

and cell phone/iPod combination devices are now on the market. What will happen when pop-up advertisements begin to appear on children's cell phones that specifically target them for the junk food that they like best at a place where that food is easily obtainable? The answer to the obesity and media question is complex. A committee at the National Academy of Sciences is currently charged with studying the link between media advertising and childhood obesity. Will the National Academy of Sciences panel have the data they need to answer this important question? A definitive answer has the potential to save a considerable amount of money in other areas of our budget. For example, child health care costs that are linked to childhood obesity issues could be reduced by understanding and altering media diets.

After two adolescent boys shot and killed some of their teachers, classmates, and then turned their guns on themselves at Columbine High School, we asked ourselves if media played some role in this tragedy. Did these boys learn to kill in part from playing first-person shooter video games like Doom where they acted as a killer? Were they rehearsing criminal activities when playing this game? There is rising concern about extremely violent video games. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed a bill October 7 that will prohibit the sale of "ultraviolent" video games to children under 18 without parental approval. In August, the American Psychological Association passed a resolution calling for less violence in computer and video games sold to children, citing research suggesting that the games contribute to aggressive behavior. The Federal Trade Commission reports that 40 percent of children under 18 play mature-rated video games. A person who plays mature-rated video games at least 40 minutes per day views 5,400 incidents of aggression per month, according to the Journal of Broadcasting and Electronic Media. With so many of our children immersed in an electronic environment saturated with violent images, we have cause for serious concern.

In the violence and media area, Congress passed legislation so that research was conducted about the relationship between media violence and childhood aggression, and as a result, we know more. Even though much of this database is older and involves the link between exposure to violent television programs and childhood aggression, some answers were forthcoming about how the Columbine tragedy could have taken place. Even so, there is still a considerable amount of speculation about the more complex questions. Why did these particular boys, for example, pull the trigger in real life while others who played Doom confine their aggressive acts to the gaming context? We need to be able to answer questions about which children under what circumstances will translate game playing into real-life lethal actions. Investing in media research could potentially reduce our budgets associated with adolescent crime and delinquency as well as reduce real-life human misery and suffering.

Many of us believe that our children are becoming increasingly materialistic. Does exposure to commercial advertising and the "good life" experienced by media characters partly explain materialistic attitudes? We're not sure. Why then are we exposing children to heavy doses of advertisements in many of our na-

tion's schools through Channel1 Network where "free" television sets to schools are provided in exchange for a small fee: unfettered access to advertise to children during school time? As streaming video programming proliferates on computers, cell phones and personal digital assistants, advertisers have more avenues to reach our children and bombard them with pro-consumption messages. As technology advances and becomes increasingly widespread among younger children, parents are justifiably concerned about losing control over the messages their children receive. Recent research using brain-mapping techniques finds that an adult who sees images of desired products demonstrates patterns of brain activation that are typically associated with reaching out with a hand. How does repeatedly seeing attractive products affect our children and their developing brains? What will happen when our children will be able to click on their television screen and go directly to sites that advertise the products that they see in their favorite programs? Or use their cell phone/iPod to download music or pay for products that they want immediately? Why should they wait? Why should they work for long-term goals? Exactly what kind of values are we cultivating in our children, and what role does exposure to media content play in the development of those values?

A research report linked very early television viewing with later symptoms that are common in children who have attention deficit disorders. However, we don't know the direction of the relationship. Does television viewing cause attention deficits, or do children who have attention deficits find television viewing experiences more engaging than children who don't have attention problems? Or do parents whose children have difficulty sustaining attention let them watch more television to encourage more sitting and less hyperactive behavior? How will Internet experiences, particularly those where children move rapidly across different windows, influence attention patterns and attention problems? Once again, we don't know the answer. If early television exposure does disrupt the development of children's attention patterns, resulting in their placement in special education programs, actions taken to reduce screen exposure during the early years could lead to subsequent reductions in children's need for special education classes, thereby saving money while fostering children's development in positive ways.

We want no child left behind in the 21st century. Many of us believe that time spent with computers is good for our children, teaching them the skills that they will need for success in the 21st century. Are we right? How is time spent with computers different from time spent with television? Or time spent with books? What are the underlying mechanisms that facilitate or disrupt children's learning from these varying media? Can academic development be fostered by the use of interactive online programs designed to teach as they entertain? In the first 6 years of life, Caucasian more so than African American or Latino children have Internet access from their homes. Can our newer interactive media help ensure that no child is left behind, or will disparities in access result in leaving some behind and not others?

The questions about how media affect the development of our children are clearly important, abundant, and complex. Unfortunately,

the answers to these questions are in short supply. Such gaps in our knowledge base limit our ability to make informed decisions about media policy.

We know that media are important. Over the years, we have held numerous hearings in these chambers about how exposure to media violence affects childhood aggression. We passed legislation to maximize the documented benefits of exposure to educational media, such as the Children's Television Act which requires broadcasters to provide educational and informational television programs for children. Can we foster children's moral values when they are exposed to prosocial programs that foster helping, sharing, and cooperating like those that have come into being as a result of the Children's Television Act?

We acted to protect our children from unfair commercial practices by passing the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act which provides safeguards from exploitation for our youth as they explore the Internet, a popular pastime for them. Yet the Internet has provided new ways to reach children with marketing that we barely know is taking place, making our ability to protect our children all the more difficult. We worry about our children's inadvertent exposure to online pornography—about how that kind of exposure may undermine their moral values and standards of decency. In these halls of Congress, we acted to protect our children by passing the Communications Decency Act, the Child Online Protection Act, and the Children's Internet Protection Act to shield children from exposure to sexually-explicit online content that is deemed harmful to minors. While we all agree that we need to protect our children from online pornography, we know very little about how to address even the most practical of questions such as how to prevent children from falling prey to adult strangers who approach them online. There are so many areas in which our understanding is preliminary at best, particularly in those areas that involve the effects of our newer digital media.

By passing the Children and Media Research Advancement Act, we can advance knowledge and enhance the constructive effects of media while minimizing the negative ones. We can make future media policies that are grounded in a solid knowledge base. We can be proactive, rather than reactive.

In so doing, we build a better Nation for our youth, fostering the kinds of values that are the backbone of this great Nation of ours, and we create a better foundation to guide future media policies about the digital experiences that pervade our children's daily lives.

RECOGNIZING SHEILA DAUGHERTY
OF NAPA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend Sheila Daugherty of Napa, CA as she is honored by the Salvation Army Napa Corps.

The story of Sheila Daugherty is uniquely American. Growing up in a large Irish family, Sheila was taught the importance of helping others and serving one's community. She has

lived her life guided by the motto, "See something that needs to be done and do it."

Sheila was a Captain in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, serving as a Civic Action Officer during the Vietnam War. Her service was rewarded with the U.S. Army Commendation Medal, the U.S. Army National Defense Medal and the Vietnam Campaign Medal.

For nearly 30 years, Sheila has devoted her life to working to improve the quality of life in the Napa Valley through a variety of positions including the Napa Valley Unified School District Board of Trustees, Board of Directors for the Volunteer Center of Napa County, the Queen of the Valley Hospital Board of Directors and volunteering for countless other civic causes.

For the past 11 years Sheila has worked closely with juveniles who suffer from drug and alcohol addictions. In 1997 Sheila implemented an outpatient substance abuse program for teenagers in Napa County. She was the driving force behind the creation of the Napa Tattoo Taboo program, which helps former gang members shed the symbols of their past by removing gang related tattoos.

In recognition of her contributions Sheila Daugherty is to be honored with the Salvation Army Napa Corps' "Other's Award" on September 16, 2005.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, it is appropriate today that we join in thanking Sheila Daugherty for her unwavering dedication to and love for our community. On behalf of the House of Representatives, I am proud to extend our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Sheila, her husband Lewis, sons Eugene and Matthew and two granddaughters Cecilia and Frances.

13TH ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DAY IN FLOWER MOUND, TEXAS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 13th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day commemorative event in Flower Mound, TX, my home town.

As a leader in non-violent resistance, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. strongly advanced human rights with hope to end racial prejudice in the United States. In 1986, Martin Luther King Day was established as a U.S. national holiday in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Today, this honored memorial is observed on the third Monday of January each year, around the time of King's birthday. On January 18, 1993, for the first time, Martin Luther King Day was officially observed in all 50 U.S. states.

To honor the efforts of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Baha'is of Flower Mound, joined with the Town of Flower Mound, the Tau Rho Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha and other supporters, are sponsoring events commemorating and celebrating Dr. King's inspirational work. This celebration is intended to influence and educate young minds about the significance of freedom, liberty, and the acceptance of all individuals regardless of race, gender, national origin, religion, or social stratum. This year's events include Art and Essay

contests among local middle and high school students. Twenty-eight prizes of \$75 to \$150 each will be awarded to winners. In addition, world-class runner, Gilbert Tuhabonye of Austin, will give the keynote address.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor today that I recognize this 13th annual event commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Flower Mound. Education and inspiration are a few of the most important gifts we can give our children, and I believe this event honors a man who showed such vision and wisdom.

PROTECTION OF LAWFUL COMMERCE IN ARMS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I am opposed to S. 397, the Gun Manufacturers Liability Protection Act. It is hard to imagine how people who have lived through the sniper experience in Washington, DC, and those who deal with potential terrorist acts in the United States would want to specifically weaken potential sanctions against people who abuse their business of selling firearms.

This legislation would have given a pass for the infamous Tacoma, WA, gun dealer who "lost" more than 200 weapons, one of which ended up in the hands of the sniper who killed 11 people in Washington, DC. Why anyone would want to shield people for that sort of reckless and illegal behavior is mystifying and it is certainly not worthy of passage by the House of Representatives. Were it not for gun politics, this legislation would never have seen the light of day.

HONORING CAMERON REEVES OF LAKE COUNTY, CA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cameron L. Reeves of Lake County, CA, as he retires after a distinguished 24-year career providing superior legal advice and a profound knowledge of the law to the Lake County Board of Supervisors as the chief county counsel.

Cameron was born and raised in a small, rural town in Oklahoma. After graduating from San Diego State University with a degree in political science, Cameron enlisted in the military. He began his military career in 1966 serving as an Army Security Agency warrant officer working on profile missions involving North Korea and Vietnam.

It was while serving in the armed forces Cameron decided he wanted to attend law school. While balancing a family and his day job with the State government, Cameron earned his law degree from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in 1974.

Mr. Speaker, in 1981, Cameron embarked upon what would become an unprecedented 24-year career as the chief county counsel for Lake County. A steadfast, selfless, hard work-

ing man, Cameron sought out Lake County's most challenging problems and faced them head on. When Cameron arrived, there was no formal plan to direct the legal course of action for Lake County. Therefore he created the Legal Lake County General Plan, the first of its kind in this area. He has also worked extensively to harbor a strong relationship with neighboring Yolo County working through very contentious water rights issues between the two counties.

Mr. Speaker, Cameron is highly respected throughout the county and has committed himself to the position of chief county counsel with the desire to better his community. Throughout his career, Cameron has been a constant wealth of knowledge and insight helping to guide and inform 17 Supervisors, enabling them to make the best decisions for the people of Lake County. His fellow colleagues have stated it will be difficult to replace Cameron, a man of extreme integrity and intelligence.

In retirement, Cameron plans on traveling around the U.S. and spending more time with his wife, Sharon, and their four children, Layne, Marcy, Leslie and Brandon.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IN GREATER NEW YORK AND ITS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION HONOREE, FORMER PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 24, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the American Red Cross in Greater New York (ARC/GNY), which held its centennial celebration on October 20, 2005. At this wonderful event, the ARC/GNY honored former President Bill Clinton for his leadership of humanitarian efforts in war and disease-ravaged areas throughout the world. I trust that the members of this chamber will join me in recognizing the tremendous efforts of both the New York Red Cross and our former President to relieve suffering both here in the United States and in the international community.

Though the International Red Cross has roots that stretch back to the mid-nineteenth century, the first Red Cross Chapter in New York City was established in Brooklyn in 1905. Since its founding, the New York Red Cross has played a leadership role in many of the most significant events of our time. In 1911, a fire destroyed the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in Manhattan, killing 145 workers. Fortunately, the New York Red Cross was there to provide support and financial assistance to victims and their families. The following year, Red Cross volunteers assisted hundreds of survivors of the Titanic disaster, as well.

New York Red Cross volunteers also played important roles in both World Wars, feeding soldiers traveling to Europe and the Pacific, recruiting nurses and doctors, supplying medical equipment and clothing, and, perhaps most significantly, organizing and staffing hospitals overseas in support of the Army's medical program. In 1959, the American Red Cross in Greater New York was founded,