

We are sad to see her go, but Sarah is moving on to the next prestigious phase of her career at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, TX where she will pursue post-doctoral work.

In a recent AAAS column detailing her Washington, DC experience Sarah wrote, "Scientists have a vital role to play in creating sound science policy and I am thrilled to be a part of that process." Mr. Speaker, Sarah's input as both a scientist and a scholar have been invaluable to our Committee this past year. I thank her for her dedicated service and wish her the very best in what promises to be an exciting career.

HONORING SPECIALIST DANIEL
BARTELS

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I am saddened to report the passing of Specialist Daniel Bartels. He was killed, while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The lives of countless people were enormously enhanced by Daniel's goodwill and service. He inspired all those who knew him. Our nation is a far better place because of his life. All Americans owe Daniel, and the other soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom, a tremendous debt of gratitude for their service.

Every member of the House of Representatives has taken a solemn oath to defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. While we certainly understand the gravity of the issues facing this legislative body, Specialist Daniel Bartels lived that commitment to our country. Today, we remember and honor his noble service to the United States and the ultimate sacrifice he has paid with his life to defend our freedoms and foster liberty for others.

Mr. Speaker, I express my sympathies to the family and friends of Specialist Daniel Bartels. I believe the best way to honor him is to emulate his commitment to our country. I know he will always be missed, but his service to our Nation will never be forgotten.

PROTECTION OF LAWFUL
COMMERCE IN ARMS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to S. 397, the "Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act."

This bill denies for all Americans the right to bring civil suits against gun manufacturers and dealers for negligence or gross negligence in all but a very limited number of cases.

As an example of what this means, say a gun store owner left his shop unlocked and unattended, even just briefly, with guns available for anyone to take. If someone took one of these guns and used it to injure or kill, the victim would have no recourse.

Imagine if I changed my example to one involving a store selling other lethal items, like chemicals. Would people not want to see owner pay for the victim's injuries? Of course.

In fact, the victim in my second example would be able to sue. That's because the immunity S. 397 grants is unique—no other group has such broad and sweeping legal protections. What makes this industry so entitled but others not so?

And, the lawsuits blocked by this bill have in the past, and would in the future, force the industry to change its behavior and protect our safety (such as in the case of the DC sniper).

Don't take my word for it. Mr. Robert Ricker, a former gun industry lobbyist for almost twenty years, in a sworn statement said the following: "Leaders in the industry have long known that greater industry action to prevent illegal transactions is possible and would curb the supply of firearms to the illegal market. However, until faced with a serious threat of civil liability for past conduct, leaders in the industry have consistently resisted taking constructive voluntary action to prevent firearms from ending up in the illegal gun market. . . ."

I know its not a popular viewpoint today, but I believe in our American judicial system. I believe that generally cases without merit are dismissed, cases with merit are properly adjudicated, and sometimes parties will settle for their mutual benefit. As such, Congress need not step in and make decisions on liability, as in this case, for judges, juries, and states across the nation. Let's let our system work as intended.

I urge my colleagues to reject this unnecessary and unwise piece of legislation.

CONGRATULATING MAYOR GER-
ALD ALSIP ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations to Mayor Gerald Alsip on his retirement from the City of Roseville, Michigan.

Mayor Alsip's exceptional career in public service spans 28 years. He has served the City of Roseville as a city council person for 16 years and Mayor for 12 years. Mayor Alsip's tenure has seen fiscal stability at the city and numerous local projects which have brought vitality and a sense of pride to the community. The new Recreation Center, renovations of the Library/City Hall and Police/Court complex, the opening of the Senior Center, and a variety of new businesses along the Gratiot corridor are highlights of an established community moving forward to serve its residents.

Mayor Alsip's record of accomplishment demonstrates his leadership abilities and his dedication to the City of Roseville and its residents. Jerry Alsip attended and graduated from Roseville Community Schools. He and his wife, Sharon are parents of 3 daughters, Sandra, Shannon and Amanda and proud grandparents of Hunter and Payton with a third grandchild due in November. Jerry Alsip has also been employed for 33 years at the Macomb County Circuit Court-Juvenile Division, currently serving as the Juvenile Division Administrator.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Mayor Jerry Alsip for his years of effective service to the City of Roseville and for his tireless commitment to the well-being of its citizens. With our Congressional offices now located in Roseville, I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with Mayor Alsip and I extend my heartiest congratulations and warmest wishes as he starts this new chapter in his life.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM RAN-
DOLPH COOK AND PATRICIA
COLETTE GREEN ON THEIR UP-
COMING NUPTIALS

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and pay tribute to two people who are bound by their love for each other and by their service to God and our community. It is one of these ties that I want to recognize today, for William Randolph Cook and Patricia Colette Green are getting married on Saturday, October 29, 2005 at Mount Hemon African Methodist Episcopal Church in Miami Gardens, Florida.

They both served their country with distinction and honor in the U.S. Army. Patricia joined the U.S. Army in 1991 and served until 1994, receiving several commendations for service. Patricia is now a middle school teacher at Bob Graham Education Center. William served in the U.S. Army for four years. William now works for the Dade County Police Department in the PST Division and has received several unit citations from the Dade County Police Department.

They are both native Floridians who returned to the State after their military service and decided to serve the residents of Florida by helping to eradicate drugs from the neighborhood and teaching youth in urban North Miami.

I think the quote from Emily Bronte that they plan to use in their wedding program speaks to their commitment to each other, "whatever our souls are made of, his and mine are the same."

Each is a valuable contributing member of the South Florida family, and together they have truly emerged as leaders helping to foster the empowerment of a people and an overall better quality of life in our community. Our prayers and good wishes go with them for a long and happy life together.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE ROSA
PARKS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today America celebrates the life of Rosa Parks. Fifty years ago a brave lady said "no," she would not go to the back of the bus and she helped end a sad chapter in American history. When Rosa Parks refused to move she stood tall for what America is about—for the dignity of every person and for human rights. Rosa

Parks helped make us a better country. Rosa Parks made us all proud.

HONORING DRs. ORA AND MARK
PESCOVITZ

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. BURTON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to pay tribute to two outstanding Hoosiers, Drs. Ora and Mark Pescovitz who were recently recognized at the Indiana-Israel Dinner of State held in Indianapolis on September 18, 2005—sponsored by the State of Israel Bonds/Development Corporation—for their years of dedicated service to the people of Indiana and to the State of Israel.

Since 1951, the State of Israel Bonds/Development Corporation for Israel has issued securities in the name of the government of Israel for the development of every aspect of Israel's economy, including agriculture, commerce and industry. Israel Bonds has secured close to more than \$26 billion in investment capital, and throughout its history, Israel has maintained a perfect record on the payment of principal and interest on the securities it has issued. From humble beginnings, Israel Bond has gone from a fledgling idea, to a powerful legacy of achievement; in the process becoming the financial bedrock upon which the modern State of Israel was built.

This simple concept of investment in people and communities is also the bedrock upon which Drs. Ora and Mark Pescovitz have built their lives. Dr. Ora Pescovitz serves as an Executive Dean for Research at Indiana University School of Medicine as well as CEO and President of Riley Hospital for Children—the only comprehensive children's hospital in the state of Indiana, where thousands of patients and families travel to every year to seek diagnosis and treatment from one of Riley's many specialists. As if that weren't enough she has served on numerous committees of Endocrine Society and was chair of the 2002 Annual Meeting Steering Committee, she has served as President of the Society for Pediatric Research—the nation's largest pediatric research organization—been on six journal editorial boards, and is currently serving as the President of the Lawson Wilkins Pediatric Endocrine Society, chair of the March of Dimes Grants Review Committee, and a member of the Ad-Hoc Group for Medical Research Funding.

Dr. Ora has even found time to publish more than 170 manuscripts and books, including a recently published renowned textbook on Pediatric Endocrinology, and her awards and accolades are many including, a Research Career Development Award from the National Institutes of Health, Indiana University School of Medicine's highest Teaching Award, and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Northwestern's Feinberg School of Medicine.

Dr. Mark Pescovitz's contributions are just as impressive. He is currently serving as Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Surgery at Indiana University, and since 1988, he has been a member of the Division of Transplant Surgery. Dr. Mark is also actively involved in the transplant community in the U.S. and around the world, serving on many na-

tional and international committees—most recently the Executive Council of the United Network of Organ Sharing, the umbrella organization that regulates transplant organs—and lecturing on the subject worldwide.

Dr. Mark is as prolific a researcher and writer as his wife, publishing over 200 articles in scientific journals and serving on the editorial boards of the three primary transplant journals. His primary research interests are new drugs to prevent transplant rejection and viral infections, but more recently he has combined his knowledge of immunology with that of diabetes and is directing a world-wide study designed to treat patients recently diagnosed with type-1 diabetes with the ultimate goal of eliminating their need for insulin. Dr. Mark Pescovitz is also famous for being the first doctor to perform a pancreas transplant for diabetes in Indiana—shortly after his arrival at Indiana University—essentially single-handedly creating the pancreas transplant program in the Department of Surgery at Indiana University.

Over the years, Drs. Ora and Mark Pescovitz have also spent time nurturing their Indiana and Jewish roots, opening their home to host numerous events for the Jewish community including for the Maimonides Association, Beth-El Zedeck, the Hasten Hebrew Academy, NCJW, the Borns Center for Jewish Studies at Indiana University, Israel Bonds and the Jewish Federation. Dr. Mark is also a member of the board of the Jewish Federation and Jewish Community Relations Council, as well as a member of the boards of the Indianapolis Opera, the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, and the Herron School of Art.

Mr. Speaker, individually and together, the Pescovitzes' contributions to the United States, to the people of Indiana, and Indiana Jewish Community, and to the State of Israel represent the highest tradition of selfless public service, civic stewardship and commitment to others. Their praiseworthy efforts were recognized at the Northwest Indiana-Israel Dinner of State, and I ask my colleagues to join me now to commend and congratulate Drs. Ora and Mark Pescovitz for their outstanding achievements, and their lives of service.

IN HONOR OF ROSA PARKS

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we lost one of the truly great figures in American history, Rosa Parks. I rise to honor the life of the Civil Rights icon known for her strong and quite courage. Ms. Parks was a seamstress at the Montgomery Fair department store in Montgomery, Alabama. It was her refusal to surrender a bus seat to a white man that launched the modern civil rights movement 50 years ago and inspired generations of activists.

During the 1950's, this nation was at a turning point in the area of race relations. Looking back, the Civil Rights movement had been building up, but a special moment, a spark, was needed to wake the national conscious. Rosa Parks stand provided that spark, and later became known as the "mother of the civil rights movement".

The arrest of Rosa Parks inspired a young Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. to organize the famous Montgomery Bus Boycott. The 381 day Montgomery Bus Boycott, became one of the largest and most successful challenges of segregation, which drew more attention towards the civil rights movement.

Ms. Parks dedicated her life towards achieving equality and freedom for all, serving as secretary of the NAACP and later the Adviser to the NAACP Youth Council, helping African Americans pass special tests which would allow them to register to vote. Mrs. Parks continued on her journey for racial equality when she tried to register to vote on several unsuccessful attempts.

Over the years, Rosa Parks dedicated her time to educating her fellow Americans on the history of the civil rights struggle. In 1987, with the help of Elaine Eason Steele, Parks founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self-Improvement, a youth assistance organization in Detroit. The program takes young people on an educational tour that visits sites of importance in the civil rights movement.

Because of the dedication Rosa Parks showed in the struggle for racial equality, her work has been recognized in receiving innumerable honors, including the Martin Luther King Jr. Nonviolent Peace Prize Award, the Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Award, the Eleanor Roosevelt Women of Courage Award, Medal of Honor, the highest award that the U.S. government bestows, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award.

Mr. Speaker, Rosa Parks continued her commitment to civil rights until her death. She will always be known as a person who was immensely concerned about equality, freedom, prosperity justice for all and she will be dearly missed.

DEATH OF RABBI HERMAN N.
NEUBERGER

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to mourn the recent passing of Rabbi Herman N. Neuberger, the president of the Orthodox Ner Israel Rabbinical College in Baltimore, Maryland. I have known Rabbi Neuberger for many years and have counted on his friendship and advice. The death of Rabbi Neuberger is a tremendous loss for our entire community. Rabbi Neuberger was one of the foremost leaders of Orthodox Jewry in the United States, and was internationally recognized for his accomplishments.

Born in 1918 in Germany, Rabbi Neuberger was the youngest of three children. In 1938 he fled to the United States, on his own, as the Nazi regime began its rise to power in Germany. During World War II he helped to erect Ner Israel's first building on Garrison Boulevard in Baltimore.

Rabbi Neuberger affected the lives of many Jews in Baltimore, but he also helped Jews around the world escape from persecution. In 1976 he began bringing young Iranians back to Ner Israel for scholarship, and he encouraged them to return to the Middle East. After the 1979 Iranian revolution, Rabbi Neuberger