives us reason to reflect upon the courage demonstrated by our men and women in uniform on a daily basis, as they work to protect freedom around the world. They answered the call to duty without reservation, accepting the obligation of preserving freedom, liberty and the security of others no matter the danger. We must remember those who have fallen not only as marines, soldiers, sailors and airmen, but as patriots who made the ultimate sacrifice for us. May we keep their loved ones in our thoughts and prayers as they struggle to endure this difficult period and mourn the heroes America has lost.

We will continue to hope for the safe and speedy return of all of our troops serving throughout the world.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE LEAD-FREE DRINKING WATER ACT OF 2005

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the bill introduced today has been summoned by the District's lead water crisis. The national attention our crisis generated for the likely presence of lead in the water supply drew many jurisdictions to do their own investigations uncovering similar problems. When Senator JAMES JEFFORDS, Representative HENRY WAXMAN, and I looked at the 1974 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and the Lead and Copper Rule, it was clear that even the revision of the Rule in 1991 did not meet standards that should have been adopted at that time. Our bill incorporates what we have learned from hearings on the D.C. water crisis this year and from the state of the current science. This bill would lay to rest well-placed anxiety about lead in the drinking water here and nationwide.

The District of Columbia has provided us with a virtual case study in why the Act must be revised. Here are some of the most important provisions taken from the D.C. experience: (1) Valid Testing. This bill eliminates the giant loophole that allowed the D.C. Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) to continue testing once it exceeded the 15 parts per billion (ppb) action level, in order to dilute its find-

ings, reduce the percentage of homes to less than 10 percent, and thus relieve WASA of the requirement to replace lead service lines. Instead, 10 percent of lead pipes must be replaced until all are eliminated. (2) Total Lead Service Line Replacement. Instead of replacing only publicly owned lead service lines, this bill requires total replacement, including the portion owned by the homeowner. Our hearings showed that partial replacement can actually increase the amount of lead in drinking water, because the new metal, such as brass or copper, can interact with the remaining lead pipe and accelerate: lead leaching into the drinking water. (3) Individual Notice From Detection to Correction. Instead of allowing public notices to be delayed or buried, using generic language deep in a brochure or water bill, as WASA did, our bill requires notice to all customers, individually within 30 days of lead exceedance, stating the scope of testing, results and corrective actions. (4) Alternative Water Supply. Where excessive lead is found, the bill requires that certified water filters be provided to each residence, school and day care facility, a measure that was delayed in the District despite the danger to pregnant women and children under six. (5) Testing Water Treatment Chemicals. The Army Corps of Engineers switched chemicals at the Washington Aqueduct from chlorine to chloramines without conducting a corrosion control test. The evidence is that the new chemical is the likely cause of the spike in lead levels here, but only now are phosphates being tested to counter lead corrosion in the water supply. This bill requires water systems to have corrosion control plans within one year of switching chemical treatment or a finding of excessive lead in the water. (6) Lead Free Plumbing. "Lead free" in this bill is defined as 0.2 percent, the standard already used in Los Angeles, down from the current 8 percent. We heard testimony at our hearings that most brass and copper plumbing contains 8 percent lead. (7) Lead Testing In Schools. This bill requires the repair or replacement of school water coolers found to have excessive lead. Annual testing of water coolers in schools is also required.

The District of Columbia experience has opened the nation's eyes to lead in the water that millions of Americans may be drinking. Our bill will reduce the well-earned fears of residents here and across the country.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF MOBERLY, MISSOURI

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, since its beginnings in Ancient Egypt and the first Olympic Games in Greece, boxing has evolved into a multifaceted sport and industry spanning the globe. Figures such as Jack Dempsey, Rocky Marciano and Muhammad Ali have captivated the American public and become icons in our sports culture.

Mr. Speaker, the City of Moberly, Missouri, located in my district, holds a unique place in boxing's rich history, and I rise today in recognition of that history.

There are few names that are as synonymous with boxing as Jack Dempsey, who rose

to greatness as a heavyweight prizefighter in the 1920s. After becoming the world heavyweight champion, Dempsey made an appearance in Moberly in 1922.

While training for bouts in 1917, Jack Dempsey approached Jacob Golomb, a small New York sporting goods retailer and manufacturer, and asked if he could make protective headgear for sparring. Golomb fulfilled that request and cemented his role in boxing, as his company, Everlast, would become the premier manufacturer of boxing gloves, equipment and apparel. When Dempsey won the heavyweight title, he sported Everlast gloves and shorts. Since then, the list of acclaimed fighters who have donned Everlast gear is too numerous to list here.

Although headquartered in New York City, Everlast's production facilities are today located in Moberly, Missouri. John Ratzenberger's *Made in America*, a TV show on the Travel Channel, recently produced a segment on the Everlast plant in Moberly. Ratzenberger visited the 300,000 square foot facility and learned how boxing gloves are made and a little about what it takes to be a fighter. If you have not seen this episode or the *Made in America* series, I would highly recommend it.

From hosting high-profile boxing events in the 1920's to making the gear that outfits today's champions, the city of Moberly is rightfully proud of its boxing heritage and the important role it plays in boxing today. For this reason, I rise to recognize Moberly's valuable contribution to the sport of boxing and to bring this to the attention of my colleagues.

TRIBUTE TO THE DOMINICAN DAY PARADE AND FESTIVAL OF THE BRONX

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to the sixteenth annual Dominican Day Parade and Festival of the Bronx which will take place Sunday, July 17, 2005. This famed event is eagerly anticipated by the Dominican and Bronx communities each year. It is a wonderful celebration of the spirit and richness of Dominican culture.

Under its founder and president, Felipe Febles, the Bronx Dominican Day Parade, Inc., (La Gran Parada Dominicana de El Bronx) has grown into an important institution to increase the self awareness and pride of the Dominican people in order to promote economic development, education, cultural recognition, and advancement.

As the second largest Latino community in New York City, Dominicans have made invaluable contributions to the city, as well as to the entire nation. Although the highest concentration of Dominican people live in Washington Heights, a significant number have enriched the Bronx with their unique culture and spirit. The Dominican culture is one characterized by, among other things, diverse multiculturalism, strong family values, distinctive art, amazing music and unique cuisine. We are grateful that so many have chosen to make the Bronx home.

Mr. Speaker, the roots of Dominican New Yorkers lie in a country with a fascinating history and arresting beauty. The Dominican Republic is the home of a number of people from various heritages. As a result, the culture is charged with strong Taino, African, and European influences. One visit to the Dominican Republic will put to rest any questions one might have as to why Dominicans in America retain such a strong sense of pride in their homeland and never stop missing it.

The achievements and contributions made by Dominican-Americans and Dominican residents have spanned the realms of politics, science, the Armed Forces, literature, public service, and the arts, and undoubtedly make them an integral part of American society. The Dominican Day Parade and Festival of the Bronx is a great opportunity to celebrate the Dominican people's culture, history, and bright future.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in honoring the Dominican Day Parade and Festival of the Bronx.

HONORING THE TOWN OF
AINSWORTH

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize before this body the Town of Ainsworth as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary this year.

Named for a young immigrant from Dorchester, England, "Uncle Tom" Ainsworth, the Ainsworth name has long been a fixture of my district.

Uncle Tom Ainsworth and his brothers played a key role in the agricultural development of the area, which included tending dams on the Wolf River. His descendants over the years have held several leadership positions to help continue the pride Uncle Tom had for his new home.

Today, the Town of Ainsworth continues to hold tight to its agricultural roots with abundant natural resources and farming opportunities that keep its economy solid.

Mr. Speaker, though the official anniversary date was April 4, 2005, I would like to extend congratulations on the past 100 years of success as the Town of Ainsworth holds its centennial celebration on July 2. And I wish the town and its citizens the best of wishes in the next 100 years.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
VILLAGE OF CURTIS

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a community in my district that is celebrating its 100th anniversary as a village. On Sunday, July 3, 2005, the residents of the village of Curtis, Michigan, will host a parade to honor their history that 100 years ago began with the establishment of a post office. The official Centennial Celebration will take place September 2nd through 4th.

Local historians have documented evidence of human civilization in the area dating back more than 13,000 years. Explanations suggest that native tribes moved with the gradual northern movement of the glaciers that sculpted the region and helped structure the forest and copper rich area, now known as the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Excavation sites dating back as early as 3500 B.C., show evidence that seven spots were used to extract copper.

As time went on, Native American Indian tribes visited Curtis as a favorite camping site while early historical references indicate explorers traversed nearby waterways in search of resources and western passages from the 1600s to the late 1800s. However, settlement and population growth began in 1881 when the Detroit, Mackinac and Marquette Railroad was built bringing lumber workers to the area. A township board was elected in 1887 to locally govern Portage Township with just over 150 people residing in its borders.

In 1905, the Manistique Railroad that ran from Grand Marais to Seney and Germfask was extended to Curtis and a post office was established. The first postmaster facilitating the operation was Mark Howard Miller. A sawmill started by Jesse Sherbrook later that year in Saw-wa-qua-to-beach on South Manistique Lake gave the town the resources they needed to establish itself.

What began as a town of roughly 75 people, Curtis and the surrounding township now make up approximately 1,000 residents. Through the years, this close knit community has thrived as the tourist, fishing and logging industries have flourished in the area. Nestled between the two beautiful, large, pristine Manistique Lakes, the people of Curtis have grown to be nothing short of a family. Many of the names of original settlers can still be found among the rosters of the 13 civic and fraternal organizations including the Lions, Fireworks Committee, Ladies Aid, The Fish Coop, and the Curtis Community Arts Council. Curtis's four churches, library, school, medical clinic, post office, bank and public housing facility make the town completely self-sufficient and an attraction for families and businesses looking to move into an All-American community.

The history of Curtis contains many interesting facts and figures as well as tales of its growth as an area inhabited for over 1,000 years by early mankind. As a small town tucked between waterways and engulfed in thick forests in the middle of Michigan's eastern Upper Peninsula, the people of Curtis were able to build their community with their own resources and based on their own value driven standards to create an amazing town. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the village of Curtis and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century.

MILITARY PERSONNEL FINANCIAL
SERVICES PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2005

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, the House passed H.R. 458, the

Military Personnel Financial Services Protection Act. This important piece of legislation prevents the sale of abusive insurance and investment products, such as contractual plans, to military personnel.

Contractual plans, which have all but disappeared from civilian markets, offer individuals the opportunity to invest small amounts of money on a regular basis over an extended period of time. Generally, these contractual plans require that investors make monthly installments for a period of 15 to 20 years and charge up front the commission that would be expected over the life of the contract. Because these plans require that commission fees be paid in the first few years of the contract, the investor's account is not fully credited during this period. Furthermore, investors who drop out of these plans before the designated end of the contract sacrifice all the prepaid commission and often find that the number of shares they own is considerably less than what they could have purchased directly.

A series of articles in the New York Times highlighted the abusive sale of these financial products to members of the Armed Services. While most financial service providers supply their military customers with honest and accurate information, some have engaged in unfair and deceptive practices in an effort to increase their own profits. The men and women who defend our country deserve better.

I supported H.R. 458 because it ensures that our troops are protected from the potentially abusive sales of certain financial products. By enacting new regulations and prohibiting the sale of mutual funds sold through contractual plans, H.R. 458 provides military personnel with the proper assurances they need to make informed financial decisions.

THE IMMIGRANT VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE PROTECTION ACT OF 2005: PROTECTING ALL BATTERED IMMIGRANT WOMEN AND CHILDREN

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I'm introducing the Immigrant Victims of Violence Protection Act because there is a perverse incentive in U.S. law for immigrant women to stay with their abusive spouses in order to preserve their immigration status. My legislation will help immigrant women who need to leave their abusive spouses by preventing their deportation and providing them access to work permits and legal and social services.

Violence against women is a profound and extremely pervasive problem, striking across economic, cultural and ethnic backgrounds, and across all age groups. If we are to stop violence against women, all victims need protection and assistance without regard to their immigration status. Escaping domestic violence can be especially difficult for immigrant women and their children. The threat of deportation, cultural and language barriers, lack of a work permit and limited access to legal and social services may make immigrant victims of domestic violence more dependent on their abusive spouses.

That is why including the Immigrant Victims of Violence Protection Act as part of VAWA