Navy to open a radar-equipped airport tower for demonstration purposes. By 1950, the first Airport Surveillance Radar systems were deployed in the United States.

Ed Barrow’s participation was key to the development of our modern “positive air traffic control system,” which requires all aircraft at or above 18,000 feet to be under positive air traffic control in order to ensure that they were provided separation from all other aircraft operating at the same altitude. As chief of the FAA’s Air Traffic Control Procedures Division, he was responsible for all of the procedures and phraseology used by American civilian and military air traffic controllers and ultimately oversaw the complete rewriting of the Air Traffic Control Procedures Manual. He established a set of Military Operations Areas, MOAs, in which military training and tactics would be contained and FAA controllers would then take the fighters to and from these MOAs and the military would then operate within these designated areas. Barrow also established that an FAA controller would be assigned to the NORAD facility to ensure the competency of the NORAD controllers. This all superseded an earlier agreement with the North American Air Defense, NORAD. Command of the U.S. Air Force which allowed NORAD to control fighter/interceptors independently of the FAA air traffic control system, which had become increasingly hazardous to the safety of both civilian and military aircraft.

Later, Ed Barrow was assigned to Kansas City, MO, to the headquarters of the director of the FAA’s Central Region, where he was responsible for aviation safety in an 11 State area, including the operational activities of the Air Traffic Division, the Flight Standards Safety Division and the Airways Facilities Division.

As his friend and coworker, Glen Tigner, recently told his daughter, Marilyn: “Your Dad often gave that country boy approach to critical matters, but believe me he was sharp as a tack. He was a real leader among men, instilling in them the attitude that they would follow him anywhere, anytime, anyhow . . . a man one would proudly serve. He will be remembered as the best of the best.”

Ed Barrow’s service to his country was recognized by the Department of the Air Force, which presented him with a Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service. It reads: “In recognition of his exceptional performance as Airways Operations Specialist, Directorate of Operations, Headquarters USAF, from 15 October 1954 to 15 May 1956. The constant, increasing demands on the United States Air Force placed him in the forefront of the expansion of the airspace since the advent of jet operations presented almost insurmountable problems in the air traffic field. Through his superior knowledge, extreme conscientiousness, and outstanding application, Mr. Barrow developed entirely new concepts to meet the requirements so that the Air Force now leads in air traffic control, so vital to the air defense establishment.”

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity to share with the House this tribute to the distinguished public service career of Daniel “Ed” Barrow, as he approaches his 90th birthday, and to wish him many happy returns in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO TERRY R. JORDE ON HER ELECTION AS CHAIRMAN OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY BANKERS OF AMERICA

HON. EARL POMEROY
OF NORTH DAKOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the remarkable achievement and leadership of a great North Dakotan, a remarkable business CEO and a wonderful woman—Terry R. Jorde. Today on the occasion of Terry Jorde’s election as chairman of the Independent Community Bankers of America, ICBA, we celebrate her service and success. Firsts for Jorde are commonplace: She is the first North Dakotan and the first woman so honored.

Terry Jorde is president and CEO of Country Bank USA, a locally owned community bank in Cando, ND. Her career embodies the spirit of Cando. She once literally named the “Can Do” spirit of the town’s founders.

Terry Jorde started her banking career at age 21 as a teller and bookkeeper, and in 11 years she advanced to election as president and CEO of the bank. Jorde successfully led the bank through the agricultural crisis in the early 1990’s, achieving strong growth in profitability and diversifying the bank’s geographic and revenue base.

ICBA’s election of Terry Jorde as the organization’s chairman comes in recognition of her service to independent community banks. The independent community bankers of America is dedicated to enhancing services and values of the nation’s community banks for the benefit of their customers. Locally owned community banks are the bankers for municipalities and school districts. Community bankers generally know personally many small business owners and establish lending relationships with these individuals and their businesses. These small businesses, in turn, provide the majority of our new jobs in our economy.

Like other community bankers around the nation, Terry Jorde provides tremendous leadership in her communities of Cando and Devils Lake, which is critical to economic development and community revitalization. In any given week, she might spend 6 hours in a hospital board meeting, 4 hours in an economic development corporation meeting, and another 4 hours working with other local community bankers to develop a financial incentive package for a potential new business in Cando. She knows that community service is an important and cost-effective way to invest time. The bank depends on the economic success and vitality of the local communities of Cando and Devils Lake.

Jorde has taken that service mission to the national and state levels. She has been an important voice for rural America calling for a legislative victory that brings together a broad rural coalition of various private sector entities, government and educational institutions to focus on the many challenges facing our rural communities. She has testified before congressional committees and had the privilege of being one of the active bankers to sit on the FDIC’s Advisory Committee on Banking Policy.

Terry is past president of the Independent Community Banks of North Dakota and a past member of the Federal Reserve Board Consumer Advisory Council. She also served on the board of the North Dakota Department of Financial Institutions.

With ICBA, Jorde has served on the Executive Committee as treasurer and as chairman of ICBA’s Services Network, the holding company that oversees the trade association’s six for-profit subsidiaries. She has also been chairman of ICBA’s Securities Corp. and ICBA’s Agriculture-Rural America Committee.

Terry Jorde is a business development leader, serving on the board of the Towner County Economic Development Corp., the Towner County Medical Center, the Cando Community Foundation, and the North Dakota Development Fund. She is also currently a member of Fannie Mae’s National Advisory Council.

Terry Jorde holds a bachelor’s degree in finance from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. She and her husband also farm 1,200 acres of potatoes, and they are the parents of three children.

North Dakota is very proud that her outstanding leadership skills and banking expertise are being recognized with this important national association position.

INTRODUCTION OF THE “INTERNET GAMBLING PROHIBITION ACT”

HON. BOB GOODLATTE
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce today bipartisan legislation, the Internet Gambling Prohibition Act, along with my colleague Representative RICK BOUCHER of Virginia, to address the ever-increasing problem of illegal Internet gambling in our Nation.

The Internet is a revolutionary tool that dramatically affects the way we communicate, conduct business, and access information. As it knows no boundaries, the Internet is accessed by folks in rural and urban areas alike, in large countries as well as small. The Internet is currently expanding by leaps and bounds; however, it has not yet come close to reaching its true potential as a medium for commerce and communication.

One of the main reasons that the Internet has not reached this potential is that many folks view it as a wild frontier, with no safeguards to protect children and very few legal protections to prevent online criminal activity. The ability of the World Wide Web to penetrate every home and community across the globe has both positive and negative implications—while it can be an invaluable source of information and means of communication, it can also override community values and standards, subjecting them towhatever may or may not be found online.

Gambling is an excellent example of this situation. It is currently illegal in the United States unless regulated by the States. With the development of the Internet, however, prohibitions and regulations governing gambling have been turned on their head. No longer do people have to leave the comfort of their homes and make the affirmative decision to travel to a casino; they can access the casino from their living rooms.

Since 1868, the Federal Government has enacted Federal gambling statutes when a
particular type of gambling activity has escaped the ability of States to regulate it. For over 100 years, Congress has acted to assist States in enforcing their respective policies on gambling when developments in technology of an interstate nature, such as the Internet, have compromised the effectiveness of State gambling laws.

The negative consequences of online gambling can be as detrimental to the families and communities of addictive gamblers as if a brick wall to which gambling was built right next door. Online gambling can result in addiction, bankruptcy, divorce, crime, and moral decline just as with traditional forms of gambling, the costs of which must ultimately be borne by society.

Gambling on the Internet is especially enticing to youth, pathological gamblers, and criminals. There are currently no mechanisms in place to prevent youth—who make up the largest percentage of Internet users—from using their parents’ credit card numbers to register and set up accounts for use at Internet gambling sites. In addition, pathological gamblers may become easily addicted to online gambling because of the Internet’s easy access, anonymity and instant results. Finally, Internet gambling can provide a nearly untraceable harbor for criminal enterprises. The anonymity associated with the Internet makes online gambling more susceptible to crime.

I have long been an advocate of the Internet and of limited government regulation of this new medium. However, that does not mean that the Internet should be a regulatory free zone or that our existing laws should not apply to the Internet. I think we can all agree that it would be very bad public policy to allow online activity deemed criminal by States to be freely committed online and to go unpunished simply because we are reluctant to apply our laws to the Internet.

Gambling on the Internet has become an extremely lucrative business. Numerous studies have charted the explosive growth of this industry, both by the increases in gambling websites available, and via industry revenues. Some estimates show that it is now a $12 billion a year industry.

Most Internet gambling sites are offshore. Virtual betting parlors accepting bets from individuals in the United States have attempted to avoid the application of United States law by locating themselves offshore and out of our jurisdictional reach. These offshore, fly-by-night Internet gambling operators are unlicensed, untaxed and unregulated and are sucking billions of dollars out of the United States. In addition, the FBI and the Department of Justice has testified that Internet gambling serves as a vehicle for money laundering activities, and can be exploited by terrorists to launder money.

Current law already prohibits gambling over telephone wires. However, because the Internet does not always travel over telephone wires, these laws, which were written before the invention of the World Wide Web, have become outdated. My legislation simply clarifies the state of the law by bringing the current prohibition against wire line interstate gambling up to speed with the development of new technology. It also makes clear once and for all that the prohibition is not limited to sports-related bets and wagers.

In addition, my legislation will add a new provision to the law that would prohibit a gambling business from accepting certain forms of non-cash payment, including credit cards and electronic transfers, for the transmission of illegal bets and wagers. This provision provides an enforcement mechanism to address the situation where the gambling business is located offshore but the gambling business used bank accounts in the United States. The bill also provides an additional tool to fight illegal gambling by giving Federal, State, local and tribal law enforcement new injunctive authority to prevent and restrain violations of the law.

The legislation I am introducing will return control to the States of limiting the right of citizens in each State to decide through their State legislatures if they want to allow gambling within their borders and not have that right taken away by offshore, fly-by-night operators. The regulation of intrastate gambling is within the jurisdiction of the States, so the bill leaves the regulation of wholly intrastate betting or wagering to the States with tight controls to be sure that such betting or wagering does not extend beyond their borders or to minors.

Internet gambling is a serious problem that must be stopped. The Internet Gambling Prohibition Act will help eliminate this harmful activity before it spreads further. I urge my colleagues to support this very important legislation.

STATEMENT ON THE PRESIDENT’S FY 2007 BUDGET

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN
OF RHODE ISLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. Langevin. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in opposition to President Bush’s proposed budget for fiscal year 2007. Once again, the President claims he can have it both ways by making permanent tax cuts while halving the deficit by 2009. However, the numbers tell a different story. This year’s budget proposal, if enacted by Congress, would result in a budget deficit of $423 billion, the largest in our Nation’s history, and this amount would increase dramatically once the tax cuts take effect in 2011. Every American family knows that you take in, and the President must acknowledge this fact before it is too late.

To reduce this record deficit, we must make difficult choices, and both spending and taxes need to be on the table. The President has not made these difficult choices, and should Congress follow this budget, working families will be left on their own as the Government again favors only the wealthiest Americans.

In order to partially pay for the irresponsible tax policies, the President attempts to cut spending in several areas, notably health care and education. Medicare would be reduced by $36 billion over 5 years by reducing already low payments to health care providers, who would be less willing to accept Medicare patients. The National Institutes of Health, which researches life-saving cures for numerous diseases such as cancer and Parkinson’s Disease, would in effect receive a cut outside of future budgets. While I support measures to increase our preparedness for outbreaks such as a potential pandemic flu, these funds should not come at the expense of research to cure ailments like heart disease.

In December, I distributed surveys to every school and district in my congressional district to determine the level of emergency preparedness. Most respondents indicated they had not properly rehearsed their emergency plans, and nearly a quarter of the schools and districts did not even know whom to ask for help. Fortunately, the Department of Education’s Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities program provides grants to help schools develop and implement emergency plans. However, President Bush proposes eliminating this program that has helped so many schools across our country. There are countless examples of these misguided priorities in the budget.

In 2004, Congress nearly unanimously passed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act to put the program on track to full funding, but this budget includes only $10.7 million for State grants. This means that once again, the Federal Government will only provide less than half of the amount promised to States to educate children with special needs. The budget also zeros out the TRIO programs—Gear Up, Talent Search and Upward Bound—which encourage economically disadvantaged Rhode Island students to seek higher education.

Even though energy independence was a major theme of the President’s State of the Union Address, he is not funding his own proposals. After announcing America is “addicted to oil,” the President has increased Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy programs by a paltry 0.2 percent. In addition, programs to increase energy efficiency and research hydro-power and geothermal energy are cut. We need real leadership on this issue. The brightest minds in America put a man on the moon, and we need a similar effort to develop clean and renewable energy sources. A 0.2 percent increase will not accomplish that goal.

If the President truly wanted to make our country more competitive, he would not have cut funding for the Social Security guarantee program and reduced Trade Adjustment Assistance, which retrain workers who lose their jobs because of foreign trade.

If the President wanted to enrich our communities, he would not have reduced funding for the community development block grants, COPS program, or Weatherization Assistance for energy efficient homes.

If the President wanted to make health care more accessible, he would not have increased fees for groups such as military retirees and Medicare beneficiaries. On top of all these cuts and fee increases, we still have the highest deficit in history as a result of the irresponsible tax policies the President seeks to continue. This is not the direction America should be moving.

The President had a tremendous opportunity to reflect the values and priorities of the American people. He could have asked for shared sacrifice and inspired us to achieve new heights. Instead, he has given us more of the same: tax cuts for the wealthiest, program cuts for the most vulnerable, and the middle class is left on their own. America deserves better.