

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDING CABRINA GOMEZ

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the achievements of an outstanding young woman, Cabrina Gomez, and for her work with the Arthritis Foundation and Walk for A Cure.

As a young woman, Cabrina was always active in cheerleading and dance, however, late in the summer of 2003, she began to experience severe pain in her legs, arms, and hand muscles. In January 2004, doctors diagnosed Cabrina with chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (CIDP). This nerve disorder enlarges the spinal column, which prevents brain signals from controlling muscles. Cabrina stopped cheerleading and dance classes due to the onset of CIDP. About 1 in 300,000 children are diagnosed with this disease.

Cabrina fights this disease through several treatments including steroids and plasma phoresis. However, these treatments do not have long-term results. Throughout her treatments, Cabrina continues to have a positive attitude, and she uses this disease to raise money for the Arthritis Foundation and Walk for A Cure.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to recognize and honor Cabrina Gomez in front of my colleagues on the floor of the House of Representatives today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during roll call vote No. 40 to order the previous question on H. Res. 725, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

A TRIBUTE TO DR. KATHLEEN CASHIN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Kathleen Cashin, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn community.

Dr. Kathleen Cashin's career as an educator commenced more than 30 years ago. She was a teacher, staff developer, reading consultant, and program manager in the New York City public schools. Her expertise in school leadership and her compassion for staff and children enabled her to successfully lead

P.S. 193, The Oil Hodges School, as principal, for 16 years.

As Superintendent of Community School District 23, Dr. Cashin continued her commitment to children. Her ability to lead supervisors, foster professional growth, and engage parents and the community was reflected in the educational resurgence of the District 23 community.

Presently, as Regional Superintendent of Region 5, Dr. Cashin continues to create an environment that offers growth opportunities for students and their families. She is committed to fostering professional growth on the part of all staff, as well as engaging parents and community leaders in all components of the educational program.

Dr. Cashin's educational background includes a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from Brentwood College, a Master of Science degree in Education from Brooklyn College, and a Professional Diploma and Doctorate from Fordham University.

Outside of school, Dr. Cashin leads an active life. She is an athlete who enjoys jogging, swimming, and skiing. Possessing boundless energy, Dr. Kathleen Cashin has dedicated herself to educating children and ensuring that every child receives an equal opportunity to develop into a contributing member of society.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Kathleen Cashin, as she offers her talents and community services for the good of our local communities.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Kathleen Cashin's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

Mr. Speaker, please join our community in honoring Dr. Kathleen Cashin for her dedication and outstanding service to our community.

CONGRATULATING OWEN GRAY AND BIG O'S SEAFOOD GRILL FOR RECEIVING THE 2005 RESTAURANT NEIGHBOR AWARD

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor Mr. Owen Gray, owner of Big O's Seafood Grill in Gulf Shores, Alabama, on the occasion of receiving the National Restaurant Association's 2005 Restaurant Neighbor Award.

Owen is a vital member of the Gulf Shores community. Following the devastation of Hurricane Ivan in 2004, Owen's restaurant, Big O's Seafood Grill, was one of the few restaurants in the area capable of continuing business. Over a two-week period, Owen, with the help of his manager, sister and fiancé, was able to provide more than 25,000 meals to relief workers. Working on just a generator with no power, gas, or water, he fed the relief workers,

including state troopers and the National Guard, three meals a day! Owen, his employees, and volunteers worked 12- to 14-hour days providing these meals. Soon other restaurants that were too damaged to serve at their locations brought over food for Big O's to serve.

The National Restaurant Association's Restaurant Neighbor Award was designed to raise awareness of charitable giving like Owen's and honor restaurateurs from across the country for outstanding community service.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my congratulations, as well, to Owen Gray and Big O's Seafood Grill for receiving the National Restaurant Association's 2005 Restaurant Neighbor Award. I know his family, his many friends, his employees, and especially his loyal customers join with me in praising his accomplishments and good deeds.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, there are important provisions in the supplemental appropriations that I support. Funding for upgraded military vehicles and tanks in Iraq will help protect troops and the National Guard. There is funding for programs such as Community Development Block Grants which will help in the recovery from Hurricane Katrina along the Gulf Coast and in New Orleans. I'm proud to have helped lead Congressional efforts requesting the administration to include funding for peacekeeping in Darfur. This supplemental includes \$253 million for these efforts in Sudan.

However, I cannot support this bill collectively and as a supplemental that is outside of the regular order of the budget process. It is time we take the budget process seriously and get our spending priorities in order.

This is the largest supplemental appropriations measure ever considered by the House of Representatives at nearly \$92 billion. The bulk of this spending, \$68 billion, is for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. These efforts have now been ongoing for years and I will not support the administration's and Republican leadership's attempts to camouflage hundreds of billions of dollars by handling it through supplemental bills, which are for unexpected or emergency items. Most of this spending is neither unexpected nor emergency in nature.

The administration is asking Congress to raise the debt ceiling another \$781 billion on top of the current \$8.2 trillion limit and the House refuses to have a separate vote accepting responsibility to pay for its reckless fiscal policies. This supplemental spending bill is

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

a symbol for an administration and Congress that refuse to take our fiscal situation seriously.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE ARTHUR K.
WEINSTEIN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Judge Arthur K. Weinstein on the occasion of his retirement. Judge Weinstein is being honored by his colleagues, family and friends for his lifelong commitment to public service.

After graduating from Boston University, Arthur's mother encouraged him to "do something for the world." Inspired by her words, he joined the Peace Corps. He was assigned to a small, remote village in Malawi, Africa where he helped build a clinic for infants which is still in use today. Although he had to extend his stay an additional year to complete the project, he never wavered. The clinic has helped save the lives of hundreds of thousands of children.

In 1969, not wanting to veer from his personal mission, Arthur moved to California to attend UCLA and earn a masters degree in public health. He then served as a senior health educator for the county of Los Angeles. During these years he married, raised a family and attended evening law school classes. His strong interest in public service led him to become a defense attorney for the State Compensation and Insurance Fund and a certified specialist in Workers Compensation Law.

Arthur Weinstein was appointed a Workers Compensation judge nearly 5 years ago, achieving a long sought after goal. He has earned a stellar reputation and the respect of his peers. Judge Weinstein is married to Dina and they have three grown children and six grandchildren.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting an outstanding member of the community, Judge Arthur Weinstein.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LORI ANN
FOUTZ

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lori Ann Foutz who is the recipient of the 2006 Nevada Young Mother of the Year Award.

Lori graduated from Brigham Young University in 1989 with a bachelor's degree in art education and a minor in health. She and her husband, Tracy Foutz, moved to Henderson in 1990 where he has worked for Clark County and the city of Henderson as a city planner. They have four children: Lance Tracy, Travis Lee, Jaclyn Beth, and Victoria Jo.

Lori has been a weekly classroom volunteer in her children's classes for the past 12 years, specializing in fun Halloween parties, campaign manager for her kid's student council elections and homecoming floats. She has

served as chairman for the PTA Reflections Art contest for 10-year-olds.

Lance and Travis have achieved their Eagle Scout award, run cross-country and played volleyball in high school. All four children have participated in soccer and basketball, and the girls attend dance classes.

Lori is very active in the LDS Church and has served as president of the Young Women's Organization and is currently the president of the women's auxiliary, the Relief Society. She is responsible for more than 150 women, seeing to their temporal and spiritual needs.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Lori Ann Foutz today. She is a fine example of motherhood and I commend her for her service to the State of Nevada.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 41 on H. Res. 725, providing for consideration of H.R. 4939, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

A TRIBUTE TO CLAUDETTE
ELLIOT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Claudette Elliot, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn community.

Claudette Elliot is a quiet maverick and community trailblazer. Born in Trinidad West Indies, Claudette and her family emigrated to the United States of America in the mid-1960s where she pursued her dream of higher education. A staunch advocate of education, Claudette obtained an associate degree in business administration at Kingsborough Community College, a bachelor's degree in business management at Long Island University and a professional diploma in paralegal studies at Baruch College. During her 30 plus years of employment, Claudette worked in both the private and public sector. Presently, she is employed by the New York City Housing Authority where she tirelessly serves the residents of the Brownsville community.

Her socially conscious political work has brought her into contact with a number of organizations that have greatly benefited from her talents. Claudette is committed to public service in the East New York community and has served in various capacities. Claudette volunteers her service as the financial secretary to the Van Siclen Block Association that she incorporated. Also, she initiated and organized several fundraisers to achieve the goals for the block association residents and homeowners. As the treasurer of East New York Concerned Citizens, Inc., Claudette has spearheaded and coordinated various social events, which benefited the residents and seniors of the East New York community. In addition,

she served as a committee member of the Beaux Arts Ball 2005 in memory of Ossie Davis.

Mr. Speaker, Claudette Elliot is a dedicated person who tirelessly serves our community and because of her devotion we bestow this honor upon her.

Mr. Speaker, please join our community in honoring Claudette Elliot for her dedication and outstanding service to our community.

HONORING TRINITY BAPTIST
CHURCH ON THE OCCASION OF
ITS 100TH YEAR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Trinity Baptist Church on the occasion of its 100th year.

Trinity Baptist Church has been a vital partner to the town of Wilmer, Alabama. The church was founded in 1906, and for a century, this congregation has been worshipping God and serving the people of south Alabama.

The congregation of Trinity Baptist Church has used its resources and opportunities to provide hope, comfort, instruction, and inspiration to so many in south Alabama.

It is my sincere hope that Trinity Baptist Church will continue to be such a source of inspiration, hope, and comfort to the people of Wilmer for another 100 years, and I rise today to salute this congregation and the many contributions they have made toward the spiritual enrichment of the community and the betterment of south Alabama.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE CITY OF
CUDAHY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, It is an honor to rise today in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the City of Cudahy, a community that I am proud to serve as part of the Fourth Congressional District. Happy 100th Birthday, Cudahy!

Cudahy occupies a beautiful stretch of land that lies along the south shore of Lake Michigan. Settled on former Potawatomi tribal grounds, the City of Cudahy was incorporated in 1906, having emerged in the wake of Patrick Cudahy's decision to establish the Cudahy Brothers meatpacking plant there. Throughout the 20th century, the City of Cudahy contributed significantly to the development of the area's strong manufacturing economy, serving as home to a number of prominent local companies.

Cudahy's hallmark is its strong sense of community, a testament to the values and work ethic of the immigrant families who served as its backbone. Cudahy's slogan, Generations of Pride, conveys the sense of connection people feel to their hometown, and it is easy to see why. Early city planners ensured that generations of residents would have access to beautiful public parks, and preserved the shoreline for public use. From its

earliest days, Cudahy fostered a spirit of volunteerism and public involvement that is very much alive and well today. Modern-day community efforts—including the expansion of the local library, strong support for Cudahy Interfaith and Project Concern, and participation in a wide range of civic organizations—pay tribute to the actions of city founders who dedicated themselves to public service.

With the decline of manufacturing, Cudahy is now focused on redevelopment and identifying new engines for growth. Local leaders have proposed exciting projects and the community is engaging in vigorous debate. I am confident that city residents will continue to draw on their laudable history, carrying on the legacy of the generations that built this community. I am delighted to recognize the City of Cudahy on this occasion, to congratulate its founders and residents on their many accomplishments, and to offer my best wishes for the future.

THE OUTSOURCING OF AMERICA
AND AMERICAN NATIONAL SECURITY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in staunch opposition to the outsourcing of American national security. In the current climate, our national security must be paramount and we have an obligation to our constituents to make every effort to protect our homeland. As the Bush Administration recently learned, outsourcing the operations of our ports is a dangerous path and poses serious security concerns and grave implications for the safety of our Nation. Fortunately, the proposed sale of American seaports to Dubai Ports World, the government-owned company based in the United Arab Emirates, appears to have been stopped. But we must remain vigilant to prevent this potentially dangerous outsourcing of America.

The haphazard attitude towards American security policy that was on display in the Dubai Ports debacle, takes America backwards in our fight with terrorists. In a post 9/11 world, handing over management and daily operations to a country that funneled money to the 9/11 hijackers, served as a transfer point of nuclear components to Iran, Libya, and North Korea, and continues to participate in the boycott against Israel, is unwise at best.

In the last few weeks, I received hundreds of emails, letters, and phone calls from extremely alarmed and angry constituents about this transaction. As I meet people all across my district, they are asking, "Is American security for sale?"

It is clear to me that the Administration only gave the Dubai Ports deal a cursory look before approving it in January. We should institute a mandatory review of all foreign transactions that could impact national security, requiring the President to notify Congress; and ensuring that Congress has a role in vetting the proposed foreign takeover. The CFIUS review process is in need of major reform, especially if they intend to take America down this spiraling path.

This controversy also brings to the forefront the enormous concerns that surround port security in our country. Even after 9/11, only six percent of containers entering our ports are screened, and the Administration has failed to develop container security standards. The President's 2007 Budget eliminates port security grants and there are still no minimum security standards for containers entering the United States. Seventy-five percent of our ports do not even have the capacity to screen containers for weapons of mass destruction. We must build a comprehensive port security system that closes these loopholes and strengthens safeguards.

But it should come as no surprise that America has begun to outsource our national security, since we continue to promote policies that encourage businesses to ship jobs overseas. Outsourcing comes with substantial costs to the American public and is reflected in our record trade deficit of 725 billion dollars in 2005.

Hundreds of thousands of American jobs continue to be shipped overseas. From accountants and computer programmers to factory personnel, American workers are losing their jobs because companies are outsourcing their production so they can hire low-wage workers abroad and not have to follow meaningful labor laws or environmental protections.

Manufacturing has been particularly hard hit. My district has lost thousands and thousands of manufacturing jobs, and the losses continue. These are good-paying jobs that have built the middle class in our country, the middle class which is the backbone of America. Some say that these job losses are insignificant because these are old industries that should be allowed to disappear in America. I could not disagree more. We must act now to help manufacturers keep jobs in this country. When these jobs are lost, not only do families suffer, but our national security suffers because we lose the ability to manufacture goods that are critical to the defense of our country.

Today, many companies that ship jobs to other countries receive federal tax breaks. This means that the current tax code actually encourages companies to move their production centers out of the U.S. to cut costs. We must end these tax breaks and instead cut taxes for companies that keep American jobs here in the U.S. These cuts will encourage companies to maintain factories and preserve jobs here, and give them the capital they need to grow and fuel our economy.

Mr. Speaker, first it was manufacturing, then high tech, and now our security that is being sold to the highest bidder. We cannot allow this to continue. We must protect America's families by defending our national security and preserving and growing American jobs. America must not be sold out.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LAURIE
RICHARDSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor Laurie Richardson, who is the recipient of the 2006 Nevada Mother of the Year Award.

At an early age, Laurie found that she had a gift for advocating for children. After marrying her sweetheart Sullivan Richardson, Laurie opened her heart and home to abused and neglected children as a foster parent, of which she adopted four. She also gave birth to three children of her own.

Active in church programs, Laurie helped her children develop talents in music and sports, and encouraged their community involvement while serving as a Girl Scout and Cub Scout leader, leading to her son earning his Eagle Scout Award. She has organized several mother support groups, volunteered for PTA, and led many service opportunities.

While raising special-needs children, Laurie helped communities and schools recognize the unique needs of children with academic, social, and emotional problems. For twenty-nine years, Laurie has voluntarily advocated for children within school districts, taught parenting classes and represented abused children in court.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Laurie Richardson on the floor of the House today. She is an outstanding example to all parents and I commend her for her service to the communities and children of Nevada.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 43 on the Gilchrest amendment to H.R. 4939, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

A TRIBUTE TO MARY ANN
HAWTHORNE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mary Ann Hawthorne, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive accomplishments.

Born, raised and entirely educated in the state of New York, Mary Ann Hawthorne has found a unique way to give back to her state's education system. Ms. Hawthorne earned her Bachelors in Education from Bernard Baruch College in New York City in 1972. During her first two years as a teacher, Ms. Hawthorne simultaneously worked her way through Graduate school and earned a Masters in Business Education from Long Island University. Four years later, Ms. Hawthorne received her Professional Diploma and Masters of Science in Administration and Supervision of Education.

Deeply committed to the education of New York's youth, Ms. Hawthorne worked as a teacher, an Assistant Principal, and a Principal. Today, Ms. Hawthorne is the Community Superintendent for District 11, as well as Local Instructional Superintendent for Region 2. Ms. Hawthorne has acted as a wonderful role model to children and fellow educators alike.

Ms. Hawthorne's achievements in education are endless. In September 2001, Ms. Hawthorne was selected by the National Association of Secondary School Principals to serve as an Assessor for new principals. In January 2003, President Bush and Secretary of Education Rod Paige honored Ms. Hawthorne at The White House upon her selection as one of the top eight principals in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, Mary Ann Hawthorne's is a product of the New York education system and a true inspiration to the community around her. She continues to work to improve education in New York and for that I ask that we recognize and give thanks to Mary Ann Hawthorne for her wonderful contribution to our community.

Mr. Speaker, Mary Ann Hawthorne selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

Mr. Speaker, please join our community in honoring Mary Ann Hawthorne for her dedication and outstanding service to our community.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR AS OFFERED BY TERRY C. PLAUCH OF MOBILE, ALABAMA

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, last week one of my constituents, Terry C. Plauch, submitted a letter to the Mobile Register offering a theory regarding Vice President Cheney's recent hunting accident.

Conspiracy theories are not new to Washington, D.C. From the conspiracies surrounding the assassinations of both Presidents Lincoln and Kennedy, to the Watergate break-in, almost every event in this town elicits its own conspiracy theory. Today, I rise to ask that this letter be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in its entirety for I believe Terry Plauch may be on to something:

Some facts on the Cheney conspiracy:

I have been fascinated with the conspiracy theories about the recent Dick Cheney hunting incident. Although I thought most of them foolish, I decided to find out if any were valid.

After careful research, I have discovered some interesting facts the media either didn't learn or were too scared to report. It turns out these facts prove that conspiracy was involved in the Texas story.

The first fact relates to the prey involved. I found that the birds being hunted, quail and pheasant, have strong political histories. It is no coincidence "quail" just happens to sound like the name of the first Bush vice president, Dan Quayle. And what was one of the main topics the media criticized Bush/Quayle about? They were deaf to the poor, the downtrodden. In other words, the peasants.

It is no coincidence that "peasant" sounds like "pheasant." In fact, the words are only one "h" away from each other. And what is the difference between President George W. Bush and his father, George H.W. Bush? It is a single "h," although capitalized. A happenstance? I think not.

Another interesting fact is that Cheney used a 20-gauge shotgun instead of the more common 12-gauge. So what? It is no coincidence that the difference between the two

gauges is eight, the number of years Bush and Cheney will be in office. A happenstance? I think not.

I have therefore concluded from my research that the shooting was self-defense. Here's what happened: Cheney's intelligence brief stated that birds fly as their primary means of transportation. Knowing that they had to fly to get to the ranch where the hunt was scheduled, Mr. Cheney concluded that the birds flew to the ranch. Now, "flew" sounds like "flu." That's right, the deadly Asian bird flu.

The vice president, former head of Halliburton, knew that if the birds recognized him, they would attack, trying to get revenge for their name sounding like Dan Quayle's. He would then be infected. So when he saw the birds, the self-preservation reflex took over, I and he started shooting anything that flew his way. His lawyer friend, however, started shooting the birds just for a meal. And in his hunger, he stepped into Cheney's arc of fire and became the victim. So Cheney protected himself, and his friend missed lunch.

In conclusion, I must mention the fact that Dick Cheney ran Halliburton. It is no coincidence that the two people the company was named for, Halle Berry and Richard Burton, have ties to the vice president.

Halle Berry played Catwoman in the movies. Cats, as you know, are sworn enemies of birds, both quail and pheasant.

And Richard Burton was married to Elizabeth Taylor. So what? Well, Vice President Dick Cheney happens to be the only person of his generation in the United States who has not been married to Elizabeth Taylor.

A happenstance? I think not.

TERRY C. PLAUCH.

RECOGNIZING THE LAKE OSWEGO HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM AS OREGON 4A STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Ms. HOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Lake Oswego High School boys' basketball team as Oregon State 4A champions. Capping a storybook season, the Lakers brought home the state title for the first time ever.

The Lakers started strong this season, and never let up. They won 26 games to only 3 losses and were ranked No. 2 going into the championship game on Saturday, where they faced off against the No. 1 South Medford Panthers. Like every good championship game, this one came down to the final seconds with Lake Oswego winning 59-57.

This successful season for the Lakers was more than just the sum of their skill and talent. The team and coaches played all year with heart, desire, and the confidence that they could win it all. Congratulations to Coach Mark Shoff, the players, their families and friends, and the community who cheered them on throughout the season. I am proud to represent this team and its supporters in Congress, and will close with this:

Go Lakers!

HONORING DICK KAY

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long and distinguished career of my friend, Mr. Dick Kay, political editor, and host of the news show "City Desk." Mr. Kay will retire in June, 2006, with the honor of having been the longest-serving reporter in the history of Chicago's WMAQ-Channel 5 TV.

With 46 years in the business, Dick Kay has unparalleled political experience, knowledge and perspective. He arrived at WMAQ-Channel 5 in 1968, initially working as a writer/producer but soon switching to reporting. He later became their political editor as well as the host of "City Desk," the Sunday morning public service program.

Over the years, Dick Kay has interviewed mayors, governors, Congressmen, Senators, and countless other public leaders. Viewers have come to rely on his thoughtful yet fearless approach to covering politics and public policy.

Dick Kay's hard work and insightful reporting have been recognized by numerous awards over the years. Among others, Dick has received a Peabody Award—the highest honor in TV broadcasting—as well as 11 Emmys, a National Headliner award, and a Jacob Scher award for investigative reporting. In 2001, he was inducted into the Television Academy's Silver Circle Hall of Fame, which honors those who have made major contributions to Chicago broadcasting for 25 years or more.

In addition to his work as a reporter and editor, Dick was the long-time president of the local unit of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists. In this capacity, Dick successfully persuaded Illinois legislators to ensure that on-air employees had the freedom to move to competing stations.

I am sure Dick's wife, children and grandchildren will be glad to enjoy more time with him. The rest of us will miss his hard-hitting investigative work, insightful commentary, and engaging Sunday morning discussions.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Dick and his family the best of luck during his retirement and throughout his future endeavors. Political reporting in Chicago will not be the same without Dick Kay, dean of Chicago political reporters.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAY W. JEFFERS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jay W. Jeffers for his career as a teacher. Jay will be honored next week on Tuesday, March 21, at the dedication of Jay W. Jeffers Elementary School, which is named in his honor.

Born in Milford, UT, on May 7, 1921, he grew up along the railroad, the son of a locomotive engineer. In 1939, he graduated from Milford High School where he participated in extracurricular activities such as the yearbook,

newsletter, band, chorus, orchestra, and debate team. In 1939, Jay was accepted to the University of Utah. He worked part-time for the Bamberger/Utah Central Railroad, completing office work and loading cars, and as a stone mason helper, building flagstone fireplaces and barbeque pits. Before finishing his degree, Jay served a mission for the LDS Church in the Texas-Louisiana Mission, for 2 years. After returning, he went back to the University of Utah and graduated in 1946 with a teaching degree and a major in geology. The following year, Jay moved to Las Vegas and accepted a position as a seventh and eighth grade science teacher at the Fifth Street School for \$2,600 per year. In December 1948, he married June Mac Farlane. The couple has 3 sons, 2 daughters, 18 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

With the desire to further his own education, Jay entered a master's program at the University of Utah, and continued to teach full-time. At this time, he helped consolidate 13 individual school districts into the Clark County School District. In 1953, He received his master's degree in administration from the University of Utah and in the same year, he was appointed principal at the Washington School in North Las Vegas. Also in that year, he became one of four original instructors at UNLV, teaching geology and geography part-time, from 1953 to 1971.

The new Twin Lakes elementary School opened in 1955 with Jay as principal. The seventh and eighth grades were still in the elementary schools so Jay developed and implemented new programs for those grades by departmentalizing subjects and instituting interschool athletic competitions. With Jay's support, the district's first elementary string music program was held there. In 1964, at a time when large numbers of Hispanic pupils were moving to Las Vegas Jay became principal of John S. Park Elementary School. He helped establish the "English as a Second Language" program with a philosophy that students needed to develop and maintain proficiency in basic reading and writing skills, along with learning to speak English. His final assignment was principal at Lincoln Elementary School in North Las Vegas. After 30 years of teaching, Jay retired in September of 1977. In addition to his contributions in education, Jay was a cofounder of the Clark County Teachers Federal Credit Union, now Silver State Schools Credit Union. He also worked with the Boy Scouts of America for 23 years.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Jay W. Jeffers. His career and life have been dedicated to the education of youth of Clark County. Thousands of current and former residents of Clark County cite his influence as a factor in their success in life. I thank him for his service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 42 on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 190, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

A TRIBUTE TO MARY HARVELL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mary Harvell.

Mary Harvell is a pillar in our community who has tirelessly served on our behalf for many years. She was born in the small town of Glenville, Georgia. She is the seventeenth child out of eighteen born to Wilbert and Leressie Brown. As a young girl, Mary dreamed about migrating to New York City. Fortunately, she got her wish and relocated to the "Big Apple" as a young child. She attended public schools in Bedford-Stuyvesant and went on to attend Midwood High School and Brooklyn College where she majored in Sociology.

While studying at Brooklyn College she met and later married Charlie Harvell. From their illustrious union three beautiful children were produced. Today, she is a happy grandmother of five. Mary is also committed and deeply connected to her spiritual family, including her brother, the Bishop Harry Brown of Brunswick, Georgia. She is a member of the New Jerusalem Holy Church of Brooklyn, New York, where the Pastor Lester Charles Smith presides. Mary is very active in her church and has served in various capacities including the Book Ministry, as a Bible Study teacher, and as a member of the Hospitality Committee. Likewise, she also volunteers at the Annual Church Health Fair, which serves the East New York community and assists with the Church Food Pantry, which feeds the community spiritually and physically.

Mary strongly believes that our seniors are the pillars of the community and visits several senior citizen homes and also assists with the transportation of seniors at her church. Additionally, this busy lady volunteers for Assemblyman Darryl Towns. What is so amazing is that Mary makes the time to volunteer all while being employed at Interfaith Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York. At Interfaith, she serves as the Secretary in the Purchasing Department where she processes orders from sales representatives, prepares the Purchasing Department payroll, and oversees the ordering of office supplies for the entire medical center. Mary has worked at Interfaith for 34 years, which affords her the opportunity to fulfill her personal mission: "If I can help somebody, then my living will not be in vain."

Mr. Speaker, Mary Harvell has helped many people and we duly note that hers is a life well lived and that we appreciate all that she does for our community. She has consistently demonstrated a level of commitment to our community that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

HONORING BOBBY CLARK FOR HIS EFFORTS TO HELP THE VICTIMS OF HURRICANE KATRINA

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, there are many heroes who have worked countless hours to

help victims of hurricanes recover. Mr. Bobby Clark is one of these heroes.

Bobby, along with his wife Lori and children, Danielle, Joe, and Jack, have a history of helping hurricane victims along the Gulf Coast. Following Hurricane Ivan in 2004, Bobby cleared roads of fallen trees, removed trees from his neighbors' homes or from driveways, and delivered supplies and food to victims.

Following Hurricane Katrina, Bobby along with his business partner Pat Achee traveled to Gulfport, Mississippi, to deliver supplies and check on family and friends. Soon after their arrival in Gulfport, they learned St. James Baptist Church was feeding about 300 people a day and sheltering dozens in its sanctuary. The two raised money to provide a generator for the sanctuary, and they also filled an 18-wheeler with food and supplies donated by the city of Fairhope.

Bobby's work at the church led him to meet Cleavon and Corrine Robinson, an elderly couple without home insurance. The couple's home was almost completely destroyed by a fallen tree. Bobby met with Bob Chatham of Chatham Home Planning, who drew up a house plan for Mr. and Mrs. Robinson.

Bobby then organized volunteers from the community to build the Robinson's new home in seven days. He developed a schedule and had volunteers working from dawn to dark, and the 864 square-foot house was actually completed in 6½ days!

This was the beginning of the nonprofit "We Care" of Baldwin County, whose mission is to repair or rebuild homes for people in need. The goal for 2006 is to build 15 homes. The residents and businesses throughout Mobile and Baldwin counties have also responded to Bobby's call, donating everything from the building supplies, to the furniture, to the landscaping, and even the lighting.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you and my colleagues to join me in honoring Bobby Clark for his selfless commitment to helping his community and inspiring others to do the same. His story serves as an inspiration not only to those of us who live across the Gulf Coast but also to people across the country. We need more people like Bobby Clark in this world—a true hero to those most in need.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I missed five votes on March 15, 2006. I stayed in New Jersey to be with a family member who was undergoing surgery. Had I been present, I would have voted no on Ordering the Previous Question (with regard to H.R. 4939, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes); no on H. Res. 725 (the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4939); yes on H. Con. Res. 190 (Expressing the sense of Congress that the Russian Federation should fully protect the freedoms of all religious communities without distinction, whether registered and unregistered, as stipulated by the Russian Constitution and international standards); no on the Gilcrest Amendment (which strikes language in the

H.R. 4939 that would block the Dubai Port World deal); and yes on H.R. 4944 (To amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify temporarily certain rates of duty, to make other technical amendments to the trade laws, and for other purposes).

HONORING WESLEY JON NYKAMP
UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM
THE 20TH CIRCUIT COURT OF
MICHIGAN

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge Wesley J. Nykamp upon his retirement from the 20th Circuit Court of Michigan.

The Honorable Wesley J. Nykamp is worthy of recognition for his many years of dedicated public service to the people of Ottawa County as a judge and county prosecutor.

Judge Nykamp was awarded the Scholarship Key of the Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity for Excellence in Scholarship in 1967 while attaining his law degree from Wayne State University Law School.

He joined the Ottawa County Prosecutor's Office as Chief Assistant Prosecutor on January 1, 1975, and was elected to serve as judge in 1990. He oversaw the remodeling of the circuit court and the establishment of the Family Court during his tenure, and as Chief Judge of the Circuit Court he designated himself to serve as one of the Family Court judges.

Judge Nykamp is well-respected and held in the highest regard among those in the Michigan court system. His interest in the people of Ottawa County and in upholding justice in the legal system is a trait to be admired. He will be missed in the courtroom.

Mr. Speaker, please let it be known that on this 16th day of March in 2006, that the U.S. House of Representatives acknowledges the contributions and achievements of Judge Nykamp and wishes him well upon his retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JO SIMPSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jo Simpson for 30 years of public service, who will retire on March 31 after 9 years in Nevada.

Jo began working for the Federal Government in 1976, as a public affairs specialist in the Washington headquarters public affairs offices for the U.S. Marshals Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In 1994, she moved to the Bureau of Land Management, first working as public affairs officer for the California Desert District. There she distinguished herself as a dedicated public servant and exceptional citizen. In August of 1997, Jo served as the BLM's Chief for the Office of Communications in Nevada. In this role, Jo not only assured that key information was

made readily available to the public regarding their public lands but more importantly, she served as the catalyst for assuring that public land stakeholders had a voice in how their public lands were managed.

Jo has been instrumental in directing the work of the BLM's three Resource Advisory Councils in Nevada. These councils are made up of 45 individuals representing the diverse interest of public land stakeholders from throughout the state. This amount of citizen involvement set the tone for improved working relationship between Federal land management agencies and all Nevadans. She appeared numerous times before local county commissions and the State of Nevada's legislative Council on Public Lands to apprise them of public land proposals and to solicit their vital input. This is extremely important in a state where 87 percent of the land base is managed by the Federal Government.

Jo and her staff helped members of the Nevada Congressional Delegation and local governments during the development of precedent-setting land bills and her assistance proved extremely beneficial in gaining the support of key officials within the Department of the Interior for legislative initiatives affecting public lands in Nevada.

In the course of performing her duties, Jo earned the respect of countless people, for her integrity and sincerity. Her deeds represent what is good, righteous, and admirable in public service. For that, the state of Nevada is grateful for her exemplary service.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Jo Simpson on the floor of the House today. I thank her for her service and wish her well in retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during roll call Vote No. 44 on H.R. 4944, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

A TRIBUTE TO AUDREY MARIE
BAKER JACKSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Audrey Marie Baker Jackson, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn community. I am honored to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive accomplishments.

Audrey Marie Baker Jackson was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, as one of twin daughters of Marie and Henry Baker. Ms. Baker Jackson is a distinguished product of the New York City public school system. Upon graduation from Eastern District High School, Ms. Baker Jackson won a National Defense Foreign Language Fellowship in Chinese to study at Columbia University. Proving her vast

knowledge of foreign languages, Ms. Baker Jackson graduated with a Bachelors of Arts in linguistics and a minor in Chinese from Queens College (CUNY). She also earned a Masters in Science in Educational Administration and Supervision from Pace University. While at Pace, Ms. Baker Jackson was recommended and accepted to Phi Delta Kappa.

Upon graduation, Ms. Baker Jackson became a Special Education teacher and worked in various administration capacities in District 75 (Special Education). In 1999, she joined District 8, located in the Bronx, as Director of Pupil Personnel. Ultimately, Ms. Baker Jackson was named principal of the School for Theater, Arts, and Research (STAR) Academy in Hunts Point.

Ms. Baker Jackson retired in 2003, but has remained an advocate for the education of children and assists parents in obtaining resources and services for their children. Since retirement, Ms. Baker Jackson has worked as an adjunct professor at City College (CUNY) teaching an introductory Special Education graduate course. She is also creating a consulting company that will assist educational publishing companies in their evaluation of education software and Web-based learning materials.

Audrey Baker Jackson has been a loyal and devoted patron of our community. She has worked diligently to improve special education resources. Her passionate and sensitive character deserves our thanks and for that I ask that we applaud Ms. Baker Jackson's outstanding achievements in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Audrey Baker Jackson, as she offers her talents and community services for the good of our local communities.

Mr. Speaker, Audrey Baker Jackson's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

Mr. Speaker, please join our community in honoring Audrey Baker Jackson for her dedication and outstanding service to our community.

PROTECTING IMPACT AID FOR
NORTH SUBURBAN SCHOOLS

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to ensure the federal government fulfills an important obligation to the families of servicemen and women in my district. In 1950, Congress established the Impact Aid program to assist school districts and communities that lose their property tax base because of the presence of the federal government. Though the program was fully-funded between 1950 and 1969, funding levels in more recent years have not kept pace with the amount required. I am happy that my Illinois Senators are introducing a companion bill to the same effect.

Due to a unique housing situation for the Great Lakes Naval Training Facility, Impact Aid funding should be higher in five of my school districts. This Naval base is located in North Chicago, one of the poorest school districts in my state. However, some service

members and their families live in housing the Navy obtained when Ft. Sheridan and Naval Air Station Glenview, located well away from North Chicago, were closed in the 1990's. These former bases are located within the boundaries of other school districts—districts that bear the economic cost of educating children from a base, but receive none of the economic benefits a base provides. Thus, it is vitally important that we both ensure North Chicago continues to receive heavily impacted payments for the benefit of students living there, and that the surrounding communities are more fairly compensated for their loss of property taxes.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot abdicate our responsibility towards our military families. I have already introduced a bill this Congress, H.R. 390, the Government Reservation Accelerated Development for Education Act (GRADE-A), to fully fund the Impact Aid program. However, the situation in my district warrants special attention. In order to ensure that our students most in need continue to receive necessary resources, I have introduced a new bill to help North Chicago remain qualified for heavily impacted payments, and Glenview and Highland Park receive fair compensation.

By passing this bill, the federal government will be fulfilling its responsibility to these communities, and giving our military families the support they deserve. I urge the local communities to continue to work to come to an agreement that most importantly, takes care of our students.

TRIBUTE TO MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD'S 1ST BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I express today my strong support and appreciation for the 2,600 soldiers of the Minnesota National Guard's 1st Brigade Combat team as they prepare to depart Camp Shelby, Mississippi for Iraq.

As the 1st Brigade heads overseas for their 12 month deployment, we will remember not just their service and sacrifice, but also that each and every one of these soldiers has a family who is also sacrificing for their country's security in the War on Terror.

Today these soldiers and their families are showing us their commitment to their Nation's security and safety.

Let us make sure we show them ours by giving them the tools and support they need to do their jobs and return home quickly and safely.

As these brave soldiers depart over St. Patrick's day, may all our prayers and the luck of the Irish be with them. May they come home safely.

HONORING MS. KATHY ALJOE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and commitment of Ms. Kathy Aljoe of Flower Mound, Texas. Ms. Aljoe's zealous and passionate spirit towards community service warrants recognition. Recently, she retired as the town's longest-tenured employee after 31 years of service.

Kathy Aljoe started working for the City of Flower Mound on July 16, 1975 as an administrative assistant to the town manager. When Ms. Aljoe started working for Flower Mound, she was one of only seven town employees—Flower Mound only had 1,600 residents. The town now has grown to 62,000 residents, and Kathy has had her hand in many parts of the development throughout her career, in particular with the planning services division. Ms. Aljoe's work has been so influential, that the Town of Flower Mound has announced February 24th as Kathy Aljoe Day.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I stand here today to recognize Ms. Kathy Aljoe, who has dedicated her career to her community. Ms. Aljoe's admirable commitment to the Town of Flower Mound is greatly appreciated. I am honored to represent her in Congress, and I hope that others will follow in her steps of service to their community.

TENNESSEE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION LETTERS TO ATTORNEY GENERAL ALBERTO GONZALES

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert into the RECORD letters that the entire Tennessee Congressional Delegation recently sent to Alberto Gonzales, Attorney General of the United States and Michael O. Leavitt, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. These letters discuss the case of *Cookeville v. Thompson* and Section 5002 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005. The U.S. District Court decision in this case awarded 15 Tennessee hospitals up to \$100 million in Medicare Disproportionate Share Hospital payments.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, March 10, 2006.

Hon. ALBERTO GONZALES,
Department of Justice,
Washington, DC.

DEAR ATTORNEY GENERAL GONZALES: We are writing to express our deep concern regarding the recent Motion filed by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to alter the judgment in the case of *Cookeville v. Thompson* based on Section 5002 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA). As you will recall, the U.S. District Court decision in this case awarded 15 Tennessee hospitals up to \$100 million in Medicare Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments.

The U.S. District Court's ruling, which is now being challenged, was based on its rejection of the Centers for Medicare and Med-

icaid Services (CMS) DSH policy as a violation of the Medicare statute. In CMS' 2000 policy statement announcing the inclusion of certain expansion population individuals in the DSH formula, CMS stated that these individuals would only be included in the DSH calculation prospectively. Hospitals challenged the prospective nature of the policy and were awarded compensation for patients treated prior to 2000.

At the recommendation of CMS, Congress included a provision in the DRA ratifying the 2000 policy and its prospective application. Tennessee hospitals expressed concern that court decisions directing CMS to pay retroactively could be appealed with the new law. During the reconciliation process, however, CMS continually assured Congressional staff verbally, and by electronic communication, that hospitals which had been successful in litigation would still receive payment. CMS asserted that the new provision would not affect decided cases and would only be applied prospectively.

In its Motion, however, HHS cites the DRA as support for the reversal of the *Cookeville* decision. There is no mention that the regulation should only apply prospectively. In fact, HHS' position suggests that recalculation of the DSH formula should not have been required. Congress intended that this provision would only be used prospectively. Thus, hospitals that had been successful in litigation prior to passage of the DRA would still receive payment. Considering the argument made by HHS rests upon the DRA, and that it was our understanding that this provision would not be used to appeal decided cases, we request further explanation of what we believe to be a serious miscommunication by CMS.

Thank you for your time and attention. We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

William H. Frist, M.D., Majority Leader,
United States Senate, Zach Wamp,
John Duncan, Jr., Jim Cooper, Marsha
Blackburn, Harold Ford, Lamar Alexander,
William L. Jenkins, Lincoln Davis,
Bart Gordon, John Tanner, *Members of Congress.*

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, March 10, 2006.

Hon. MICHAEL O. LEAVITT,
Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and
Human Services, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY LEAVITT: We are writing to express our deep concern regarding the recent Motion filed by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to alter the judgment in the case of *Cookeville v. Thompson* based on Section 5002 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA). As you will recall, the U.S. District Court decision in this case awarded 15 Tennessee hospitals up to \$100 million in Medicare Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments.

The U.S. District Court's ruling, which is now being challenged, was based on its rejection of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) DSH policy as a violation of the Medicare statute. In CMS' 2000 policy statement announcing the inclusion of certain expansion population individuals in the DSH formula, CMS stated that these individuals would only be included in the DSH calculation prospectively. Hospitals challenged the prospective nature of the policy and were awarded compensation for patients treated prior to 2000.

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staff verbally, and by electronic communication, that hospitals which had been successful in litigation would still receive payment. CMS asserted that the new provision would not affect decided cases and would only be applied prospectively.

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Thank you for your time and attention. We look forward to your prompt response.

William H. Frist, M.D., Majority Leader,
Zach Wamp, John J. Duncan, Jr., Jim Cooper,
Marsha Blackburn, Harold Ford, Lamar Alexander, William L. Jenkins,
Lincoln Davis, Bart Gordon, John Tanner, *Members of Congress.*

A TRIBUTE TO MARIA JOHNSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Maria Johnson, a member of the Brooklyn community and a distinguished member of the healthcare profession.

Mrs. Johnson has been a professional registered nurse for 15 years, working in various areas of nursing, such as oncology, medical-surgical nursing, visiting nursing and intensive care, and for the past 10 years, as a public health school nurse in the department of Health and Mental Hygiene Office of School Health. Her passion is geared to helping and impacting people.

Mrs. Johnson is currently a supervising nurse for the Office of School Health in District 23 and 19 in Brownsville and East New York, Brooklyn. She supervises a staff of 35, consisting of nurses, public health advisors and assistants. Her goal is to provide optimal health services to children especially in underserved areas. She is passionate about providing public health teaching to the school health community, and making a difference by upholding the standards of service. Her commitment to encouraging and empowering people to become more knowledgeable about public health services helps public health professionals develop organizational systems that work well in providing care to students. She keeps her staff focused and enthusiastic so that they not only see their very difficult role as the school nurse, advisor or assistant as just a profession, but as a purpose by which they are driven. Two years ago, she inspired her staff to create a Secret Santa for various needy children in the community.

Mrs. Johnson is a graduate of Long Island University with a Baccalaureate degree in nursing. She was the first nurse to be nominated as employee of the month in the Department of Health.

Mrs. Johnson attributes her success first to God and a strong foundation from her parents, and the support from her husband and children. She is an active member of her church where she and her husband provide lay biblical counseling for pre-marital couples. She enjoys reading, dancing, craft projects and decorating.

An important question she often asks herself is, what I have done today to affect others and make a difference. Her famous motto is "Keep a smile on your face and let your spirit shine through," which is often placed on her staff's schedule.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Maria Johnson, as she offers her talents and community services for the good of our local communities.

Mr. Speaker, Maria Johnson's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

TRIBUTE TO RACHEL CORRIE

HON. CYNTHIA MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, today is the third anniversary of the murder of Rachel Corrie, an American who was crushed to death by Israel's American-manufactured Caterpillar bulldozers. Rachel was protesting the Israeli Army's illegal bulldozing of Palestinian homes in the Gaza Strip. The Corrie family has filed suit against Caterpillar, charging it with knowingly selling machines used to violate human rights.

From the Rachel Corrie website I found a link to these lyrics by Ten Foot Pole entitled, "Rachel Corrie."

"RACHEL CORRIE"

You heard of Rachel Corrie?
The press won't tell her story
Caught between a house and bulldozer
She found out that Israel
Hates gardens and it will kill
Americans who help rebuild the Gaza Strip.
Let's pretend that everything will be OK
It's not our fault let's look the other way
And go to films or dance lessons or baseball
games at night
and trust elected leaders to choose right
I hurt for Rachel's father
To bury his young daughter
And her belief in human goodness
He taught her to fight violence
Now all that's left is silence
And the memory of her dignity
Let's pretend . . .
Rachel I hope you find justice or even a
garden where anyone can grow some food in
peace
No guns, no need to fight. No poor, no black
no white,
Heaven, you deserve a break from misery

Thanks to Maarten Joostens
(hiprock_cafe@hotmail.com) for these lyrics.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Chairman, we should be cutting off funds for the War In Iraq, not adding more dollars. The billions of dollars already appropriated are enough to sustain our troops until the kind of orderly withdrawal proposed by Representative JOHN MURTHA is implemented. It is long past time to withdraw from a war that is sucking us deeper everyday into a bottomless quicksand pit of filth. To wage this war this administration is trampling on vital political rights and abandoning basic moral values. To pay for this war we are cutting aid to public housing; aid to Medicaid and Medicare; Pell grants; aid to public education; and numerous other programs which support the general welfare of all Americans.

Deeply destructive public policies and practices have become routine in this administration as every conceivable trick is used to rationalize the war. To save the nation we must withdraw from Iraq and JOHN MURTHA has offered the most practical scenario for achieving this goal. At the heart of the Murtha proposal is the recommendation of an orderly withdrawal over a six-month period. Murtha offers an honorable way out of a quicksand pit of filth. JOHN MURTHA speaks with the voice of a soldier. He thinks with the mind of a patriot. And JOHN MURTHA feels with the heart of a grieving mother.

Very definitive polls now communicate to all leaders the American people's overwhelming disapproval of the President and his War In Iraq. Our constituents endorse and support the position of JOHN MURTHA. History will certainly illuminate and validate the courage and wisdom of JOHN MURTHA. But Members of Congress should not wait for history. We Members of Congress have a duty to make history, to guide the nation out of this peril and back to the path of progress and prosperity. There are two classes of leaders who support this administration's War In Iraq: Those who consistently vote for the war and the endless appropriations. And those leaders whose levels of concern are so low that they refuse, despite the objections of their constituents, to even take the very moderate action of becoming a co-sponsor of Murtha's well-reasoned proposal for withdrawal. Censure or impeachment proceedings may be necessary in the future. But at this immediate moment the opportunity to salvage this deteriorating situation is clearly present in the Murtha proposal. Members should co-sponsor Murtha now and let their constituents know that their voices have been heard.

Vote first against this wasteful, destructive, appropriation for Iraq. And then sign on as a Murtha co-sponsor.

FREEDOM FOR ALBERT SANTIAGO
DU BOUCHET HERNÁNDEZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Albert Santiago Du Bouchet Hernández, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Du Bouchet Hernández is the director of the independent Havana Press Agency. His peaceful, pro-democracy activities and truthful articles have helped the world to learn the facts about the nightmare that is the Castro regime. Unfortunately, those who believe in truth are targeted by the tyrant's machinery of repression.

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) reports that Mr. Du Bouchet Hernández was harassed and threatened because he insisted on reporting and covering the historic congress of the Assembly to Promote Civil Society (APSC). The CPJ also reports that Castro's thugs ordered him to appear at a police station on the opening day of the APSC meeting. Mr. Du Bouchet Hernández bravely disobeyed their command, and reported on the momentous events that occurred at the historic congress.

In retaliation for telling the world the truth about the nightmare that is the Castro regime, Mr. Du Bouchet Hernández was arrested on August 6th and, in a sham trial 3 days later, sentenced to 1 year in the totalitarian gulag. As the 2005 edition of the U.S. Department of State's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices states, "Prison conditions continue to be harsh and life threatening." According to CPJ, Mr. Du Bouchet Hernández has suffered severe headaches and progressive loss of his vision since his arrest in August 2004.

Mr. Du Bouchet Hernández is a brilliant example of the heroism of the Cuban people. Despite incessant repression, harassment, incarceration and abuse, he remains committed to the belief that freedom of the press and democracy are inalienable rights of the Cuban people. It is a crime against humanity that Castro's totalitarian gulags are full of men and women, like Mr. Du Bouchet Hernández, who represent the best of the Cuban nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is morally repugnant that, in the 21st Century, men and women are still locked in the dungeons of dictators because of their beliefs in freedom and human rights. It is as inconceivable as it is unacceptable that, while the world stands by in silence and acquiescence, independent journalists who write the truth about totalitarian regimes are systematically tortured. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Albert Santiago DuBouchet Hernández and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

CONGRATULATING LONG'S DRUG
STORE ON THE OCCASION OF ITS
50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a long-standing institution in my dis-

trict that has been serving the people of Knoxville, Tennessee for 50 years. On March 27, 2006, Long's Drug Store will mark its Silver Anniversary.

Determined to provide friendly, prompt service to the Knoxville community, Dr. Clarence Long opened Long's Drug Store on March 21, 1956. It was the first drug store to serve West Knoxville and was included in the first shopping center in Knoxville. Long's is a landmark that has remained at its Kingston Pike location since its opening.

Along with Dr. Long, several members of the Peck family joined the staff in the late 1950s and early 1960s. After the passing of Dr. Long in 1966, the Peck family took over the business and continues to maintain it today.

Today, Long's Drug Store offers the community the same welcoming service it did when it opened its doors 50 years ago, despite advances in technology. Long's continues to fill prescriptions and provide free home delivery service to its customers.

While commonly paired many decades ago, soda fountains in drug stores are a rare find these days. Long's Drug Store has the distinction of having the only old-time soda fountain in the City of Knoxville. This soda fountain provides relief during hot East Tennessee summers with its delicious Coke floats and chocolate malts. It is one of the most popular and memorable sections of the store.

Always at near capacity with loyal customers, both young and old, Long's provides a welcoming meeting place to enjoy a fountain drink or congregate with neighbors over breakfast or lunch.

Long's Drug Store provides its customers and the citizens of Knoxville with caring, personal service. Generations of customers continue to come to Long's for their pharmacy needs as well as a place to meet friends. I'm sure that Dr. Long would be delighted by the staying power of his business and its commitment to tradition.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend Long's Drug Store for its service to the people of Knoxville, and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this anniversary and wishing them the best for the next 50 years.

TRIBUTE TO DELTA COMPANY, 113
AVIATION, OREGON NATIONAL
GUARD

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the citizen soldiers of Delta Company, 113 Aviation, Oregon National Guard on the occasion of their return home tomorrow from a 14-month deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Commanded by Captain David Doran, the 92 Soldiers of this heavy lift helicopter company operating CH47D Chinooks proved to be one of the most effective and versatile aviation companies in the Army's Total Force Structure.

The "Mustangs" of Delta 113 were alerted in June 2004 and assembled from cities and towns throughout Oregon, including: Athena,

Baker City, Beaverton, Bend, Boardman, Clackamas, Corvallis, Echo, Eugene, Fairview, Haines, Helix, Hermiston, La Grande, LaPine, Lyons, McMinnville, Merrill, Milton-Freewater, Ontario, Pendleton, Pilot Rock, Portland, Prineville, Redmond, Roseburg, The Dalles, Umatilla, Union, and Vale.

By late February 2005, the aircrews were fully trained, loaded up, and ready for deployment into the theater of operations. In March 2005, Delta 113 arrived in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Within the first 20 days, the maintainers had the aircraft ready to fly, aircrews were oriented on the mission and environment, refuelers had moved out beyond Kandahar to Forward Operating Bases, and Delta 113 had assumed the mission.

They immediately integrated with Task Force Griffin (12 Aviation Brigade) and in 3 weeks, the Mustangs had conducted a thorough relief-in-place of the outgoing Heavy Lift Helicopter Company and were conducting all heavy lift operations in southern and western Afghanistan. Their missions included: Combat Service support and Air Assault support for units of the 25th Infantry Division and 173rd Airborne as well as the 7th Special Forces; downed aircraft recovery; and transporting VIPs, including Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. These missions were all accomplished while flying their standard re-supply missions, moving more than 95 percent of personnel and equipment throughout southern Afghanistan. The Mustangs were responsible for airlifting 11 million pounds of supplies and equipment and 45,000 troops. In addition they carried troops directly into contact with the enemy, executing over 100 deliberate operations with the 173rd Airborne and 3rd and 7th Special Forces Groups.

Delta 113 was critical to the success of Operation Catania in June of 2005. This 4-day operation resulted in the death or capture of over 150 Anti-Coalition Militants, marking it as one of the largest single engagements of Operation Enduring Freedom to date. During this fighting, four CH47Ds were damaged by enemy fire and two were forced to make emergency landings. All four were recovered and repaired by "Mustang" Downed Aircraft Recovery Teams (DART) on the same day and returned to service within 24 hours.

In September 2005, the Mustangs lost a crew of 5 and an aircraft to an enemy RPG during Operation Hazurbus. The fallen soldiers included Sgt. Tane Baum and Warrent Officer Adrian Stump, both of Pendleton. The Company quickly rallied and continued to execute assigned missions. This ability to remain focused during a time of extreme tragedy is the hallmark of this unit's greatness and an example of their commitment to duty and dedication to mission accomplishment.

In addition to their taxing in support of Operation Enduring Freedom missions, the Mustangs deployed 2 aircraft, aircrews, and support personnel to Islamabad, Pakistan, to conduct humanitarian aid missions in October 2005. They were on site for 1 month and during that time moved over 750,000 pounds of supplies, evacuated 750 casualties, and transported 650 aid workers.

Executing deliberate combat operations to sustain all ongoing combat and combat support missions throughout the country, the Mustangs of Delta 113 gained the reputation throughout CJTF-76 as a highly dependable, professional organization able to execute a wide range of aviation missions.

Mr. Speaker, due to the versatility of the CH47D Chinook Helicopter and the expertise and skill of "Mustang" aircrews, the combat units they transported were able to pursue and eliminate hundreds of Taliban and Al-Qaeda fighters in the region. By penetrating deep into the heart of the Taliban's stronghold, the Mustangs of Delta 113 were instrumental to the success of the ground forces in denying Anti-Coalition Militants respite and sanctuary in Afghanistan.

I take great pride in the sacrifice and outstanding performance of all of Oregon's patriots who serve our nation at home and abroad, and am particularly looking forward to joining the friends and families of Delta 113 in Pendleton on this weekend to officially welcome them back to our great state.

TRIBUTE TO DUANE B. HAGADONE

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw the attention of the House to an entrepreneur and philanthropist from my district whose initiative and vision are an inspiration to all Idahoans.

Duane B. Hagadone began his modest career selling newspaper subscriptions. With hard work and passion Duane worked his way up to editor, then owner of that newspaper. Much later he founded one of the most successful diversified publishing and hospitality businesses in Idaho history, the Hagadone Corporation.

On December 9, 2004, this lifelong resident of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, was inducted into the Horatio Alger Association, an organization that honors those who have overcome adversity and modest beginnings to achieve success. He now serves on that association's board of directors, and through determination and leadership has provided countless scholarships for underprivileged high school seniors.

Duane B. Hagadone was inducted into the Idaho Hall of Fame, and was named Most Influential North Idaho Citizen for the past 5 years for his many contributions to the welfare of Idaho and its citizens.

Duane B. Hagadone shines as a leader in the field of business and public works. He has given back endlessly to the State of Idaho and embodies a sense of civic virtue that makes him one of our state's greatest advocates and most valuable assets. I hope the House will join me in acknowledging Duane B. Hagadone's many contributions to Idaho, and his continuing example to us all.

TRIBUTE TO ST. CASIMIR'S
CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS POST
#652

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Casimir's Catholic War Veterans Post #652 on the occasion of its 60th anniversary.

The Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, Inc., (CWV), was founded in 1935 with the National headquarters located in Alexandria, Virginia. CWV joined other organized groups that were formed to guard the rights and privileges of veterans and included the protection of all our freedoms. Service programs help those who are sick and disabled and care for our hospitalized veterans.

St. Casimir's Post #652 Inc., Chapter of Philadelphia, Department of Pennsylvania, of the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, was established on the 2nd of April, 1946. The home post is located at 1524 South 2nd Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

In 1984, the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, Inc., was Congressionally Chartered and its Service Officers were accredited to the Department of Veterans Affairs. They are authorized to represent veterans and advance their claims to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

To quote the Post's constitution, it was established "to promote faith, hope, and charity with prudence, justice, fortitude, and to enjoy the blessings of liberty, to sustain domestic tranquility, and to develop peace and good will."

St. Casimir's extends help to veterans in hospitals and assists their families with any hardships; has honor guards at funerals of deceased veterans; and helps family members with red tape regarding burial arrangements. The Post also holds benefits to help veterans and their families who are in need.

I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring St. Casimir's Catholic War Veterans Post #652 for their 60 years of service and dedicated commitment towards our war veterans.

TRIBUTE TO KADE HINKHOUSE

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a true American hero, Lance Corporal Kade Hinkhouse. Lance Corporal Hinkhouse is a United States Marine from the 1st Marine Division, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment based out of Twenty-Nine Palms, California. Kade is from Burlington, Colorado.

At a young age, Kade was impacted by the devastating terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001. Because of his pride in our country and determination to protect America's values, Kade signed up for the Marine Corp just prior to graduating from high school.

Last year, LCpl. Hinkhouse was sent to the Middle East to serve in Operation Iraqi Freedom. On October 9, 2005, LCpl. Hinkhouse was severely injured while on his mission at Ar Ramadi, Iraq. After being stationed there for only one month, he and 12 others traveling in a small convoy were hit on the right side with an improvised explosive device. Kade's vehicle was in the middle. The explosion killed the Marine sitting next to him, and 4 other soldiers were injured.

LCpl. Hinkhouse sustained the worst of the injuries including a traumatic brain injury,

shrapnel in his shoulder, an open leg wound, and two collapsed lungs. He and the other 4 injured Marines were taken to the Baghdad hospital, where the medical staff stabilized Kade and amputated his right leg at the knee. The next day, Kade was flown to a military hospital in Germany.

His head trauma was very severe because of severe bruising and swelling. The doctors had to remove a portion of the right side of his skull to alleviate the swelling around Kade's brain. He stayed in Germany until Thursday, October 13, 2005, and then he was flown to Bethesda, Maryland. LCpl. Hinkhouse is now at Walter Reed Hospital receiving therapy and recovering.

Mr. Speaker, we are so fortunate to live in a country served by Marines like LCpl. Hinkhouse; I am grateful for the courage of our servicemen and women. We can maintain the blessings of our freedoms only because we have citizens like Kade who are willing to defend them.

I am proud to honor Kade for his courage and sacrifice on behalf of all Americans. I applaud Kade for his courage and selfless dedication to duty. Lance Corporal Kade Hinkhouse is the embodiment of the values that makes America the great Nation it is today.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
IRA ALBERT "SONNY" BEACH

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of the late Ira Albert Beach of Arkansas City Kansas, who passed away on February 3rd 2006.

Ira, known as "Sonny" to his friends, was a model American. Sonny was born without legs and with a deformed right arm. He spent the first years of his life in the Children's Hospital in Wichita, KS. After graduating from Winfield High School, he went on to junior college. At age 10, Sonny learned to drive a tractor with mechanical aides on his father's farm. Despite his disability, Sonny insisted on contributing to society with his work and his charitable ways.

Sonny paid his way through junior college by hauling five gallon milk cans around his neighborhood. After college he married and had four children. His motto was, "If man made it, man could fix it." Sonny made a living insulating homes, doing construction work, operating heavy equipment and backhoes, and picking up dead animals from farmers all over Oklahoma and Kansas and delivering them to rendering companies. Eventually Sonny sought out a position at General Electric. After a 36 year career, he retired from GE as a jet engine inspector. Sonny also served as an accountant for an oilman in eastern Kansas. At one time Sonny owned and operated a garbage collection business. Sonny was well known as a generous man who had a positive attitude towards life.

Although Sonny was born disabled, he insisted that he was not handicapped. He refused to park in handicap parking, and insisted on never accepting any form of government benefit available to the handicapped or unemployed. Despite hardships Sonny Beach was

able to overcome obstacles, work in numerous careers, and raise four beautiful children who survive him today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CAREER
OF JACK B. MCCONNELL, MD

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the American Medical Association has established a new honor, the Jack B McConnell, MD, Award for Excellence in Volunteerism, which recognizes the work of a senior physician who provides treatment to U.S. patients who lack access to health care. After a full career of practice, this physician remains dedicated to the future of medicine through the spirit of volunteerism.

Jack B. McConnell, MD, is a distinguished physician and scientist who served as Corporate Director of Advanced Technology at Johnson & Johnson. Widely acknowledged for his medical contributions, he directed the development of the TB Tine Test used in the detection of tuberculosis, participated in the early stages of the development of the Polio Vaccine, supervised the discovery of Tylenol, was instrumental in developing the technology for MRI's and helped write the enabling legislation to map the genome.

Dr. McConnell saved his greatest achievement for retirement: the creation of Volunteers in Medicine. His visionary concept—using retired medical personnel to volunteer their time and talents in a network of free community clinics for the working uninsured—coupled with his enthusiasm and determination has enabled the VIM program to grow to over 40 clinics in less than a decade. The initial VIM clinic was opened on Hilton Head, SC and continues to serve with over 20,000 patient visits in 2005.

Today, I am honored to recognize the tremendous life and career of Dr. McConnell. His service has benefited so many citizens throughout the Second District of South Carolina.

TRIBUTE TO THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY
OF NEWBERRY COLLEGE

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the 150th anniversary of Newberry College, which is in my 5th Congressional District of South Carolina.

In celebrating this milestone, I am pleased to join the State of South Carolina, the City of Newberry, Newberry College, and the Newberry College Alumni Association. I want to pay special tribute to the Association's international symposium, planned for April 2006, which recognizes the life and work of the college's founder, the Rev. Dr. John Bachman,

by presenting the following joint proclamation to the U.S. House of Representatives.

A JOINT PROCLAMATION FOR JOHN BACHMAN
MONTH

Whereas, at an early age in New York State the future Dr. Bachman showed strong interest in studies of natural history and religion, particularly the works of Martin Luther; and

Whereas, the esteemed Dr. Bachman traveled south in January 1815 from his birthplace to Charleston, South Carolina to become pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman served St. John's faithfully and honorably as her beloved pastor for an amazing and productive fifty-six years, during which time he became a true pillar of the Charleston community; and

Whereas, contrary to civil statutes and community standards of the time, Dr. Bachman educated Charleston slaves and freedmen of African descent and baptized hundreds, perhaps thousands, into membership at St. John's during his tenure; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman helped form and served twice as President of the South Carolina Lutheran Synod, from 1824 to 1833 and again from 1839 to 1840; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman, as Synod President, took action that led to establishment in 1831 of a school to train Lutheran ministers, now known as the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary of Columbia, South Carolina; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman had a keen interest in natural history of the South Carolina Low Country and discovered or described many birds and mammals previously unknown to science; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman was a seminal and active member of the "Circle of Naturalists," whose work in various natural history fields made antebellum Charleston a scientific center equal in importance to such cities as Philadelphia, Boston, and New York; and,

Whereas, Dr. Bachman frequently published letters and short articles about his natural history observations in local and regional publications (including the South Carolina Medical Journal), and gave public lectures on these topics to audiences of both learned and lay people; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman hosted John James Audubon in 1831 when the famous bird artist visited Charleston, thereby beginning a life-long friendship and professional collaboration; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman was instrumental in founding the South Carolina State Horticultural Society in 1833; and

Whereas, various scientists have seen fit to recognize Dr. Bachman's natural history contributions by naming three North American birds, two mammals, and one butterfly in his honor, including Bachman's Warbler (*Vermivora bachmanii*), Bachman's Sparrow (*Aimophila aestivalis bachmani*), Bachman's (now Black) Oystercatcher (*Haematopus bachmani*), Bachman's Brush Rabbit (*Sylvilagus bachmanii*), Bachman's Fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger bachmani*), and the Snout Butterfly (*Libytheana bachmanii*); and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman encouraged African-American members of St. John's Lutheran Church to enter the ministry, nurturing nationally known clergymen such as Jehu Jones (first African-American Lutheran minister ordained in North America), Boston Jenkins Drayton (missionary to Liberia and eventual Chief Justice of the Liberian Supreme Court), and Daniel Alexander Payne (sixth bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church); and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman served on the Board of Trustees of the College of Charleston from 1834 until 1848; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman in 1838 sailed for England and Europe, where he was greeted as a scientist of renown and awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Berlin; and

Whereas, in 1840 Dr. Bachman and John James Audubon began work on *The Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America*, an illustrated folio on mammals equal in importance, quality, and artistic grandeur to Audubon's earlier *Birds of North America*; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman wrote the entire descriptive text of the *Quadrupeds* and, in collaboration with Audubon's sons, brought the work to publication in folio and quarto formats beginning in 1845; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman through his marriage to Harriett Martin, produced many sons and daughters (two of the latter eventually marrying two sons of John James Audubon), and creating a lineage that continues through many accomplished American families; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman was elected to a three-year term as Vice President of the Charleston Library Society in 1845; and

Whereas, in 1848 Dr. Bachman began a five-year teaching position as Professor of Natural History at the College of Charleston; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman published numerous important natural history papers including *Two Letters on Hybridity* (1850), *Notice of the Types of Mankind* by Nott and Gliddon (1854), and *Examination of Professor Agassiz's Sketch of the Natural Provinces of the Animal World* (1855); and

Whereas, in 1851 Dr. Bachman journeyed to the National Capital in Washington, meeting with President Millard Fillmore to lobby for federal action that in a time of political unrest would mollify the Southern states and preserve the Union; and

Whereas, in 1853 Dr. Bachman published *A Defense of Luther and the Reformation* in which he countered on-going Charleston-area attacks on Protestantism; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman was instrumental in founding in December 1856 the Lutheran-based Newberry College, an extant liberal arts institution at Newberry, South Carolina; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman served as first president of the Newberry College Board of Trustees beginning in January 1857, and during his tenure took many actions at the College to assure the high quality of secular and religious education that has continued for 150 years; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman became co-editor of *Southern Lutheran* magazine in 1860; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman, although a Unionist, led the opening prayer for guidance at Institute Hall in Charleston as the State of South Carolina met on 20 December 1860 to discuss whether to vote for secession, after which he withdrew from political activities and devoted his energies to ministering the sick and needy; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman survived and continued his good work and scholarship despite a beating by Union soldiers that permanently paralyzed his arm; and

Whereas, in 1864 Dr. Bachman published *Characteristics of Genera and Species*, as applicable to the Doctrine of Unity in the Human Race, in which he argued from a scientific perspective that all humans (including slave and master) were the same species—a radical, controversial, visionary, and correct pronouncement that took great courage on his part, particularly amid the turmoil of the Civil War; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman was a true renaissance man devoted to his church and to his God, to science and natural history, to his community and country, and to secular and

religious education—particularly of African Americans in antebellum and post-war Charleston; and

Whereas, Dr. Bachman's legacy is alive and well at Newberry College, which—led by its Alumni Association—will begin its Sesquicentennial Celebration on 20 April 2006 with a major four-day symposium entitled "Nature, God, and Social Reform in the Old South: The Life and Work of the Rev. John Bachman"; and

Whereas, esteemed international authorities on Bachman will make keynote presentations during the College's John Bachman Symposium; and

Whereas, the public is invited to attend and participate in this auspicious event in the life of Newberry College by registering through the Symposium Web site at www.johnbachman.org; and

Whereas, as noted by the many diverse accomplishments listed above, Dr. Bachman had lasting and wide-ranging impact on science, education, religion, and social progress in South Carolina, the United States, and beyond; and

Whereas, the month of February is significant because Dr. Bachman was born on February 4, 1790, and died eighty-four years and twenty days later on February 24, 1874;

Now, therefore, the State of South Carolina, the City of Newberry, Newberry College, and the Newberry College Alumni Association do hereby proclaim through the powers vested in Governor Mark Sanford, Mayor T. Edward Kyzer, President Mitchell M. Zais, and Symposium Chair William J. Hilton Jr. that April 2006 shall be designated as "John Bachman Month" throughout the State of South Carolina, and urge all citizens to recognize this observance and to attend the John Bachman Symposium at Newberry College.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF SGT.
ANTON HIETT

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to express the heartfelt condolences of a grateful Nation and to honor the life of Sergeant Anton Hiett of Mt. Airy, North Carolina. Sergeant Hiett passed away on March 12, 2006 while serving in Afghanistan.

Sergeant Hiett served our country as a U.S. Army Reserve combat medic. His strong patriotism and desire to do what was right led him to join the military after graduating from North Surry High School. He began his career as an infantryman, but later decided that his calling was to care for his wounded comrades. Last year, Sergeant Hiett volunteered to go to Afghanistan because he felt compelled to help his country at war.

Sergeant Hiett was a loving husband, father, son, and brother. His friends describe him as someone "having a big heart and always going the extra mile to help others." He leaves behind his wife, Misty Hiett, his 2 year-old daughter, Kyra Hiett, his parents George and Angela Hiett, and three siblings. May God bless them and comfort them during this very difficult time.

We owe this brave soldier and his family a tremendous debt of gratitude for his selfless service and sacrifice. Our country could not maintain its freedom and security without he-

roes like Sergeant Hiett, who make the ultimate sacrifice. Americans, as well as Afghans, owe their liberty to Sergeant Hiett and his fallen comrades who came before him.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of Sergeant Anton Hiett.

TRIBUTE TO E.S. "BUD" VANBERG

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to B.S. "Bud" VanBerg for his impressive contributions to Colorado agriculture. Bud grew up in Nebraska where he learned to work hard, ride horses, chase cows, drive racehorse vans across the country, and talk fast. After graduating from the University of Nebraska with a degree in agricultural business, he returned to the family business where he centered his interests on auctioneering and the sale barn.

Bud was sent to Sterling in 1957 to manage the sale barn purchased by his father. He commuted between Columbus, Nebraska and Sterling, Colorado until 1964, when the Sterling sale barn became a separate entity. He and his wife, Arlene, were active partners and worked together to establish a fair and honest business with a good reputation that earned a respected place in the community.

Together, they raised four daughters: Debbie, Becky, Deanie and Cindy, and they became actively involved with youth groups and organizations in the community. Bud was known as the consummate volunteer, frequently giving his time and talents to help others, particularly young people. Bud touched the lives of many through his volunteer work, by doing numerous benefit auctions, 4-H livestock sales, and other acts of community service. Bud loved people, he loved life, but most of all he loved his family.

Bud also had a tremendous effect on the lives of eight prominent auctioneers in the region. Teaching, encouraging, giving, trusting and finally letting go, he gave his students the courage to move into the career of their choice.

Bud was named the Logan County Citizen of the year in 1988 and was a member of the Colorado Auctioneer Hall of Fame. Bud's lifelong contributions to agriculture earned him induction in the Colorado Agriculture Hall of Fame in February of 2006. Bud led by example and his enthusiastic community involvement demonstrated his passion for making a positive impact on the world around him.

We have been saddened by the recent loss of this man who gave so much to his community and his state for so many years I am proud to honor Bud VanBerg for his devotion and service.

IN MEMORY OF SAM CHU LIN

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart. A heavy heart over the passing

of one of the giants of Asian American Journalism, and my dear friend: Mr. Sam Chu Lin.

Sam was a pioneer; not just in the Asian American Community, but in the entire field of journalism.

A reporter par excellence—news anchor—radio announcer—media consultant—a conscience, of and for, American journalism for almost four decades.

As one of the first Asian American network reporters in New York City, he announced to the Nation on CBS News, the fall of Saigon.

He interviewed Presidents and world leaders. He covered earthquakes and major disasters.

He reported from China the government crackdown on the democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square.

His childhood in Greenville, Mississippi, must have been a seminal experience for him; one that forged his commitment to both exposing and fighting discrimination wherever he found it. Undoubtedly, he certainly witnessed and experienced first-hand racial prejudice that pervaded the South in the 40's and 50's. More importantly he saw the devastation discrimination did to the dreams of young people of color.

As a result, his life was one of endless commitment to truth-seeking and justice for all Americans—but especially for his brothers and sisters in the Asian American Community.

He believed "informing and helping others is what makes journalism exciting." He also believed his beloved career in journalism was an opportunity to use his roots for a positive purpose.

His relentless pursuit of excellence in journalism was legendary. He once convinced ABC's Nightline to do a program called "Asian American—When Your Neighbor Looks Like the Enemy." After doing so, he helped book the guest, checked the script for accuracy, and found historical footage for the broadcast. He went on to spend the entire next year educating the executive producer about how Asian Americans have been unfairly stereotyped because of the campaign fundraising and spy scandals.

The program went on to be the highest rated show in its time slot beating out both Jay Leno and David Letterman in the national ratings.

Sam was a visionary—for that show would be as relevant today as it was when it first aired. I have no doubt if Sam were still with us, he would be haranguing the current producers to replay it today to show Americans just how little we've learned from our history.

His advocacy on behalf of civil rights and justice for Asian Americans continued to the day he died. It was Sam's interview with Senator JOHN MCCAIN that enlightened the Senator to the plight of citizenship denial for Asian American Civil War Veterans. And it was Sam Chu Lin's coverage at the critical junctures of Dr. Wen Ho Lee, Captain James Yee and Captain James Wang's careers that kept the Asian Pacific civil rights community rallying to their defense.

He continued to this day investigating, advocating, and agitating on behalf of Asian Americans as a media consultant and an independent reporter for several newspapers.

His humbleness belied his accomplishments. He was the recipient of awards across the entire spectrum of journalism—from the Associated Press and UPI, to the Golden

Mike, National Headliner Award for Best Documentary to name but a few. Just this past August he was honored with the Spirit of America Award by the Chinese American Citizens Alliance.

In spite of his accomplishments, he never lost the value of humility or the heartfelt treasure of friendship. He was my dear friend and mentor. My heart goes out to his wife, Judy, and his sons, Mark and Christopher. His absence in my life and in the Asian Community is irreplaceable.

But his body of work will live on and inspire generations of aspiring young Asian Americans to dream big dreams, and then go on to realize them.

It has been said that Asian American men are some of America's best kept secrets. Sam Chu Lin helped to change that. There is a story of a short man who was in the midst of some tall men. One of the taller men said to him, "You must feel pretty small right now." The man replied, "Yes, I feel like a dime in the midst of nickels."

Sam Chu Lin was no dime amongst nickels. He was a silver dollar amongst dimes. For in fact, the lifetime body of accomplishments of Sam Chu Lin has forever changed the face of American journalism.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FIRST
STEP TO REDEPLOYMENT ACT
OF 2006

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, our security depends on the President changing the course in Iraq. Last November, I released a plan to do just this by carrying out a phased redeployment of U.S. troops starting with bringing the National Guard home and refocusing our political, diplomatic and reconstruction efforts. Today, having received a good deal of support for my plan, I am introducing the First Step to Redeployment Act of 2006 which would put my plan into practice by beginning the redeployment of U.S. armed forces from Iraq. This legislation will begin the redeployment of our troops with the National Guard because they also have an important role here at home, fighting forest fires, providing hurricane relief, and keeping our country safe.

Our challenge now is to learn from our mistakes in Iraq and make the appropriate adjustments to our strategy. However, the Iraq conflict is only the beginning of our challenge. We face very real strategic threats from North Korea to Iran and we need thoughtful, moral, and honest efforts to deal with them.

TRIBUTE TO BOB JENNINGS

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has had a tremendous positive effect on the political landscape of California for more than 30 years. For the

past three years Bob Jennings has been my District Director. I could not have chosen a better person to fill this role as I sought to lay a solid foundation for my Congressional career. Bob's knowledge and guidance has made all the difference in helping establish an effective office that meets the needs of my constituents and anticipates opportunities to improve the quality of life for residents in my area.

Bob is no stranger to the San Joaquin Valley and its many challenges. He started his career as a District Director for former Rep. Bob Mathias in 1969. He served in that position until 1975. He went on to form California Data Marketing with then Assemblyman Bill Jones. The two formed a unique friendship and partnership in business and politics that endured through Jones' career as a State Senator and eventually as California's Secretary of State. Bob served as Chief Assistant Secretary and later Undersecretary of State for Bill and was instrumental in establishing the Golden State Museum in Sacramento.

During his time on my staff, Bob spearheaded efforts at the district level to address a wide range of issues through community summits and workshops, including the shortage of health care workers and professionals; affordable housing needs; leading the charge for a Congressional Research Service study on the 8-county area of the Valley and most notably, fostering a greater sense of unity and cooperation among federal and state district staffs across party lines.

For more than five decades, his quiet leadership and vision have made an indelible mark on the communities he has served. His guidance and mentorship of my staff will pay immeasurable dividends far into the future.

As he ends his career at the end of March, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him all the best in a well-deserved retirement, and in offering up many thanks for his hard work and dedicated service over so many years. Thank you, Bob.

OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL
POLICY REAUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (H.R. 2829).

I am proud to have been involved in the creation of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) in 1988. Legislation I introduced became part of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, which created the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

Along with creating the office of the White House "Drug Czar," my legislation also permitted the U.S. military to help interdict drugs, called for the seizure of aircraft involved in drug smuggling, sped up the interdiction of foreign vessels carrying drugs, required minimum sentences for crack cocaine users, and required drug testing of key transportation workers.

The ONDCP is responsible for establishing policies, priorities, and objectives for our na-

tion's drug control program. The reauthorization of ONDCP and its programs are essential to continue the reduction of illicit drug use, manufacturing, and trafficking, drug-related crime and violence, and drug-related health consequences.

The ONDCP Reauthorization Act of 2006 improves the ONDCP and its programs in many important ways. The bill requires that the Director of ONDCP to have the same rank and status as other executive department heads. This will ensure that the "Drug Czar" will be able to interact with other executive department heads to coordinate with them on anti-drug policies and programs.

The bill also preserves and strengthens the High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program. The HIDTA program is ONDCP's principal law enforcement program.

Two counties in my district, Broward and Palm Beach, are part of the South Florida HIDTA. The mission of the South Florida HIDTA is to measurably reduce drug trafficking, related money laundering, violent crime and drug abuse in South Florida, thereby reducing the impact of illicit drugs in other areas of the country. The extensive shoreline of the Florida peninsula and the Florida Keys, combined with 3 major seaports and a close proximity to the Caribbean basin, make South Florida a prime target for maritime smuggling operations.

The South Florida HIDTA designation makes the local law enforcement agencies in Broward and Palm Beach Counties eligible for federal grant funding in order to facilitate the attack and the dismantling of high-value drug trafficking and related money laundering and violent crime organizations working throughout South Florida.

Mr. Chairman reauthorizing the ONDCP and its programs will help us stay ahead of the war on drugs and drug abuse. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE NEVADA
WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Nevada Women's History Project for their contributions to the community in promoting awareness of the historical contributions of Nevadan women.

The Nevada Women's History Project (NWHP) was founded in the fall of 1994 to provide visibility and support for the gathering and dissemination of history about the roles and contributions of Nevada women of every race, class and ethnic background. The NWHP is a statewide organization, with active regions in the North and South. Currently the group has over 200 members.

On March 5, 2005 the second statue from the state of Nevada, that of Sarah Winnemucca, was placed in the United States Capitol. The NWHP was the main factor in placing the statue, by raising the funds to make the statue and lobbying the Nevadan Legislature to give Sarah this honor. The NWHP has gone further to recognize Sarah by placing a replica of the original statue in Reno, Nevada. A second replica statue, which will

reside in Las Vegas City Hall, will be dedicated on March 25.

"Life Among the Piutes," is Sarah Winnemucca's powerful legacy to both cultures, the Native Americans and the whites. It appeared in 1883, the first book ever published that was written by a Native American woman. Following the oral tradition of her people, she reaches out to readers with a deeply personal appeal for understanding, recording a portion of the history of the far west from the Native American perspective. The book was a monumental achievement, recording the Native American viewpoint of whites settling the west, told in a language that was not her own and written and published by a woman during a time when even white women were not allowed to vote. The achievement of her book is second only to the work she performed everyday to promote understanding across cultures. I applaud the NWHP for their efforts to recognize her.

This year the NWHP is publishing a book entitled "Skirts That Swept the Desert Floor." The book contains the biographies of 100 women from Nevada that were instrumental in shaping all aspects of Nevada's history. This unique encyclopedic collection pays tribute to an otherwise unrecognized group of individuals whose stories should not be overlooked.

Mr. Speaker I am honored to recognize the Nevada Women's History Project on the floor of the House, today. I commend them for their service in recognizing the women in our history that have made special contributions to help make Nevada the great state that it is.

WELCOME HOME FORT KNOX 233RD

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome home the 233rd Heavy Transportation Company of Fort Knox, Kentucky, and pay public tribute to their recent courageous service during their deployment in the Middle East.

This was the fourth deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom for the 233rd. The unit, made up of more than 120 troops, transported vehicles and supplies back and forth between bases in Kuwait and the war theater in Iraq. The entire unit returned safely home last week, completing their mission without any serious injuries or fatalities.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the 233rd for selflessly standing in harm's way, transporting critical supplies over millions of miles of dangerous roads, to protect our freedom and way of life. Their distinguished service epitomizes values—duty, honor, country—that make our nation an example of freedom and prosperity for the rest of the world.

In the spirit of Fort Knox soldiers of generation past, their courage and sacrifice significantly contributed to a supreme level of safety and readiness during uncertain times. They were selfless in their sacrifice, taking time away from their families to keep others safe. For that they deserve the admiration and thanks of a grateful nation.

It is my privilege to recognize the 233rd Heavy Transportation Company today, before

the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for their generous service and unflinching duty to our great country. Welcome home!

TRIBUTE TO TERRELLITA MAVERICK

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 80th birthday of Terrellita Maverick, a member of one of San Antonio's and Texas' most distinguished families. The Maverick family has long been committed to independence of mind, fairness, and equality for all. Some claim the Mavericks can trace their roots to Boston at the eve of the American Revolution. While that may be hard to prove, we do know they have shaped San Antonio and Texas in ways that few families have.

Terrellita's ancestor, Samuel Augustus Maverick, was an original signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence. An important figure in the founding of the Texas Republic, he later served in the Congress of the Texas Republic, as mayor of San Antonio, and in the State legislature.

His family's name entered the lexicon because he refused to brand his cattle unlike all other cattlemen in Texas. Maverick originally meant an unbranded male calf, yet the word soon expanded to reflect the family's independent ways. Yet, being a Maverick did not mean individualism for individualism's sake. Rather, their individualism was founded on never turning one's back on doing what was right.

Terrellita's father, Maury Maverick, Sr., represented San Antonio in the House from 1934–1938. In typical Maverick fashion, he defied the city's political machine and won his seat on the strength of San Antonio's Latino vote. A fiery New Deal advocate and close ally of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Rep. Maverick spoke his mind and fought for civil rights at a time when doing so put one's political career and life at risk. Still, Rep. Maverick fought for his constituents and for the causes he believed were right.

Like his illustrious forebearer, he became Mayor of San Antonio and thanks to his vision for the city, La Villita was restored. La Villita was San Antonio's first neighborhood and this project spurred other restoration and construction projects in downtown San Antonio. Mayor Maverick was probably the single person most responsible for the appearance of downtown San Antonio today.

Moreover, his service to Texas and our nation were not limited to elected positions. During World War I, he was an infantry lieutenant and won the Silver Star and a Purple Heart. After his service as mayor, he served in a number of capacities to ensure that our production was efficient during WWII.

Terrellita's brother, Maury Maverick, Jr., was another in this family of individualists. Maury served his nation during World War II as a marine. During the 1950s, Maury represented San Antonio in the Texas House of Representatives along side my father and fought McCarthyism and racism. He and other members killed a bill that would have given communists the death penalty. In 1960, he was

one of the 71 candidates to run for Vice-President's Johnson's Senate seat.

He then began to practice law but concentrated on pro bono legal work for powerless or unpopular people. He successfully argued against a law barring 'mixed-race' boxing matches and won a case before the Supreme Court for a San Antonio bookseller accused of possessing allegedly 'seditious' papers. He passed away in 2003 and our city misses his voice and his conscience.

However, I am pleased that Terrellita still makes San Antonio her home and is dedicated to improving our city. When not busy as a mother or grandmother, she is an active member of the Democratic Party and ACLU. She is every bit a Maverick and our community is the better for it. So, I would like to send my birthday wishes to one of San Antonio's distinguished citizens.

This has long been a family committed to fighting the fights that may not have been fashionable but that history declared right and just.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. TIMOTHY J. ROONEY, GRAND MARSHAL OF NEW YORK CITY'S ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the extraordinary contributions to American civic and public life of Mr. Timothy J. Rooney, the the 245th Grand Marshal of New York City's world famous St. Patrick's Day Parade, which marches up Fifth Avenue in Manhattan on March 17 every year.

Timothy J. Rooney is a scion of the Rooney family, which is prominent in the worlds of business and professional athletics. He is the proud son of Arthur Rooney, the founder of the National Football League's fabled Super Bowl-winning franchise, the Pittsburgh Steelers. The Rooney family also owns and manages the Yonkers Raceway in New York, a premier harness racing venue that is currently being refurbished. Since his family assumed ownership of the raceway in 1972, Mr. Rooney has served as the track's president.

Mr. Rooney has long been active in Irish-American circles. He was honored by the New York-based, United Irish Counties organization in 1975, and the Rooney family's dedication to the people of Ireland and contributions to Irish-American relations and to the Irish-American community have been honored by the American Ireland Fund in New York and Palm Beach, FL.

In 2004, the Knights of St. Patrick presented Timothy Rooney with its Lifetime Achievement award. He has been recognized with many other civic honors as well, including the Terence Cardinal Cooke Award from the New York City Catholic Youth Organization.

Mr. Rooney's leadership in the business world reflects his many diverse interests. A partner for 10 years at Chaplin, McGuinness & Co., Mr. Rooney is an associate member of the New York and American Stock Exchanges. He is president of Delta Electric, an electrical contracting corporation in Westchester County in New York, and served as a

partner in an investment banking firm before assuming the reins at the Yonkers Raceway.

Mr. Rooney's leadership in the racing industry has been well-documented. He is one of the owners of a stud farm in County Kildare in Ireland, and he serves as a director of the United States Trotting Association. He is the business manager of the family-owned Shamrock Farm in Maryland, one of the oldest horse breeding farms in the Terrapin State.

Mr. Rooney is also a devoted family man. He and his wife June are proud parents of 5 children and are devoted to their 17 grandchildren as well as 1 great-grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Mr. Timothy Rooney, the grand marshal of New York's 2006 St. Patrick's Day Parade, the largest parade held in our Nation's greatest metropolis.

**AERAS GLOBAL TB VACCINE
FOUNDATION'S RESEARCH FA-
CILITY IN ROCKVILLE, MD**

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, we are marking a milestone in the global fight against one of the world's most deadly diseases—tuberculosis.

In Rockville, MD, the Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation opened a new research and production facility to meet the world's need for an advanced tuberculosis vaccine. The Aeras Foundation is currently testing multiple TB vaccine candidates. The facility will be capable of producing 150 million doses of vaccine per year. It will use the most advanced medical research and manufacturing technologies and will serve as Aeras's headquarters as well as its research and production center.

The world badly needs a new TB vaccine. More than 1.75 million people die from this disease every year. It is second only to AIDS as the world's deadliest infectious disease. The World Health Organization estimates that there are 8.8 million new cases of TB every year. TB is also the leading cause of death among people diagnosed with AIDS, accounting for about 13 percent of AIDS deaths worldwide.

The current TB vaccine, known as BCG, is nearly 100 years old and was developed in the early 20th century. One of the most widely used children's vaccines in the world, BCG is largely ineffective against TB in adults, who comprise the majority of TB cases.

A new vaccine is the best hope for controlling TB, because vaccination is the only medical intervention that has eliminated an infectious disease. This was the case with smallpox, and today, global polio vaccinations efforts are bringing closer the day when this human disease will be eliminated.

A better TB vaccine may be in reach within the next decade. At least four candidate vaccines have entered human trials recently, and others are in the development pipeline.

I am pleased that the Aeras Foundation has decided to make its home in the community I represent in the U.S. Congress. The Aeras Foundation was founded in 1997 for the purpose of developing new concepts and tools to control the global TB epidemic. Today, it is the

only non-profit organization in the world working through public-private partnerships with the sole focus of developing new vaccines against TB and ensuring their production and availability to all who need them.

In 2004, the Aeras Foundation received a grant of \$82.9 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for new TB vaccine development. It has also received funding support from the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Government of Denmark.

Dr. Jerald C. Sadoff, president and CEO of the Aeras Foundation, has devoted more than three decades to developing vaccines for dozens of diseases, including malaria and chicken pox, and is one of the world's leading experts in this field. He and his team of researchers and scientists are dedicated to saving the lives of millions of people in some of the poorest places in the world from the scourge of this disease. But TB is not just a disease characteristic of the developing world; there are an estimated 8 cases per 100,000 people in Europe and 5 cases per 100,000 people here in the United States.

This month we will celebrate World Tuberculosis Day, a day to heighten awareness of and rededicate ourselves to the search for a TB vaccine. That goal is closer to reality thanks to the tireless work of the skilled and talented men and women of the Aeras Foundation at their new facility in Rockville, MD. I wish them the greatest success in their important and noble mission.

**TRIBUTE FOR THE EFFORTS OF
OPERATION MISSISSIPPI CHRIST-
MAS**

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, Hurricane Katrina crashed into the heart of the Gulf Coast on the morning of August 29, 2005, forever altering the landscape of New Orleans and the surrounding cities and towns, as well as the lives of those who called the region their home. It has taken the hands and efforts of many Americans of goodwill to help alleviate the hardships faced during this trying time.

Rebuilding the post-Katrina Gulf Coast has not been, and will not be, easy. Yet in the midst of one of the country's greatest natural disasters, countless selfless individuals have worked to create a sense of normalcy for those who lost everything in Hurricane Katrina.

Operation Mississippi Christmas was one such organized effort working out of St. Mary's County, Maryland, in my Congressional District. The members of Operation Mississippi Christmas volunteered their time and efforts in order to give the children of D'Iberville, Mississippi a much-deserved and enjoyable Christmas season. It is a privilege to be able to recognize the faith and determination of these men and women, as well as their dedication to such a worthwhile project.

Members of the St. Mary's Hurricane Relief Fund kicked off their efforts with a gift drive spanning the entirety of St. Mary's County. The generosity of the residents of St. Mary's County was uplifting; all but eight of more than a thousand boxes passed out for adoption of the younger children of D'Iberville were re-

turned with gifts. This feat can only be attributed to the great sense of humanity shared by the residents of St. Mary's.

The original plan for transporting the gifts was to organize a C-130 air transport mission, but this plan was abandoned for lack of certainty of plane availability and impending inclement weather. Undaunted, the volunteers were able to obtain two tractor trailers generously donated by the Bailey family and the defense systems company BAE at the last minute, which allowed them to transfer even more supplies to D'Iberville than the original airlift would have.

The organizers of Operation Mississippi Christmas laid out plans for a December 12 delivery of the goods and stuck to this plan with such tenacity that there was never any doubt of their success. On December 10, the loaded tractor trailers set out for Mississippi, while a team of eight St. Mary's Hurricane Relief volunteers flew commercially to Jackson and then drove the remaining 170 miles to D'Iberville.

The volunteers then presented the gifts to local children during a celebration in the D'Iberville Elementary School gymnasium that included food and a special appearance from Santa. The younger children received the presents donated by St. Mary's County residents and the upper middle and high school students received gift cards.

In addition to gifts for the town's children, the St. Mary's volunteers were also able to donate supplies sorely needed by the city of D'Iberville, including school supplies, first aid kits, computer systems, and medical supplies.

Mr. Speaker, it is wonderful that the efforts of so few were able to bring such joy to so many, and these efforts would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication to public service exhibited by the St. Mary's Hurricane Relief Fund. Today I honor the amazing fortitude of these individuals and would like to thank them for their contribution towards bringing a much-needed sense of hope back to the Gulf Coast.

TRIBUTE TO JIM HINGA

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to pay tribute to Jim Hinga, a beloved father of three and renowned lawyer, who passed away on March 5. It was a privilege to know Jim and I offer my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

Jim was born and raised in Indiana. He received his B.A. from Notre Dame in 1971 where he was known by many as "Muncie Milkman" of the Notre Dame basketball team. His achievements on the team led to his induction into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame as a member of the Silver Anniversary Basketball Team. After earning a law degree from the University of Mississippi, Jim served as a litigator and widely respected mediator in Denver, Colorado for the next 25 years. Jim was often sought out for his talent, intellect, and expertise.

But Jim is remembered first and foremost as a compassionate friend and dedicated family man. He never missed a chance to attend one

of his children's school or sporting events. He took time out of his busy work schedule to call his children and tell them how proud he was of their accomplishments. Jim raised a determined set of talented children who will honor his memory with their good works for years to come.

We can all learn from Jim and can only hope to have his sense of dedication and compassion. His caring personality brightened the lives of those who knew him. Jim will be missed, but remembered by the hundreds of people whose lives he touched. May he rest in peace.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LOUIS J. AGNESE
JR.

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a person who has made an indelible impact on San Antonio and higher education, Dr. Louis Agnese Jr, the President of the University of the Incarnate Word (UIW.) On March 25, 2006, Dr. Agnese will celebrate his 20th anniversary as President of the university and during his tenure the school has been transformed from a small private school into a world class academic institution. Yet despite the changes at UIW, it remains a school committed to expanding both the minds and consciences of its students. I am proud that San Antonio can call UIW one of its schools, but we are especially thankful that Dr. Agnese has applied his talents and energy to making UIW into the institution that it is.

In 1986, Dr. Agnese was inaugurated as the 8th president of Incarnate Word College. He was the driving force that transformed the school from a college into the University of the Incarnate Word. In addition to the San Antonio campus, UIW now has sites in Corpus Christi, Texas, Guangzhou, China, and Mexico City, Mexico and 80 sister schools in 30 countries. During his presidency, UIW has doubled the size of its faculty, tripled the number of buildings on its main campus, and has greatly increased the school's endowment. Dr. Agnese has done nothing less than remake the school while remaining true to its founders' mission.

In the aftermath of the Civil War, Texas Bishop Claude M. Dubuis decided to establish a new religious congregation, the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, dedicated to helping the poor and ill. He persuaded three sisters from a cloistered community of nuns in Lyons, France to emigrate to Texas and establish the Santa Rosa Infirmary, the first civilian hospital in San Antonio. The Sisters increased the scope of their mission as new circumstances arose. When they found that the hospital was caring for a significant number of orphans, they began orphanages, which led to starting schools to educate these children.

In 1881, the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word applied for and were granted a state charter to operate hospitals and schools. At first UIW opened and ran elementary and secondary schools but began offering college courses for young women around the turn of the 20th Century. Soon thereafter, the Sisters christened their school the College and Academy of the Incarnate Word.

Much has changed in the last 125 years. Today UIW is the largest Catholic University in Texas and the fourth largest private school. At the same time the school has grown, it remains committed to the core principles of its founders. UIW recognizes that service to others is the highest calling one can pursue. Moreover, Dr. Agnese has lived this credo as he has helped increase opportunities for young people to earn an education and look at the world in a broader way.

UIW truly is an international school with students from all over the world attending its main campus in San Antonio. This kind of diversity teaches young people to embrace and respect the cultural differences that make life enriching but also to recognize the similarities that bind us together.

In addition to increasing the diversity of the student body, Dr. Agnese also pushed to expand the academic programs at UIW and established the university's first Ph.D. program. Moreover, Dr. Agnese and the university have been sensitive to the challenges facing young Latinos seeking higher education and he has helped facilitate this process. Indeed, Dr. Agnese has said that "one of the proudest moments of my life occurred when I was selected as the national Hispanic Educator of the Year in 1996, even though I'm Italian-American."

In 1986, Dr. Louis Agnese had a vision of UIW could become. Yet, he did not just envision UIW as one of Texas' finest academic institutions; he also saw a school that would continue to educate young men and women who would work to improve our community. Knowledge may fire the mind but unless guided by a moral compass, it is little more than pedantry. UIW helps its students gain the moral guidance necessary to implement their education.

Of course, Dr. Agnese is also deeply dedicated to his family and has proven his commitment to San Antonio. He has helped make San Antonio the thriving city it is today and we are the better for his coming here. I wish Dr. Agnese many more years of success at UIW.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 1ST BATTALION, 69TH INFANTRY OF THE NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARD

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry of the New York National Guard who are being honored on St. Patrick's Day in New York City. I know that my distinguished colleagues will join me in extending our appreciation and gratitude to all of the brave members of the armed forces serving in the National Guard and the Reserve, who are so courageously and selflessly dedicated to their fellow Americans.

The National Guard in an integral part of a great tradition in American military history that began during the American Revolution. At that time, our Founding Fathers placed the country's security in the hands of citizen-soldiers who trained and organized into militias in their home colonies. To this day, members of the National Guard must be ready to serve their

state and their country, often at a moment's notice.

The members of the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry continue to uphold a distinguished tradition in both battle and disaster response. As part of the famous Irish Brigade during the Civil War, the members of the 69th Infantry were renowned for their tenacity on the battlefield, leading Confederate General Robert E. Lee to bestow upon them the nickname of "The Fighting 69th." In acknowledgement of its proud heritage, the Fighting 69th participates each year in New York's St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The Fighting 69th are infantry soldiers—the "guns on the ground"—whose mission is to engage and destroy enemy forces in close combat. In addition to the Civil War, its members have also fought in the Spanish American War, World War I and World War II, where its soldiers served valiantly in the battles of Makin, Saipan and Okinawa, and its members just completed a tour of duty in Iraq, returning to the U.S. six months ago after serving with distinction. Sixteen soldiers in the Manhattan-based 69th National Guard Regiment have died in the Iraq War, including a member who was one of the New York firefighters who raised the American flag above Ground Zero, Christian Engledrum.

In April, six members of the 69th Regiment were awarded Purple Hearts after being wounded by roadside bombs in Iraq. The unit patrolled the infamous road to the Baghdad airport and was stationed primarily in the Sunni Triangle, where most of the insurgent attacks have taken place. In a speech at Fort Drum, New York, Vice President Richard Cheney paid tribute to the Fighting 69th, thanking its members for their "toughness in confronting insurgents around Baghdad." Nine members of the Fighting 69th are continuing to serve on active duty in Iraq today.

The members of the Fighting 69th also have mobilized during times of emergency in their home state of New York. The Battalion Commander, Lt. Col Geoffrey Slack, informs me that the Fighting 69th was the first National Guard unit to arrive on the scene following the devastating terrorist attacks of September 11th, 2001. In the hours after the attacks, the Battalion assisted medical teams treating the wounded and provided significant assistance to rescue and recovery operations, continuing in this mission for nearly a year.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of its tremendous contributions to civic and public life, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the Fighting 69th Regiment of the New York State National Guard, who are great New Yorkers and great Americans. All Americans should be grateful for the dedication demonstrated every day by the men and women of the Fighting 69th as well as all of the brave individuals serving in National Guard and Reserve units throughout our nation. Their members' dedication to our country serves as an inspiration to us all.

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY
MONTH

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, in March, we celebrate Women's History Month and

honor the historic contributions that women have made our great Nation. We remember those who have fought for progress in women's rights and recognize those who continue to fight to expand opportunities for women.

Recently, I, along with other Members of Congress, welcomed Liberian President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf to the U.S. Capitol where she addressed a Joint Session of Congress. It was a moving experience to hear the first woman elected president of an African country. President Johnson-Sirleaf's historic achievement is an inspiration and she embodies the theme of this year's Women's History Month—"Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams."

During the past year, we lost several remarkable women whose courage and vision transformed our Nation. Coretta Scott King was not only the keeper of the flame, but a woman who worked for change so that all Americans would have the opportunity to experience true freedom and justice. Rosa Parks' courage and determination launched the Montgomery, Alabama bus boycott and sparked the civil rights movement. Betty Friedan, one of the founders of the modern women's rights movement, agitated and struggled, never ceasing the fight, for women's rights.

In spite of the efforts of these and other brave women, much work still needs to be done to fulfill the legacy of these women. We must redouble our efforts to create a Nation where everyone has an equal opportunity to succeed. We must pursue new policies that promote economic prosperity, affordable healthcare, and strong public schools.

America can do better. This March, as we recognize and celebrate the contributions of our great American heroines, we must rededicate ourselves to making the future for all of America's girls and women full of hope and opportunity.

THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF
ROBERT WAXMAN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a great patriot as well as a great friend, Robert "Bob" E. Waxman. On March 1st, 2006, Bob retired as the Deputy for Aircraft Division operations for the Avionics Competency of the Navy Air Navigation Electronics Project (NANEP).

Bob has had a long and distinguished career in service to our nation. He graduated from Forest Park High School in 1942, and worked for the Army Air Corps from 1943–1946, where he trained as a Navigator in B-17's and B-29's. Bob next attended the University of Maryland, where he received his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering in 1950.

In 1951, Bob began working for the Electrical Test Division's Radio Communication Branch of the NANEP at Patuxent River. Two years later, he was promoted to the Supervisory Electrical Engineer for the organization. In 1958, Bob was promoted to the Technical Director of the NANEP, a leadership position he would hold for almost 48 years. One of Bob's major accomplishments as the Tech-

nical Director occurred when he oversaw NANEP's move to Webster Field in 1960. During the 1960s Bob earned his Master's of Science in Electrical Engineering Management from George Washington University. In 1994, Bob successfully led the transition of the Naval Electronic Systems Engineering Activity into NAV AIR, the Naval Air Systems Command.

Bob Waxman has guided Webster Field through an unprecedented period of growth and success. When he began his service, Webster Field had 57 employees and a \$320,000 budget. Under Bob's leadership, Webster Field reached a peak of more than 2,800 employees and a budget of more than \$368 million. Bob also achieved another milestone: Webster Field was supposed to have been closed on five separate occasions. On each of these occasions, however, Bob succeeded in saving the organization. These acts alone make him a great leader and a hero to many.

Throughout the past 25 years, Bob's achievements have been recognized time and again with myriad awards and honors. In 2002, Bob was honored as the first employee at Patuxent River to receive a 55-year Length of Service Certificate. Bob is the recipient of the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award, the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award, the Distinguished Civilian Service Award, and a Congressional Certificate of Appreciation. In 2001, the Air 4.5 Avionics Robert E. Waxman Leadership Award was established in Bob's name. Finally, Bob's expertise and leadership skills were recognized by his peers when Bob was elected President of the Society of Engineers and Scientists.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his dynamic career, Bob Waxman has been a positive influence on many lives. On behalf of the thousands of individuals that Bob has helped over the years, I would like to congratulate and thank Bob Waxman for his extraordinary contributions to not only our community, but to our Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, last week I received an official leave of absence due to the death of my father-in-law, George Jaramillo. Had I been here, I would have voted in the following manner.

For the votes on H.R. 4167, the Food Labeling Act, I would have voted:

"Aye" on the Cardoza Amendment; "No" on the Waxman Amendment; "No" on the Capps/Eshoo/Stupak/Waxman Amendment; "No" on the Wasserman-Schultz Amendment; "No" on the Stupak Motion to Recommit; and "Aye" on Final Passage of the HR 4167.

For the votes on H.R. 2829—Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2005, I would have voted:

"No" on the Previous Question on the Rule; "Aye" on the Chabot/Boswell/Calvert/Cannon/Larsen Amendment; "Aye" on Hooley Amendment; "No" on the Paul Amendment; "Aye" Rehberg/Boozman/King (IA)/Capito/Souder/Graves Amendment; and "Aye" on Final Passage.

TRIBUTE TO UNIVERSITY OF THE
INCARNATE WORD

HON. CHARLES A GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 125 years that the University of the Incarnate Word (UIW) has enriched the city of San Antonio and South Texas. Incarnate Word has grown from humble beginnings to become one of our city's leading schools and Texas' largest Catholic university.

In the aftermath of the Civil War, Americans began the arduous task of rebuilding our war-scarred nation, particularly the South. In the late 1860's, after a cholera epidemic had struck, Bishop Claude M. Dubuis sent a letter to France urging the first Sisters to come to Texas and minister to the sick in the area.

Bishop Dubuis found three young Sisters willing to accept this challenge. Sisters Madeleine Chollet, Pierre Cinquin, and Agnes Buisson journeyed from Lyons, France to Texas and founded the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word. Immediately, they established the Santa Rosa Infirmary, the first civilian hospital in Texas.

They soon expanded their mission to care for orphaned children and this led to the establishment of the first homes for children in San Antonio, St. Joseph's Orphanage for Girls and St. John's Orphanage for Boys. Naturally, the Sisters were concerned in the long-term well-being of the children in their care, so they opened schools to educate these orphans in San Antonio and eventually other cities in Texas. In 1881, the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word applied for and were granted a state charter to operate hospitals and schools.

Their dedication to providing education to the youth of the area led to the formation of a boarding and day school for young women. The Sisters added college courses to the curriculum in 1909. In 1925, the College and Academy of the Incarnate Word received accreditation by what is now the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In 1929, the School of Nursing Education was established to continue the Sisters' original mission of healthcare. More recently, in 2004, the Feik School of Pharmacy was founded to address the serious shortage of pharmacists in Texas and elsewhere. I know that San Antonio can depend on UIW to be faithful to their original purpose by producing first-rate nurses and pharmacists.

Moreover, UIW reflects the diversity of our nation and our world. Students from all over the world come to attend UIW, which creates an atmosphere of tolerance and cooperation that we will need as our world continues to shrink. Boundaries and oceans that once separated us no longer do and recognizing that events on the other side of the planet can and will have profound influences on our lives is necessary. UIW provides a campus where American students can learn about and from the perspectives that international students have.

UIW now has a student body of 5200 from 47 countries and offers more than 70 undergraduate and graduate programs of study. I

expect that UIW will continue to evolve yet remain committed to the calling of serving others. I am pleased to honor UIW on its 125th anniversary.

HONORING BOY SCOUT TROOP 95
OF NORTH COVENTRY TOWNSHIP,
CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Boy Scout Troop 95 of North Coventry Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary. It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) to build character, foster citizenship, and develop fitness. These three aims are the bedrock of the American Scouting movement and the foundation of 50 years of scouting experience for Troop 95.

Troop 95 is a tremendous group of young men that have and continue to practice the policy of "boy-led and boy-run" in the development of teamwork, leadership skills and personal responsibility. They develop the rules and standards to meet and work together to accomplish their many goals and objectives.

The Troop is also a safe haven for young men. It seeks to create a place where everyone feels physically and emotionally secure. The scouts of Troop 95 live the Scout Oath and Law each moment of each day, to the best of their individual and combined abilities.

The Troop has also created an extremely high standard of tolerance and acceptance. Scouts communicate openly with each other and demonstrate camaraderie and friendship at all times. Troop 95 has also created an environment based on learning and fun. Scouts seek the best from each participant, and go the extra mile to help each person achieve personal success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Scouts, their outstanding leaders, and scout parents of Troop 95, past and present, for the terrific contributions they have made in their community and for the positive development of the moral, physical, and emotional well-being of the young men who have participated in the Troop over the past 50 years.

IN RECOGNITION OF NOW-NYC'S
26th ANNUAL SUSAN B. ANTHONY
AWARDS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of NOW-NYC and the recipients of the 2006 Susan B. Anthony Awards and the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Award. Whether it's fighting against the appointment of Judge Alito, demanding an increase in the availability of Emergency Contraception or working to end the statute of limitations for rape in New York State, the members of NOW-NYC have been leaders in standing up for women's rights.

The Elizabeth Cady Stanton Award is presented to a woman of outstanding achievement who has made important contributions toward creating a more equal society and has served as a role model for other women. The Susan B. Anthony Awards honor women who have accomplished something remarkable. Each of this year's recipients has, in her own way, spoken up, spoken out, gotten involved and made a difference. They are our role models and heroines.

Councilwoman Gale Brewer, recipient of this year's Elizabeth Cady Stanton Award, is an outstanding member of the New York City Council, representing Manhattan's Upper West Side. She is a strong ally, a good friend and a champion of women's rights and human rights. Brewer has been instrumental in passing numerous laws, the most recently being the Human Rights Bill, which protects domestic partnerships from discrimination and retaliation in the workplace. In 2000, the Daily News hailed her as "One of 50 New Yorkers to Watch."

When the crime rate in their North Brooklyn neighborhood began to rise, Oraia Reid and Consuelo Ruybal started helping women take back the night by offering them a safe way home. In 2004 they founded RightRides, a not-for-profit organization that offers free late-night rides home to women in several Brooklyn neighborhoods and parts of the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Their creative response to improving women's safety so impressed Mayor Michael Bloomberg, that December 12, 2005 was named "RightRides For Women's Safety Day."

Nancy Lublin has proved that one person really can change the world. Recognizing that what you wear can make the difference between getting the job and getting shown the door, she created Dress for Success, which provides business attire for low income women who are seeking jobs. For many women, that would have been enough. But Nancy saw another need—the need to encourage kids to get involved in their communities and to recognize their achievements when they do. So she agreed to become CEO of Do Something, an organization founded in 1993 by Andrew Shue (of Melrose Place) and Michael Sanchez, childhood friends who wanted to make community service as cool as sports. Do Something has distributed over 1 million dollars through its Brick Awards to young people who are making a difference in their communities. In 1998, CNN dubbed the BRICK Awards "the Oscars for young people in service".

Former NOW-NYC President and current Chair of the Board, Jane Manning has taken her activism to the courts as well as to the streets. A graduate of Yale College and NYU Law School, Jane served as Assistant District Attorney for six years and currently defends women's rights as a human rights attorney for the non-profit organization Equality Now. A dedicated advocate for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, and trafficking, Jane launched NOW-NYC's campaign to repeal New York's statute of limitations on rape cases and works closely with human rights groups to bring an end to the human rights epidemic of trafficking in women. Recently she represented a coalition of feminist organizations before New York State's highest court, arguing as amici curiae to reverse an appellate court decision that would have made the

defense of extreme emotional disturbance almost universally available to men who kill their wives or girlfriends. In a unanimous decision, the court reversed the lower court's decision and ruled in favor of the feminist groups.

Finally, I want to congratulate Kathleen Ham, a symbol of courage to rape victims around the country. She is one of the reasons I fought so hard to pass the Debbie Smith Act. In June of 1973, Kathleen Ham was brutally attacked and raped in her New York apartment. Although the suspect was immediately apprehended while fleeing the scene, the trial resulted in a hung jury. In 2005, DNA technology linked the man charged in her rape definitively not only to her rape but also to at least 23 other rapes in Maryland and New Jersey over the past 32 years. Knowing that this serial rapist must be put behind bars, Ms. Ham courageously decided to take the stand once again, and to go public with her identity and story. When she came forward, nine other women also came forward to say that this man had raped them. Their stories are being used to illustrate the absurdity of New York's five year statute of limitations for rape.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the 2006 Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony Award winners.

DEERWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
AND VETERANS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, children are never too young to understand patriotism, and be thankful for it. A group of students at Deerwood Elementary School in Kingwood, Texas, showed us that even young minds can appreciate and revere those who have fought for our great nation.

The students at Deerwood paid tribute to our veterans by making cards in honor of National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week. The cards thanked the veterans for keeping us safe, fighting for our freedom and other actions inherent to the United States Armed Forces.

My staff handed out the cards during a visit to the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center. Upon receiving a card, many of the veterans smiled, for the first time in a long time. One veteran even said it was the first card he'd gotten in ages.

As Americans, we can learn a lot from the students at Deerwood Elementary. We, too, should always find a way to thank our brave men and women in uniform.

The exceptional actions of these students are a fitting tribute to the dedicated hard-working staff of Deerwood. It is obvious to me, that the teachers are doing a great job shaping the minds of these young Americans.

Deerwood students are proof that the outlook for our future generation is bright. If they already appreciate those who fight on the frontlines for our freedom, there is great hope for the future of this nation.

I would like to commend the students, the principal Carol Suell, and teachers at Deerwood Elementary School for a job well done.

OLYMPIC GOLD FOR REFUGEES OF DARFUR: THANK YOU JOEY CHEEK!

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to applaud an Olympic Champion Gold Medal winner speed-skater Joey Cheek. Joey Cheek won the Olympic Gold Medal in the men's 500-meter speed skating race in Turin, Italy on February 13, 2006. Minutes after he won the race while millions of Americans and almost a billion listeners from around the world were focused solely on him, Cheek used his "fifteen minutes of fame" to announce he was donating his prize money to child refugees from Darfur. Cheek, citing the U.S. government finding of genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan, said he wanted to sponsor programs for 60,000 children of Darfur forced into refugee camps in Chad.

For Joey Cheek, competing in the Olympics was a blessing and his way of saying thanks for his opportunity, was to help others. Before answering any questions about his winning race, Cheek announced he would talk to and challenge all Olympic sponsors and participants to match his gift.

When Mr. Cheek won the Silver Medal in the 1000 meter he donated his \$15,000 prize money. By the end of the Olympics, Mr. Cheek donated his total money from the US Olympic Committee, \$40,000, to victims of genocide in Darfur. By the end of the Olympic Games, ABC's announcer, Bob Costas reported that Cheek's challenge had brought in donations of \$300,000 for the refugees from Darfur.

Joey Cheek is an Olympic champion, but he is more; he is a citizen champion: a person who demonstrated the true American values of his country: generosity, compassion, kindness and goodness of heart. Mr. Cheek is not a rich man; he is 27 years old. He had already announced the 2006 games would be his last Olympics. In donating what might have been his one and only time to bask in triumph before a world-wide audience for his skating skills, Joey Cheek revealed his heart. He demonstrated something I believe lives in the hearts of all the compassionate people of this country; altruism, a pure selfless gift to men, women and children who, without our help, are destined to die.

UNICEF's website says 1.4 million Sudanese children, including 500,000 age five or younger, have been displaced from the Darfur region by militia groups, including the Janjaweed militia, that have destroyed villages, brutally killed men and children and raped women as the means of annihilating an entire people because they are non-Arab, black Africans. The Government in Khartoum has been complicit in these mass murders and slow starvation of at least 300,000 people. Two and one-half million people of Darfur have been displaced, their villages burned, their crops destroyed and their well water poisoned with the bodies of their children, spouses, brothers, sisters, fathers and mothers.

In February of this year, I signed a bipartisan letter to the President along with 80 of my colleagues, Democrat and Republican, in

the House of Representatives asking Mr. Bush to exercise badly needed leadership to stop the genocide in Darfur. This is the first genocide that can be stopped. The 7000 African Union (AU) peacekeepers protecting the people in Darfur are good, but they are not enough to save the tribes of Darfur. They need help. According to the experts, the genocide could be stopped, it would cease, if there were 20,000 peacekeepers to provide genuine security. My colleagues and I wrote the letter in February because for 28 days the United States was the President of the United Nations Security Council. We hoped the President would seize this moment to do what no other President has done: stop genocide. Although we are not now the President of the UN Security Council, it does not mean we cannot act to stop the genocide.

Not one other winner of any medal did a deed as great as Joey Cheek's. I am proud of every American Olympian who worked so hard and made us proud by winning gold, silver and bronze medals at the Olympics, but I believe what Mr. Cheek did is worthy of special recognition and celebration; he set an example, a standard for the people of America. He is one person who made a huge difference to children, many of whom are orphans, victims of genocide by the government of Sudan in Khartoum.

Joey Cheek told the media that he wants to help Darfur refugee children to live but he also hopes they will be able to learn and play sports. If more citizens would follow Mr. Cheek's example, his vision of the children of Darfur being children not victims, would not be out of reach.

There is a teaching from the Talmud: "He who saves one life has saved the world." Joey Cheek started what I hope will be a beginning for many who want to express their moral values as Mr. Cheek has done. Every citizen may not be able to give money for Darfur, but he or she can ask his pastor, priest, imam or rabbi to speak out at every service and remind their congregations that genocide is happening. It is a long slow genocide that has gone on for three years. Each citizen can also call on the Administration to stop the genocide now. It is within the power of this greatest country on earth to end the horrific suffering of people who are being murdered, starved, raped and mutilated because they are non-Arab Africans. Each person can do something to save a life in Darfur and to save the world.

REMEMBRANCE OF MARVALYNE HENRY: A REMARKABLE WOMAN

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay belated tribute to one of our community's unsung leaders, the late Marvalyne W. Henry, whose life was remembered and celebrated on January 9, 2006 at the Range Memorial Chapel in Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Ms. Henry left a wonderful legacy for all of us, and she will be sorely missed, especially by those who looked up to her as a model of utmost benevolence and caring. I want to take this opportunity to honor her faithful stewardship over those who came to her for guidance

and understanding. The hallmark of her life's excellence and commitment was defined by her compassion, which evoked the ever-enduring presence of God in her life.

Born to the late J.C. Woodson and Margaret "Maggie" Williams on August 16, 1937 in Smithville, Georgia, Ms. Henry demonstrated an immense love and compassion for others, especially the less fortunate and the down-trodden. Despite the problems she had had with her health, her faith was unshakable and served her well in ministering to those who needed her help.

Her nurturing spirit transformed her home into an oasis of love and encouragement—not only for the immediate members of her family, but also for countless others who came to seek much-needed comfort and solace from her. Indeed, the genuine kindness she extended to others transformed a rather sad occasion into a celebration of her life when they could take comfort in memorializing the magnificent example of a life so nobly lived. Despite the sobering challenges of her health problems, Ms. Henry managed to exude a great soul and a beautiful spirit that evoked an unshakable belief rarely shown and tested amidst so much trial and tribulation.

Ms. Henry is survived by her children: Nedra Henry, Lynnette Mathis (Larry), Tammie Coney (Michael), Gidget McLean (Charleston), Tameka Benbow, Derrick Henry (Alisia), Gary Mays, and Sherman Henry; sister, Wendie Williams; brothers, Samuel Williams (Mary), Richard Williams (Vanessa), and Leon Williams (Ann); two aunts: Loraine Humphries, and Doll Calbert of Detroit, Michigan; a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Buttressed by her unflinching faith, Ms. Henry's life has indeed been bountifully blessed. This is the celebration of a remarkable woman, and I know that my colleagues join me in honoring her.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF ELEANOR SLATER

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to Eleanor Slater, a great friend who recently passed away. Known as the grande dame of Rhode Island Democratic politics, Eleanor blazed trails for women in our state and will be greatly missed.

She began her distinguished political career in 1958 when she was elected to the Rhode Island House of Representatives where she served four terms. She then ran successfully for the Rhode Island Senate. While in the Senate, she championed what is believed to be the first Fair Housing Act in the country. Eleanor was also vocal on mental health and gerontology issues, and in 1969 became the chief of the former Division on Aging.

After 18 years in public service, Eleanor decided to pursue other interests, which included receiving a degree in political science from the University of Rhode Island at the age of 70. She remained instrumental in the Democratic Party and was a fixture at numerous Democratic National Conventions as a delegate.

Always thinking of the next generation, she was a great advisor for many former and current politicians, including myself. She had the

foresight and belief that I could run for Secretary of State and win that race—which I did. She served as an honorary chair on many of my campaigns and taught me valuable lessons that I still use today.

While her dedication to the Democratic Party and the state of Rhode Island was great, Eleanor was above all dedicated to her family, and my thoughts and prayers are with her two sons, William and Thomas; her brother Robert Boland; her sister, Dorothy Merrill; her four grandchildren; and her five great grandchildren.

While I am sad to say goodbye to such a wonderful woman, at 97 years old, we should celebrate Eleanor's long, distinguished life. Eleanor, you made a difference.

CHILDREN'S SAFETY AND VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I am voting in favor of passing H.R. 4472, The Children's Safety and Violent Crime Reduction Act of 2006. However, I want to make clear the serious concerns I have regarding some of the content of this legislation and the manner in which it is being considered by the House of Representatives.

I ultimately support this legislation, primarily because it incorporates the core content contained in H.R. 3132, The Children's Safety Act of 2005, which was previously passed by the House of Representatives on September 14, 2005. H.R. 3132—and by extension H.R. 4472—provides for vital improvements to strengthen the ability of our justice system to protect children from sex offenders. This legislation helps to develop a comprehensive national approach to prevent sex offenders from preying on our children, as it creates a national sex offender registry and increases penalties for sex crimes against children. Like everyone else, I have been horrified by the recent cases of abductions and murders of children by sex offenders, and am determined to do everything in my power as a public official to prevent such tragedies from ever occurring again.

I am also supportive of the main provisions of H.R. 1751, The Secure Access to Justice and Court Protection Action of 2005, which are included in H.R. 4472. These provisions would increase federal penalties for the assault, murder, or kidnapping of judges and court employees and make it a federal crime to kill or assault public safety officers or other court personnel.

However, H.R. 4472 also contains the core content of additional legislation, H.R. 1279, The Gang Deterrence and Community Protection Act of 2005, which I voted against last year on May 11, 2005. H.R. 1279—and by extension H.R. 4472—creates new federal criminal penalties and mandatory minimums for crimes committed by gang members, yet it loosely defines the definition of gang membership. Further, it redefines "crimes of violence" to include drug-trafficking crimes, and authorizes the Attorney General to charge a juvenile

as an adult for certain crimes. I believe this aspect of the legislation has many flaws, one of which is the ability to penalize even non-violent drug dealing and some misdemeanors as "crimes of violence." I am opposed to prosecuting youth as adults and imposing mandatory minimum sentences.

We already incarcerate two million people, about half for non-violent drug crimes, and I believe that we need to emphasize more prevention and early intervention programs geared towards at-risk youth. This legislation seriously errs in its lack of focus on prevention and early intervention, which time after time has proven to be the most effective way to prevent juvenile, and ultimately, adult crime.

I also think it is yet another abuse of the procedures of the House by the majority to bring up this bill on the suspension calendar. The suspension calendar, which does not permit amendments, is intended for non-controversial bills for which there is broad consensus. For the reasons described above and others, many Members of this body have reservations about H.R. 4472. Undoubtedly, a number of Members would have offered improving amendments if given the opportunity. Perhaps those amendments would have been rejected by a majority of the House, and would have failed. Perhaps they would have been approved unanimously. Bringing this legislation up on the suspension calendar subverts the democratic process. Particularly given that the House has already passed the entire contents of H.R. 4472, it is patently obvious that the sole purpose of bringing up H.R. 4472 without an ability to amend it is to play politics.

In conclusion, my vote in favor of passing H.R. 4472 comes despite my reservations regarding these controversial provisions, and is driven by my overriding concern for the safety of our nation's most valuable asset—our children. I continue to have major concerns about some elements of the legislation, and particularly the manner in which it has been brought up. Protecting our nation's children should be our overriding priority, and worth real debate and attention from the House.

IN RECOGNITION OF FIFTY YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE FOR THE TUNISIAN REPUBLIC AND U.S.-TUNISIAN RELATIONS

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the people of the Tunisian Republic and extend my congratulations to President Ben Ali as his nation celebrates fifty years of independence on March 20, 2006.

The United States and Tunisia have a strong relationship that promotes cooperation on important bilateral and regional issues. The engagement between our two countries on economic, security and cultural matters is vibrant and reflects a commitment to enhancing and strengthening our bilateral relationship for the future. In this regard, both our nations should have more desire than ever before to strengthen our ties and build even stronger bridges between our countries. The strength of our friendship also allows our two nations to

openly discuss issues in which common perspectives are not shared. In this regard we must continue to work together to find common ground that reflects the respective values and hopes of the American and Tunisian people.

Tunisia has a critically important stabilizing role in both Africa and the Middle East. We should clearly recognize Tunisia as a diplomatic and political force for moderation and shared security in the Maghreb region. I thank the Tunisian government for its cooperation with the United States in combating terrorism and for its commitment to continue this positive partnership. At a time when extremists in various parts of the world are promoting violence and intolerance, Tunisia's moderate role is vital to promoting security, as well as peace.

One area of great interest to me is the status of women and girls around the world. Over the past fifty years, Tunisia has been an example of a nation willing to raise the status of women by promoting opportunities for women and girls to achieve their potential and contribute their skills to society. Today, schools and universities are filled with girls and women preparing themselves to help lead Tunisia into the future. This, for me, is a very exciting prospect indeed.

Mr. Speaker, let us extend our warmest regards to the people of Tunisia, officials of the Tunisian Republic and President Ben Ali on their celebration of fifty years of independence. Their friendship and decades of cooperation with the people of the United States is truly valuable and a relationship that I intend to work to both maintain as well as strengthen.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on March 15, 2006, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall 43. The vote I missed was an amendment to H.R. 4939.

Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "no" on rollcall 43.

CANADIAN BORDER PARTNERSHIP

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of the House International Relations Committee, I would like to congratulate our neighbors to the north on their recent Parliamentary elections and the swearing in of Stephen Harper, the 22nd Prime Minister of Canada on February 6, 2006. Prime Minister Harper ran a successful campaign focused on a conservative agenda and creating a smaller, more effective government.

Our two countries have had and will continue to have friendly diplomatic relations. The United States and Canada are each other's largest trading partners with \$1.3 billion of trade crossing our shared border every day. It is my sincere desire that our American and the newly formed Canadian Government are

not overly consumed by our economic ties that we turn a blind eye to ensuring strong border security. Our two countries will need to stand side by side and continue working together as neighbors to approach future challenges and confront mutual dangers to keep our countries safe from terrorism.

It is now a known fact, despite some of the rhetoric in the American media, that none of the 9/11 hijackers entered across the U.S.-Canadian border to plan and implement their attacks. However, there have been two confirmed cases of terrorists captured while attempting to cross our large and extensive northern border. There is no denying that this threat still exists today and those who seek to do us harm will continue to exploit our vulnerabilities.

The United States and Canada have taken measures to better secure our shared border. Recent efforts include a 32-point plan, commonly referred to as the "Smart Border Accord" that secures the border and facilitates the flow of travelers and goods through coordinated law enforcement operations, intelligence-sharing, infrastructure improvements, improvement of compatible immigration databases, visa policy coordination, common biometric identifiers in travel documents, prescreening of air passengers, joint passenger analysis units, and improved processing of refugee and asylum claims. I applaud these efforts and welcome ways to improve document standards that govern travel across our borders. I believe this can be done without sacrificing security and efficiency.

In today's world, with the threats that we face, it is essential that we have friends and allies. Our Canadian neighbors to the north

are our friends. I again congratulate them on their successful elections and look forward to working together in the future to ensure that both countries remain safe, secure, and prosperous for years to come.

HONORING OFFICER MARC A.
REIDER

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Officer Marc A. Reider for his thirty years of exemplary service to the citizens and businesses of Tredyffrin Township in Chester County, Pennsylvania. Officer Reider retired as a decorated officer on December 23, 2005 from the Tredyffrin Township Police Department.

As an outstanding public servant, Officer Reider retired as one of the most highly trained officers in the field of accident reconstruction. In addition to his many honors, he also served on the Tredyffrin Township Police Department's Traffic Accident Review Board. While on this Board, he oversaw the agency's forensic mapping team where his leadership and attention to detail helped to recreate and solve difficult auto related cases. Officer Reider is highly regarded throughout Pennsylvania as an expert witness in vehicular accidents and also serves as a member of the American Board of Forensic Examiners.

Officer Reider also takes the time to share his knowledge with younger members of the

police force. He has held a Pennsylvania Municipal Police Certificate since 1983 and has had the distinct honor of serving as an expert instructor in traffic accident investigations for the Montgomery County Municipal Police Academy. Throughout his distinguished career, Officer Reider has worked tirelessly to make the Township, County, and Commonwealth a safer place. His dedication to service and professionalism will be greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Officer Marc A. Reider for his many years of exceptional service and professional contributions to the Tredyffrin Township Police Department and community. I am honored to stand before you to congratulate and celebrate Officer Marc A. Reider on his many impressive accomplishments.

REMARKS ON H.R. 4939

HON. JOHN CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Mr. Speaker, today, the House considered legislation to increase spending. I support the Global War on Terror and would have supported a clean bill to continue to provide financial support to our efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan. However, I could not vote for this bill because it was loaded with extraneous unrelated spending initiatives that run up our deficit and take precious resources away from our troops in the field and those fighting the War on Terrorism.