

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING PHILIP SHAY MEEKS
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Philip Shay Meeks, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Philip has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Philip has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Philip has served in the leadership positions of assistant senior patrol leader and senior patrol leader, among others. He is an ordeal member of Order of the Arrow and a tom tom beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. For his Eagle Scout project, Philip planned and supervised the building of ladders for a storage area, donating money for shades, and painting the stage area at the Liberty Christian Fellowship Church Building in Liberty, MO.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Philip Shay Meeks for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING EVANS MAPLES FOR
HIS SERVICE TO RUTHERFORD
COUNTY

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Evans Maples, a lifelong Rutherford County resident who has served as county trustee since 1994. Evans has decided he will not seek another term, and I want to thank him for all he has done for his community, which I have the honor of representing in this esteemed body.

For nearly 12 years, Evans has been responsible for collecting the county's property taxes, as well as overseeing idle funds of the county. While most people might dread being in charge of such tasks, Evans has instead embraced his responsibilities as county trustee and has even managed to transform his position into one that has helped people in his community.

One of Evans' most notable contributions to Rutherford County involves the tax relief program he initiated. The program is designed to help retired persons on fixed incomes keep their homes in the face of rising property

taxes. Under this program, the State pays a portion of the taxes, which are matched by the county. Right now the program serves close to 800 county residents.

Evans also worked with the county commission's budget, finance, and investment committee to develop the county's first investment policy, which describes the parameters under which county funds may be invested.

Evans, today I want to thank you for your service to Rutherford County, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

ON THE OCCASION OF MR. JIM
PADILLA'S RETIREMENT

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jim Padilla on the occasion of his retirement. Mr. Padilla dedicated 40 years of his life to the progress of Ford Motor Company and prepared it for the challenges of the 21st century. I wholeheartedly commend Mr. Padilla for his hard work and dedication to such a deeply cherished American legacy as Ford Motor Company.

Mr. Padilla first joined the Ford family as a quality control engineer. Through years of hard work that spanned three continents, Mr. Padilla consistently proved himself a capable leader. Over those 40 years his steady climb through the company rungs ultimately led him to the top as president and chief executive officer.

Mr. Padilla's career is worthy of yet another distinction: He became Ford Motor Company's first Hispanic president and CEO. By taking the helm of one of America's top 10 corporations, Mr. Padilla shattered stereotypes and showed that all Americans have the potential of realizing tremendous success. It is fitting that Ford's Hispanic Network Group has created a scholarship program in his name, the "Padilla Scholars," to benefit deserving college-bound students. Mr. Padilla has proven that in our country, a person who works hard and accepts no limits can reach any goal. His life is an inspiration to young Hispanics and all young Americans as they commence the steady climb toward their dreams.

I know that Ford Motor Company will deeply miss Mr. Padilla's leadership. I also know that his numerous contributions over the last four decades have helped to transform that company into the modern powerhouse that it is today. Mr. Padilla has earned himself a permanent place in the rich history and great American heritage that Ford Motor Company represents. Like the company he so effectively led, Mr. Padilla is a true American success story.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2006 U.S.
PHYSICS OLYMPIAD TEAM

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of the members of the 2006 United States Physics Olympiad Team. These 24 individuals have shown tremendous aptitude in physics and leadership amongst their peers.

It is very challenging to earn a spot on this prestigious team. After being nominated by their high school teachers and taking a preliminary exam, 200 students qualified to take the second and final screening exam for the U.S. Physics Team. The 24 survivors of that group represent the top physics students in the U.S., and they are now at a nine-day training camp of intense study, examination and problem solving. Five of these exceptional students will advance and represent the United States in a tremendous international competition in July at the International Physics Olympiad in Singapore.

Members of the 2006 team include: Sophie Cai, ZeNan Chang, David Chen, Otis Chodosh, Kenan Diab, Jiashuo Feng, Yingyu Gao, Sherry Gong, Timothy Hsieh, Rui Hu, Ariella Kirsch, Jason LaRue, Men Young Lee, David Lo, Benjamin Michel, Hetul Patel, Veronica Pillar, Nimish Ramanlal, Ingmar Saberi, William Throwe, Arnab Tripathy, Henry Tung, Philip Tynan and Haofei Wei.

Mr. Speaker, as a nuclear physicist and former physics professor, I have worked to promote math and science education and to recognize the pivotal role these fields play in our nation's economic competitiveness and national security. Educating our K-12 students in math and science is very important. It is encouraging to see so many young, outstanding physics students enthusiastic about science, and I note that many of them chose to pursue science as a result of a teacher or family member who encouraged them along the way. Making sure our teachers are well-equipped to teach science and math is very important in fostering the interest of future generations in these subjects.

I hope the composite enthusiasm of these students and the other semifinalists will allow them to consider future careers in science, technology, engineering and math. Furthermore, I hope some of them consider running for public office and add their expertise to the policy world! I am very thankful for these future leaders and ask that you please join me in congratulating them on their wonderful achievements and wishing the top five the best of luck as they represent the United States in Singapore.

• 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.

RECOGNIZING DANIEL J. WILLIAMS FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Daniel J. Williams, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 167, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Daniel has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Daniel has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. In his service, Daniel was instrumental in the development of a basketball court in the Winston city park.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Daniel J. Williams for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my congratulations to the American Jewish Committee (AJC) as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

The early 1900s were a very challenging and tumultuous time for Jewish-Americans. For decades prior, millions of Eastern European Jews immigrated to the United States to flee political and religious persecution. By coming to America, these brave people took monumental steps toward freedom, but even on America's more welcoming shores, they often encountered discrimination and economic hardship. Meanwhile, in the countries from which they fled, the persecution and danger against Jews intensified. The pogroms in Russia left thousands of innocent Jews dead, and many more wounded or without homes. In 1906, striving to end the senseless violence and discrimination perpetuated against their people across the world, a small group of Jewish Americans came together to create the American Jewish Committee, an organization committed to ending anti-Semitism, promoting pluralism and religious freedom, and protecting human rights.

Although the task before them was often daunting, they succeeded at raising national and international awareness to the crimes being committed in Europe this time. Often, this awareness was sparked by collaborative efforts with organizations of different faiths. As anti-Semitism spread prior to its horrendous climax in the Holocaust during World War II, the AJC was one of the first organizations to bring the issue to the forefront by lobbying political leaders, the international community, and appealing to the media.

Since that time, the AJC's positive impact has been felt around the world. The AJC was instrumental in developing many of the provisions included in the United Nations Charter, and later would advocate for the establishment of the International Criminal Court. They also provided invaluable research to the plaintiffs in the landmark Supreme Court case *Brown v. the Board of Education* which ended racial segregation. During the 1960s, the AJC worked tirelessly with the Catholic Church to foster a productive friendship between the two faiths. This culminated in the Church's release of *Nostra Aetate*, a document officially condemning any animosity by Catholics against Jews. And in 1965, the AJC recognized Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with the American Liberties Medallion in honor of his efforts to end racial intolerance.

The AJC's Jacob Blaustein Institute continues to work with international organizations to monitor war crimes and intolerance, as well as providing humanitarian aid to victims of natural disasters, refugees of war, and suffering around the globe. To this day, the AJC remains strongly committed to strengthening interfaith relations to ensure that when they speak on issues of great concern to the world, they are speaking on behalf of all humanity, not just the Jewish people.

Mr. Speaker, the American Jewish Committee's 100th anniversary is a tremendous achievement. Even more remarkable are the contributions the AJC has provided during its existence. The AJC has built a tremendous reputation, and continually strives for religious freedom, equality, and tolerance. Although it is called the American Jewish Committee, the goals they set forth and the feats they have accomplished are valued by members of all faiths, all nations, all people. I congratulate the AJC on its anniversary, and wish this extraordinary organization more success in the future.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MRS. YVONNE E. MILLINER BOWSKY AND THE PEACE CORPS SCHOOL

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding Virgin Islands woman, Mrs. Yvonne E. Milliner Bowsky.

Mrs. Bowsky's career of service and dedication to her family, her community, her students and to the Virgin Islands as a whole can be summed up in one word—phenomenal.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to being a devoted wife, mother and teacher—life's paths which taken separately or together are challenging in and of themselves—Mrs. Bowsky has also served the Virgin Islands community as a professor at the College and University of the Virgin Islands, an entrepreneur, a gubernatorial campaign manager, and as special assistant for audits and control to the Governor she guided to victory, the late Alexander Farrelly. In addition to these accomplishments, her premier role was principal of the Peace Corps Elementary School which has been named in her honor.

Mr. Speaker, just as she was not an ordinary campaign manager, entrepreneur or

teacher, she was not an ordinary principal. As the first principal of the Peace Corps Elementary School, she was the strong hand and determined intellect that guided what will now be known as the Yvonne E. Milliner Bowsky Elementary School from a complex of empty and abandoned dormitories turned over to the Virgin Islands Government by the Peace Corps into a vibrant elementary school which opened in 1973. Her vision made it possible to relieve the overcrowded conditions at other schools in St. Thomas and improve the educational environment for our children.

The school named in her honor is now a modern facility, with eight brand new buildings housing 400 students, and is a bulwark of the public education system in our islands. Since its beginning in 1973, the Peace Corps Elementary School campus has been destroyed several times by hurricanes and other unfortunate events. But, it has managed to rise several times from the ashes and today—in large part because of her legacy—it has achieved this milestone. Now, as its crowning glory, it has been named for its mother—Yvonne E. Milliner Bowsky. Beyond the buildings, everyone can attest that because of her vision and her dedication and those who followed and are still following in her footsteps, this school has become a place of academic excellence.

Mr. Speaker, the students of the Yvonne E. Milliner Bowsky Elementary School will always have in her an excellent role model to look up to and to be inspired by. Her excellence and achievement in so many areas is testament of what is possible if one works hard, is focused and is determined to serve and to do the best of one's ability.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I am honored to come before this Congress and offer my profound congratulations to Mrs. Bowsky and her family for this most deserved honor.

I wish her and all who administer, serve and learn at the Yvonne Milliner Bowsky Elementary School God's richest blessings.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE MEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the Onondaga Community College Men's Lacrosse Team on their NJCAA National Championship. Onondaga Community College, OCC, defeated Suffolk Community College by a score of 30–6, giving the school their first men's lacrosse national title.

The championship victory culminated a season in which the OCC Lazers went undefeated with an 18–0 mark, outscoring their opponents 445–80 along the way. With their display of dominance throughout the year, it is clear that OCC was the best junior college team in 2006 and arguably the best in history.

On behalf of all of my constituents, I congratulate these young men on their outstanding athletic achievement and praise Head Coach Chuck Wilbur, Assistant Coaches Mike Villano, Joe Villano, and Chris Brim on their team's success. I look forward to the 2007 season when the Lazers take the field to defend their national title.

No. 1, Brooks Robinson; No. 2, Ryan, Boda; No. 3, Dan Casciano; No. 4, Mike Difusco; No. 5, John Tysco; No. 6, Lee Nanticoke; No. 7, Brendan Storrier; No. 8, Kent Squires Hill; No. 9, Stefan Schroder; No. 10, Nick Gatto, captain; No. 11, Isaiah Kicknosway; No. 12, Pat Shanahan; No. 13, Kevin Bucktooth, Jr., captain; No. 14, David Cougler; No. 15, Mike Tracy; No. 16, Dave Maldonado; No. 17, Sid Smith, captain; No. 18, Matt Myke; No. 19, Craig Point; No. 20, P.J. Motondo; No. 21, Adam Orlandella, captain; No. 22, Jay Tranello; No. 24, Mike Diglio; No. 25, Rich Herrig; No. 26, A.J. Vaughn; No. 27, Casey Fellows; No. 28, Josh Groh; No. 29, Pat Dimatteo; No. 30, Kris Frier; No. 31, Scott Herrig; No. 33, Devin Rookey; No. 34, Pat Shiel; No. 35, Brandon Novak; No. 36, Nick Sigona; No. 38, Cody Jamieson; No. 39, Adam Clark; No. 40, Ross Bucktooth.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW MICHAEL GRACE FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Michael Grace, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Andrew has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Andrew has served in the leadership positions of den chief, patrol leader, and troop guide, among others. He served on the staff of the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation in the summers of 2004 and 2005, while being elevated to runner in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. For his Eagle Scout project, Andrew planned and supervised the renovation of railings, lamp posts, and light fixtures at the Second Baptist Church in Liberty, MO.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew Michael Grace for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING HARRIETT HOWARD'S SERVICE TO TENNESSEE VETERANS

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Harriett Howard for her extraordinary service to Tennessee veterans. Harriett was recently named the 2006 Female Volunteer of the Year at the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Voluntary Service National Advisory Committee's Annual Meeting in Sparks, NV. Harriett was selected out of 94,000 active vol-

unteers throughout the VA system of 154 facilities.

A retired Navy chief petty officer, Harriett has dedicated much of her life to serving veterans. Aside from the many hours she devotes in the Tennessee Valley Healthcare System, she has also served many years as WAVES national representative on the United Tennessee Veterans Association and on the Nashville-Davidson County Veterans Coordinating Council.

Harriett serves as a voice for our veterans. I know I can count on Harriett to keep me informed about the issues that concern Tennessee veterans, and I also know that if there is an opportunity to assist or recognize veterans, Harriett will be ready and willing to participate.

In fact, on Sunday, May 28, at the Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery, Harriett will be conducting the "For Whom the Bell Tolls" ceremony, which includes reading the names of the 350 veterans buried there since last Memorial Day.

Harriett, I wish you well in your future endeavors, and I thank you for your dedication to serving our Nation's veterans.

HONORING THE LATE FAUSTO MIRANDA

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the loss of an exceptional member of my community, the beloved Fausto Miranda. On Tuesday, May 9th, Mr. Miranda, the renowned Cuban sports reporter, passed away at the age of 91.

He was born on July 4, 1914 in the Cuban eastern city of Puerto Padre. He was forced to work odd jobs to survive. He worked as a street salesman, notary clerk, prison guard, band manager, janitor and a variety of other jobs. It was Mr. Miranda's resilience that enabled him to overcome the many obstacles he faced throughout his life.

After arriving in Havana in 1933, he began his life long contribution to journalism. Mr. Miranda worked with several Cuban newspapers: *Información*, *El Crisol*, *Alerta* and *Diario de la Marina* and he was a fixture on the radio. Soon after the arrival of the communist dictatorship, Mr. Miranda sought political asylum in New York. For fifteen years, he worked as a doorman. However, Mr. Miranda did not abandon his commitment to journalism. He simultaneously started working for the well known newspaper *La Prensa*.

In 1975, Mr. Miranda moved to Miami. A year later, he reached a high point in his career by founding the sports pages of *El Nuevo Herald*. Subsequently, he managed the sports department of the *Miami Herald/El Nuevo Herald* for close to twenty years.

After his retirement in 1995, Mr. Miranda was known for his famous column "You are old, truly old, if." In his last year, although he was very weak due to multiple respiratory and cardiac complications, the legendary writer submitted his weekly column every Monday. The Monday before he passed away was no exception. His passion and dedication for journalism, sports and Cuba, were unwavering even throughout his deteriorating health.

Mr. Miranda's life is the personification of the American Dream and a testament to the love Cubans share for Cuba. Mr. Miranda's dedication and ability allowed him to leave his mark on two countries. He witnessed Don Larsen's perfect game in the 1956 World Series. He captured the athletic eloquence of Mohammed Ali in his prose. An entire community opened their newspapers to read his account of the sporting events of the day. And later we relied on his column to recall the glory of the Cuban Republic. He became an integral part of the Cuban and the larger South Florida community. Miami-Dade County celebrated his 50th anniversary in journalism by declaring a "Fausto Miranda Day," on December 12, 1992. Mr. Miranda's remarkable life and columns will inspire generations to come.

I will forever remember the great Fausto Miranda!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, my vote for roll-call No. 168 on the amendment offered by Representative CHABOT to H.R. 5386, was recorded as a "no." This vote does not reflect my intent to have my vote recorded as an "aye."

RECOGNIZING JEREMY CHRISTOPHER WOOD FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeremy Christopher Wood, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jeremy has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. He has served as a patrol leader and assistant senior patrol leader and achieved the rank of Brotherhood in the Order of the Arrow and Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Over the many years Jeremy has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

For his Eagle Scout Service Project, Jeremy designed and directed the installation of two specially designed firepit shelters at the Heartland Presbyterian Youth Camp in Platte County. These shelters protect the firewood that is used by the campers and visitors to have fun campfires while delivering their youth-oriented programs.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jeremy Christopher Wood for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF MS. GLADYS ADINA ABRAHAM

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Gladys Adina Abraham on the most special and significant occasion of the renaming of the Kirwan Terrace School in her honor.

When historians look at the success story of the U.S. Virgin Islands in the 20th century—from islands purchased for \$25 million in 1917 and said to be not worth the price, and its labeling as a “poorhouse” by a visiting President, to the modern thriving American Caribbean metropolis, with its urban center and suburbs, a thriving middle class and a university fulfilling its function for more than 40 years as one of the magnets and engines for socioeconomic progress in the region—the heroes who will be undoubtedly identified, are the 20th century Virgin Islands teachers. I am amazed and inspired by their accomplishments against the odds of geographical location and lack of resources at that time and the legacy they continue to create today. These educators, both men and women, on all three islands that comprise the U.S. Virgin Islands encouraged their students to strive for the best. It is this spirit, personified by the life service and contribution of Ms. Gladys Dina Abraham, which we honor.

Ms. Abraham received her Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Elementary Education from New York University, was awarded a Fulbright scholarship in 1956 to study sociology in India, and received a Masters of Arts in Psychology from Columbia University in 1962. Like others in her generation, Ms. Abraham could have taken her degrees from our islands’ educational institutions and been better remunerated elsewhere. Instead, she returned home and shared her expertise with the children of the Virgin Islands; enlarging their world, expanding their horizons and inspiring their pursuit of knowledge as she served as teacher and later principal at Sibilly, Lockhart and first at Kirwan Terrace Elementary School.

From the inception, Ms. Abraham established a standard of excellence in education with far less funding, essentially no technology and less educational training and certifications than are required today. Her standards produced students who became governors, legislators, church, business and civic leaders. Our community owes a debt of gratitude to Ms. Abraham, and others like her, who taught our children well and gave them a stake in the future of the Virgin Islands.

Kirwan Terrace School was originally named for a former Member of Congress who was instrumental in providing funding to build the neighborhood in which the school now sits. And while we did right to honor Congressman Kirwan—as in almost everything else we have received in our history—the school came about because of the insistence and advocacy of the community; in particular, the urging of the mothers. We thank them and Ms. Abraham for inspiring us and generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that on behalf of my family, staff and the 109th Congress that I extend my profound congratula-

tions and thanks to Ms. Abraham on the renaming of the Kirwan Terrace School in her honor.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, MILITARY QUALITY OF LIFE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5385) making appropriations for the military quality of life functions of the Department of Defense, military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, the Military Quality of Life-Veteran’s Administration appropriations bill we are voting on today is not nearly as good a bill as it should have been. I will support it today, but I’m very disappointed in the Republican leadership’s priorities reflected in this legislation.

The House Armed Services Committee, on which I sit, authorized these projects in the authorization bill that the House passed earlier this month. The Administration budget also requested these 20 projects, all of which are conventional military construction projects—things like hangars, barracks and unit headquarters.

To try to square the military priorities funded in this bill with the budget resolution the Republican leadership forced through the House, the Appropriations Committee used budget gimmickry to designate \$507 million for 20 routine military construction projects as an ‘emergency’ so that this funding would not count against the bill’s allocation.

Those in the Republican leadership concerned more about finding money for tax cuts than for our troops decided to cut these military construction projects today. Because of the projects’ ‘emergency’ funding status, Republicans chose to strike all \$507 million.

Regardless of whether or not they are labeled as ‘emergency funding,’ for bookkeeping reasons, they are valid and needed projects, selected through long-term planning exercises developed by the services, vetted through the Administration, and requested by the President.

The fact that the Republican budget put tax cuts ahead of the needs of our troops strikes me as backward and wrong. These are military priorities as defined by the President of the United States, and the majority chose to ignore them. They want to have it both ways—to say they support the troops, but also to be able to cut taxes for wealthy Americans. If this isn’t a good example of how this approach doesn’t work, I don’t know what is.

TRIBUTE TO HARRISBURG HIGH SCHOOL BULLDOGS BOYS TRACK TEAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harrisburg High School Bulldogs Boys Track Team. The Bulldogs won their Sectional Track Meet on May 19, 2006 by a substantial margin.

Continuing their tradition of success, this is the Bulldogs’ seventh consecutive team sectional track title. The Bulldogs finished first in the 4 x 100 relay, 100 meter dash, 4 x 200 relay, 400 meter dash and 4 x 400 relay. The Bulldogs team members also had many personal best times.

It is my pleasure to congratulate Coach Clint Simpson and the Bulldogs Track Team which includes Alex Maddox, Brett Brachaer, Caleb Joyner, Tony Cossette, Michael Woning, Nick Bebout, Madison Medley, Blake Fitts, Aaron Winters, Kyle Alexander, Luke Ragan, Dustin Moulton, Michael Muggee, Logan Cummysky, Mitchell Berry, Jake Stevers, Nick King, John Fuller, Jacob Sais, and Jeremy Martin on their success. I wish the Bulldogs continued success as they compete at the Illinois High School Athletic Association State Track and Field Tournament.

Again, congratulations!

RECOGNIZING BRIAN J. SHRYOCK FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brian J. Shryock, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 66, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brian has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Brian has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brian J. Shryock for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING CHIEF DEPUTY
SHERIFF DELAYNE D. OTT

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a dedicated protector of our community, Chief Deputy Sheriff Delayne D. Ott.

Deputy Sheriff Ott joined the LaPorte County Sheriff’s Department on January 15, 1967

and has served our community for 39 years. He holds the record for the longest serving member in the history of the LaPorte County Sheriff's Department.

He has served as a sergeant, captain and major and has held his current rank as Chief Deputy since January 1, 1999. He has been a certified Firearms instructor at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy and has been the firearms instructor for LaPorte County for over 30 years, and has shot in pistol competitions nationwide for the past 25 years.

The LaPorte County Firearms Training Facility was dedicated in his name on Monday, May 15, 2006 for his unwavering dedication and commitment to firearms training and safety for LaPorte County officers.

He is also a devout family man, and he and his wife Phyllis have three children and four grandchildren.

Chief Deputy Sheriff Delayne D. Ott has shown his commitment to excellence and his undying loyalty to our community and its citizens. It is my honor to stand here today as his Congressman, and recognize him for his service.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5427), making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the proposed amendment by the gentleman from Georgia. The three States of Alabama, Georgia, and Florida have areas which are dependent on the same water sources. While I sympathize with all those needs, the language in the bill is necessary to prevent the Corps of Engineers from interfering in litigation which is meant to allocate those resources in a fair way among the three States.

Mr. Chairman, in 2005 we learned that the Corps of Engineers planned to revise the manuals which govern water sharing between three States—Alabama, Georgia, and Florida. The corps' ACT manual has not been revised since it was written in 1951, even though nine dams have been built and successfully operated in the ACT Basin since then. In other words, there is no urgent need to revise the manuals, and doing so impacts the water supply of millions of persons in the Southeast. Furthermore, this matter is still in Federal court, and allowing the corps to revise these manuals now will interfere with ongoing litigation.

Mr. Chairman, we have tried to work this issue out with the corps directly. On April 14, 2005, the entire Alabama delegation sent a letter to Lt. Gen. Carl Strock, Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, asking that

he explain the corps' actions in this matter. In response, on April 26, 2005 Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works John Woodley wrote that the corps "will withdraw and disclaim any intention to re-evaluate or update the relevant operating procedures and manuals until all relevant litigation has concluded, or the three States' Governors reach an agreement."

However, Mr. Chairman, after that, the corps did not hold to their commitment. In a letter to Governor Bob Riley of Alabama, dated January 30, 2006, Assistant Secretary Woodley stated that since the relevant litigation has concluded, the corps will now begin revising its manuals. This litigation, however, is not concluded. My understanding is that the ACF litigation has been appealed, and the ACT litigation is still actively underway.

Mr. Chairman, if the corps' manuals revisions are allowed to go forward, it will cause great harm to the State of Alabama. We will have inadequate water for drinking, power generation, navigation, recreation, and wildlife. For this reason, it is essential all three States come to a mutual equitable water sharing agreement. It is not appropriate for the corps to unilaterally step in and decree water distribution without the approval of all three States.

With all due respect to Mr. DEAL's concerns, I must ask for a "no" vote in the amendment.

HIRAM BINGHAM STAMP

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a son of Connecticut's Second District, the district I am privileged to represent in this House.

The Bingham family has lived in Salem Connecticut for many generations. I have always been impressed with the Bingham family's history of dedication to public service. Hiram Bingham IV is a prime example of this dedication—only exemplified by the fact that few people actually knew the extent of his good work, including his own family.

In 1988, Hiram passed away. A few years after his death, one of his sons discovered a bundle of documents tucked away in the attic at the family home containing records from Hiram's work at the U.S. State Department. These records revealed an untold story of Hiram's courage and heroism.

Hiram's family and friends knew he worked for the State Department, but he rarely mentioned the details of his employment. From 1939 to 1941, Hiram Bingham served as our Nation's vice consul in Marseilles, France. The records in the closet revealed that while serving at his post Hiram helped save at least 2,500 people from the Nazis, including the artist, Marc Chagall and Nobel Prize winning biochemist Otto Meyerhoff. During these years, this courageous individual issued papers that gave safe passage to Jewish and non-Jewish refugees. He also personally escorted dozens of people across the border into Spain.

It is of no small interest that this man of principle acted in direct opposition to official

State Department orders that inhibited immigration of refugees to the United States. Hiram Bingham's action defied the Nazi war machine, Vichy France and his own Nation's State Department. Ignoring the consequences of being caught, he went about his work, quietly saving as many people as he could.

When his superiors discovered his activities in the spring of 1941, he was removed from his post and transferred to Buenos Aires. In 1946, he resigned because of the government's failure to pursue the Nazi presence in Latin America.

After learning of his father's extraordinary efforts, his son Robert Kim Bingham, began petitioning the U.S. Postal Service in 1998 to issue a stamp in honor of his father. During that time, I was serving in the Connecticut General Assembly and Robert asked me to send a letter of support for the stamp to the Post Master General. I took the letter down to the floor during our final week of session and as we worked late into the evening every member of the General Assembly signed onto that letter—representing the first time in memory that every member had signed a letter circulated for any purpose. Robert and his family should take pride in the overwhelming support his dream had with the people of Connecticut.

It has been my honor to work with the Bingham family and be part of the process that brought us here today. I was pleased to read in a newspaper in my district that of the 21 issues that will be released this year, the most requests came in for Hiram Bingham. I am proud that the U.S. Postal Service has included Hiram Bingham in its tribute to American Diplomats.

Last year, I had an opportunity to visit Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, in Jerusalem. Hearing and seeing the stories of survival made Hiram's work even more profound for me.

Evil is often easy to identify, yet it is often difficult to oppose. To do so requires courage and a strong moral core. Hiram Bingham had both.

He put his moral obligation above his career and he put his personal safety above his career. He paid a price, but heroes are often required to do just that.

Hiram Bingham did not solicit accolades for what he had done. He did not desire to surpass others at all cost—he desired to serve others at all cost. And that is as good a definition of a "hero" as I have seen.

Hiram Bingham could have gone along with the orders that came to his desk, but he chose not to. Going along is always easy. Doing the right thing is often difficult. But by doing the difficult thing, Hiram Bingham is today known as one of 11 "righteous diplomats" who together saved 200,000 people from the Holocaust. Today the descendants of those 200,000 individuals total more than 1 million. That is a tremendous legacy for one's life's work.

I am pleased that this long overdue honor is being awarded to Hiram Bingham, a "righteous diplomat" who put his sense of right and wrong and his capacity to help others ahead of personal considerations.

RECOGNIZING BRETT RYAN HUNTLEY FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brett Ryan Huntley, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brett has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Brett has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brett Ryan Huntley for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ON THE NEED FOR ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE DETAINEE ABUSE SCANDAL

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, it's been more than 2 years now since the world saw the infamous photographs showing prisoner abuse at Abu Ghraib. To date, mostly junior enlisted personnel have been tried and prosecuted for various offenses related to detainee abuse in Iraq and Afghanistan. These individuals did not commit these acts in a vacuum; senior leaders allowed this abuse—and in several cases, deaths—to occur on their watch. That's not simply my opinion. It's the judgment of men like retired Rear Admiral John D. Hutson, a former senior Navy Judge Advocate General officer who has said "One such incident would be an isolated transgression; two would be a serious problem; a dozen of them is policy."

Admiral Hutson and other senior officers offered those kinds of comments, and their endorsement, for a report issued earlier this year by Human Rights First entitled *Command's Responsibility: Detainee Deaths in U.S. Custody in Iraq and Afghanistan*. I strongly encourage my colleagues to take the time to read at least the executive summary of this meticulously documented 82-page report. You can find this report on the web at: <http://www.humanrightsfirstinfo/pdf/06221-etn-hrf-dic-rep-web.pdf>

I would also recommend that my colleagues familiarize themselves with Human Rights First 2004 report, *Getting to Ground Truth*, which formed the foundation of their work on the detainee abuse issue. That report can be found on the Human Rights First website at: http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/us_law/PDF/detainees/Getting_to_Ground_Truth_0908.04.pdf

Let me take a moment to share with you some of the key findings from *Command's Responsibility*, which I am also including for the RECORD. The report documents 98 detainee

deaths in U.S. custody. Of those 98 deaths, 45 are suspected or confirmed homicides. Thirty-four deaths were classified as homicides under the U.S. military's own definition. Human Rights First found 11 additional cases where the facts suggest that deaths were the result of physical abuse or the harsh conditions of detention. In 48 cases—close to half of all the cases—the cause of death remains officially undetermined or unannounced. At least 8 detainees, and possibly as many as 12, were tortured to death. To date, only 12 deaths have resulted in any kind of punishment, and the highest punishment for a torture-related death has been 5 months confinement.

Most tellingly, no civilian official or officer above the rank of colonel responsible for interrogation and detention policies or practices has been charged in connection with any death of a detainee in U.S. custody, including the deaths of detainees by torture or abuse.

As retired Army Brigadier General David Irvine noted in the Human Rights First report, "What is unquestionably broken is the fundamental principle of command accountability, and that starts at the very top. The Army exists not just to win America's wars, but to defend America's values. The policy and practice of torture without accountability has jeopardized both."

I wholeheartedly agree, which is why last June I joined over 170 of my colleagues in co-sponsoring HR 3003, which would establish an independent Commission on the Investigation of Detainee Abuses to conduct a full, complete, independent, and impartial investigation of the abuses of detainees in connection with Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, or any operation within the wider war against Al Qaeda. The Commission would be charged with determining: (1) the extent of the abuses; (2) why the abuses occurred; and (3) who is responsible, and to provide recommendations for corrective action.

This Commission is necessary because the work of uncovering all of the facts in these cases has yet to be done. This Commission must also help Congress determine why no flag-rank officers have been held accountable for the deaths and abuse that occurred on their watch. If we are to avoid future cases of abuse and rebuild our reputation as a nation that lives by the rule of law, we must air the full facts about how aggressive interrogation techniques resulted in serious injury or death for dozens of detainees in our custody.

Mr. Speaker, the detainee abuse scandal has done grievous harm to our moral standing in the world, and given our terrorist enemies a powerful recruiting tool. We cannot allow it to happen again. I urge the House leadership to bring H.R. 3003 to floor for an immediate vote. Congress has allowed too much time to pass already; we need answers, and we need to hold senior civilian and military leaders accountable for this sorry episode.

Finally, I commend Human Rights First for their unflagging commitment to preserving and protecting human rights, for the high quality of their work on these issues, and for holding our Government and its representatives accountable in the court of public opinion on this critically important issue.

[From *Command's Responsibility*]

I. INTRODUCTION

"Do I believe that [abuse] may have hurt us in winning the hearts and minds of Mus-

lims around the world? Yes, and I do regret that. But one of the ways we address that is to show the world that we don't just talk about Geneva, we enforce Geneva. . . . [T]hat's why you have these military court-martials; that's why you have these administrative penalties imposed upon those responsible because we want to find out what happened so it doesn't happen again. And if someone has done something wrong, they're going to be held accountable."—U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, Confirmation Hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee, January 6, 2005.

"Basically [an August 30, 2003 memo] said that as far as they [senior commanders] knew there were no ROE [Rules of Engagement] for interrogations. They were still struggling with the definition for a detainee. It also said that commanders were tired of us taking casualties and they [told interrogators they] wanted the gloves to come off. . . . Other than a memo saying that they were to be considered 'unprivileged combatants' we received no guidance from them [on the status of detainees]."—Chief Warrant Officer Lewis Welshofer, Testifying during his Court Martial for Death of Iraqi General Abed Hamed Mowhoush, January 19, 2006.

Since August 2002, nearly 100 detainees have died while in the hands of U.S. officials in the global "war on terror." According to the U.S. military's own classifications, 34 of these cases are suspected or confirmed homicides; Human Rights First has identified another 11 in which the facts suggest death as a result of physical abuse or harsh conditions of detention. In close to half the deaths Human Rights First surveyed, the cause of death remains officially undetermined or unannounced. Overall, eight people in U.S. custody were tortured to death.

Despite these numbers, four years since the first known death in U.S. custody, only 12 detainee deaths have resulted in punishment of any kind for any U.S. official. Of the 34 homicide cases so far identified by the military, investigators recommended criminal charges in fewer than two thirds, and charges were actually brought (based on decisions made by command) in less than half. While the CIA has been implicated in several deaths, not one CIA agent has faced a criminal charge. Crucially, among the worst cases in this list—those of detainees tortured to death—only half have resulted in punishment; the steepest sentence for anyone involved in a torture-related death: five months in jail.

It is difficult to assess the systemic adequacy of punishment when so few have been punished, and when the deliberations of juries and commanders are largely unknown. Nonetheless, two patterns clearly emerge: (1) because of investigative and evidentiary failures, accountability for wrongdoing has been limited at best, and almost non-existent for command; and (2) commanders have played a key role in undermining chances for full accountability. In dozens of cases documented here, grossly inadequate reporting, investigation, and follow-through have left no one at all responsible for homicides and other unexplained deaths. Commanders have failed both to provide troops clear guidance, and to take crimes seriously by insisting on vigorous investigations. And command responsibility itself—the law that requires commanders to be held liable for the unlawful acts of their subordinates about which they knew or should have known—has been all but forgotten.

The failure to deal adequately with these cases has opened a serious accountability gap for the U.S. military and intelligence community, and has produced a credibility gap for the United States—between policies the leadership says it respects on paper, and

behavior it actually allows in practice. As long as the accountability gap exists, there will be little incentive for military command to correct bad behavior, or for civilian leadership to adopt policies that follow the law. As long as that gap exists, the problem of torture and abuse will remain.

This report examines how cases of deaths in custody have been handled. It is about how and why this "accountability gap" between U.S. policy and practice has come to exist. And it is about why ensuring that officials up and down the chain of command bear responsibility for detainee mistreatment should be a top priority for the United States.

THE CASES TO DATE

The cases behind these numbers have names and faces. This report describes more than 20 cases in detail, to illustrate both the failures in investigation and in accountability. Among the cases is that of Manadel al-Jamadi, whose death became public during the Abu Ghraib prisoner-abuse scandal when photographs depicting prison guards giving the thumbs-up over his body were released; to date, no U.S. military or intelligence official has been punished criminally in connection with Jamadi's death.

The cases also include that of Abed Hamed Mowhoush, a former Iraqi general beaten over days by U.S. Army, CIA and other non-military forces, stuffed into a sleeping bag, wrapped with electrical cord, and suffocated to death. In the recently concluded trial of a low-level military officer charged in Mowhoush's death, the officer received a written reprimand, a fine, and 60 days with his movements limited to his work, home, and church.

And they include cases like that of Nagem Sadoon Hatab, in which investigative failures have made accountability impossible. Hatab, a 52-year-old Iraqi, was killed while in U.S. custody at a holding camp close to Nasiriyah. Although a U.S. Army medical examiner found that Hatab had died of strangulation, the evidence that would have been required to secure accountability for his death—Hatab's body—was rendered unusable in court. Hatab's internal organs were left exposed on an airport tarmac for hours; in the blistering Baghdad heat, the organs were destroyed; the throat bone that would have supported the Army medical examiner's findings of strangulation was never found.

Although policing crimes in wartime is always challenging, government investigations into deaths in custody since 2002 have been unacceptable. The cases discussed in this report include incidents where deaths went unreported, witnesses were never interviewed, evidence was lost or mishandled, and record-keeping was scattershot. They also include investigations that were cut short as a result of decisions by commanders—who are given the authority to decide whether and to what extent to pursue an investigation—to rely on incomplete inquiries, or to discharge a suspect before an investigation can be completed. Given the extent of the non-reporting, under-reporting, and lax record keeping to date, it is likely that the statistics reported here, if anything, under-count the number of deaths.

Among our key findings:

Commanders have failed to report deaths of detainees in the custody of their command, reported the deaths only after a period of days and sometimes weeks, or actively interfered in efforts to pursue investigations;

Investigators have failed to interview key witnesses, collect useable evidence, or maintain evidence that could be used for any subsequent prosecution;

Record keeping has been inadequate, further undermining chances for effective investigation or appropriate prosecution;

Overlapping criminal and administrative investigations have compromised chances for accountability;

Overbroad classification of information and other investigation restrictions have left CIA and Special Forces essentially immune from accountability;

Agencies have failed to disclose critical information, including the cause or circumstance of death, in close to half the cases examined;

Effective punishment has been too little and too late.

CLOSING THE ACCOUNTABILITY GAP

The military has taken some steps toward correcting the failings identified here. Under public pressure following the release of the Abu Ghraib photographs in 2004, the Army reopened over a dozen investigations into deaths in custody and conducted multiple investigation reviews; many of these identified serious flaws. The Defense Department also "clarified" some existing rules, reminding commanders that they were required to report "immediately" the death of a detainee to service criminal investigators, and barring release of a body without written authorization from the relevant investigation agency or the Armed Forces Medical Examiner. It also made the performance of an autopsy the norm, with exceptions made only by the Armed Forces Medical Examiner. And the Defense Department says that it is now providing pre-deployment training on the Geneva Conventions and rules of engagement to all new units to be stationed in Iraq and responsible for guarding and processing detainees.

But these reforms are only first steps. They have not addressed systemic flaws in the investigation of detainee deaths, or in the prosecution and punishment of those responsible for wrongdoing. Most important, they have not addressed the role of those leaders who have emerged as a pivotal part of the problem—military and civilian command. Commanders are the only line between troops in the field who need clear, usable rules, and policy-makers who have provided broad instructions since 2002 that have been at worst unlawful and at best unclear. Under today's military justice system, commanders also have broad discretion to insist that investigations into wrongdoing be pursued, and that charges, when appropriate, be brought. And commanders have a historic, legal, and ethical duty to take responsibility for the acts of their subordinates. As the U.S. Supreme Court has recognized since World War II, commanders are responsible for the acts of their subordinates if they knew or should have known unlawful activity was underway, and yet did nothing to correct or stop it. That doctrine of command responsibility has yet to be invoked in a single prosecution arising out of the "war on terror."

Closing this accountability gap will require, at a minimum, a zero-tolerance approach to commanders who fail to take steps to provide clear guidance, and who allow unlawful conduct to persist on their watch. Zero tolerance includes at least this:

First, the President, as Commander-in-Chief, should move immediately to fully implement the ban on cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment passed overwhelmingly by the U.S. Congress and signed into law on December 30, 2005. Full implementation requires that the President clarify his commitment to abide by the ban (which was called into question by the President's statement signing the bill into law). It also requires the President to instruct all relevant military and intelligence agencies involved in detention and interrogation operations to review and revise internal rules and legal guidance

to make sure they are in line with the statutory mandate.

Second, the President, the U.S. military, and relevant intelligence agencies should take immediate steps to make clear that all acts of torture and abuse are taken seriously—not from the moment a crime becomes public, but from the moment the United States sends troops and agents into the field. The President should issue regular reminders to command that abuse will not be tolerated, and commanders should regularly give troops the same, serious message. Relevant agencies should welcome independent oversight—by Congress and the American people—by establishing a centralized, up-to-date, and publicly available collection of information about the status of investigations and prosecutions in torture and abuse cases (including trial transcripts, documents, and evidence presented), and all incidents of abuse. And the Defense and Justice Departments should move forward promptly with long-pending actions against those involved in cases of wrongful detainee death or abuse.

Third, the U.S. military should make good on the obligation of command responsibility by developing, in consultation with congressional, military justice, human rights, and other advisors, a public plan for holding all those who engage in wrongdoing accountable. Such a plan might include the implementation of a single, high-level convening authority across the service branches for allegations of detainee torture and abuse. Such a convening authority would review and make decisions about whom to hold responsible; bring uniformity, certainty, and more independent oversight to the process of discipline and punishment; and make punishing commanders themselves more likely.

Finally, Congress should at long last establish an independent, bipartisan commission to review the scope of U.S. detention and interrogation operations worldwide in the "war on terror." Such a commission could investigate and identify the systemic causes of failures that lead to torture, abuse, and wrongful death, and chart a detailed and specific path going forward to make sure those mistakes never happen again. The proposal for a commission has been endorsed by a wide range of distinguished Americans from Republican and Democratic members of Congress to former presidents to leaders in the U.S. military. We urge Congress to act without further delay.

This report underscores what a growing number of Americans have come to understand. As a distinguished group of retired generals and admirals put it in a September 2004 letter to the President: "Understanding what has gone wrong and what can be done to avoid systemic failure in the future is essential not only to ensure that those who may be responsible are held accountable for any wrongdoing, but also to ensure that the effectiveness of the U.S. military and intelligence operations is not compromised by an atmosphere of permissiveness, ambiguity, or confusion. This is fundamentally a command responsibility." It is the responsibility of American leadership.

TRIBUTE TO SAMANTHA FANG

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Samantha Fang for her selection as a Presidential Scholar in the Arts for 2006, our Nation's highest honor for graduating high school artists.

Samantha was selected as one of the 20 Presidential Scholars in the Arts this year for her success and accomplishments as a classical pianist. She was selected for this honor by virtue of being a national Finalist in the NFAA Arts Recognition and Talent Search (ARTS) program, a program in which 6,524 high school students applied to in 2006. Samantha and her fellow Presidential Scholars in the performing arts will be featured in a showcase performance during the Salute to the Presidential Scholars at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Samantha, who will graduate as valedictorian of The Harker School in Sunnyvale this June, began her piano studies at the age of 5. Currently, she is enrolled in the Preparatory Division at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, where she was named an "Honorary Distinction" student, the highest award presented by the Preparatory Division. Additionally, Samantha was named the California state winner of the 2005 MTNA (Music Teachers National Association) Senior Piano Competition, has performed in the Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall as winner of the Russian-American International Festival and will be broadcast as a soloist on WQXR radio's Young Artist's Showcase this June.

I am proud to stand here today to recognize Samantha for her accomplishments as an exceptional artist and student. I urge Samantha to continue to take an interest in the performing arts, as artistic and creative innovation is a crucial component of America's cultural fabric, and I wish her the best of luck as she continues her education at Harvard this fall.

IN HONOR OF JOHN C. HALL, SEPTEMBER 15, 1953—FEBRUARY 25, 2006

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with profound sadness to pay tribute to Mr. John Hall, a dear friend, a devoted community leader and a passionate champion for America's working men and women, who passed away suddenly of heart failure on the evening of Saturday, February 25, 2006. He was the loving son of Joann Hall and the devoted father of his only child, Katrina Susan Hall.

Born September 15, 1953, in Los Angeles, John was a lifelong Angeleno devoted to his family, his trade and his community. He began his career as an apprentice plumber in 1980 with the United Association of Plumbers Local 78 in Los Angeles. John quickly mastered the skills of a journeyman plumber and became an active member of UA Plumbers Local 78. While working at his trade during the day, he donated his time as a plumbing instructor at night at the union's training center. John eventually worked his way up to Business Manager of Local 78 in 1995, a position from which he advocated for the preservation of pensions and health coverage for working people. John was also known for his civic participation, serving honorably on the Contractors State Licensing Board following his appointment by Governor Gray Davis.

It was fitting with John's generous character and sense of responsibility that he volunteered

much of his personal time to the charitable organization Big Brothers of Greater Los Angeles. He spent many years as a big brother to Sean Wall, imparting his wisdom and leadership skills onto the next generation.

John was highly admired by the labor community and policy-makers alike for his efforts to improve the lives of working families, and for his warm personality and generous spirit. John was a selfless leader, who dedicated himself completely to his craft, his union and all those who looked to him for support and guidance.

Mr. Speaker, it is with heartfelt sorrow, yet great admiration and appreciation, that I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting John C. Hall. May his generosity and dedication to improving conditions for working families be remembered and carried on by those of us who were fortunate enough to call him "friend."

RECOGNIZING KYLE THOMAS KING FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Thomas King, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Thomas King for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRESS REAPS WHAT IT SOWS

HON. C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, there has been an awful lot of talk the last few days about the FBI's Saturday night raid on the office of a Democrat U.S. Congressman. It's tough for me to get too excited about the howls of protest from members of Congress. I understand their concerns about protecting the independence of the legislative branch and possible abuse of executive powers. But it makes me wonder: Where were these voices of outrage and righteous indignation when we learned the executive branch was monitoring the telephone conversations of ordinary Americans? Where were they when the executive branch sought, and the USA PATRIOT ACT granted, more power to search the homes and businesses of ordinary Americans without notification? At least we know there was a legitimate warrant issued by a judge for the search of

the Congressman's office. Are my honorable colleagues suggesting that members of Congress or the institution itself should be treated differently in the eyes of the law than those who hold the most important position in America—that of "citizen"? I hope not.

HONORING JUNE KENYON ON HER RETIREMENT, HEAD OF CASEWORK, CONROE DISTRICT OFFICE

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor June Kenyon upon her retirement from my district office staff.

Beginning in 1997 when I first took office, June Kenyon brought to the field office in Humble, Texas her wealth of knowledge and experience gleaned from working for my predecessor, the Honorable Jack Fields. Not only did June sign on as Office Manager but took on the role of Head of Casework to help constituents. I was blessed to have June's expertise and long record of commitment to constituents in helping me confront the challenges of being a newly elected Congressman.

For the next 9 years, June excelled at her roles and increased her knowledge of the inner workings of Federal agencies to the point that some even invited her to brief their staffs on the intricacies of casework with Congressional offices.

June's command of the system and successful resolution of thousands of cases are a tribute to her professionalism and relentlessness in serving the residents of the 8th Congressional District.

Extremely hard-working, painstakingly fair, exceedingly knowledgeable—these are qualities June has not only honed but put at the disposal of constituents as she advocates for them and resolves difficult issues. But it was in the challenges faced by our constituents in the aftermath of Hurricane Rita this past fall that June's abilities shown brightly as she led the efforts to resolve quickly and systematically over 1,000 claims for expedited assistance from FEMA. Working long hours, interfacing with local officials and aid agencies, June contributed significantly to the ability of Southeast Texans to survive the aftermath of this devastating storm and begin the recovery process.

While June has always been a diligent staffer, the last 18 months have created personal challenges for her, including a long commute to Conroe after redistricting led to closing the Humble office. The redistricting also meant serving a different and larger geographic area. June did not miss a beat in adapting to the new conditions, including participating in the Mobile Office taking caseworkers to constituents in the small towns of East Texas.

In the years I have worked with June, I have come to know a committed Republican activist and a woman of broad and varied interests which I hope she will pursue in the time afforded by retirement. From her native New York, June brought with her to the Houston area, a distinctive Long Island accent and a deep-seated love of music. Although she has yet to sing for our staff, June has shared with us reminiscences as varied as singing classical music at Carnegie Hall and the blues at

unnamed, smoke-filled venues. A lover of opera, she has long been a subscriber to the Houston Grand Opera and Opera in the Heights.

Mr. Speaker, I know you join with me in saying "thank you" and "job well done" to June Kenyon for her years of loyal service to Congressman Jack Fields and myself, but most of all to the people of Southeast Texas whom she has served with distinction.

INTRODUCTION OF REFUGEES
FROM ARAB LANDS RESOLUTION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced a legislation acknowledging as refugees Jewish, Christian and other minorities that fled from Arab lands.

This measure serves to recognize major historical events, sheds light on other refugee populations that are often forgotten in discussions relating to Middle East peace, and underscores the need to address this issue in a comprehensive, balanced manner in order to resolve the conflict that currently exists in the Middle East.

It is imperative that the world knows about the displacement, which was spurred by ethnic and religious persecution, of Jewish, Christian and other minorities living in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Persian Gulf region.

For too long the world has failed to recognize the oppression, human rights violations, forced expulsion, and deprivation of assets these communities had to endure under Arab regimes.

It is essential that the plight of these communities from Arab countries be integrated into discussions toward any agreement regarding the issue of refugees.

RECOGNIZING TROY VINCENT
SHOEMAKER FOR ACHIEVING
THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Troy Vincent Shoemaker, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Troy has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Troy has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Troy Vincent Shoemaker for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR OF MARSHALL'S
SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the town of Marshall in Searcy County, Arkansas, which will celebrate its 150th anniversary this year. This is a significant milestone for the community and for all who helped shape the town's history.

Marshall was established in 1856, after Native Americans roamed the land for centuries. The Osage tribe used the land for hunting and gathering in the 18th century and then sold their claim to the United States government. Nine years later, the government set aside the land as a reservation for the Cherokee Indians.

By the mid-1800's, the Cherokees traveled west and Littleton Baker, J.W. Gray, and Jack Marshall were appointed to select a site for the new county seat of Searcy County. They originally named this location Burrowsville in honor of N.B. Burrow, a local citizen, but 11 years later changed the name to Marshall in honor of the former U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall. The town was eventually incorporated on January 13, 1884.

Marshall played an important role during the War Between the States, becoming a hub of activity for both Confederate and Northern forces after Arkansas seceded from the Union on May 6, 1861. Both Confederate and Union companies organized in the area, participating in the battles of Shiloh, Pea Ridge, Pine Bluff, and Devil's Backbone.

The town worked hard to recover and rebuild in the decades following the war. Marshall established its first school district, constructed the Marshall Academy in 1888, and built a new courthouse in 1889. Agriculture production dominated the economy in Searcy County, with cotton and corn ranking as the primary agricultural products. The community even established the Mountain Wave newspaper in 1890 which continues to inform residents on the latest local and national news.

The town enjoyed great prosperity during these early years. The Marshall Bank was established in 1901 and the town's first telephone system was constructed in 1902. The town's first flour mill came around the turn of the century, quickly followed by its first stave mill in 1909. The community built a new school building known as "Old Main" in 1910 and completed the first all-weather road between Marshall and Harriet in 1916.

Although the first few decades of the 20th century were a time of growth for Marshall, the combination of World War I, the Great Depression, and serious flooding led to difficult times for the community's residents. The population began to decline and those living off the land struggled to maintain a decent livelihood. Fortunately, many of Searcy County's residents joined the Civilian Conservation Corps, CCC, and the National Youth Administration, NYA, where they could earn a decent wage. One of the NYA's projects was to construct a gymnasium in Marshall in 1936.

Marshall and its surrounding communities pulled together during these challenging times, emerging stronger than before. Families in Marshall made victory gardens during WWII,

saved tin cans for reprocessing, and even purchased war bonds. Farmers also began to clear land for cattle production and timber harvesting. These two industries now contribute heavily to Marshall's local economy.

Marshall has always been a town of citizens who pull together during tough times to improve its schools, help businesses grow, and attract new development to the region. The town now boasts a population of 1,313 citizens and is home to the Ozark National Forest and the Buffalo National River. Known for its beauty, tourists visit the mountainous region year-round to participate in a variety of popular recreational activities.

On June 3, 2006, friends and residents of Marshall will gather to celebrate 150 years of history. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Marshall, Arkansas on this significant milestone. We send our appreciation to the town's citizens for years of hard work and dedication to their community, and wish Marshall many more years as a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

THANKS TO ALLEN L. THOMPSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Allen L. Thompson, Senior Professional Staff of the Committee on Homeland Security, for his dedication and service to Congress and our Nation. As the Ranking Member of the Committee, I speak for the entire Committee when I say he will be missed when he leaves the Hill at the end of this month.

Al was one of the original Democratic staffers of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, the predecessor of the now-permanent Committee. During the past 3 years, he has been one of the "best and the brightest" working to secure our homeland and protect our communities. A Coast Guard Academy graduate, Al brought a unique perspective and discipline to the Committee.

With his expertise and knowledge of port security, supply chain policy, and the Coast Guard, Al has certainly been a key member of the House's homeland security team. This Congress, Al has served as the Coordinator for Ranking Member LORETTA SANCHEZ on the Subcommittee on Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity. Representative SANCHEZ has this to say about Al, "During my nearly 10 years in the House of Representatives, I've run across very few people with the level of professionalism and decorum matching that of Al Thompson. As the liaison assigned to assist me with my work as Ranking Member of this subcommittee, Al's expertise and Coast Guard background was invaluable in helping me forward the Democratic agenda of this young Committee, particularly in the area of port security. He will be sorely missed by those of us who had the pleasure of working with him."

Former Representative Jim Turner, who served as the Ranking Member of the Select Committee during the 108th Congress, sent me the following comments when he heard of Al's departure: "When Al first joined the Select Committee in June 2003, I knew he came for

the right reason—his deep commitment to making America safer. From his experience as a member of the United States Coast Guard he knew this task must be accomplished over and over again every day by the men and women serving on the front lines of our homeland. For Al, homeland security was not a theoretical debate; it was a day to day passion.”

Now, as someone who has been married 38 years, I know that I would be remiss if I didn't thank Becca, Al's wife. She and their two sons, Tyson Allen and Hunter Gregory, have been as much a part of our Committee family as Al has. I personally want to thank Becca for her service to the Nation by lending us Al for long hours and late nights over the past 3 years, even with two young boys at home. From what I've seen, by the way, there is no question that those boys will follow in their father's footsteps and play college ball and maybe, if Al has his way, join his beloved Steelers one day.

In sum, I want to thank Al Thompson for the caliber of service and patriotism he has dedicated to Congress, the Committee of Homeland Security, and the Nation.

RECOGNIZING MR. ALAN SIEGEL
OF LAKE COUNTY, CA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Alan Siegel of Lake County, CA, as California's 2005 Teacher of the Year.

For nearly 20 years, Alan has been educating and challenging the minds of the children of California's First Congressional District. He has served at Mount Vista Middle School, Oak Hill Middle School and is currently teaching at Carle Continuation High School in the Konocti Unified School District.

At Carle Continuation High School, Alan has played a positive and influential role in the lives of these young adults, not only as a teacher but as a mentor. Alan is the leading force in the social studies department, teaching U.S. history, civics and economics. He has also dedicated his time to educating his students in the field of computers and technology.

Mr. Speaker, Alan's commitment to bettering Lake County extends beyond the classroom. He has become an active member of our community, volunteering each year to organize the Lower Lake Memorial Day Parade. He also volunteers his time to place American flags on the graves of veterans in the Lower Lake Cemetery to honor those who risked their lives to protect our country.

Mr. Speaker, Alan is one of 5 teachers selected as California's 2005 Teacher of the Year. He is also the first "continuation school" teacher to be awarded this honor. After receiving this award, Alan traveled around the world to talk with educators and learn about different approaches to education. Last summer, Alan traveled to Japan for 12 days where he visited several schools, including a continuation school and lived with a Japanese family for 3 days.

Alan graduated with a bachelor of art's degree in psychology from Michigan State Uni-

versity in 1981 and earned his teaching credentials and his bachelor of art's degree in history from San Francisco State in 1987. His wife, Angela, is also a teacher at Carle Continuation High School and has been awarded Lake County's 2006 Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we take this time to honor Mr. Alan Siegel as California's 2005 Teacher of the Year and to thank him for his unwavering dedication to the students of Lake County. I wish Alan the best in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SEAN ADAMS
LOGAN HEARD FOR ACHIEVING
THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sean Adams Logan Heard, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Sean has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Sean has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Sean Adams Logan Heard for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT
APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5427), making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer an amendment to the fiscal year Energy and Water appropriations bill which would stop Enron from once again cheating northwest consumers. I have worked with my colleagues and with Snohomish Public Utility District, SnoPUD, to ensure that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission plays fair in the case between Enron Power Marketing Inc. and SnoPUD. For too long, Enron has been harassing utilities for termination fees through the FERC administrative litigation system.

The Enron Corporation has already wronged consumers through its manipulation of the energy market during the energy crisis of 2001. It wasn't bad enough that Enron already collected an astonishing \$1.8 billion through their market-manipulation schemes, including millions from SnoPUD. Today, Enron is trying to

bilik another \$122 million from Washington State consumers.

Enron argues that they deserve a fee for the termination of their contract for electricity that they never delivered to Snohomish Public Utility District, SnoPUD. Snohomish PUD's contention is that because the power was never delivered, and because these contracts with Enron were entered into when the company was illegally manipulating the electricity market to inflate rates, these contracts are invalid.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment to the fiscal year 2007 Energy and Water Appropriations Act would prohibit the FERC from enforcing any decision that deems a termination payment is due to Enron from SnoPUD during fiscal year 2007. It's Congress's responsibility to ensure protection for consumers like those being served by Snohomish PUD from companies like the Enron Corporation. With this amendment, Congress will be deciding to stand with Enron, or stand with ratepayers.

IN HONOR OF MONTEREY HISTORY
AND ART ASSOCIATION

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Monterey History and Art Association on its 75th anniversary. During those 75 years, it has played a crucial role in preserving the colorful heritage of California's first Capital by protecting the historic buildings, artifacts and mementos of the people who made Monterey County their home.

MHAA's diligence has resulted in the restoration and safeguarding of many elements of Monterey's past, including ownership of Casa Serrano, the Fremont Adobe, Perry-Downer House, Doud House and the Mayo Hayes O'Donnell Library, as well as the Maritime and History Museum, all of which have contributed to Monterey's reputation as the best-preserved city in the West.

The Monterey Peninsula represents a diversity of cultures, communities and creative ideals. As cultural tourism increasingly becomes a leading inducement for visitors, MHAA's efforts serve to provide important economic benefits to the Monterey Peninsula.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Monterey History and Art Association for its 75 years of protecting the heritage of California's first Capital, and I commend its efforts in the preservation of the buildings and mementos of the cultures that have contributed to making Monterey the magnificent historic City that it is.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT ALAN WILBUR
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK
OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Robert Alan Wilbur, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest

qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Robert has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Robert has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Robert Alan Wilbur for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER
GENERAL RANDALL E. SAYRE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brigadier General Randall E. Sayre, who is retiring as the Commander of the Nevada Army National Guard.

General Sayre has had a long and distinguished career. General Sayre earned his Commission through Army ROTC at the University of Nevada, Reno, graduating in 1975 with a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice. Over the next 2 decades, General Sayre served in a number of different capacities: his initial tour of duty was in Korea, serving as an Aviation Operations Officer; he also served tours of active duty as a pilot, commander and instructor pilot. In 1981, General Sayre was transferred to the Nevada Army National Guard, where he first served as an Evacuation Pilot with the 1150th Medical Detachment based out of Reno, and subsequently as a Section Leader, Flight Operations Officer, and Detachment Commander. General Sayre also served as Battalion Commander of the 151st Battalion, 113th Aviation, based in Reno, Nevada and as Deputy Commander, Nevada Army National Guard. In February 2003, General Sayre was appointed Commander, Nevada Army National Guard and Assistant Adjutant General for the State of Nevada. In this role, he was responsible for all policies, programs and plans for the Nevada Army National Guard.

Over the course of his long career, General Sayre has also earned a number of accolades. He has been awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (with 7 oak leaf clusters), and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and the Legion of Merit, along with many others.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the career of Brigadier General Randall E. Sayre. His long and illustrious record of service to his country shows that he is a true patriot and American hero. I thank him for his service and wish him the best in his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO VETERANS ON
MEMORIAL DAY

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, Memorial Day weekend offers many Americans the opportunity to spend much needed time with friends and family, as well as a break from the routine and hustle and bustle of everyday life. This weekend, as we gather for cookouts, take advantage of holiday sales and welcome the arrival of summer, we should refocus our attention and recognize the day's true purpose. This is a national day of thanks, remembrance, and tribute.

Thanks for the gift of safety offered by our Nation's veterans. Remembrance for those who have fought and died for our freedom. And tribute to the men and women whose service in our armed forces has secured America's future.

Set aside as a yearly reminder to be proud of the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who have accepted our security as their duty, Memorial Day is a unique celebration of both life and death. Recognized by all Americans, regardless of race, religion, or ethnicity, Memorial Day is a national holiday dedicated to celebrating the lives of our fallen soldiers by honoring their memory.

Throughout our history, we have met and overcome each threat to our sovereignty and way of life with dignity. While our forces overseas and at home are engaged in a Global War on Terror, this Memorial Day is all made the more poignant by the nature of our enemy, Islamo-fascists committed to the destruction of our Nation and our way of life should clearly remind all Americans that it is our solemn duty to honor the brave men and women in uniform who are fighting to secure the future of American generations. Through their sacrifice, Americans yet unborn will know greater peace, prosperity, and hope.

Giving what President Lincoln called the last full measure of devotion, the sacrifice of America's armed forces has secured more than two centuries of liberty. Today, we honor those who have given their lives so our freedom could endure. Our commitment to the men and women of our Armed Forces should reflect their dedication to us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast rollcall votes 194–206 on May 24, 2006, because I was unavoidably detained on official business in the Seventh Congressional District of Georgia, at a constituent policy event on fundamental tax reform. Had I been present I would have cast the following votes: On rollcall No. 194, I would have voted "aye"; On rollcall No. 195, I would have voted "aye"; On rollcall No. 196, I would have voted "aye"; On rollcall No. 197, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 198, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 199, I would have voted "no"; On

rollcall No. 200, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 201, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 202, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 203, I would have voted "aye"; On rollcall No. 204, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 205, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 206, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING HILARI COHEN

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend a dynamic educator, Hilari Cohen, from my home State of New York. For the past 7 years, Ms. Cohen has served on the Jericho Board of Education, and is the longest serving school board president in the district's history.

During Mrs. Cohen's tenure on the Board of Education, Jericho has achieved a great deal. Here are just some of the things she has accomplished: expanded the middle/high school complex, introduced an elementary school world language exploratory program, introduced a middle school intramural program, instituted anti-bullying and character education programs, implemented a Social Emotional Literacy program, created an Industry Advisory Board, began a Public Access Defibrillation program, which includes the training of all coaches and administrators in first aid and Automatic External Defibrillation, expanded guidance, psychologist and social worker positions on all grade levels, developed a District wide Safety Team, named among the 100 Best Communities in America for Music Education, implemented paperless communication between the school and home, and improved the Regent's Diploma rate from 80% in 1999 to 100% in 2005.

She has been honored by the Council of Administrators and Supervisors for her outstanding leadership and contributions to the Jericho School District. Her colleagues have said her role as the Board President over the past 7 years has been pivotal to success of the district. Ms. Cohen has worked tirelessly and selflessly to ensure that students get an educational program beyond compare. She truly believes in success for every student.

I am proud to honor this distinguished and accomplished educator, Ms. Hilari Cohen.

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz for her hard work on behalf recognizing Mayas Jewish American Heritage month and to express my gratitude to the President for his proclamation making May Jewish American Heritage Month.

After the burning of the Second Temple and the final dispersion of the Jews from Zion, people of Jewish heritage have settled in every corner of the world. There are Jews in

China, in India, in Mexico, in Greece. While Hitler almost murdered all the Jews of Europe, he did not entirely succeed.

Because of the moral values of this country we put our entire nation into the fight against the Nazi's in World War II. What is so remarkable about the fact that the United States fought so fiercely and so bravely in World War II is that they did so to save the world. That desire arose from the nation's character, which is an amalgam of the religious heritage of its people—including its Jewish people.

Today I think about the Jewish soldiers in World War II who fought in the WWII not even knowing of the death camps and the ovens. I think of the men who risked their lives every day in the mud of France and the fields of Belgium because they knew what was spreading and taking over Europe was immoral. When Eisenhower's troops first came upon a death camp, he made the camp guards and the German villagers who had lived in the green fields and gardens around the camp come to view the bodies and to bury them. The message was clear: Americans find what you have done here and you villagers have tolerated here to be an immense crime, an unimaginable crime.

The greatness of our people is their character. Jewish people have brought a lot to the making of that character. Jews have known that the values in the Five Books of Moses are universal and throughout two thousand years of Diaspora brought their values with them to the shores of all the countries where they settled including America.

Judaism is a religion and a value system. No one who is not a Jew is considered less a person by a Jew. No stranger can be left without shelter, no hungry man without bread.

I could not help but notice in the Save Darfur Coalition and other grass roots organizations working so hard to stop the genocide in Darfur that many Jewish organizations are involved in the grass roots efforts. Among them are the American World Jewish Congress, The American Jewish Committee, Jews against Genocide Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism. I have received letters from children in Jewish schools asking me to help the people of Darfur. Jewish people have a special understanding about genocide. The parents of these children who write to me may have lost grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins. But they also know they can write to their congressman and their children can write and ask for help for these people so far away who are in desperate trouble as their relatives once were.

One of the characteristics I most admire is the activism many of the Jewish people engage in. That activism has meant a great deal to the Civil Rights movement. I also admire the way Jews have contributed to the "personality" of New York. As a New Yorker, I feel especially lucky because I have learned some Yiddish, some great jokes and have met some truly amazing people who love books, culture, art and life. I'm glad for the Jewish heritage I experience in my district every day I am at home.

I say to Jewish Americans today: Congratulations and Mazol Tov!

IN HONOR OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SANTA CRUZ SURFING MUSEUM

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the great role that the Santa Cruz County coastline and its surfers have played in the history of the great sport of surfing.

In 1885, three Hawaiian princes visited the city of Santa Cruz and rode the waves at the mouth of the San Lorenzo River on redwood surfboards shaped at a nearby lumber yard.

This was the first recorded instance of surfing on the U.S. mainland in modern history. By 1936, Santa Cruz had its own surfing club, one of the first outside of Hawaii. With the development of new surfboard technologies in the 1950s and 1960s and the wetsuit by Santa Cruz's own Jack O'Neill, the sport spread across the U.S. and the globe. Surfing is now deeply embedded in American popular culture.

Enjoyed by millions of people around the world, surfing is perhaps the most widespread American sporting export. Surfing is hugely popular in such far flung places as Australia, Brazil, Europe, and even Israel. While the birthplace of surfing is Hawaii, the spread of the sport began through its popularity in Santa Cruz. Outside of Hawaii, no place on earth has a deeper history in the modern revival of surfing than our little coastal community of Santa Cruz.

Due to this rich history, Santa Cruz established the world's first surfing museum in May of 1986. Over the past 20 years, the museum has become a symbol of the local and the worldwide surfing community. Just as the Monterey Peninsula is home to the Steamer Lane of Golf, Pebble Beach, so Santa Cruz is home to the Pebble Beach of surfing, Steamer Lane. Though it should be noted that the only 'greens fees' at Steamer Lane are cold water and heavy crowds.

Though another California town recently secured the trademark rights to "Surf City", the long history of surfing in Santa Cruz is proof enough that Santa Cruz is the heart and soul of surfing, and the foundation upon which it continues to ride.

TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the tremendous sacrifice and bravery of the countless men and women who have fallen in service to this great country. This Memorial Day, let us stop to remember all of the American service men and women who have answered the call to defend our nation, many making that ultimate sacrifice for the peace and preservation of our union.

Since our country's founding, each generation has met the challenge of protecting our freedoms and way of life. Through the centuries, over 1.2 million brave men and women have given their lives for our nation. This final

sacrifice was not only borne by those brave Americans who died, but also by their families and loved ones who personally suffered the loss of these heroes. Our hearts go out to those who have lost loved ones in the service of America.

Today, our country is again engaged in battle. Fighting to maintain peace and security across the globe, American soldiers in Iraq, Afghanistan and other places around the world continue to make the ultimate sacrifice to ensure freedom and democracy. As the war on terror continues, Americans must honor the brave men and women who gave their lives for the protection of this nation and the hope of peace.

This Memorial Day I pay tribute to all of the soldiers who have fallen in service to our great nation and the immeasurable sacrifices they have made defending freedom and democracy throughout the world. It is with a humble heart and proud spirit that I honor the lives of America's fallen soldiers and remember with admiration their patriotism and dedication to our country in the face of adversity. Let us never forget their sacrifices.

TRIBUTE TO JUDITH BOBBITT

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding community leader, Mrs. Judith Bobbitt, Somerton Elementary School District's Superintendent. She will retire this year from a lifetime commitment to education as a school administrator.

Mrs. Bobbitt's dedication to serving students and encouraging them to become contributing citizens of the State of Arizona and our great nation is remarkable. She has worked in public education for more than 40 years and has served as an instructional leader and role model to hundreds of teachers and school administrators. Her leadership style is admired by many. She has led efforts to reform public education so every child has an equal opportunity and equal environment to maximize learning.

Mrs. Bobbitt led Somerton Elementary School District through an explosive growth in a diverse district where 95 percent of students are first generation Americans of Mexican descent and three percent are members of the Cocopah Nation. Her efforts to improve the State's funding of school construction frequently found her testifying at the Arizona State Legislature addressing equity issues.

She established and founded the South Yuma County Adult Education Consortium and made the Somerton District a leader in Adult Literacy. Under her leadership, she developed the Migrant Even Start Program in Somerton and worked with numerous community-based agencies to promote lifelong learning.

Mrs. Bobbitt was appointed the 2000 National Chair of the Interstate Migrant Council and was recognized as All Arizona Superintendent of the Year for Mid-Sized Districts in 1998.

The integrity with which she leads was acknowledged by her appointments as a Public Board Member for the Arizona Bar Foundation, Puentes de Amistad, and Somerton Boys

and Girls Club. In addition, she was elected President of the Yuma County Education Foundation, Somerton's Rotary Club, and Yuma County's School District Association.

Mrs. Bobbitt has demonstrated great leadership and thousands of students are now beneficiaries of her vision of equality and personal best.

I would like to personally commend Mrs. Judith Bobbitt for her tireless commitment to our community. Her life and work is an inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS E. NIXON

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dennis E. Nixon, Chairman of International Bancshares Corporation (IBC), on his being selected as an inductee into the 2006 Texas Business Hall of Fame on October 26, 2006.

Mr. Nixon is widely recognized as one of the nation's leading banking authorities. Since joining IBC in 1975, he has been instrumental in the ranking of the bank as the largest minority-owned bank organization in the United States with assets of \$10.3 billion with over 200 full service branches throughout Texas and Oklahoma in over eighty communities. IBC is headquartered in the City of Laredo and employs over three thousand in the South Texas region and in Oklahoma.

Mr. Nixon's approach to banking is based at the community level in which all customers large and small retain the same value, and this approach has been achieved through the involvement of IBC in community service. Mr. Nixon believes in the importance of corporate social responsibility, and has encouraged his employees to be active volunteers in community service with various non-profit organizations. As a result, IBC was the winner of the 2001 Governor's Volunteer Award in the corporate business category.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to honor Dennis E. Nixon, Chairman of International Bancshares Corporation, in recognition of his selection as an inductee into the 2006 Texas Business Hall of Fame.

TRIBUTE TO CITY OF
GAITHERSBURG

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the City of Gaithersburg on its tenth anniversary as a "CHARACTER COUNTS! City."

Gaithersburg exemplifies the six pillars of a "CHARACTER COUNTS! City"—trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. Today, Gaithersburg celebrates its continued success in serving its citizens and teaching its children the importance of good character.

The CHARACTER COUNTS! program in Gaithersburg began in a meeting room filled

with parents and children eager to learn the pillars of the program. In just over 10 years, the ideals of CHARACTER COUNTS! have spread through businesses and schools. Today, Gaithersburg has experienced the benefits of ethical education and has grounded the goals of the City in the ethical framework of the CHARACTER COUNTS! program.

Through learning and focusing on customer needs, Gaithersburg seeks to continue the honest and open communication that has helped it become a nationally renowned city. Gaithersburg utilizes creativity and fiscal responsibility to promote its health and excellence. All of the people of Gaithersburg—city officials, employees, neighborhood and governmental agencies—strive to continuously improve the City through cooperation and an increased emphasis on customer service, which allows community needs to be identified and met.

By maintaining the best aspects of a small town while implementing the most advanced new technologies, Gaithersburg has a diverse array of wonderful characteristics. The residents of Gaithersburg benefit from safe neighborhoods and diverse transportation options. Elected officials have united to create a favorable business environment and to preserve beautiful parks and public places. Gaithersburg is justifiably proud of its family-friendly environment and a citizenry that possesses a strong sense of community and individual responsibility.

I am pleased to honor the City of Gaithersburg for its outstanding commitment to values in its governance and daily life. Gaithersburg is a great place to live, work, learn and play, and I congratulate it on its tenth anniversary as a CHARACTER COUNTS! City.

INTRODUCTION OF SEEDS FOR
SOLDIERS ACT

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to introduce the Seeds for Soldiers Act. As a nation currently welcoming home new veterans, we must do all we can do to assist them upon their return. One way to do that is to help them jumpstart their new small businesses.

This bill does this by creating a specialized loan program for veterans through the Small Business Administration, which provides veterans with loans up to \$3 million, allows for debt refinancing, and permits borrowers to defer payments for up to one year without any accumulation of interest. To encourage lenders to provide capital, the program will carry reduced costs and a higher government loan guarantee.

The bill also establishes a vocational rehabilitation program for veterans specifically designed to assist in the transition out of service. The program, which will be established by existing Small Business Development Centers, will provide technical, vocational, and entrepreneurial assistance to veterans to help them use their skills learned in the military to open, maintain, and expand their own business. The bill authorizes \$25 million in funding to provide \$500,000 grants to the SBDCs to open this program.

As a member of both the House Veterans' Affairs Committee and the Small Business Committee, I am well acquainted with the difficulties many vets face in establishing and sustaining small businesses. At a time when thousands of veterans are returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan, we must act in every way possible to assist them when they return. This bill provides the seeds for veteran-owned businesses, so that they may grow into sustainable entities.

I am pleased to introduce this legislation today and wish to thank original cosponsors Representatives EMERSON, KELLY, and MICHAUD for their support. I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting both our veterans, and the benefits that small businesses contribute to our economy, by cosponsoring this bill.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
WILLOWS THEATRE COMPANY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 30th anniversary of the Willows Theatre Company in Concord (Contra Costa County), California and the major, positive impact it has had—and continues to have—in the cultural life of the San Francisco Bay Area.

For three decades, the Willows has developed and produced dramas, comedies and musicals—more than 210 in all—drawn from contemporary American playwrights, composers and lyricists for a mix of world or area premieres and revivals of classic American shows. Six productions a year, for a total of 244 performances, attract thousands of loyal patrons each year. The current patron base has grown to more than 4,500 subscribers, with renewals at an enviable 87 percent. The company is training theater artists, and creating viable relationships with playwrights, designers, actors and students whose work will impact current and future audiences and artists.

Over the past 4 years alone, the Willows has earned 17 awards from the Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle. The Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County honored Richard Elliott, artistic director, in 2000 and Andrew Holtz, managing director, in 2004 with Arts Recognition Awards. In 2002, the San Francisco Business Arts Council presented its Cyril Award for Non-Profit Arts Excellence to the Willows.

Aside from its renowned artistic successes, the Willows also is an economic force in the community. With an annual budget approaching \$2 million, the company maintains facilities, employs administrative support staff, and affords the first opportunity for professional employment for many developing theater artists. The company was the first theater in Contra Costa County to operate under a seasonal contract with Actors Equity Association, with as many as 200 or more professional and non-union Bay Area artists employed during a season.

In support of other non-profit arts organizations throughout the region, the Willows operates a Community Box Office service that has

returned more than \$400,000 in earned income revenue to dozens of groups.

As part of its mission, the Willows engages youths in a variety of programs, including a conservatory, a round theater arts and student internship training program. In addition, it offers greatly reduced student ticket rates to encourage family and school attendance at live theater.

With a remarkable record of achievement in the past 30 years, the Willows is now focused on the future. Later this year, the company will expand its operations by opening a 220-seat cabaret-style theater in Martinez, the seat of government for Contra Costa County. Earlier this year, the company completed a 9,000 square-foot production facility in Waterfront Park in Martinez, in close proximity to the 1,000-seat John Muir Amphitheater. The facility was constructed to accommodate multiple performances of "John Muir's Mountain Days," a musical, commissioned by the Willows, based on the life of the famed preservationist John Muir, whose residence in Martinez is a National Historic Site.

These activities are part of the John Muir Festival Center, an educational, cultural heritage and economic development project in which the Willows has taken a leadership role along with its partners—the city of Martinez, the John Muir Association, the National Park Service, and the Martinez Historical Society.

On July 3, 2006, the Willows will celebrate its 30th anniversary with a gala that includes a dinner and a show in the John Muir Amphitheater featuring the Diabolo Symphony and performers from past Willows Theatre productions.

I am proud to join in the celebration.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS M. PRISELAC

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to pay tribute to our good friend, Thomas M. Priselac, President and CEO of Cedars-Sinai Health System. Mr. Priselac has held the position of President and CEO since January 1994, and has helped transform Cedars-Sinai Health System into one of the premier providers of health services, graduate and continuing medical education services, and medical research. He has proven himself to be a strong leader who gets impressive results. We are pleased that he will be honored by B'Nai B'Rith International with the prestigious National Healthcare Award on June 5, 2006.

Mr. Priselac began his career in healthcare after receiving his Bachelor degree in Biology from Washington and Jefferson College in Pennsylvania and his Masters in Public Health from the University of Pittsburgh. He began his career at Montefiore Hospital in Pittsburgh as a member of the executive staff. In 1979, he began working at Cedars-Sinai. He was appointed to the role of Executive Vice President in 1988, which he fulfilled for six years prior to being appointed President and CEO. During his tenure at Cedars-Sinai, Mr. Priselac has turned it into one of our nation's finest healthcare establishments.

In addition to his work at Cedars, Mr. Priselac makes many contributions to the

healthcare community through his dedication and commitment to several healthcare related organizations. He has served on numerous healthcare related boards. He currently serves as Chair of the Association of American Medical Colleges, and chairs the Health Care Committee of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

It is our distinct pleasure to ask our colleagues to join with us in saluting Mr. Priselac for his outstanding achievements and to congratulate him on receiving this prestigious award.

HONORING THE STUDENTS AT HALF HOLLOW HILLS HIGH SCHOOL EAST

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the students from Half Hollow Hills High School East in Dix Hills, New York for their hard work in the "We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution" national finals. These outstanding young Americans placed fourth in this nationwide competition and I am honored to call them my constituents.

The students, Jason Aronson, Matt Bauman, Jillian Bernstein, Eric Bierman, Emily Chen, Davina Etwarn, Leily Faridzadeh, Zach Goldberg, Chris Green, Arun Gupta, Jennifer Kim, Praneet Korrapati, Emily Kuznick, Tia Mansouri, Joshua Milber, Brooke Schachner, Stephen Schiraldi, Dana Schwartz, Dara Seidl, Fauzia Shaikh, Kunaal Sharma, Kavita Vani, Alyssa Weinberg and Joshua Wohl, led by their teacher Scott Edwards, demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American constitutional government.

Also worthy of special recognition is Eileen Gerrish, the state coordinator, and Charles Trupia, the district coordinator, who are among those responsible for implementing the "We the People" program in my district.

Their success in the competition is also a testament to the excellent teachers at Half Hollow Hills East High School and elsewhere on Long Island.

I offer my congratulations on their success and commend these students on their dedication to the study of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

TRIBUTE TO CHAIRMAN HENRY J. HYDE

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who has for the past 31 years brought honesty, integrity and distinction to this Chamber, to his party and to the people of Sixth District of Illinois. I consider myself fortunate to have my congressional career overlap with his, even if only for one term.

At several points throughout Chairman HYDE's career, he served in a position of leadership within the U.S. House of Representa-

tives when a strong and competent leader was needed, and at all times he was the right man for the job. He served as chairman of the Judiciary Committee during a difficult time in our country's history, and brought the highest level of integrity to his position.

Mr. HYDE was appointed chairman of the International Relations Committee shortly before 9/11, where he has valiantly led us through the early crucial years of the War on Terror. In his career, Chairman HYDE has worked diligently to protect and expand the freedoms of unborn children, to protect the honored symbols of this Nation from desecration and to protect the freedoms of citizens all over the world.

Chairman HYDE has dedicated his career in public service to ideals worthy of a great Republican, and to principles worthy of a great statesman. His determination to seek truth and justice has earned him the respect of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

My single regret is that I only had 2 years to learn from Chairman HYDE, but those are lessons I will carry with me throughout my career. I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING 30 YEARS OF SERVICE BY COLONEL JOHN C. COLEMAN, USMC

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 30 years of dedicated service of Col John C. Coleman, USMC.

Col John C. Coleman assumed duties as Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton on 21 October 2005.

Colonel Coleman was born 11 February 1954 and is a native of Warner Robins, Georgia. He was commissioned through the PLC Program following graduation from the Virginia Military Institute in May of 1976. Since commissioning, he has completed seven tours of duty in the Corps' operating forces, two in the supporting establishment, and two with the joint community.

As a Company Grade Officer, Colonel Coleman served tours of duty with 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, and with 3rd Battalion, 25th Marines. Assignments during these tours included Rifle Platoon Commander, 81mm Mortar Platoon Commander, Company Executive Officer, Assistant Battalion Operations Officer, H&S Company Commander, Rifle Company Commander, Weapons Company Commander, and Rifle Company Inspector/Instructor. In addition to these assignments, he served in the supporting establishment as the Training Support Officer, Officer Candidate School, and as a Company Grade Monitor, Headquarters Marine Corps.

As a Field Grade Officer, Colonel Coleman served tours of duty with 1st Battalion, 2nd Marines, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 2nd and 6th Marine Regimental Headquarters, 1st and 2nd Marine Division Headquarters, and I Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters. Assignments during these tours included Battalion Operations Officer, Battalion Executive

Officer, Regimental Operations Officer, Assistant Division Personnel Officer, Battalion Commander, MEF (Fwd) Operations Officer, Division Operations Officer, and Regimental Commander. In addition to these assignments, he completed two joint tours. The first of these was with U.S. Central Command serving in the J-3, Command Control, and then Joint Exercise Division. Later he served with the Joint Staff, Washington, D.C., in the Office of the Vice Chairman.

On 23 August 2002, Colonel Coleman assumed the duty as Chief of Staff, I Marine Expeditionary Force. He initially deployed to Kuwait and Iraq with Headquarters, I MEF in conjunction with Operation Iraqi Freedom from November 2002 to October 2003. He returned to Iraq with I MEF in March 2004 serving there until the MEF redeployed to the U.S. in March 2005.

Colonel Coleman is a graduate of Amphibious Warfare School, U.S. Army Command and Staff College, Armed Forces Staff College, U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies, and the U.S. Naval War College. He is a designated Joint Specialty Officer and has been awarded two masters of arts degrees, the first in Military Arts and Science, and the second in National Security and Strategic Studies. His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal (second award), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (second and third awards), and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Colonel Coleman and his wife Teri were married in 1976 and have four children, Christina, Jay, Robby, and Lara.

On behalf of the people of the United States whom Colonel Coleman spent a career serving, I thank him for his service and commitment to the defense of our Nation.

STATEMENT HONORING JEREMY BONNER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeremy Bonner, an extraordinary young man whose dedication and achievements are to be commended. Jeremy Bonner recently graduated from A. Maceo Smith High School after 14 years of perfect attendance. This means that from the age of three, Jeremy never missed a day of school.

In a time when drop-out rates and truancy are on the rise, this is truly an exceptional achievement. The efforts and devotion of Jeremy Bonner and his mother, Joan Bonner, are to be celebrated.

In addition to his perfect attendance, I was pleased to learn of Jeremy's plans to join the military and pursue a career in public service. Both the military and America are fortunate to have the commitment of such a fine young man.

The recognition Jeremy is receiving is immensely well-deserved, and I know this is merely the first step of many bright years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, during consideration of H.R. 5427, the Fiscal Year 2007 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, I was not present for rollcall 196, 197, 198, 199, 200 and 201. Had I been present, on rollcall 196, I would have voted "yea," on rollcall 197, I would have voted "nay," on rollcall 198, I would have voted "yea," on rollcall 199, I would have voted "yea," on rollcall 200, I would have voted "nay," and on rollcall 201, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO CAROL DAVIS

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements and hard work of Carol Davis. Carol is President and CEO of Manteca's Give Every Child a Chance Program. Give Every Child a Chance is committed to developing and maintaining a quality mentor program that will have a positive impact on the lives of children in our community. In 2005, the Association of California School Administrators, ACSA, had selected the Give Every Child a Chance Program as the year's Partners in Educational Excellence Award recipient.

Through Carol's leadership, Give Every Child a Chance has touched the lives of thousands of students throughout the San Joaquin area. The program provides innovative approaches to deal with the complex challenges facing public education. Give Every Child a Chance was nominated by Manteca Unified School District Superintendent, Dr. Cathy Nichols-Washer and was selected by a panel of school administrators throughout the State.

Carol's dedication to the future of our children is one that has not gone unnoticed, and I would like to wish her many more years of continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF LT. COL. JAMES MEGELLAS MEDAL OF HONOR BILL

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to honor a true American hero by awarding him the Medal of Honor. On January 28, 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge, Lt. James Megellas led his platoon of the 82nd Airborne Division on a surprise and devastating attack on a much larger advancing German force, killing and capturing a large number of the enemy and causing others to flee. In an act of fearless courage, Megellas singlehandedly destroyed an attacking German Mark V tank with two hand-held grenades. He then led the charge of his men and

seized Herresbach, Belgium, during this fierce action of the Battle of the Bulge. Due to his aggressive, fearless and superior leadership, Lt. James Megellas inspired his men to excel.

After serving 4 years as a rifle platoon leader during World War II, including many combat jumps into Italy and Holland, Megellas left the active Army and served for 16 years in the Army Reserve. He retired after 20 years of service as a lieutenant colonel.

His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Star Medals, two Bronze Star Medals, two Purple Hearts, and he is credited with being the 82nd Airborne Division's most decorated officer. During World War II, Gen. James Gavin selected one 82nd officer—Lt. James Megellas—to receive the Military Order of Wilhelm Orange Lanyard from the Dutch Minister of War on behalf of his division.

To this day, James Megellas continues to inspire. In February, 61 years since that momentous battle, James "Maggie" Megellas set foot on a battlefield with fellow 82nd Airborne Division soldiers, this time in a current theatre of war—Afghanistan. Megellas was impressed with what he saw of the paratroopers and their work. He listened to their stories of their past year of deployment and shared with them his own experiences during World War II.

Today, at 89 years old, James Megellas is currently in the Netherlands, to be decorated by Her Majesty Queen Beatrix in a surprise ceremony to once again receive the Military Order of Wilhelm Orange Lanyard for outstanding service.

I urge my colleagues to also recognize James "Maggie" Megellas by supporting this bill to authorize and request the President to award him the Medal of Honor for his acts of valor on January 28, 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge. As time goes by, true heroes should never be forgotten, so please join me in honoring this outstanding American hero.

THE ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF PASSAGE OF THE STEM CELL RESEARCH BILL

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of stem cell research.

Last May, the House of Representatives narrowly passed H.R. 810, supporting federally funded embryonic stem cell research.

My vote, recorded in support of this bill, reflects my strong views on the potential for stem cell research to benefit society.

Stem cells can mature into nearly any type of cell, including nerve cells to repair damaged spines or heart cells to pump blood through the body.

The therapeutic possibilities of stem cells are endless.

It is my hope that the other body will work with us to support stem cell research.

Somewhere out there is a little girl who suffered a spinal injury and is unable to walk.

Therapy utilizing stem cells is her only hope.

How much longer will she and millions of others have to wait?

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
DESIGNATING "LARRY WINN, JR.
POST OFFICE"

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, joined by my Kansas delegation colleagues—Representatives TIAHRT, RYUN and MORAN—I am today introducing legislation to designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 6029 Broadmoor Street in Mission, Kansas, as the "Larry Winn, Jr. Post Office Building."

Edward Lawrence "Larry" Winn, Jr., represented Kansas' Third Congressional District in the U.S. House from 1967 to 1985. Born in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1919, he was an Eagle Scout who attended public schools and received a B.A. from the University of Kansas in 1941. Becoming an announcer for WHB radio, he later served as public relations director for the local branch of the American Red Cross. Returning to Kansas, he established and became vice president of Winn-Rau Corporation, a private home builder. For 14 years, he served as National Director of the National Association of Home Builders, and also served as President of the Home Builders Association of Kansas City.

In 1962, the incumbent U.S. Representative in the Third District, Robert Ellsworth, asked Winn, who had served as Republican Party chairman in that district, to be his campaign manager; he fulfilled that role in the 1962 and 1964 campaigns. In 1966, when Ellsworth unsuccessfully challenged incumbent U.S. Senator Jim Pearson in the Republican primary, Winn won election as his successor, defeating Overland Park Mayor Marvin Rainey. In later contests, among eight successful re-elections, Winn would defeat Lieutenant Governor James DeCoursey and Dan Watkins, the former chief of staff to Governor John Carlin.

Initially appointed to the House Committees on Space and Aeronautics [later renamed Science and Technology] and the District of Columbia, Winn later was appointed to the Select Committee on Crime, the Veterans' Affairs Committee, and the International Relations Committee, which was later renamed the Foreign Affairs Committee. Described by Congressional Quarterly's *Politics in America*, 1982 as a "quiet, unassuming man," Winn eventually rose to the ranking Republican seat on the Science and Technology Committee, where he was an active supporter of America's space exploration program. As *Politics in America*, 1982 noted, he also advocated research into alternative energy sources such as gasohol and solar and wind power, and tax credits for energy efficiency and conservation.

Winn was appointed by President Carter and confirmed by the Senate to serve as a member of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations in 1979. He also was a member of the Canadian Interparliamentary Group and was ranking Republican member of the U.S.-European Interparliamentary Group. Domestically, Winn was a leading advocate of "value engineering," a cost-saving government management system that was implemented in the early 1970s. He also was a leading advocate of a successful proposal maintaining ten regional federal office centers in the United States, which preserved Kansas City as a fed-

eral regional office center, rather than transferring those functions to Denver.

Winn also is remembered for his advocacy of a proposed Tallgrass National Prairie Park in Kansas; as a result of his initial efforts, the Kansas Flint Hills are now home to the Tallgrass National Preserve, a unit of the National Park System managed in partnership with the private National Park Trust dedicated to the rich natural and cultural history of the tallgrass prairie ecosystem.

In their 1972 analysis of Winn's career, the Ralph Nader Congress Project's *Citizens Look at Congress* review of Winn's activities concluded that: "Legislatively, Winn shows a good feel for Third District needs and interests. . . . Although Winn has had considerable experience in public speaking and writing, his style is more folksy than polished." During his tenure, he taped a weekly radio program on current congressional issues that was distributed to local broadcasters, as well as drafting and circulating weekly newspaper columns and twice-yearly congressional questionnaires that were sent to all in-district postal patrons. He estimated that over 2,000 Third District residents visited his Washington, D.C., office during the first four years of his tenure, and bumper stickers proclaiming: "I visited Congressman Larry Winn in Washington" were seen frequently across the Kansas City area.

Upon announcing his retirement from the U.S. House in 1984, Representative Winn published a column in the *Christian Science Monitor* decrying the increase in congressional partisan rancor. Twenty two years later, his words are even more relevant: "It is important now for both Republicans and Democrats in the House of Representatives to recognize that a continuation of this rancor will undercut the legislative process. Most Americans are neither Republicans nor Democrats but are independents. This expresses a desire for pragmatism over ideology. Members of the House, without abandoning their individual philosophical approaches, should also approach problems pragmatically."

Mr. Speaker, Larry Winn, Jr., served the Third District of Kansas as its Representative with diligence and decency for eighteen years. It is fitting that we now name a major postal facility in the Third District after him, and I hope the House will move swiftly to approve this measure.

IN HONOR OF DR. JOSE PROTACIO
RIZAL AND THE ORDER OF THE
KNIGHTS OF RIZAL, CLEVELAND
CHAPTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Dr. Jose Protacio Rizal and the Order of the Knights of Rizal, Cleveland Chapter. The accomplished life and works of Dr. Rizal remains a great source of inspiration for the people of the beautiful island of the Philippines. His heroic and poignant writings and efforts, focused on freedom, continue to inspire and energize the people of the Philippines, and Filipino Americans as well.

During the 1800's Filipinos began expressing their anger and frustration over colonial

rule. Intellectuals, poets, artists and writers became the spiritual leaders in the Filipino quest for freedom and independence from Spain. It was the written works by an unknown, young doctor from Lugana Province, Jose Rizal, which set fire to the independence movement. Dr. Rizal's explosive first novel, "Noli Me Tanere," (Touch Me Not), shattered the facade of colonial rule and shed light on the destructive limitations forced upon the Filipino people. The novel, though immediately banned by the Spanish rulers, was disseminated underground with other highly charged passages by Dr. Rizal and others.

In Manila, 1892, Rizal founded the independence movement, Luga Filipina. By 1898, an armed struggle for independence had begun, and government officials accused Dr. Rizal of leading the charge. Following the circuslike spectacle of an unjust trial, Rizal was found guilty. On the evening of December 30, 1896, Dr. Rizal was executed by firing squad in what is now known in Manila as Rizal Park. The night before his scheduled execution, he wrote the poem 'Mi Ultimo Adios,' a heartrending and poignant expression of his abiding love for the people and country of the Philippines.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the 2006 celebration of the influential life of Dr. Jose Protacio Rizal. Dr. Rizal rose from the quiet life of a village doctor to become a beloved and courageous national hero of the Philippines—a man whose words blazed a trail of freedom throughout the Philippines. I also want to honor and recognize the leaders and members of the Order of the Knights of Rizal, Cleveland Chapter, for keeping the significant spirit of Dr. Jose Rizal alive for each new generation to know and understand. The life of Dr. Jose Rizal reflects an innate quest for freedom for all people, and highlights the ideology that despite the seemingly endless struggle, justice and liberty will inevitably rise.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
CONGRESSMAN ROBERT N. GIAIMO

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay great honor to Congressman Robert N. Giaimo, who passed away on May 24, 2006. Bob proudly served in this body from 1958–1980, representing the New Haven area in Connecticut. Bob was a profound figure who believed in public service and worked tirelessly for the people of Connecticut.

The son of Italian immigrants, Bob was raised in North Haven, Connecticut and was elected in 1958 to serve the Third District of Connecticut. During his 22 years in Congress, Bob made many significant contributions to this country. Bob co-sponsored a bill that created the National Endowment of the Arts and Humanities, which has allowed people in this country to reach their creative potential. He also led the first successful effort to end funds for the fighting in Southeast Asia. Bob worked to eliminate the loyalty oath in the National Defense Education Act, and to include the old New Haven Railroad in the Penn Central merger. Bob's priority in Congress was to create meaningful change and he represented

the values and aspirations of the people of the Third District of Connecticut.

Bob was well-respected among his colleagues. During his 11-terms in Congress, he served on the House Budget Committee, which he chaired for 4 years, the House Commission on Information and Facilities, and the Joint Committee on Intelligence. Bob also served on the House Appropriations Committee, and its subcommittees on Department of Defense, District of Columbia, Treasury Postal Service and General Government, Legislative Branch, and Housing and Urban Development. Bob was an inspiration to his colleagues and the people he represented.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the life of Robert N. Giaimo. Bob's legacy lives on in this Nation and among his family. My thoughts and prayers are with Bob's wife, Marion Schuenemann Giaimo, his daughter Barbara Giaimo Koones, and his granddaughter, Tracy Elizabeth Phillips. Today, we lost a tremendous person who worked hard to improve the well-being of this country and the state of Connecticut.

TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE E.
HORNER

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lawrence E. Horner for his civic and philanthropic service to the residents of the Conejo and San Fernando Valleys. Seventy-six years young, Larry is a proud veteran, an accomplished businessman, and dedicated public servant.

Larry has served as my senior district advisor since November 1997, and will be retiring at the end of this month. He has been an invaluable asset to me and to my constituents. His knowledge of issues ranging from economic development to military and veterans affairs has been crucial to helping me better serve my constituents. I will miss his depth of experience, leadership, and personal charm.

Larry's extensive knowledge of the Conejo Valley has been an invaluable asset. I consulted extensively with Larry when working to protect and expand the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreational Area. His advice and experience were critical to my successful efforts to defend this irreplaceable natural resource.

Mr. Speaker, Larry received his bachelor's and master's degrees in Science from Indiana University. His studies were interrupted while he served in the United States Army during the Korean War.

In 1954, Larry was discharged from the Army and met and married Betty Thurman. Happily married for more than 50 years, they have raised three children and contributed countless hours volunteering in their community.

In 1960, Larry and Betty moved to Southern California where he worked in the aerospace and defense industry for Lockheed, Litton, and finally as a Vice-President of Northrop in Newbury Park.

In 1973, Larry began his career in politics by winning a seat on the Thousand Oaks City Council. He served on the Council for more

than 16 years. During that period, his fellow Council Members asked him to serve as Mayor for an unprecedented five terms.

While serving as Mayor and Council member, Larry helped solidify a sound economic base for the city. He also established senior citizen facilities, teen programs, increased the city's supply of affordable housing and helped lower the crime rate. All of his efforts resulted in an improved quality of life for Conejo Valley residents.

Mr. Speaker, all of us in this House are dependent on the dedication and hard work of our staffs. When I was elected to represent the 24th Congressional District in 1996, I knew I would need an outstanding and popular leader in the Conejo Valley to head my Thousand Oaks office. Larry accepted the challenge and was instrumental in ensuring that my constituents received the quality services they needed and deserved.

Larry's hard work and dedicated service in that office and, following redistricting and the 2002 elections, as a member of my Sherman Oaks office staff, have been exemplary.

Larry's accomplishments in business, politics, government, and community service are an impressive legacy. I will miss his service, but I look forward to his continuing friendship.

TRIBUTE TO LENCHO RENDON

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, this month Capitol Hill saw the departure of one of the most talented people in Texas politics today, my just-retired Chief of Staff, my former Chief Deputy Sheriff in our other lives, my campaign advisor, my little brother, my best friend—some have even called him my "alter ego" Lencho Rendon.

Lencho is a legend in the House of Representatives and counts many, many friends here in this Chamber . . . friends he will remain close to in this next chapter of his life. Several of them join me in bidding our friend and counselor farewell, but not goodbye.

Lencho and I met not too long after I was elected Nueces County Sheriff in South Texas in 1976. He was working for the Webb County Sheriffs office and a DEA Task Force; and he was beginning to make a reputation for himself as one of the absolute best at finding the druggies and getting evidence on them.

He was a master at that, and his detective and undercover work were monumentally dangerous just about every day. By the grace of God, Lencho lived to talk about—or not talk about—the everyday danger of living undercover to catch the bad guys.

He ran my first campaign for Congress, a task he took on each election cycle—and he remains my campaign chairman. In Texas, Lencho is the guy you go to when you want to hear the straight scoop.

He can find the bottom line . . . and see around the corners . . . and strategize a way to get you where you want to go. He works on numerous campaigns in South Texas during election season, and he understands the precise—yet nuanced—intersection of politics, policy, people, and the art of the possible.

Here on the Hill and in the international community, Lencho has made more friends

than we can count. He employs the same skills on Capitol Hill he learned and practices in South Texas: figure out where you want to go, and he can find a way to get you there. He is widely respected by both Members of Congress and Capitol Hill staff members.

But it has been me and my staff members—here and in Texas—that have felt his absence most abruptly and most profoundly. We haven't missed a beat in our work for South Texans, but we have missed the presence of the man that we all respect and we all love. You grow so close to people with whom you stand in campaigns.

Lencho is unbelievably talented on so many levels, and has a deep and abiding compassion for people and families. It's an old rule of politics: people that campaign together will always be there for each other. That is certainly true for me and my organization, but it's true for most every political organization.

And so it will be—Lencho remains a trusted member of my family, and I will always seek his counsel on matters political and personal. I know he remains a trusted member of this Capitol Hill family.

HONORING MORRIS "MORRIE"
TURNER

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and work of Morris "Morrie" Turner, a native of Oakland, California. Morrie Turner is known not only for his legendary talent as a nationally-recognized cartoon artist, but has contributed greatly to our country through his use of art to advocate for social equality and community awareness. On Wednesday, May 31, 2006, the East Bay Community will come together to celebrate Morrie's outstanding career and immeasurable contributions to our society.

Born in 1923 in Oakland, California, Morrie assumed his nickname at an early age, always preferring it above the name Morris. He attended Cole Elementary and McClymonds High School in Oakland, and ultimately graduated from Berkeley High School in June 1942. Morrie began drawing caricatures around the age of 10, and by the time he finished his secondary education he was comfortable with his drawing technique. After graduation, which was in the midst of World War II, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps, and continued his drawing while on guard duty. This eventually led to his first series, a strip called Rail Head, which was based on his experiences in the war and which appeared in Stars and Stripes.

Following the war Morrie returned to the Bay Area, where he began working as a clerk for the Oakland Police Department, but continued drawing on a freelance basis. During that time, and at the encouragement of his mother, he began sending his drawings to magazines. After sending out thousands of drawings, he achieved his first national publication in 1947, which was in a baking industry publication called Baker's Helper, and which earned him a check of \$5. After several publications of his work on roughly the same scale, Morrie got his first big break when Better Homes & Gardens bought one of his cartoons for \$75.

Throughout his many years of drawing, Morrie had received no formal art training and so he sought advice and encouragement from other professional cartoonists. In that process, he began to question why there were no artists from communities of color working as professional cartoonists, particularly among those who were publishing national pieces. In response, his mentor Charles Schultz, creator of the infamous Peanuts strip, suggested that Morrie create one. In the early 1960s he did just that, creating Dinky Fellas, the strip that would later evolve into the hugely successful Wee Pals, a strip that takes place in a world without prejudice and that celebrated ethnic, racial, cultural and other differences in our society. In 1965, the series became the first multi-ethnic cartoon syndicated in the United States. Wee Pals went on to appear in over 100 newspapers worldwide, and has also featured a weekly additional panel called Soul Corner, in which the life of a famous person from a community of color is detailed.

Wee Pals also carries special significance in my district, because it later became the cornerstone of an Oakland Police Department crime prevention and safety program. Through this effort, Morrie's message of open mindedness, equality and cultural embrace was coupled with one of public safety and community service, thereby impacting the lives of countless young people and families in the 9th Congressional District and beyond.

Morrie's outstanding work in periodicals has been recognized by the public on numerous occasions, as have his published children's books, whose titles include *The Illustrated Biography of Martin Luther King, Jr.* He was honored in 2000 by the Cartoonist Society with their Sparky Award, has been introduced into the California Public Education Hall of Fame and has also been recognized by Children's Fairyland in Oakland; he is also the subject of a film called *Keeping the Faith with Morrie*.

On May 31, 2006, the friends, family and colleagues of Morrie Turner will come together to celebrate the career and immeasurable contributions of Morrie Turner to our community. On this very special day, I join all of them in thanking and saluting Morrie for his invaluable service to our community, and for the profoundly positive impact his work has had on countless lives here in California's 9th U.S. Congressional District, across our country and throughout the world.

ENCOURAGING COMPREHENSIVE
INVESTIGATION INTO THE
HEALTH EFFECTS OF AGENT OR-
ANGE EXPOSURE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4259. This important legislation would create the Veterans' Right to Know Commission, an investigative body comprised of distinguished veterans of the United States Armed Forces and honorable citizens of our great Nation. The Commission would be delegated the task of comprehensively investigating the usage of chemical and biological agents employed by the U.S. military during

wartime and their effect on the men and women of our Armed Services. I am a co-sponsor of this bill because I believe we require comprehensive knowledge regarding the health effects of various chemical and biological agents carried out under Project 112/SHAD, so that we can more fully understand what exposure to them means for our veterans.

The consequences of exposure to chemical and biological agents like Vx nerve gas, Sarin Nerve Gas and E. coli have long been debated by those in the scientific community. We already know that long-term exposure to Agent Orange, an herbicide used for 10 years during the Vietnam War to defoliate and destroy crops, increases the risk of cancer, and the Air Force and the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs now officially recognize that exposure to this chemical plays a role in the formation of diabetes. However, some 50 years following initial exposure, the specific health effects other chemical and biological agents have on the human body are not fully understood. It is imperative to determine whether exposure to those agents, tested on unknowing military personnel by the Department of Defense between 1962 and 1974, correlate with life threatening diseases. The American people deserve answers and this Commission will help provide those answers.

Thousands of brave veterans of foreign wars reside in my district, individuals who have put their very existence on the line to defend every right, ideal and freedom that this noble country exemplifies. We owe the passage of this legislation to these men and women and to all those who have been exposed to Agent Orange and to other destructive chemicals. Just last year, Western New York native and veteran Nelson C. Hughes passed away from cancer after being exposed to Agent Orange in Vietnam. He was one of the Nation's leading advocates of Vietnam veterans suffering from Agent Orange exposure. I am troubled that in this time of prolific medical advances we are still unable to understand how some chemicals used by our own government affect the human body. Mr. Speaker, I call on Congress to honor Mr. Hughes and all U.S. veterans by passing this bill. We have a duty to make every conceivable effort in the fight to understand and to treat their ailments, many of which may be directly or indirectly related to chemical exposure our government facilitated.

REGARDING THE 2006 LAUREATES
OF THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE'S
AWARDS PROGRAM

HON. CHAKA FATAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. FATAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate, on behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Nation, the 2006 Laureates of The Franklin Institute Awards Program. Ten brilliant individuals will be honored on April 27, 2006 in the Benjamin Franklin National Memorial at The Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, for their outstanding achievements in science, technology, business, and philanthropy. Through the outstanding leadership of The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia's

great science museum, a 182-year tradition of recognizing brilliant achievement and promoting the pursuit of science and technology for the public good continues to inspire a passion for learning in millions of people each year.

The Franklin Institute Awards Program—considered by many as the American version of the Nobel Prize—is one of the oldest and most renowned science and technology awards programs in the world. The program's distinguished history dates back to 1824, when the Institute was founded by a group of leading Philadelphians to train artisans and mechanics. Philadelphia, then the largest city in the United States, was the Nation's innovation and manufacturing center. In 1824, the Institute arranged the first of what became a series of regular exhibitions of manufactured goods and inventions.

With these exhibitions came the presentation of awards—first certificates and later endowed medals—for scientific and technical achievement. Recipients are selected by the Institute's Committee on Science and the Arts, which was founded as the Committee on Inventions with the beginning of the program. Fields recognized today include Chemistry, Computer and Cognitive Science, Earth and Environmental Science, Engineering, Life Science and Physics. Through a rigorous and unique case-prosecution process, the Committee evaluates the work of nominated individuals whose uncommon insight, skill or creativity has influenced future research or applications to benefit the public.

The newest awards, the Bower Award for Business Leadership and the Bower Award and Prize for Achievement in Science, were made possible by a \$7.5 million bequest in 1988 from Henry Bower, a Philadelphia chemical manufacturer. The Bower Science Award carries a cash prize of \$250,000, one of the richest science prizes in America.

The list of Franklin Institute Laureates reads like a canon of 19th, 20th and 21st century scientific achievement. The honor roll includes Alexander Graham Bell, Marie Curie, Rudolph Diesel, Thomas Edison, Niels Bohr, Max Planck, Albert Einstein and, more recently Stephen Hawking, David Packard, Roy Vagelos, Jane Goodall, Herb Kelleher, and Gordon Moore—to name a few. To date, 105 Franklin Institute Laureates have also been honored with 107 Nobel Prizes.

I invite Congress and all citizens of these United States to join me in congratulating the newest names to be added to this roll call of genius:

The winner of the 2006 Benjamin Franklin Medal in Chemistry, Samuel J. Danishefsky, of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Columbia University, for his achievements in the art and science of synthetic organic chemistry, particularly for the development of strategies and methods for the preparation of complex natural products and related compounds, including oligosaccharide immunoconjugate vaccines, and their emerging applications in the field of cancer chemotherapy.

The winner of the 2006 Benjamin Franklin Medal in Computer & Cognitive Science, Donald A. Norman, of Northwestern University and Nielsen Norman Group, for his development of the field of user-centered design, which through the use of conceptual models, feedback, affordances, and constraints leads to the creation of interactive technologies which are easily employed by humans.

The winners of the 2006 Benjamin Franklin Medal in Earth & Environmental Science, Luna B. Leopold, of the University of California and M. Gordon Wolman, of The Johns Hopkins University, for advancing our understanding of how natural and human activities sculpt landscapes and influence landscape evolution. They developed the first comprehensive explanation of why rivers have different morphologies and how floodplains develop. Their contributions form the basis of process geomorphology, modern water resource management, and environmental assessment.

I regret to inform the Members that Dr. Leopold passed away in February. We express our sympathy to his family and join them in honoring his legacy.

Please also join me in honoring: The winner of the 2006 Benjamin Franklin Medal in Life Science, Fernando Nottebohm, of The Rockefeller University, for his discovery of neuronal replacement in the adult vertebrate brain, and the elaboration of the mechanism and choreography of this phenomenon; and also for showing that neuronal stem cells are the responsible agents, thereby generating a completely new approach to the quest for cures for brain injury and degenerative disease.

The winner of the 2006 Benjamin Franklin Medal in Civil Engineering, Ray W. Clough, of the University of California, Berkeley, for revolutionizing engineering and scientific computation, and engineering design methods, through his contributions to the formulation and development of the finite element analysis method, and for his innovative leadership in establishing the field of earthquake engineering.

The winners of the 2006 Benjamin Franklin Medal in Physics, Giacinto Scoles, of Princeton University and Peter Toennies, of the Max Planck Institute, for the development of techniques to study molecules embedded in superfluid helium nanodroplets by high-resolution spectroscopy. These techniques allowed for the investigation of reactive and fragile molecules that could not be examined in other ways, and also enabled them to study superfluid helium with unprecedented precision, yielding insights into superfluidity at the nanoscale level.

Finally, we congratulate: The winner of the 2006 Bower Award and Prize for Scientific Achievement, Narain G. Hingorani, for the conceptualization and pioneering advancement of the Flexible Alternating Current Transmission System (FACTS) and Custom Power in electric power systems, and for outstanding technical contributions in High Voltage Direct Current Technology, which have enhanced the quality and security of the electric power system.

And, the Winner of the 2006 Bower Award for Business Leadership, Ted Turner, for his visionary leadership in the worlds of business and media, as well as his philanthropic commitment to the health of our planet and the well being of its people.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to honor these trailblazers. Their collective body of work has changed the course of modern progress and greatly improved the human condition. This year, as our Nation celebrates the 300th anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin and his legacy of industry, learning, patriotism and liberty, it is very fitting—in the spirit of Dr. Franklin—that we recognize the achievements of these individuals.

HONORING ASIAN PACIFIC
AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to recognize the proud past Asian Pacific Americans have woven into our history and the important contributions they offer our society today. I have the great honor of representing an incredibly diverse 12th Congressional district of California, where I am proud to say, we have the largest population of Filipinos outside the Philippines and one of the largest populations of Asian Pacific Americans in the entire United States.

We choose to recognize Asian Pacific Americans (APA) in May because of two anniversaries this month: the arrival in the United States of the first Japanese immigrants in 1843 and the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869. Both are landmark events that contributed greatly to the formation of our country and prosperity.

The APA Community is a modern example of the American dream. Arriving as immigrants, and overcoming adversity, years of discrimination and at times shocking treatment at the hands of government and citizens alike, they have become one of the most successful and educated minority populations. Their unique contribution to areas such as business, science, technology, art and entertainment are unrivaled.

With 15 million residents, they are also the fastest growing population in our country and are estimated to reach 33 million by 2050. This hard working community is responsible for much of the success and development of our great nation. In this age of immigration debate, the APA community reminds us that we are ourselves a country of immigrants and the APA community represents what is best about America with their dedication and loyalty to fighting for freedom. As we remember how they have helped to enhance the quality of our communities and country, we should also ask how we could help to fight the challenges they face.

Although APA's have a high percentage of college graduates for a minority population, at 50 percent, they still face growing poverty issues. Although the Asian Pacific American community has been very successful many still face unfair problems connected with its status as a minority. When budget cuts to education and health care are made, the Asian American community suffers greatly.

Fourteen percent of the APA community has incomes at or below the poverty line. With gas prices and college tuitions rising, the last five years has seen 28,000 Asian Americans fall into poverty. 1.1 million small businesses are owned by APAs and have been hurt by reductions in funding for small businesses.

312,000 Asian Pacific Americans are veterans. Having defended our country, they deserve benefits such as health care, which have been cut for the fourth year in a row. Last year, in the 108th session of Congress, I cosponsored legislation that gave Filipino American veterans who were a legal alien or citizen, the same health and pension benefits that our other veterans receive. I will continue to fight for equal treatment in the future.

Mr. Speaker, as we congratulate Asian Pacific Americans for their accomplishments, we also recognize their struggles. Asian Pacific Americans contribute so much to our nation and we must ensure that this community is treated with the great respect it richly deserves. I urge all my colleagues to join me in honoring Asian Pacific Americans.

HONORING CAPTAIN CURTIS A.
SPRINGER, UNITED STATES
COAST GUARD

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Curtis A. Springer, Commander of Coast Guard Sector Baltimore, Maryland, since June 2003. As Commander, Captain Springer has worn many important hats. He is Captain of the Port for the Port of Baltimore, Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection, Federal On-Scene Coordinator, Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator, and Federal Maritime Security Coordinator for all Coast Guard operational missions performed in the Upper Chesapeake Bay and Washington, DC.

Despite this overwhelming portfolio of responsibilities, Captain Springer has served the citizens of Maryland and this Nation quietly, honorably, and exceptionally. Embodying all that the United States Coast Guard is, Captain Springer has accepted his many roles and worked with his team regardless of the resources provided. This is a man who has earned respect the old fashioned way, through hard work and a sense of duty.

Captain Springer and I have been through much together: from dealing with the impact of the storm surge to Hurricane Isabel, to the water taxi disaster in Baltimore's Inner Harbor to homeland security issues facing the Port of Baltimore. Through it all, Captain Springer has always ensured that the task at hand be completed at highest of standards.

Captain Springer is a unique leader with an innate sense of what needs to be done. As Captain of the Port, he is required to keep trouble away from our waterways before it arrives. It is critical to balance the economic realities of commerce and the impact on the private sector with the safety of the port. He has kept these often competing interests in delicate balance. Beyond his military and maritime duties, Captain Springer understands Baltimore is a working port. His wise decisions have positively affected the State of Maryland and the people who do business at the port.

Captain Springer received his commission from Officer Candidate School in 1982 after graduating from Methodist College in Fayetteville, North Carolina, where in 1980 he received a bachelors of arts degree in education. He received a master of public administration from Michigan State University and a master of business administration from the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Throughout his Coast Guard career, Captain Springer's assignments have included staff officer at Reserve Training Programs Division Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, DC; Deck Watch Officer and Operations Officer aboard the Coast Guard Cutter *Mallow* in Honolulu, HI; Operations Officer aboard the Coast

Guard Cutter *Citrus* in Coos Bay, OR; Chief of the Maritime Law Enforcement School at the Coast Guard's Training Center in Petaluma, CA; Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Cutter *Anacapa* in Petersburg, Alaska; Program Reviewer in the Programs Division of the Office of the Chief of Staff, Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, DC; Commander of Coast Guard Group Ohio Valley in Louisville, Kentucky; and Executive Assistant to the Atlantic Area Commander in Portsmouth, VA. His most recent assignment was as Deputy Chief, Office of Programs and Chief, Programs Review Division in the Office of the Chief of Staff at Coast Guard Headquarters.

Captain Springer's military decorations include three Coast Guard Meritorious Service Medals, two Coast Guard Commendation Medals, two Coast Guard Achievement Medals, and a Commandant's Letter of Commendation.

Beyond it all, I have always been struck by Captain Springer's down-to-earth "just the facts" approach. He is simply a good guy who wants to get it right; and I, for one, am grateful for that.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me in thanking Captain Curtis A. Springer for all he has accomplished in Sector Baltimore, and to wish him the best of luck in his next assignment.

REMEMBRANCE OF JEFFREY JARNELL JOHNSON, JR.: A LIFE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT, CARING AND PROMISE

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Jeffrey Johnson was a strong and gifted young man. I recognized it, and my staff recognized it, when he served as a high school intern in my Congressional office. His teachers also recognized his abilities, as did his coaches, and even college administrators at institutions he never attended. He was a bright and shining young man with talent, direction and purpose, and he had unlimited potential.

When Jeffrey put his mind to something, and focused his energy on it, he would overcome any obstacle to achieve it. Today, Thursday, May 25th, Jeffrey would have graduated Summa Cum Laude, and received the Miami-Dade County School Superintendent's Diploma of Distinction, from Carol City Sr. High School. He was imbued with intelligence, as evidenced by his grade point average, which landed him a Bright Futures full academic scholarship to St. Thomas University in Miami, where he looked forward to studying law.

I truly believe that Jeffrey would have become a leader in our community and perhaps even in our country, a person of consequence, a role model for others, and a force in the world for good.

Sadly, however, this strong, gifted, 17-year-old young man was tragically and senselessly killed in a shooting early Sunday, May 21, 2006. Our entire Dade County community is consumed in grief and sorrow because of his passing. His funeral services will be held Saturday, May 27th, at the New Birth Baptist

Church Cathedral of Faith in Miami, Florida. The heart of every caring person aches because of the burden that now must be borne by his father, Jeffrey Sr., his mother, Brenda, and his beloved sister, Jarrika. The magnitude of their loss is truly beyond understanding.

I had the distinct honor and special privilege to have this young man serve as an intern in my office, where he epitomized standards of excellence and personal warmth in responding to the needs and concerns of my constituents. Many of them recall Jeffrey as the young intern who greeted them with utmost respect and empathy. He easily stood as a model student, defined by his quiet but dignified demeanor. His exemplary conduct and his study ethic garnered him the unique distinction that served as an example to all students seeking to prepare themselves as the leaders of tomorrow through the power of the educated mind and the sensitivity of a caring heart.

Jeffrey was a very special young man, and we are fortunate to have known him and are grateful for the gifts he left with us. Every person of goodwill is moved by his extraordinary life and the tragedy of his premature passing. I pray that his family will somehow be comforted by the fact that Jeffrey graced our lives, that he touched the lives of so many people during his all-too-brief time on this earth, and that we will never forget him.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5427), making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, on Rollcall 198, I inadvertently voted against the amendment offered by my colleague Rep. ROSA DELAURO to restore \$25 million to the Department of Energy's State Energy Program. I had intended to vote yes because the State Energy Program is effective and important program that provides vital funds to 55 State Energy Offices around the country.

While energy prices continue to escalate, State Energy Offices are one of the few on the ground resources to increase energy efficiency for consumers, educate the public on ways of reducing energy use, and monitor the price and supply situation.

That's why I was puzzled and disappointed that the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee effectively terminated the State Energy Program, SEP, in its FY07 bill.

In many of the States, the impact will be devastating. For States without other dedicated sources of revenue, State energy services will be terminated. Many legislatures have already adjourned for the year and will not have an opportunity to attempt to step into the breach. Destroying the State Energy Offices at the very time that energy costs are hovering at record highs, many oil producing nations are unstable, and supplies are tight makes no sense.

It was just last year that this body voted to authorize \$100 million for the SEP in the Energy Policy Act of 2005. In his FY07 budget request, the President asked for \$49.5 million for the SEP, restoring a 20 percent cut from last year. So I find it troubling that the Energy and Water Development Subcommittee voted in contradiction both to the Administration's proposal and the recently adopted energy policy of Congress.

SEP has a proven record of reducing energy consumption for residential consumers, as well as schools, hospitals, small businesses and agriculture, and has funded a variety of important programs in Colorado.

Restoration of SEP funding will have an immediate effect on reducing demand for energy, allowing us to leverage specific investments in a variety of energy efficiency projects in all types of buildings. In addition, SEP funding will permit us to expand aggressive public information efforts, convincing consumers and businesses alike to increase their use of energy efficient products, add insulation to their homes, utilize hybrid or ethanol-fueled vehicles, etc. Studies have shown that for every Federal dollar invested in this program, over \$7 is saved in direct energy costs.

I am pleased that the DeLauro amendment passed the House, and I regret that the final vote tally does not reflect my strong support for the State Energy Program.

TRIBUTE TO DORETHA ADAMS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful educator who has devoted her career to giving our young children a literal head start in life. Mrs. Doretha Adams is retiring after more than 35 years of teaching, and I join with those celebrating her extraordinary career.

Mrs. Adams knew when she attended college in Columbia, SC. that children were going to be an important part of her future. She graduated from Allen University in 1965 with a bachelor of science degree majoring in science and minoring in physical education. She also earned a therapeutic recreation degree from Benedict College along with a child development certification. She continued her education at the University of Georgia and South Carolina State University where she completed a master's degree in early childhood education.

Mrs. Adams's career in education began in 1965 at Central High School in Amherst, VA, where she taught science and physical education. She also found time to coach the Girls Varsity basketball team for 3 years.

However in 1969, she returned to Columbia, SC, and served as a substitute teacher in Richland School District One. As a parent, Mrs. Adams found a new career when she enrolled her first child at Ridgewood Headstart Center in 1972 and became a volunteer and the PTA president. Her enthusiasm for the Headstart program was evident, and the following year she was offered a position as a Headstart teacher with the Midland Community Action Agency, which later became the Midland Human Resource Development Commission. There she flourished in the classroom

as she helped prepare young children for the rigors of school and helped mold their characters.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Adams has had a passion for writing. She is well known for her love of poems, many of which have been published. She also shares her poems with family and friends for funerals, class reunions, and family reunions. Currently she is working on a book about her mother's life, which she hopes to have published.

This love of writing led Mrs. Adams to explore another area of teaching and in 1987 she took over the Richland School District One Writing Lab at Eau Claire High School. For 5 years, she enjoyed sharing her love of writing with students; however, the tug of young children soon pulled her back to her roots in the Headstart program.

In 1992, Mrs. Adams became the center coordinator/teacher at the Lexington Headstart Center. She remained in that capacity until earlier this month when she officially retired after an amazing career in education.

Throughout her career, Doretha Adams has enjoyed the support of her family, husband George N. Adams and their three children. Today she has four grandsons and a great grandson.

She has also been guided through life by her faith. Mrs. Adams has been a member of First Nazareth Baptist Church for more than 50 years and serves on the Senior Missionary Society. She is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and the Ladies Auxiliary Club at the VFW Post 4262.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mrs. Doretha Adams for her dedication to and love for education. She has been a wonderful role model and good influence on countless young lives, and I offer her best wishes and God speed upon her retirement.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE TOWN OF MONMOUTH BEACH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 100th anniversary of the founding of the town of Monmouth Beach.

Monmouth Beach is a town in my district that lies between the Atlantic Ocean and the Shrewsbury River. Monmouth Beach was originally part of Shrewsbury Township, which was formed in October 1693. The borough became part of Ocean Township in 1849. While the town remains mostly residential, it has a tourism industry that dates back as early as 1842.

One of the oldest and most unique buildings in town, the Church of Precious Blood, is a unique Monmouth Beach landmark. This 110-year-old structure was built by local ship-builders to resemble an upside-down ship.

The town once included the flourishing Galilee fishing community. Fishermen in the community sold most of their catches to merchants at New York City's historic Fulton Fish Market. At one time, this community and the surrounding area housed the largest pound boat fishing industry along the U.S. coast.

This beautiful shore community was incorporated on March 9, 1906, when it seceded from Ocean Township. Monmouth Beach is a small town, encompassing only one square mile, but it offers beautiful white sand beaches and friendly year round residents as part of its charm. The town's beaches offer some of the best fishing opportunities in the country.

Monmouth Beach began its centennial celebration on May 19, 2006 and residents will continue to celebrate this special event throughout the year. The celebration includes an exhibit of historical artifacts from the town of Monmouth Beach and original artwork from the many talented artists who reside in Monmouth Beach. On May 21, 2006, the Monmouth Beach Police Department also celebrated its 100th birthday. I commend this fine institution for its service to the community of Monmouth Beach.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the citizens of Monmouth Beach and join with them in celebrating the centennial. Therefore, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the founding of Monmouth Beach.

HONORING CAPTAIN BRIAN D. KELLY

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Captain Brian D. Kelly, chief of the Office of Command and Control in the Operations Directorate at U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters. Over the years, Captain Kelly has served his country to the best of his ability and deserves recognition for his leadership.

Captain Kelly started his career with a solid foundation. He attended two fine institutions, which provided him with the proper education, training, and skills he would later need to succeed in the United States Coast Guard. With a B.S. in government, he graduated in 1982 from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Several years later, he attended the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School where he earned an M.S. in management. The formal training he received certainly played an integral role in Captain Kelly's success.

In his current role in the Office of Command and Control, Captain Kelly was charged with the task of running the Coast Guard's Command Center, as well as the National Response Center. His contributions to this department have been exceptional. Everyday he works with his team to protect and serve the citizens of the United States.

The post 9-11 world we live in has changed the way our servicemen and women work to protect America. A top priority has been to ensure our Coast Guard has the proper training they need to protect this great Nation. In 2002-2003 Captain Kelly served as a Federal Executive Fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Through this program, Captain Kelly worked on a number of initiatives which included Iraqi post-conflict reconstruction; national security simulation exercises; Smart Border North; and the CSIS Military Strategy. The knowledge he gained through these programs greatly impacted the way he executed future directives.

The Coast Guard is an extremely well run and managed Federal agency. These are the people who ensure our ports and waterways are secure. They also spearhead any water emergency efforts. In addition, the Coast Guard was instrumental in the Katrina relief effort; lives were saved because of their professionalism, perseverance and courage. It is such a great agency because of leaders like CPT Brian D. Kelly.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor CPT Brian D. Kelly. He is a remarkable leader and has served his country well. I look forward to working with him in the future. Welcome to Sector Baltimore, Captain.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL M. ADLER, PRESIDENT OF THE GREATER MIAMI JEWISH FEDERATION

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Michael M. Adler, who today concludes his two-year term as President of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, marking 30 years of dedicated service to the Federation and the community.

Michael Adler's connection to Miami is strong, and for him, community involvement is a family affair. He has the distinction of being Federation's only second-generation president, following in the footsteps of his father, the late Samuel I. Adler, who held the position from 1984 to 1986. For two years prior to being elected President of Federation, Michael served as the General Campaign Chair for the Federation/United Jewish Appeal Campaign, which raises more than \$22 million annually for much-needed services in Miami, Israel and in almost 60 countries around the world.

Michael has also served on and chaired numerous committees as part of his service to Federation. Along with his wife, Judy, he was a founding member of the Young Adults Division, chairing it from 1975 to 1977, and was later Chairman of the National Young Leadership Cabinet. In addition to his Federation activities, he has also served as President of Temple Emanu-el on Miami Beach from 1995 to 1998. Over the years Michael has received many awards and honors for his involvement, including the UJA's Herbert H. Lehman Award for Distinguished Service, and the Federation's prestigious Stanley C. Myers Presidents' Leadership Award.

His successes extend far beyond his activities in the Jewish community. He is Chairman and CEO of the Adler Group, one of South Florida's largest and most successful real estate companies, and he has been involved with several successful business ventures in Israel, working closely with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon when Sharon served as Israel's Housing Minister, to oversee the construction of new homes for immigrant families.

Michael is also active in the political community, founding NACPAC, a local pro-Israel action committee. He now serves as Chair of the Jewish Democratic Council's Political Action Committee, and is very active in the Democratic Party.

Our entire community owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to Michael Adler for all that

he has contributed to so many people over his years of caring and service. I know I speak for all my colleagues in extending to him a heartfelt "thank you" and our best wishes to Michael, his wife, Judy, and their children Matthew, David and Rachel.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM "BILL" ALLEN

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to William "Bill" Allen. Bill is leaving the House of Representatives after nearly 4 years of distinguished service to this institution as an attorney with the Office of House Employment Counsel. As an Associate Counsel in the Office of House Employment Counsel, Bill has provided legal advice and counsel on employment issues to at least 124 current Members of Congress, 18 House Committees, the House Officers, and the United States Capitol Police Board. Bill's clients can attest to his tremendous intelligence, legal prowess, creativity, and wit. In addition to his many other contributions, in November 2005, Bill presented oral arguments on the scope of the Speech or Debate Clause before a rare en banc panel of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

A Connecticut native and son of Frederick E. Allen and the late Evelyn M. Allen, Bill was raised in Ridgefield, Connecticut. Following his junior year of high school, Bill spent a week as part of a fellowship program sponsored by the Connecticut Congressional delegation. As a true New Englander, Bill grew to be a diehard Boston Red Sox fan and his faith was finally rewarded in October 2004 when the Red Sox won their first World Series in 86 years.

A rare "Triple Hoo", Bill earned his Bachelor of Science, Masters in Business Administration, and Juris Doctor from the University of Virginia. While at the University of Virginia, Bill represented the Engineering School, the Darden School, and the Law School on the University's renowned student-run Honor Committee. Bill also served as an officer in the Raven Society and the Virginia Alpha Chapter of Tau Beta Pi, the national engineering honor society.

Bill is returning to private practice as a Senior Counsel at the law firm of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, L.L.P., where he worked from 1996 to 2002 on various class actions involving Title VII and the Fair Labor Standards Act. In private practice, Bill intends to resume his pro bono activity in the field of immigration law. While at the firm, Bill averaged over 100 hours of pro bono work per year and, in 2001, was named Akin Gump's Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year for the firm's D.C. office. Bill's pro bono representations included obtaining political asylum for a Sudanese national who had been repeatedly kidnapped and tortured by the Sudanese government and obtaining United States citizenship for an Ethiopian national.

The U.S. House of Representatives would like to express its deepest gratitude to Bill Allen for his invaluable service to this institution. Bill has worked tirelessly to provide House Employing offices with excellent legal

advice and support. We wish Bill tremendous success in all of his future endeavors.

IN SUPPORT OF THE STEM CELL RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of expanding critical stem cell research and to urge the Senate to take action on the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act (S. 471).

One year ago, on May 24, 2005, the House of Representatives passed the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act (H.R. 810) by a vote of 238-194. I voted for this legislation because it increases funding for stem cell research, offering hope and the possibility of a cure for millions of Americans suffering from chronic and terminal illness. H.R. 810 also provides for the implementation of ethical guidelines to govern this research.

H.R. 810 would help to make significant advances toward finding a cure for currently incurable diseases such as juvenile diabetes, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and spinal cord injuries. Furthermore, expanding this research would increase our understanding of the abnormal cell growth that occurs in cancer and birth defects, which would help create a safer and more efficient way of developing effective drugs.

For millions of individuals and their families, stem cell research provides hope for a life without the stress and suffering that accompany these serious health-related conditions. Expanding funding for this science is an effective way to cultivate the remarkable potential of a technology which could increase our understanding of causes, improve the effectiveness of treatments, and advance our ability to find cures for a wide range of debilitating diseases and other conditions.

Unfortunately, despite widespread, bipartisan support for this legislation, including over 200 patient groups, universities, scientific societies, more than 75 national and local newspapers, and 80 Nobel Laureates, the Senate has yet to bring it to the Floor for a vote. It is time for the Senate to act to expand stem cell research.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the importance of continuing efforts to improve the quality of life for all Americans by implementing legislation to expand stem cell research.

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORY OF THE BLACK HERITAGE STAMP SERIES AND HONORING CLARENCE IRVING

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, during the week of the World Philatelic Exhibition being held at the Washington Convention Center, to recognize the history of the Black Heritage Stamp Series and to honor

my former constituent, Chairman and Founder of the Black American Heritage Foundation, Mr. Clarence Irving.

In 1976, Mr. Irving conceived the idea of commemorating Black American Women on U.S. Postage Stamps. His proposal was that either of two women, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune or Mary Church Terrell be so commemorated. This proposal was presented to the Honorable Joseph P. Addabbo who represented my district at the time and the initiative became part of the activities surrounding the bicentennial celebration of the United States.

Two years later, the U.S. Postal Service created a completely new series commemorating Black Americans, with Harriet Tubman chosen as the first historical figure to start the "Black Heritage USA Series". Each year another stamp appears in this commemorative series honoring a prominent African American figure.

Today, at 82, Clarence Irving still heads the Black American Heritage Foundation, organizing or supporting African American art initiatives throughout the country. I am grateful for his determination in realizing his vision and acknowledge him as the "Father of the Black Heritage Stamp Series".

IN APPRECIATION OF MS. AMY WOOLF

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today in appreciation of an outstanding leader in the education field. I am pleased to acknowledge the dedication of Ms. Amy Woolf, an educator at Edgewood High School in Harford County.

Ms. Woolf attended SUNY Geneseo where she earned her degree in Biology and Secondary Education Certification in Biology and General Science. She went on to further her education at Towson University earning a Master's Degree in Health in 1998 and an Administrative Certificate in 2003.

She has been very active in Edgewood High School. She is the advisor to the Honor Society; a tennis coach; a member of the School Improvement Team; a member of both the Honors and Eligibility Committees; a student teacher supervisor; a presenter at staff developments; and a member of the Faculty Advisory Council.

Ms. Woolf wears many hats while teaching at Edgewood High School. She plays a vital role in the education her students receive by her involvement in the General Curriculum Committee, the Forensic Science Curriculum and the Curriculum Committee for Math-Science Magnet. She is also a Biology Curriculum writer.

James Garfield said, "Next in importance to freedom and justice is popular education, without which neither freedom nor justice can be permanently maintained." I believe that education is the key to success in life. We need teachers who love their jobs and encourage their students to thrive in a competitive environment. Ms. Woolf is one of those teachers.

The best thing teachers can do is give their students something to think about outside of

the classroom, and that doesn't mean homework. A successful teacher will place a thought in the minds of their students and after a while the student will be able to pull something great out of that thought. Ms. Woolf achieves this greatness with her students. Her involvement in the school is proof of how much she cares about the quality of education the Edgewood High School students receive. She is a great leader in her field and deserves acknowledgement of her achievements.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me today in thanking Ms. Amy Woolf for providing her students, and the future of our Nation with the best possible gift she can, education.

IN HONOR OF NELSON AND BORDEN
MCGAHEE—30 YEARS OF
MARRIAGE AND SERVICE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a couple from my district, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson McGahee of Columbus, Georgia, who on May 15th of this year celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary.

Nelson served his country in the United States Army before beginning a career as a civil servant at Fort Benning in Columbus. He has continued to serve his community as an active member of the Columbus Jaycees and the Columbus Airport Authority.

His wife, Borden Black McGahee, has made her career in broadcast journalism. She grew up as a self-professed "Army brat," and became an avid music lover at the tender age of 3 years old while attending the opera with her mother, a season ticket holder. This love of music brought her to the radio, where she became the news director of an Alabama radio station—a unique position at the time for a woman in Alabama. Upon moving to Columbus, she soon moved to television, where she served as the news director for all three of the affiliate news stations in the city. She left journalism to work in public relations for the Muscogee County School District and currently does freelance writing for the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer and also for Columbus and the Valley Magazine.

Throughout their three decades together, the McGahees have enjoyed Nelson's passion for all things railroad. Nelson's great-grandfather was a railroad employee, which sparked in Nelson a lifelong interest in trains. Their Columbus home is filled with railroad memorabilia from a variety of historic rail lines.

In tribute to this shared interest, the couple has chosen to spend their 30th anniversary on a train ride in a car filled with history. They secured a ride from Jacksonville, Florida to Washington, D.C. aboard a 1930 Pullman car pulled by Amtrak. In addition to its age, this car has had its share of famous passengers. Former presidents Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush, and Bill Clinton have all taken trips in this car. Past presidential candidates, Senators JOHN KERRY and John Edwards, and singer Aretha Franklin, have also traveled on this car. Because of its illustrious passengers, the car has been fitted with Secret Service-approved armor plating and bullet-proof windows, which lie hidden behind the tastefully restored antique features.

Five friends have joined the McGahees on this voyage, which will include a stop at "Old Ebbitt Grill," a legendary restaurant in the heart of Washington, D.C. This restaurant has served nearly every major American politician throughout its 150-year history.

Nelson and Borden McGahee are wonderful people who have shared a wonderful marriage. Their love for each other is inspirational, and surely their next 30 years will be as passionate as the first. This Southwest Georgia couple has chosen a distinctively American way to celebrate their anniversary and we wish them nothing but happiness as they proceed full-steam ahead into their future.

THE SIXTH DISTRICT'S AMERICAN
IDOL

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, in the biggest electoral debate since the Bush-Gore presidential election in Florida in 2000, people are still talking about the selection of this year's American Idol from the television program with the same name. With no disrespect intended toward this year's winner, Taylor Hicks, most people think this year's American Idol should have been Chris Daughtry of McLeansville, NC.

I will admit, Mr. Speaker, that I am extremely biased in this debate because Chris Daughtry is a resident of the Sixth District of North Carolina. And it would have been the second time that a town in the Sixth District produced the winning Idol, since previous winner, Fantasia, hailed from High Point, NC. That being said, most online polls, fan blogs, numerous web sites, and general talk about town all hailed Chris Daughtry as the next American Idol.

Most people know that my musical tastes run more towards traditional bluegrass music, so I am not a good judge of what is hot in the rock and pop music scenes. But I do know politics, and from everything I could learn, Chris Daughtry appeared to be the fan favorite. While I will not call for Congress to investigate this Idol election process, those of us who reside in the Sixth District of North Carolina will always be convinced that our guy really won—sort of like fans of Al Gore in 2000.

Oh well, we are proud to say that we are the home of the real American Idol, Chris Daughtry of McLeansville, NC.

IN RECOGNITION OF NORMAN
BERMES' OUTSTANDING SERVICE
TO THE EVACUEES OF HURRI-
CANE KATRINA

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Norman Bermes and his wife Frances. Mr. Bermes immediately mobilized private resources in East Fort Worth to respond to the desperate needs of the evacuees who arrived in the city, escaping the ravages

of Hurricane Katrina when it impacted the Gulf Coast on August 29, 2005.

As the first evacuees began to enter the city, utilizing whatever means they could access and utilizing what limited resources they could carry, Mr. Bermes read the reports and newscasts and was not only early to understand the plight these individuals faced, but was quick to turn a compassionate concern into action.

With the assistance of his wife, Frances, and other friends and associates from East Fort Worth, Mr. Bermes quickly organized a community effort to coordinate volunteers, space and donations to provide for the deep needs of the visitors arriving in the city in a steady stream from the Gulf Coast.

By working through area churches and his network in the East Fort Worth Business Association, Mr. Bermes addressed the immediate need for food, clothing and housing for the evacuees.

His efforts secured access to several unoccupied individual apartments in the Woodhaven community. Regular communication through email, the Greater Meadowbrook News and fliers distributed through the community assisted in providing toiletries, paper, canned goods, clothing and kitchen necessities to allow the evacuees to reestablish daily lives after arriving, frequently, with only the clothes on their backs.

Mr. Bermes quickly recognized that beyond this need the evacuees would quickly need employment and other long-term solutions to enable them to regain their self-sufficiency. Continued efforts on his part and with volunteers established a Jobs Resource Center in one of the apartment units, equipped with internet access for email and online searches. Additionally, they were able to provide resume creation assistance, counseling for interview skills and a jobs posting effort to match local employers with a new and anxious labor pool.

Practical creativity allowed Mr. Bermes and his volunteer assistance to press through the systemic challenges and surprises, including warehousing and distributing a truckload of donated mattresses and the thousands of other donations where they could be utilized by those in need.

By Thanksgiving, when they held the Cajun Thanksgiving Party for all of the evacuees, Mr. Bermes had mobilized resources and individuals to provide for over 50 families and 140 individuals. In doing so he touched engendered a sense of community among the newest residents of East Fort Worth and showed the warmth and compassion of North Texas.

I am honored to represent Mr. Bermes and the family and friends who know him and his compassion that made such a difference in providing hope, dignity and encouragement in the aftermath of such a tragedy on a scale our country has never before experienced.

IN APPRECIATION OF MS. KERRIE
BAUER

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today in appreciation of a fine educator from Joppatowne High School. Mathematics Department Chair, Kerrie Bauer is worthy of great recognition. She is an inspiration

to her students and her peers. Her continued faith in students has made a tremendous impact on a countless number of lives.

Ms. Bauer began the foundation of her higher education at Elizabethtown College. She later earned her Master's degree from McDaniel College and has since been certified as a cognitive tutor for the countywide algebra curriculum.

She is able to take a complex subject like mathematics and break it down into pieces so students have a better understanding of formulas. She encourages students through a positive learning environment. Ms. Bauer introduces students to creativity in the classroom; students learn the Quadratic formula to the tune of "Pop Goes the Weasel," and practice math problems through group activities.

Ms. Bauer has made it a point to actively participate in school activities. She is a co-advisor to the National Honor Society; a member of the school Improvement Team; the Mariner Varsity Softball Coach; a member of the school Advisory Committee; and she volunteers at various athletic events. In addition to these contributions, she also organized a students vs. faculty basketball game to raise funds for the Johns Hopkins Research Hospital for Kidney Research after sisters, and former Joppatowne students, Amanda and Abby Gilland, died within a year of each other from a rare kidney disease.

Her hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed. Ms. Bauer was named Teacher of the Month twice. She was nominated seven times to the list of "Who's Who Among High School Students," and she was voted as the school's "Most Spirited Teacher" for four years.

Ms. Bauer sets high expectations, but attainable goals for her students. She provides them with academic and social guidance. She is convinced all students can be successful in life if only someone believes in them. This is a woman with one goal in mind: to equip young people with the skills and knowledge they require to be productive, successful members of society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me in thanking Ms. Kerrie Bauer for providing her students with the support, confidence, courage and knowledge they need in today's society.

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, last year, the Intelligence Community made painful decisions about the architecture of our satellite programs. These were hard choices. We have worked carefully to mitigate the damage and retain the capability. The future depends on assuring that our decisions are implemented well. That requires a talented and motivated workforce—both military and civilian.

The legislation being introduced today requires the Air Force to study the impact of proposed personnel cuts on our space programs.

The bill's sponsors believe that the cuts mandated by the Quadrennial Defense Review could have an enormous impact on the space community, particularly the intellectual talent

that gives us the edge over our adversaries and that we have worked so hard to build up over the past decade.

Allowing the Air Force to gut its personnel—both Active Duty and contractor support—without the benefit of an impact statement could undercut the careful measures we took to preserve and protect the industrial base.

The Department of Defense comptroller has directed the Air Force to "aggressively reduce contractor support." This is a very dangerous path. Contractors have formed the core of our rebuilt space capability after we literally dropped billions of dollars of research and hardware into the ocean in the 1990s.

While active duty members often are forced to rotate out of the command due to the pressing needs of the service, the contractor community has provided much of the intellectual capacity, stability, and continuity to keep our programs on track.

Today, the Space and Missiles Command, located in El Segundo, California, in my Congressional district, has a record of which everyone is proud—45 successful launches, including 12 Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicles. We dare not put that record in jeopardy by releasing one-third of our brain trust.

This desire for continuity is also reflected in the Intelligence Committee's report accompanying the FY 2007 Authorization bill, which passed the full House last month. In it, our Committee wrote: "Simply put, complex space systems acquisition requires extraordinary specialized knowledge, skills, and dedicated effort over time."

For that very reason, Congress has a right—and a responsibility—to understand the impact of these cuts and be assured that our capability will not be further eroded in the face of pressing national security challenges.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

PALESTINIAN ANTI-TERRORISM ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2006

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, this week I made a very difficult decision in voting for H.R. 4681, the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act of 2006. I have been deeply moved by my constituents from both sides of the issue, including individuals with strong family ties to the Middle East. I want to take this opportunity to share my thoughts behind voting in support of the legislation.

In January 2006, Hamas, a designated terrorist organization that does not recognize the state of Israel and calls for an Islamized Palestinian state, won the legislative election to lead the PA government. Since then, the United States and the European Union have announced a series of measures designed to further isolate and pressure the Hamas-led Palestinian government until it recognizes Israel, renounces violence, and accepts previously signed Israeli-Palestinian peace agreements.

Specifically, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice recently announced that the United States has begun to suspend over \$400 mil-

lion in direct aid to Hamas, while redirecting about \$100 million from canceled projects to humanitarian assistance such as food and medicine distributed by non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The canceled aid includes: \$45 million in direct aid to the PA; \$130 million in infrastructure projects; \$20 million in private enterprise development and revitalization, financial markets reform, trade programs and information technology sector support; \$17 million in electoral, political party, local government and legislative support programs; \$13 million in civil society development; \$10 million in rule of law and judicial programs; \$7 million in technical assistance and vocational training; \$4 million in community policing, among others. Similarly, the EU Commission announced that it had halted payments to the Hamas government, freezing all direct aid to the PA and payment of public employees' salaries with EU funds through the World Bank, but not humanitarian aid through international and nongovernmental organizations. In the mean time, the Israeli government has cut off all ties with nearly all branches of the PA government, including its security. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert has declared that his government will avoid meetings with visiting representatives or diplomats from PA.

I am in support of certain financial sanctions on Hamas to ensure no U.S. government funding goes directly to support terrorism activities. On February 15, 2006, I voted in favor of, and the House passed, S. Con. Res. 76, which expressed the sense of Congress that no United States assistance should be provided directly to the PA if the majority party in control of the PA parliament maintains a position calling for the destruction of Israel. I believe it was a sensible resolution that called for an end of U.S. financial support of Hamas while allowing other forms of humanitarian aid to flow through NGOs to the Palestinian people.

The impact of cuts in aid is being felt by the PA. Omar Abdel-Razeq, Finance Minister of the PA, recently confirmed that the PA could not pay March and April salaries to about 140,000 government workers. These salaries support about one-third of the Palestinian population. These cuts in aid came on top of the fact that Gaza's economy is in dire straits, with average family income already below the U.N. poverty line. Economic conditions are also precipitously declining in the West Bank. Overall the PA shoulders a total debt of \$1.3 billion, including \$640 million to regional and local banks and making it virtually impossible for the PA to obtain new loans. Furthermore, Israel has decided to withhold \$50 million a month in customs and tax receipts since January, although it continues to pay Israeli companies about \$5.5 million a month from those receipts for the water and electricity used by the Palestinians. The Israeli government has also recently announced that it will buy drugs and medical equipments needed by Palestinian hospitals in Gaza out of the withheld funds.

Yet, despite the dire needs of Palestinians, Hamas has chosen to ignore reality in favor of its extremist commitment to terrorism.

On April 17 of this year, a suicide bomber struck in a Tel Aviv restaurant, killing nine Israelis and injured dozens. The suicide bombing was carried out by Islamic Jihad, an Iranian-backed extremist group that refuses to acknowledge the cease-fire followed by

Hamas. The Passover attack was a grotesque display of terrorism and violence, yet it was quickly defended by Hamas. Sami Abu Zuhri, the official spokesman for Hamas, stated at the time that the attack was "a natural result of the continued Israeli crimes" against Palestinians and that "our people are in a state of self-defense and they have every right to use all means to defend themselves." It became clear to me that, without regards to the pressing needs of the Palestinian people, Hamas was ready to ignore its own cease-fire policy in favor of extremist political rhetoric that further isolate and weaken the PA and endangers the humanitarian situation of the Palestinian people. It was a chilling reminder of Hamas' tendency to favor violence over peace and political posturing over progress, all at the expense of Palestinian people's welfare.

The Passover bombing and the Hamas response to the bombing was a turning point in my consideration and analysis of H.R. 4681, the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act of 2006. I believe that a stronger message must be sent by the United States to Hamas that we will not support a government that continues to embrace terrorism. H.R. 4681 is an appropriate vehicle to send that message. The bill intensifies the pressure placed on the Hamas-led PA by not only restricting direct U.S. aid to the PA (which has already been suspended by Secretary Rice), but also restricting U.S. assistance to NGOs working in the West Bank and Gaza, subject to exceptions based on humanitarian needs. It expresses the sense of Congress that PA-controlled territories should be deemed as terrorist sanctuaries; denies visas to any PA officials or affiliated persons; and restricts the travel of any PA representative to the UN outside of a 25-mile radius of the U.N. headquarters building in New York City. Finally, the bill directs the President to prohibit international financial institutions from directly assisting a Hamas-led PA, and prohibits any U.S. officer or employee from having any official contacts with members or official representatives of Hamas.

In examining H.R. 4681 leading up to the vote, the bill had raised several significant questions for me: Is additional financial and political isolation the most effective means to induce changes to Hamas policy towards Israel? Will such noose-tightening prompt the Palestinian people to insist that Hamas change its policy or will it inadvertently lead to humanitarian crisis and civil unrest in the West Bank and Gaza? Will political and financial sanctions firmly aimed at Hamas serve to strengthen the role of Mahmoud Abbas, the moderate President of the PA or further radicalize Hamas while undermining the position of President Mahmoud Abbas? While these are difficult questions with which to wrestle, I eventually decided that H.R. 4681 sends an important and necessary message to PA that the United States will not tolerate a terrorist-controlled government's role in obstructing the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

First, I believe H.R. 4681 provides the United States the additional leverage it needs to push Hamas toward the acceptance of Israel and the rejection of violence. The Act amends the Foreign Assistance Act (FAA) by adding a new section prohibiting direct financial transfers by the United States to the PA until the President certifies that no part of the PA is controlled by a foreign terrorist organization (FTO) designated by the United States

and Europe and no member of an FTO serves in a senior policy making position in the PA, the PA has publicly acknowledged Israel's right to exist and recommitted itself to previous agreements and understandings with Israel and the United States, and the PA has taken effective steps and made progress toward a number of objectives including purging its security services of individuals with ties to terrorists, dismantling terrorist infrastructure, and halting anti-Israeli incitement. I believe these are reasonable and necessary benchmarks that Hamas must make in order to demonstrate its capability to be a responsible government.

Furthermore, I believe the bill's humanitarian provisions address my concern that the increased sanctions advocated by the legislation would unnecessarily hurt the Palestinian people. Make no mistake, I do not believe that the Palestinian people should be punished for exercising their right to elect the representatives of their choice. In March 2005, Hamas accepted a temporary cease-fire with Israel in exchange for Abbas' agreement to allow the group into PA's electoral system. Throughout the process, the Bush Administration stood on the sidelines, assuming that Hamas' political participation would either transform the group or marginalize it. Indeed, Secretary Rice stated last fall that the United States had "to give the Palestinians some room for the evolution of their political process." As a result, Hamas entered the field for the 2006 legislative elections. Understanding the widespread public dissatisfaction with the PA's corruption under the control of the Fatah party and the sour economy, Hamas ran on a platform of clean governance and reform, rather than ideology. Subsequently, observers widely agree that Hamas was democratically elected by the Palestinian people not for its ideological platform, but for its practical appeal in improving the day-to-day living conditions of Palestinians.

I strongly believe Palestinians should not be punished for exercising their Democratic choice in electing their representatives. Yet, with nearly 50 percent of the PA's residents living below the poverty line, unemployment on the rise, and government salaries already not being paid, Hamas' ongoing pursuit of extremist rhetoric demonstrates to me the party's inability to put the interests of the Palestinian people above its terrorist ideology and its unwillingness to govern in a responsible manner. I believe H.R. 4681, which provides an exception to the restrictions for basic human needs such as food, water, medicine, and sanitation services and allows the President to provide other targeted democracy or rule of law assistance, strikes a balance in both pressuring Hamas but also ensuring that necessary assistance reaches the Palestinian people in Gaza and the West Bank.

Finally, I believe the approach of economic and diplomatic isolation of Hamas will help strengthen the position of PA President Mahmoud Abbas and lead to the creation of pragmatic, reform-minded activists and parties. H.R. 4681 has been amended to allow for exceptions to the ban on direct assistance permitting the United States to maintain an open dialogue with President Abbas. It allows the president to use a national security waiver to provide assistance to the office of the PA president for non-security expenses directly related to facilitating a peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict or for the per-

sonal security detail of the PA president. Emboldened by U.S. and Israeli opposition to Hamas, Abbas recently announced that it will call a national referendum on accepting a Palestinian state alongside Israel that would implicitly recognize Israel's right to exist. Abbas is ready and willing to demonstrate to the international community that there is a Palestinian partner for negotiations with Israel, and the United States should seize this opportunity to continue press for a breakthrough in long-stalled peace efforts.

I sincerely hope that H.R. 4681 will play a constructive role to secure permanent peace in the Middle East.

THE IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION FOR THE DECEASED ACT

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a horrible form of identity theft.

We have heard plenty lately about the need to take swift action to prevent this serious crime. Just this month, one of the largest data security breaches in history occurred when the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) lost the names, Social Security Numbers, and the dates of birth of over 26 million Americans. We hear a lot about security breaches and the identity theft of living Americans. One aspect of the crime you do not always hear about is the misuse of personal information of deceased Americans.

This is a serious issue for many reasons. For one, it is their loved ones who pay the price. Months or even years after a family member passes away, surviving spouses or other relatives will begin to receive credit card bills or even phone calls from bill collectors. A predator can go onto certain websites and purchase Social Security Numbers that are sold for purposes of tracking family histories and genealogy. The predator then uses the Social Security Number to apply for credit cards, loans, and other forms of consumer credit.

There were even reports that a predator was misusing the personal information of a New York resident who died in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. In another case, a woman began to receive bills addressed to her daughter who had passed away 17 years before.

In my hometown of San Diego just recently, the local news media shed light on another unfortunate case. A predator took information on a woman published in an obituary and used it for identity theft crimes. It was up to her son to repair the damage and put an end to the abuse. I cannot imagine the emotional toll these cases must take on surviving relatives, and I rise today to take action to prevent further cases of this crime.

It is time Congress acted to block this form of identity theft from continuing. Predators can collect this information with relative ease giving them a study supply of Social Security Numbers, dates of birth, and the information they need to commit these horrible crimes. Furthermore, this form of identity theft can ruin the good names and pristine credit histories of

those who are deceased. Unless we take action, family members will continue to suffer from the misuse of their loved one's personal information.

My legislation, the Identity Theft Protection for the Deceased Act, requires that the federal government inform each national credit bureau when an individual passes away. In turn, the credit bureaus will flag the histories of those who have deceased and potential creditors will know not to issue lines of credit or new loans to those attempting to misuse their personal information.

Mr. Speaker, I urge that we act to stop this vicious form of identity theft and protect the relatives of America's deceased.

TRIBUTE TO MARY WILLIAMS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated employee of the State of South Carolina with whom I have had the extraordinary pleasure of working with as she prepares to retire from public service. Mary Lee Williams has served for more than twenty-five years on the staff of the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission (SHAC).

In 1983, during my tenure as South Carolina Human Affairs Commissioner, I selected Mary as the agency's employee of the year. My comments at the time were "being a receptionist in any office is difficult, but when that difficulty is compounded by having to serve as a first point of contact to people who feel that they have been unfairly treated in the workplace, the job becomes nearly impossible." I commented in my recognition that Mary "has over the years demonstrated that she has the capacity to do the nearly impossible." I know the same is true today.

Mary Williams is a native of Richland County and is a product of its public schools. She joined us at SHAC in 1980, where she continues to serve ably as an Information Specialist. Her demeanor is friendly and helpful, and she always treated those seeking the Commission's help with dignity and respect.

Mary draws her strength of character and her strong work ethic from her faith. She has been a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church for fifty-three years. There she lends her talents to singing in the Musical Choir, serving in the Women's Ministry, and teaching Sunday School classes.

She has a beautiful voice and has been a member of Columbia, South Carolina's Capital City Chorale for a number of years. The Chorale has performed on NBC's Today Show and I have had the pleasure of sponsoring them in Washington, DC on two occasions. She also shared her talents as a soloist during a Black History Month program I keynoted at the Dorn Veterans Hospital in Columbia, and has been awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from the Veterans Administration for her service.

Mary has also found time to serve her community as a volunteer. She has donated her services to the Meals-On-Wheels program for 17 years. For five years, she served on SHAC's United Way Annual Campaign team. She has been an active member of both the

National Association of Human Rights Workers and the South Carolina State Employees Association.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mary Ann Williams on her retirement from the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission. She is a wonderful example of a dedicated public servant who has made a true difference in the lives of others. On a personal note, I thank Mary for her friendship and support over the years. I wish her the best and Godspeed in her future endeavors.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT ACT OF 2006

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I introduce the District of Columbia Medicaid Reimbursement Act of 2006 today to raise the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP), the federal contribution from the federal government, to 75 percent from 70 percent and to reduce the District's unique role as the only city that pays the full local cost of Medicaid, a program that is carried by states and counties in our country. New York City, the jurisdiction that powers the economy of New York State, contributes a 25 percent local share to Medicaid while the state pays 25 percent, less than the District's statutorily mandated 30 percent contribution. I introduce this bill because the District's continuing responsibility for most Medicaid costs that are typically borne by entire states is a major component of the District's structural deficit and threatens the stability of the city itself.

The District's Chief Financial Officer reports that rapidly increasing Medicaid costs put the city at risk. In FY 2005, these costs accounted for \$1.4 billion or 22 percent of the city's gross funds budget. Total program costs have risen 42 percent since 1999, and are projected to increase by another \$39 million this year. Yet the District, unlike other large cities which have lost significant populations, has no state and no state economy to share this burden. More than 25 percent of District children and adults are enrolled in Medicaid compared to 12 percent in Maryland and just 9 percent in Virginia. On average, the District spends over \$7,000 per enrollee, while Maryland and Virginia spend \$5,509 and \$5,177, respectively, reflecting serious health conditions that are concentrated among big city residents.

The D.C. Medicaid Reimbursement Act of 2006 is the seventh in the "Free and Equal D.C." series. This series of bills addresses inappropriate and often unequal restrictions placed only on the District and no other U.S. jurisdiction. Although today's bill cannot address the entire structural problem that the District faces because the city is not part of a state, the bill would eliminate the greater percentage the District pays than any city by allowing a 25 percent city contribution, rather than a contribution even greater than New York City.

In 1997, as part of the Balanced Budget Act, Congress recognized that state costs were too costly for anyone city to shoulder. To

alleviate the resulting financial crisis, Congress increased the federal Medicaid contribution to the District from 50 to 70 percent, and took responsibility for a few state costs—prisons and courts—relieving the immediate burden, but the city continues to carry most state costs.

In 1997, a formulaic error in the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) allotment reduced even the 70 percent FMAP share, and as a result, the District received only \$23 million instead of the \$49 million due. I was able to secure a technical correction to the Balanced Budget Act of 1999, partially increasing the annual allotment to \$32 million from FY 2000 forward. I appreciate that last year, Congress responded to my effort to get an additional annual increase of \$20 million in the budget reconciliation bill, bringing D.C.'s Medicaid reimbursement payments to \$57 million as intended by the Balanced Budget Act. This amount did not reimburse the District for the years a federal error denied the city part of its federal contribution, and in any case, of course, was not intended to meet the structural problem this bill partially addresses.

The District has taken important steps on its own to reduce Medicaid costs through greater efficiency, and to treat and prevent conditions that prove costly when hospitalization or expensive treatments become necessary. The District Medicaid agency won federal recognition as one of only two Medicaid programs nationwide to exceed the federal government's child immunization goal for school-age children at 95 percent, and improved its fraud surveillance, recovering \$15 million in fraudulently billed funds. The city's novel D.C. Health Care Alliance, for which federal approval is pending, would allow coverage of residents and provide more early and preventative care, avoiding huge Medicaid costs when health conditions become severe and Medicaid becomes the only option.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this increase that will help my city's most needy residents.

IN APPRECIATION OF MS. CATHY SAYRE

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise before you today in appreciation of an educator who has devoted 39 years of her life to bettering the lives of our children. Ms. Cathy Sayre is truly worthy of recognition for her dedication to Solley Elementary in Anne Arundel County.

Ms. Sayre is a graduate of Western Maryland College. Shortly after earning her degree she informed her parents she did not want to be a lab technician as planned, rather she would pursue a career in education; we are certainly glad she did. Ms. Sayre has been an instrumental part of the developmental process of many children.

As an elementary teacher, Ms. Sayre taught first, second, third, and fourth grades as well as a combination of second and third grades. She has educated over 1,200 students in her career. She is admired by peers and adored by her students.

Teachers are often the unsung heroes of the education field. They play a critical role in

the life of a child. Educators instill wisdom in the minds of children; they lead our nation's youth into the journey of adulthood. John F. Kennedy said, "Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength for our nation."

Ms. Sayre has touched the lives of her students. Elementary teachers have a special gift. They leave a lasting impression on our children, which is just the beginning of their educational careers. At a very early age, they learn what skills are necessary to grow and progress in the future. Teachers like Ms. Sayre leave a lasting legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me in thanking Ms. Cathy Sayre for the outstanding work she has done as an educator. The students of Solley Elementary are very lucky to have such a kind and compassionate person who is dedicated to bettering their lives.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5427), making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the Flake amendment regarding the GEDAC Packaged Gas Engine-Driven Heat Pump Development. I appreciate the attention that my fellow Arizonan has brought to the issue of so-called "earmarks." I share his passion for limited, responsible government. We have seen instances in which inappropriate or even corrupt projects have been funded in appropriation, authorization and tax bills and we must ensure that all of the bills we pass—appropriations bills, authorization bills and tax bills—fund only projects that can stand up to scrutiny.

However, the GEDAC Heat Pump project is a project that deserves our support and will help us to find solutions to our country's energy and water needs. Specifically, this project will allow for the continued development of natural gas-based heat pump technology that saving both energy and water resources. When completed, this will be the first small packaged system available in the United States. The technology is broadly applicable throughout the country, and it provides a number of benefits, including greater energy efficiency and water savings. The technology will not only save energy but will save water, which is important to Arizona. If successful, it could displace central station power generation which uses approximately a gallon of water per kilowatt generated. It is in line with the President's efforts to address climate change by developing technologies that having significantly reduced greenhouse gas emissions. It also is in line with the President's efforts to utilize domestic energy resources.

None of the money in this particular project goes to private industry. Every dime of it goes to the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). ORNL has a sophisticated facility for testing that private industry cannot afford to replicate every time it has a new idea.

Mr. Chairman, I understand the gentleman's concern that we fund only those projects that can withstand serious scrutiny. But this project stands up to scrutiny and deserves our support. I urge a no vote on the Flake amendment.

CONGRATULATING THE PACE HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE 5-A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize and congratulate the Pace High School baseball team on winning the Florida State championship 5-A title.

The 19 Pace High School varsity baseball players secured an 11-7 win over Tampa Hillsborough on May 18, 2006, to claim the 5-A State championship. It is Pace's first championship since 1990 and their third State championship over all. On the way to claiming this hard earned title, Coach Charlie Warner rallied the team on three separate occasions, using the Patriots skills and talents to once again take the leading score. "I do not know if there are words to describe it," Warner said. "To come out here and coach this game and see some great talent . . . It's just a real pleasure to be able to do all of this."

The community support from this rapidly growing city was unparalleled. As the Patriots made their way home the next day, Patriot Boulevard, which circles around the school and baseball field, was lined with hundreds of fans dressed in red, white, and blue to welcome home the champs. For 10 of the ball players, this was their last victory at Pace High School; these 10 seniors graduated the next evening. I have no doubt that they will continue to inspire and make positive impacts on those around them.

Their resiliency has not only made me proud, but also their families, friends and community proud as well. As Pace High School Principal Frank Lay always says, "It's great to be a Pace Patriot," and it's also great to represent the Patriots.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate the Pace High baseball team on their State victory and thank him for representing Santa Rosa County in such a first-class manner.

THE WORLD HUNGER CRISIS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Speaker, today I chaired a hearing to examine the enormous need for food aid around the world, particularly in sub-

Saharan Africa which has the greatest need. As an essential element for life, the assurance of food availability must necessarily be a focal point of our humanitarian assistance programs and at the forefront of our interventions on behalf of those in the greatest need. While the extent of that need can at times be overwhelming, we must keep in mind the verses of Matthew 25, "as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me," and "as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me."

Last August, I, along with Greg Simpkins of the Africa Subcommittee staff, visited Kalma and Mukjar refugee camps in South and West Darfur. We saw first hand how food aid was making the difference between life and death for the thousands of people in the camps. We spoke with many people whose lives had been utterly devastated by the ravages of war, but who were keeping hope alive thanks to the gifts of international humanitarian aid and food aid.

However, our visit to these camps raised the question as to what the Government of Sudan, as well as other developing country governments, are going to do about contributing to the elimination of hunger by opening their own stocks of food or by facilitating, rather than hampering, the delivery of food to hungry people in their countries. In Sudan, the government has not only failed to contribute to the feeding of its own people, but has actually interfered with the supply of food to those in need in the Darfur camps like the ones we visited. Moreover, the Government of Sudan placed a commercial embargo on Kalma camp while we were there that prevented the sale of food and other necessary items to those able to buy them in the camps. We in the developed world should help feed those in need, but it is also the responsibility of the governments in question to respond to the needs of their own people.

The UN World Food Program has announced that almost 731,000 metric tons of food will be needed this year to feed the 6.1 million people caught in the conflict in Southern Sudan and Darfur. Over 89,000 metric tons is needed in Eastern Chad for Sudanese refugees, Chadian nationals adversely affected by the influx of refugees, and a contingency reserve of six months for the refugees. An estimated 6.25 million people in the Horn of Africa face a severe humanitarian crisis this year resulting primarily from successive seasons of failed rains in that region. The World Food Program has sent out appeals for approximately 1.6 million metric tons of food aid for the Horn of Africa and the rest of the sub-Saharan.

This does not include, of course, the emergency food needs of peoples in other parts of the world, including Haiti, North Korea, Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Indonesia.

It is important to keep in mind that behind these mind-boggling numbers are real men, women and children, people like you and me, individuals who are suffering not only the present pangs of hunger but who will have to live with the long-term effects of mal- and under-nutrition. There are also those for whom the lack of food exacerbates the cruel effects of HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, thereby increasing the likelihood of death. This is the reason why it is so important for us to examine the crisis of world hunger, and to continue to direct our efforts to address it.

I am proud to say that we Americans continue our long tradition of compassion and generosity in responding to these needs. The United States is the primary donor of food aid in the world and the leading donor of food aid to Sudan and Chad. The U.S. Government has contributed a total of \$282.2 million worth of food aid thus far in FY 2006 to Darfur and the Sudanese refugees in Chad through the World Food Program and the International Committee of the Red Cross. This follows contributions totaling \$324.5 million to the same two organizations in FY 2005 for Sudan and Chad, in addition to 200,000 tons of wheat from the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust for Darfur.

The United States is also addressing the nutritional needs of particularly vulnerable populations. The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief maximizes leverage with other donors including the USAID, the USDA and the World Food Program (with U.S. financial support) to address the needs of HIV-affected communities, both in terms of providing direct food assistance and in addressing the underlying causes of food insecurity.

During the hearing, we heard from our distinguished witnesses about the hunger crises in our world, what is being done to respond, and recommendations as to how we can respond better. Witnesses also testified about the contribution that U.S. food aid makes to longer-term, non-emergency development goals and the corresponding impact that this food aid has on individual lives. The most recent data available indicates that over 4 million children in 26 countries participated in the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program in fiscal years 2003 and 2004. This program has resulted in higher school enrollment and improved access to education, especially for girls.

It is also reported by teachers and program administrators that the FFE program has increased local communities' concern for and participation in their children's education. There is a general improvement in academic performance as children are better able to concentrate after receiving a nutritious school lunch. Both families and the school community benefit from training on food preparation, health and hygiene. In this regard, we were privileged to hear testimony from Mr. Gabriel Laizer, who now works on international development issues for the Alliance to End Hunger and who started his career as a beneficiary of a feeding program in his primary school in Arusha, Tanzania.

My good friend Tony Hall, a former Member of Congress who just recently left his position as the U.S. Ambassador to the UN Agencies for Food and Agriculture, also testified. He has published a book recently entitled, "Changing the Face of Hunger," which I highly recommend, and which recounts many stories from Ambassador Hall's years of confronting hunger, poverty and oppression throughout the world. In his conclusion, he writes, "when you show Americans the poor and the hungry—when you connect with them and educate them and they see the problems themselves—they don't turn their backs. They want to help. They respond. We are a compassionate people, a giving people. We care."

In that spirit of compassion, I would ask my colleagues in Congress to continue to support the FY2006 emergency supplemental appro-

priation of \$350 million for food aid. While encouraging other international donors to respond in a likewise generous manner, we must continue to help, to respond, to show that we care.

It is my hope and expectation that we may further educate ourselves, our colleagues in Congress and the American people about the poor and the hungry, and we may respond with the compassion that they so desperately need.

HONORING ASHLEY HULTMAN ON
THE COMPLETION OF HER INTERNSHIP

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Ashley Hultman for her service during her internship in my Washington, DC, office. During her time on Capitol Hill, she has been a great help to me, my staff and my constituents in Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

Ashley is no stranger to the workings of a congressional office. Prior to interning in the Nation's capital, she assisted the staff in my Murfreesboro, Tennessee, office. While helping us with countless projects and endearing herself to constituents as she guided them through the Capitol or helped them cut through red tape at Federal agencies, she has certainly gained a wealth of experience that I hope will serve her well.

While we have enjoyed her help, Ashley now must return to Middle Tennessee to complete her degree at my alma mater, Middle Tennessee State University, where she is studying art history and political science.

I hope Ashley has enjoyed her internships as much as we have enjoyed having her help here in Washington, as well as in Murfreesboro. I wish her all the best in the future.

STATEMENT ON PASSING OF G.V.
"SONNY" MONTGOMERY

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to Mr. Veteran, Gillespie V. "Sonny" Montgomery, who died May 12.

He served for 30 years in the House and I was lucky enough to serve with him on the Veterans Committee.

When I was first elected to Congress in 1992, I knew that I wanted to serve on the Veterans Committee. I could think of no better way to serve my constituents or my country than to be on the committee that oversees the Department responsible for helping so many people. Sonny Montgomery was my inspiration.

I was a new member and introduced myself to the chairman. A more gracious and gentle man you could not meet.

I was walking down the hall with the former Speaker from the Florida legislature. Sonny

made a comment that I was a pleasure to work with and how much he enjoyed my participation in the Committee. The former Florida Speaker said you don't know her very well, she'll cut your heart out.

He was deeply committed to the cause of veterans and worked in a bipartisan manner to get that done. He also started the Bipartisan Prayer Breakfast which still meets every week.

Everyone was Sonny's friend. He was blessed to be surrounded by so many caring friends.

"Let the work that I have done speak for me" is a favorite line from a hymn. This line explains how Sonny lived his life.

God Bless Sonny Montgomery.

IN APPRECIATION OF MS.
ROXANNE DODSON

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise before you today in appreciation of a woman who has dedicated her life to educating young people. For eighteen and a half years, Ms. Roxanne Dodson has taught the beauty of art to Aberdeen Middle School students in Harford County. She has gained support and admiration from her peers and the school's administrators for her gift of education.

Art is a subject which is unlike any other. It is not a matter of right or wrong; instead it is a test of one's inner self. Some students simply do not have a natural gift in the arts; however, Ms. Dodson teaches personal growth and self acceptance. Students are rewarded for their courage to experiment and "think outside the box." They are taught much more than basic lines, curves and colors: they are taught how to try something new and accept the talents they possess.

Ms. Dodson is devoted to the students of Aberdeen Middle School. She uses her honed skills to assist with the school plays, concerts, and other special events. She says, "When a student knows a teacher cares, the emotional walls, no matter how thick, start to disintegrate."

I believe a successful learning environment is a safe environment. When students feel safe, they give more of themselves to the classroom, which results in learning. This is critical for the arts. An artist, no matter what level, must tear down their defensive walls to produce good, honest work.

Ms. Dodson received a Maryland Art Education award for outstanding service in 2001. Using her Masters degree in at-risk students, she developed a program to engage students who lack connection to other extra-curricular activities. This group created a garden entrance in their courtyard.

Ms. Dodson allows students to believe in themselves. She shows them the potential they have and encourages them to see their strengths. Her humorous and down-to-earth personality makes her approachable by students. She is among the elite in educators.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you please join me in thanking Ms. Roxanne Dodson for awakening the expectations of her students and stimulating the creativity they will need for the

rest of their lives. She is an inspiration to all educators.

IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION
ACT OF 2006

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing a bill today that allows individuals to protect themselves from identity theft by controlling access to their credit report and information through a simple and low-cost process.

Under this bill, only those persons specifically authorized by the individual would have access to their credit report. This is the most effective tool we have to combat identity theft. A credit report freeze works because it actually stops the granting of new credit, unlike the lower standard of a fraud alert, which only conditions the granting of credit.

This would not affect the use of credit cards or existing credit. It only prevents the issuance of new credit unless the individual requests the credit report be sent to the lender. This gives individuals control over their credit report and allows them to protect themselves.

The bill that I am introducing is closely modeled on a bipartisan bill introduced in the Senate cosponsored by Senators MCCAIN and CLINTON, among others, and very closely similar to a bill introduced by Senator SHELBY in the Banking Committee. It is supported by the National Association of Attorneys General and all the groups concerned about individual privacy protections.

Many State laws give the right to freeze access to their credit report to everyone, but the data protection bills introduced to date addressing this issue would limit this right to proven victims of identity theft—those for whom the horse has already left the barn—and deny many whose data has been stolen the ability to prevent identity theft. Consumers would have to wait for harm to occur before they could prevent it. That makes no sense.

I also believe that any Federal file freeze must be easy to use, convenient, low cost, and available to all consumers, and my bill provides that.

I think that a national standard giving all individuals the ability to control access to their credit reports would create the market conditions for new security systems to develop to make the process of freezing and unfreezing even easier. Just as when eBay burst on the scene we had secure payments systems like PayPal spring up, so if file freeze becomes a national phenomenon, we will have entrepreneurs develop secure systems of freezing and unfreezing.

I urge Members to support this legislation and give their constituents this moderate and sensible tool to protect themselves from identity theft.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RONALD AND
WANDA MARTINSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ronald and Wanda Martinson for their 25 years of marriage.

Ron and Wanda are both from Minnesota and are career civil servants. Ron first came to Washington in 1969 to work for Congressman John Blatnik of Minnesota, and subsequently went to work for a Congressman from Texas. After spending six years in the House of Representatives, Ron went to work for Marty Hoffman, the Sergeant of Arms for the Senate, as an Administrative Assistant for six years. Ron then accepted a position in the Executive Branch at United States General Services Administration (GSA). Toward the end of his service at GSA, Ron was detailed to TOM DAVIS, who was then Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, where he worked for three years. Following this detail, Ron retired. In 2003, after six years in retirement, Chairman TOM DAVIS of the House Government Reform Committee persuaded Ron to come out of retirement to be Staff Director for the Government Reform Subcommittee on Federal Workforce and Agency Organization.

Wanda came to Washington in 1974 and worked as Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun's secretary for twenty-five years. Following her tenure at the Supreme Court, Wanda went to work at Immigration and Naturalization Service and Wanda now works for the Department of Justice.

Wanda and Ron first met at a bible study in Northern Virginia and began dating. Their courtship was not always "smooth sailing"; in fact, the couple broke up two different times. In keeping with their dedication to civil service and love of the Washington, D.C. political culture, Ron proposed to Wanda in one of the House buildings one evening while returning from a political event Ron and Wanda were married on April 25, 1981 at the National Presbyterian Church in D.C. and their reception was held in the foyer of the Rayburn House Office Building.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the marriage of Ronald and Wanda Martinson. Their twenty-five years together is both impressive and inspiring. I wish them many more years of happiness together. I now yield the remainder of my time.

CONGRESSMAN HENSARLING HONORS
HERB'S PAINT & BODY'S
50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the outstanding service commitment of the people of Herb's Paint & Body, a local icon around the Dallas metroplex, as they celebrate their 50th year of business and continue to make our community a better place to live.

Founded in 1956 by Herb Walne, Herb's Paint and Body originally was a Humble Gas

Station located in the northeast Dallas neighborhood known as Lake Highlands. Over the years, Herb's Paint and Body grew to include a mechanical repair shop, an automatic car wash and a full service paint and body shop. There are now 5 locations, each of which prides itself on following Herb's original goal of offering superior customer service.

Today their commitment extends beyond excellent customer service and reaches beyond the Fifth District. Herb's Paint and Body holds an annual Golf Tournament to support Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) that successfully raised \$21,000 last fall. During the Christmas season, Herb's Paint and Body collects toys and canned goods to support the White Rock Center for Hope and help brighten underprivileged families' holidays. Although Herb's has expanded north, they continue to be deeply rooted in Lake Highlands through community involvement with schools and students. Recently, Herb's Paint & Body joined me in honoring the Lake Highlands High School Varsity Cheerleaders at the "Red Out" celebration that raised money for the Red Cross to help Hurricane victims. Thanks to the generosity of Herb's, the cheerleaders were able to sell the red T-Shirts that Herb's Paint and Body donated and raise almost \$14,000.

As the congressional representative of Herb's Paint & Body, it is my pleasure to recognize their excellence in service to the communities of the Fifth District of Texas.

EXTENSION OF FEMA HOUSING ASSISTANCE DEADLINE FOR HURRICANE KATRINA SURVIVORS

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose the pending termination on May 31, 2006 of the FEMA housing assistance for survivors of Hurricane Katrina.

FEMA was required to submit a plan for developing transitional and eventually permanent housing for those who lost their homes in Katrina by January 6 of this year—but this plan still has not been submitted.

Now, without itself having figured out how best to provide housing to those left homeless by the hurricane, FEMA is poised to leave some 55,000 families—many with very young, or very old, or even very sick members—without any viable option for finding or affording housing and with few remaining options for seeking Federal assistance except on a very short-term basis.

Mr. Speaker, shortly after Katrina devastated New Orleans, the President pledged that our Nation would help that city and its citizens rebuild their lives. Not only has the President failed to honor that pledge, but the administration is now willing even to force those who lost everything out of the temporary housing provided to them in the wake of the storm. This is shameful. Is this how we should treat our brethren who have suffered and lost so much?

I urge my colleagues not to let FEMA fail, once again, those who have been failed by the government at every turn of this natural disaster. I urge my colleagues to join me in urging the administration to extend the FEMA temporary housing deadline.

STATEMENT OF ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF PASSAGE OF H.R. 810

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked the 1 year anniversary of House passage of H.R. 810, the Stem Cell Enhancement Act. Hundreds of patients, their loved ones, and advocates were here to remind the other body that we are still waiting for this research to move forward. We have not forgotten.

Every day scientists are breaking new ground in the study of stem cells and bringing new hope and possibility to finding cures for a variety of diseases. Parkinson's disease affects over 1 million Americans, and I am one of those patients. Parkinson's affects every day of my life.

When I was first diagnosed with this dreadful disease, I was told I would have been able to effectively manage my symptoms for a number of years. Unfortunately, in recent months, the symptoms have become more bothersome, and I have announced plans to retire at the end of this Congress. The decision to retire was a very sad one for me because I believe strongly in serving people.

But Parkinson's will not keep me down. I have been overwhelmed by the encouraging letters I have received from my constituents, colleagues and friends, veterans, and well-wishers from across the Nation. I am heartened by your calls and e-mails.

I have said before that having Parkinson's has made me a better Congressman, and it's true. I know first hand what people go through when battling illness or injury. This is why it is so important to pass a bill that will allow us to perform research on more stem cell lines.

It is past time to allow researchers and doctors access to study these important cells. Because embryonic stem cells are the only cells that have the ability to turn into any cell in the body, their potential should not be ignored. They hold not just the potential to provide direct treatments and cures for today's debilitating injuries and illnesses, but they hold the key to unlocking our understanding of how the body works at the most fundamental level.

Mr. Speaker, I will say again: Parkinson's will not keep me down. But as I know first-hand, the millions of Americans and their families want research accelerated now. The other body may have not acted yet to pass the stem cell bill, but we have not forgotten. We are hopeful the other body will take this bill up in short order and in turn provide hope for these courageous people.

A MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE TO NEW YORK'S FALLEN HEROES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the observance of Memorial Day, 2006, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying posthumous tribute to the 2,459 members of the U.S. Armed Forces who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the Iraq War.

These brave men and women came from every State as well as Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Washington, DC, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam.

Whatever our views may be on the war, we salute these fallen heroes for their patriotism, sacrifice and bravery. We thank their families and mourn with them, and promise that we will never forget the contributions of their loved ones.

Whether Democrat or Republican, supporter or opponent of the war, we honor those who have given their lives with the deepest gratitude and heartfelt compassion. COL. Geoffrey Slack of New York's Fighting 69th who lost 19 men under his command in Iraq said it well:

The vast majority of Americans have it right. Regardless of their thoughts about the war, most have separated the soldiers from the policies of Washington. I can't tell you how much that means. The average young man or woman who goes to serve in Iraq has nothing to do with policy. They just go and do what they're asked to do.

As the dean of the New York State congressional delegation, I have enclosed a roster of New Yorkers who have given their lives in Iraq. Also listed is a State-by-State numerical accounting of the deceased.

NEW YORK STATE FALLEN HEROES (AS OF MAY 22, 2006)

City/county of NY, rank, name, and date: Airmont, Corporal, Vahaviolos, Steve, 11-May-06; Albany, Sergeant, Sacco, Dominic J., 20-Nov-05; Baldwin, Private 1st Class, Urbina, Wilfredo F., 29-Nov-04.

Bay Shore, Private 1st Class, Heighter, Raheen Tyson, 24-Jul-03; Bay Shore, Private 1st Class, Fletcher, Jacob S., 13-Nov-03; Bloomingburg, Private 1st Class, Vonronn, Kenneth G., 06-Jan-05; Brentwood, Specialist, Ruiz, Jose L., 15-Aug-05.

Bronx, Commander, Acevedo, Joseph, 13-Apr-03; Private 1st Class, Moreno, Luis A., 29-Jan-04; Sergeant, Engeldrum, Christian P., 29-Nov-04; Staff Sergeant, Irizarry, Henry E., 03-Dec-04; Specialist, Martinez, Victor A., 14-Dec-04; Sergeant, Swindell, Nathaniel T., 15-Jan-05; Corporal, Valdez, Ramona M., 23-Jun-05.

Brooklyn, Lance Corporal, White, William Wayne, 29-Mar-03; Specialist, Sahib, Rasheed, 18-May-03; Private 1st Class, Johnson, Rayshawn S., 03-Nov-03; Sergeant, Jimenez, Linda C., 08-Nov-03; Specialist, Akintade, Segun Frederick, 28-Oct-04; Sergeant, Calderon, Pablo A., 30-Nov-04; Corporal, Behnke, Joseph O., 04-Dec-04; Staff Sergeant, Melo, Julian S., 21-Dec-04; Sergeant, Lozada Jr., Angelo L., 16-Apr-05; Sergeant, Hornedo, Manny, 28-Jun-05; 1st Sergeant, Mendez, Bobby, 27-Apr-06.

Buffalo, Lance Corporal, Orlowski, Eric James, 22-Mar-03; Private 1st Class, Burkett, Tamario Demetrice, 23-Mar-03; Private, Evans Jr., David, 25-May-03; Specialist, Williams, Michael L., 17-Oct-03; Private 1st Class, Bush Jr., Charles E., 19-Dec-03; Sergeant, McKeever, David M., 05-Apr-04; Specialist, LeBrun, Jeff, 01-Jan-05; Specialist, Pfister, Jacob M., 19-Apr-05.

Canandaigua, Sergeant, McMillin, Heath A., 27-Jul-03; Corning, Gunnery Sergeant, Lane, Shawn A., 28-Jul-04; Sergeant, Pusateri, Christopher M., 16-Feb-05.

Delmar/Albany, Captain, Moshier, Timothy J., 01-Apr-06; Depew/Cheektowaga, Sergeant, Gasiewicz, Cari Anne, 04-Dec-04; Douglaston, Specialist, Ling, Roger G., 19-Feb-04; East Islip, Specialist, Pope II, Robert C., 07-Nov-05; East North Port, Chief Warrant Officer 4, Engeman, John W., 14-May-06; Elizaville, Staff Sergeant, Robsky Jr., Joseph E., 10-Sep-03.

Elmsford, Private 1st Class, Arciola, Michael A., 15-Feb-05; Forestport, Private 1st Class, Huxley Jr., Gregory Paul, 06-Apr-03; Garden City, 2nd Lieutenant, Licalzi, Michael L., 11-May-06; Glen Oaks, Lance Corporal, Postal, Michael V., 07-May-05; Hammond, Sergeant, Friedrich, David Travis, 20-Sep-03; Hauppauge, Lance Corporal, Kremm, Jared J., 27-Oct-05.

Hempstead, Specialist, Sage, Lance S., 27-Dec-05; Hicksville, Corporal, Kolm, Kevin T., 13-Apr-04; Highland, Sergeant, Williams, Eugene, 29-Mar-03; Specialist, Chan, Doron, 18-Mar-04; Jamestown, Private, Cooper Jr., Charles S., 29-Apr-05; Jamestown/Celoron, Sergeant, Matteson, James C. "J.C.", 12-Nov-04.

Jericho, 1st Lieutenant, Lynch, Matthew D., 31-Oct-04; Jordan, Staff Sergeant, Reynolds, Steven C., 24-Nov-05; Lewis, Corporal, Davey, Seamus M., 21-Oct-05; Lowville, Corporal, Cannan, Kelly M., 20-Apr-05; Mastic, Specialist, Wilwerth, Thomas J., 22-Feb-06; Middle Village, Staff Sergeant, McNaughton, James D., 02-Aug-05.

Middletown, Specialist, Medina, Irving, 14-Nov-03; Middletown, Specialist, Gonzalez, Carlos M., 16-Mar-06; Monroe, Petty Officer 1st Class, Pernaselli, Michael J., 24-Apr-04; Mt. Vernon, Corporal, Gooden, Bernard George, 04-Apr-03; New Windsor, Corporal, Tremblay, Joseph S., 27-Apr-05.

New York, Staff Sergeant, Tejeda, Riayan Augusto, 11-Apr-03; Captain, Wood, George A., 20-Nov-03; Master Sergeant, Toney, Timothy, 27-Mar-04; Lance Corporal, Gavriel, Dimitrios, 19-Nov-04; Lieutenant Colonel, Crowe, Terrence K., 07-Jun-05; Sergeant, Floyd Jr., Clarence L., 10-Dec-05; Specialist, Mercedes Saez, Sergio A., 05-Feb-06; Staff Sergeant, Lewis, Dwayne Peter R., 27-Feb-06; Newark Valley, Petty Officer 3rd Class, Wilson, Nicholas, 12-Feb-06.

Niagara Falls, Staff Sergeant, Bass, Aram J., 23-Nov-05; North Creek, Staff Sergeant, Kimmerly, Kevin C., 15-Sep-03; North Merrick, Specialist, Bandhold, Scott M., 12-Apr-06; North White Plains, Private 1st Class, Cuming, Kevin A., 21-Aug-04.

Orchard Park/W. Seneca, Specialist, Roustum, David L., 20-Nov-04; Philadelphia, Sergeant 1st Class, Howe, Casey E., 26-Sep-05; Port Chester, Lance Corporal, Sanchez Jr., Efrain, 17-Jul-05; Purchase, Specialist, Kalladeen, Anthony N., 08-Aug-05.

Queens, Corporal, Rodriguez, Robert Marcus, 27-Mar-03; Lance Corporal, Lam, Jeffrey, 08-Nov-04; Private 1st Class, Obaji, Francis C., 02-Mar-05; Specialist, Ali, Azhar, 02-Mar-05; Specialist, Lwin, Wai Pyoe, 08-Aug-05; Private 1st Class, Rios, Hernando, 17-Sep-05; Staff Sergeant, Nelom, Regilio E., 01-Feb-06; Specialist, Bustamante, Marlon A., 28-Apr-06; Sergeant, Gomez, Jose, 17-Jan-05.

Rochester, Chief Warrant Officer (CW3), Smith, Eric Allen, 02-Apr-03; Lance Corporal, Schramm, Brian K., 15-Oct-04; Rockville Center, 1st Lieutenant, Winchester, Ronald, 03-Sep-04; Rome, Sergeant, Uvanni, Michael A., 01-Oct-04; Sackets Harbor, Lieutenant Colonel, James II, Leon G., 10-Oct-05; Schenectady, Sergeant, Robbins, Thomas D., 09-Feb-04; Scio (Allegany Co.), Corporal, Dunham, Jason L., 22-Apr-04; South Glens Falls, Private 1st Class, Brown, Nathan P., 11-Apr-04.

Stony Brook (Long Island), Petty Officer 3rd Class, Bruckenthal, Nathan B., 25-Apr-04; Suffern, Captain, Esposito, Phillip T., 08-Jun-05; Suffolk, Lance Corporal, Mateo, Ramon, 24-Sep-04; Taberg/Camden, Sergeant, Parker, Elisha R., 04-May-06; Theresa, Private 1st Class, Perez, Luis A., 27-Aug-04; Tonawanda, Staff Sergeant, Dill, Christopher W., 04-Apr-05; Unadilla, Specialist, Nieves, Isaac Michael, 08-Apr-04; Walkkill, 1st Lieutenant, Dooley, Mark H., 19-Sep-05; Waterloo, Master Sergeant, Auchman, Steven E., 09-Nov-04.

Watertown, Sergeant, West James G., 11-Jul-04; Master Sergeant, Tuliau, Tulsa T., 26-Sep-05; Sergeant 1st Class, Acevedoaponte, Ramon A., 26-Oct-05.

Watervliet/Green Island, Specialist, Fisher, David M., 01-Dec-04; West Henrietta, Specialist, Koch, Matthew A., 09-Mar-05; West Seneca, Specialist, Baker, Brian K., 07-Nov-04.

White Lake, Sergeant, Dima, Catalin D., 13-Nov-04; Whitestone, Private 1st Class, Prevete, James E., 10-Oct-04; Williamsville, Private 1st Class, Shuster, Benjamin C., 25-Feb-06.

NUMERICAL ACCOUNTING OF IRAQ WAR
FATALITIES BY STATE (AS OF MAY 22, 2006)

Alabama, 42; Alaska, 9; American Samoa, 5; Arizona, 58; Arkansas, 31; California, 254; Colorado, 33.

Connecticut, 19; Delaware, 11; District of Columbia, 3; Florida, 108; Georgia, 75; Guam, 3; Hawaii, 12.

Idaho, 15; Illinois, 94; Indiana, 49; Iowa, 29; Kansas, 25; Kentucky, 41; Louisiana, 57.

Maine, 12; Maryland, 40; Massachusetts, 36; Michigan, 82; Minnesota, 31; Mississippi, 35; Missouri, 41.

Montana, 10; Nebraska, 23; Nevada, 20; New Hampshire, 10; New Jersey, 43; New Mexico, 17; New York, 117.

North Carolina, 55; North Dakota, 10; Northern Mariana Islands, 3; Ohio, 109; Oklahoma, 42; Oregon, 37; Pennsylvania, 121.

Puerto Rico, 22; Rhode Island, 9; South Carolina, 35; South Dakota, 17; Tennessee, 52; Texas, 217; Utah, 12.

Vermont, 16; Virgin Islands, 3; Virginia, 75; Washington, 46; West Virginia, 17; Wisconsin, 55; Wyoming, 6.

Source: iCasualties.org

COMMEMORATING LOWELL HIGH
SCHOOL'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to rise today in recognition of the sesquicentennial of San Francisco's Lowell High School. The oldest public high school west of the Mississippi River, Lowell has now maintained its stellar reputation for excellence for a remarkable 150 years.

Lowell High School, originally named Union Grammar School, was established in 1856 by the San Francisco School Board. It was the first public secondary school in California. In 1894, the school was renamed to honor the distinguished poet, James Russell Lowell. Over the years, Lowell has relocated its campus twice to accommodate more students. It has occupied its current location near Lake Merced since 1962.

For one and a half centuries, Lowell High School has been a model of academic excellence. Lowell has been recognized as one of the best public schools in the Nation by numerous magazines, including *Money*, *Parade*, and *Town and Country*. This year, *Newsweek* ranked Lowell 26th among all public high schools in the Nation. The College Board ranked Lowell sixth in the number of Advanced Placement examinations administered in 1996; the school was ranked eighth in 1994. Lowell is also a three-time recipient of the U.S. Department of Education's Blue Ribbon Award.

Today, we honor and thank all current and former faculty and staff who have challenged

and inspired generations of students to reach their full potential. Lowell's magnificent educators have helped their students achieve the highest level of learning and cultivate the strengths needed to succeed. Lowell produces determined students who matriculate at some of our country's most prestigious universities. Lowell's graduates are well equipped to assume the grave responsibility of making the world a better place.

We must also pay tribute to Paul Cheng for a lifetime of academic leadership, including 16 years as principal of Lowell High School. His contributions to San Francisco's schools and students are extraordinary.

San Franciscans take pride in Lowell's mission to foster an environment of superior learning while maintaining the cultural and social diversity that we respect and embrace. I am proud that San Francisco is the home of this impressive academic institution. Let us all join in celebrating and congratulating Lowell on its 150 years of loyal dedication to our Nation's youth.

HONORING WILLIAM "BILL"
GRALNICK

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the retirement of a great leader in American Jewish community, the Southeast Regional Director of the American Jewish Committee, AJC, William "Bill" Gralnick.

For the past two decades, Bill Gralnick has championed Jewish causes and promoted inter-religious dialogue in south Florida. He has built bridges with the Christian and Muslim communities, advocated for strengthened U.S.-Israel relations, and combated anti-Semitism and intolerance in all its forms. He has brought south Florida law enforcement officials together with local clergy, and arranged for exchanges between Israeli security experts and local police. The exemplary work of the AJC in south Florida is a testament to Bill's commitment, and I thank him for his unwavering dedication, spirit and resolve.

Today, I congratulate Bill Gralnick on his years of achievement with the AJC. Bill has been a beacon of leadership in south Florida, and his efforts have benefited the Jewish community both in our area and beyond. Bill has set a shining example for future generations, and I wish him "mazel tov" and much future success.

PRESIDENT CARTER'S THOUGHTS
ON THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE
PROCESS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage my colleagues to consider the thoughts of former President Jimmy Carter on achieving a lasting peace in the Middle East.

[From the Nation, May 25, 2006]

HOUSE VOTE HARMS PALESTINE, ISRAEL, U.S.

(By John Nichols)

Jimmy Carter has been blunt: Despite the fact of a Palestinian election result that was not to their liking, the former president says, "it is unconscionable for Israel, the United States and others under their influence to continue punishing the innocent and already persecuted people of Palestine."

Since the political wing of the militant group Hamas swept parliamentary elections in Palestine, the U.S. and Israel have been trying to use economic pressure to force a change of course. Disregarding the democracy that President Bush says he wants to promote in the Middle East, the U.S. has sanctioned policies that have fostered chaos on the Gaza Strip and the West Bank and created increasingly harsh conditions for people who have known more than their share of suffering.

"Innocent Palestinian people are being treated like animals, with the presumption that they are guilty of some crime," argues Carter, a Nobel Peace Prize winner whose involvement in the Middle East peace process has extended across three decades. "Because they voted for candidates who are members of Hamas, the United States government has become the driving force behind an apparently effective scheme of depriving the general public of income, access to the outside world and the necessities of life."

Instead of checking and balancing the president's misguided approach to an election result that displeased him, Congress has added fuel to the fire.

By a lopsided vote of 361 to 37, the House voted Tuesday for the so-called "Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act," a measure so draconian that even the Bush administration has opposed it.

The legislation, which still must be reconciled with a similar measure passed by the Senate, would cut off all assistance to the Hamas-led Palestinian Authority, and place conditions on humanitarian assistance delivered directly to the Palestinians by non-government organizations. Presidential spokesman Tony Snow, in restating the White House's opposition to the measure says that it "unnecessarily constrains" the flow of essential assistance—food, fresh water, medicine—in a manner that does, indeed, "tie the president's hand" when it comes to providing humanitarian aid.

It also has the potential to encourage, rather than restrain, violence.

Representative Earl Blumenauer, an Oregon Democrat who was one of the few members of the House to argue against the legislation, correctly explained that the approach endorsed by most of his colleagues will strengthen the hand of Palestinian extremists.

"It does little to prioritize on the basis of our strategic interests, and provides no prospect for Palestinian reform coming through the process of negotiations," Blumenauer said of the legislation. "In so doing, it weakens the hands of those who advocate for peace negotiations, and supports those extremists who believe in violence."

Debra DeLee, President and CEO of Americans for Peace Now, which works closely with Israeli groups seeking a peaceful settlement of tensions with the Palestinians, calls the bill "an exercise in overreaching that will undercut American national security needs, Israeli interests, and hope for the Palestinian people, if it's ever signed into law." "We urged the House to craft legislation that was focused and flexible enough to allow the U.S. to respond to Hamas' election victory in a firm, yet responsible, manner," explained a frustrated DeLee. "But by failing

to provide the president with a real national security waiver, by failing to include a sunset clause for draconian performance requirements that will stay on the books regardless of who is running the Palestinian Authority, and by failing to distinguish between Hamas and Palestinians who support a two-state solution, the supporters of this bill have missed that opportunity for now."

Despite its dramatic flaws, the bill drew bipartisan support, with House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Illinois, and Majority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio, and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-California, lining up their respective caucuses behind it.

Of the 37 "no" votes, 31 came from Democrats, including senior members such as Michigan's John Conyers and John Dingell, Californians George Miller and Pete Stark and Wisconsin's David Obey. Ohio's Dennis Kucinich, a contender for the 2004 Democratic presidential nomination, also opposed the measure, as did California's Barbara Lee, a co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

The six Republican "no" votes came from Maryland's Wayne Gilchrest, North Carolina's Walter Jones, Arizona's Jim Kolbe, Illinois' Ray LaHood and Texans Ron Paul and Mac Thornberry.

As is frequently the case on votes involving Israel and Palestine, dozens of members did not participate. Nine House members, all of them Democrats, voted "present" Tuesday. Twenty-five members, eleven of them Democrats, fourteen of them Republicans, registered no vote.

Americans for Peace Now's DeLee says that, as the House and Senate seek to reconcile differing bills, her group will continue to work to alter the legislation so that it will not encourage extremism or worsen a humanitarian crisis. But there is no question that the task has been made more difficult by the overwhelming House vote in favor of this misguided measure.

COMMENDING AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ANTIGUA FOR ITS LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATIVE IDEAS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues a very innovative educational program which is helping to address the need for doctors and other trained medical professionals. As a member of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, I am supportive of expanding educational opportunities for students interested in medical training.

Last year I had the opportunity to visit the American University of Antigua and to meet with students from my home State of New Jersey who are enrolled there. This school was founded only a few years ago and has already had an immense impact on the surrounding community, as well as the lives and careers of medical students around the world. Its founder, Neal S. Simon should be commended for establishing a quality medical education program that accommodates the need for diversity in medical education.

As part of a new and exciting partnership, the American University of Antigua is now cooperating with Tuskegee University, a Historically Black College, to explore developing a

veterinary school at its campus in Antigua. Officials from Tuskegee University were happy to offer ideas and advice. This would be an important educational development for American University of Antigua and the community, due to the severe need for trained veterinarians in the Caribbean.

The students at American University of Antigua, while primarily American citizens, hail from all over the world. They are committed to a high standard of learning and achievement. The faculty of the AUA is comprised of distinguished scholars who have mostly worked in American and European medical schools. The school has also enhanced the surrounding community by providing doctors, nurses and other medical professionals. The American students attend the university and receive training at an academic standard equal to what they would receive in the U.S. and are then able to obtain medical license in the United States where they contribute to easing the physician shortage that the United States is experiencing. Medical and nursing schools are running at full capacity in the United States, and AUA helps the American medical system fill its need for trained professionals.

The willingness of this university to work with other schools, such as Tuskegee, to improve its programs is commendable. The ability of this university to provide a world class education to a diverse group of students while adding much needed resources to the American and Caribbean community should be applauded. The ability to attract a qualified diverse student population is something that many United States schools can learn from. I hope that we will see more partnerships of this type in the future, and again, I commend the school for its leadership and innovative ideas.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5427), making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Chairman, this amendment neither clarifies nor modifies any provision of the Federal Power Act. Nor does it ratify any action previously taken by FERC. The amendment would merely prevent entities that engaged in fraudulent and deceptive trading practices during the western states energy crisis, as determined by FERC, from profiting by their misconduct by collecting termination fees.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPACT OF JUVENILE DIABETES ON AMERICA'S YOUTH AND SUPPORTING AN INCREASE IN FY07 NIH FUNDING

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the impact of juvenile diabetes on America's youth.

Typically diagnosed during childhood and adolescent years, juvenile diabetes, also referred to as Type 1 diabetes, currently affects more than 3 million Americans and more than 13,000 children are diagnosed each year.

Juvenile diabetes is an autoimmune disease which attacks and annihilates the insulin producing cells in the pancreas.

Since insulin aids in breaking down glucose, when the insulin producing cells are destroyed, glucose accumulates in the blood and can lead to multiple health problems, including blindness, heart failure, nerve damage, limb amputations, and kidney failure.

As a result of this chronic illness, individuals with juvenile diabetes must endure a lifetime of maintaining their glucose levels through daily insulin injections, blood glucose monitoring, and a healthy diet. Sadly, although insulin aids in prolonging the life of a diabetic, it cannot prevent the complications associated with the disease. Even worse, is the fact that a cure for diabetes has yet to be discovered.

Mr. Speaker, I recently had the opportunity to speak with a family from my district, the Frinks, whose young daughter is afflicted with juvenile diabetes. Based on the wealth of knowledge she possessed about her condition and her ability to convey it so lucidly, I must admit that she left a lasting impression on me.

During our conversation, she revealed the extent of how different the life of a young diabetic is in comparison with non-diabetics. For instance, unlike other children, she must constantly check her glucose levels and give herself lifesaving insulin when necessary. She also revealed the critical impact her diet and other regular "child" activities played in her life. Unfortunately, it is reported that many Type 1 diabetics are susceptible to ridicule by their peers due to an overall lack of knowledge about the disease or because they are "different".

By the end of our conversation, I was in awe. Not only did this young girl exemplify maturity well beyond her years, she also exhibited an unbelievable amount of courage in living with this often debilitating disease.

Mr. Speaker, recent studies have shown that compared with non-diabetic youth, juvenile diabetics are more conscientious about healthy living, nutritional requirements, and responsibility based on their lifestyles. This was definitely true with this young lady—she was a fount of knowledge about wellness and prevention—at age seven! That is why I was so amazed—and applauded her courageousness.

Mr. Speaker, the life of this remarkable young woman represents the life experiences of many young people coping with juvenile diabetes. Because of her story and millions like hers, we must continue to work more diligently toward finding and funding a cure for the disease.

I want to applaud an organization that has been fighting on behalf of these children. Since its inception in 1970, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International has raised over \$900 million for diabetes research. I commend its efforts and will continue to support it in its commitment to finding a cure for the disease.

But we must do more for a disease that has become almost epidemic for children and adults. Twenty million Americans suffer from diabetes, which is the leading cause of kidney failure, adult blindness, non-traumatic amputations, heart attacks and stroke. In fact, every 30 seconds a new case of diabetes is diagnosed and over 1.3 million Americans are newly-diagnosed each year.

But for those of my colleagues who make decisions by the numbers, I offer these grim statistics. Diabetes costs this country \$132 billion per year, almost five times the entire National Institutes of Health \$28.5 billion budget. This disease also accounts for 30% of every Medicare dollar.

The Diabetes Research Working Group mandated by Congress called for \$1.6 billion in funding for NIH diabetes research, but actual funding hovers around \$1 billion. Accordingly, I support a 5% increase in the FY 2007 budget for NIH funding for juvenile diabetes research so that we may all reap the benefits of diabetes research.

Needless to say, we must dedicate more resources to fighting this disease—for the children and adults who suffer today and the millions who will suffer tomorrow. I believe that with sufficient funding of research initiatives, we come closer to finding a cure, and at the very least lessen the suffering. I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, one other area I would like to discuss is the longer survivability and quality of life of all diabetics. Due to technological advancements, insulin injections have come a long way since the needle and syringe method.

In fact, in the early 1990's, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved an insulin pump, which delivers insulin to the blood stream in small intervals throughout the day through a tiny needle stuck under the skin on the left side of the abdomen. Insulin pumps have been proven to aid in stabilizing glucose control and reduce episodes of hypoglycemia.

Recently, continuous glucose meters have been developed to provide diabetics instantaneous access to testing blood glucose levels. Recent studies have proven that individuals who utilize continuous glucose meters spend more time in the normal glucose range compared with patients using conventional finger stick blood glucose methods.

Presently, medical researchers are working on fusing these two devices to create an artificial pancreas that would regulate glucose levels in the body of someone with diabetes by continuously measuring the level of glucose and dispensing doses based on those measurements. Again, if developed, this device would contribute in augmenting the quality of life for Type I and Type II diabetics.

Mr. Speaker, these life-altering inventions only come through research. That is why, again, I support the 5% increase in NIH funding for the FY 07 budget and I encourage my colleagues to join me in this effort. America's youth is our future and it is up to us to invest in their health and education in order to cul-

tivate steadfast leaders of tomorrow—rich in knowledge, morals, and wellness.

HONORING JOEL M. CARP

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the long and distinguished career of Joel M. Carp, one of the leaders in the Chicago nonprofit community. Mr. Carp will retire next month from the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago after almost thirty years of service.

Mr. Carp has dedicated his career to creating public policies and sustaining quality, comprehensive health and human services for all people, including refugees and immigrants. For the last 28 years, he has been working towards these goals at the Jewish Federation/Jewish United Fund, most recently as Senior Vice President for Community Services and Government Relations.

His dedicated service includes managing the Government Affairs Program, planning and budgeting for the Federation's numerous social welfare programs and services, and supervising State of Illinois programs for immigrants, refugees and the homeless.

In addition to his work at the Jewish Foundation, Mr. Carp has served on numerous important task forces tackling welfare reform, hunger, housing, and emergency food and shelter for both the City of Chicago and the State of Illinois. Mr. Carp has also taken the time to write and publish many articles on the topics about which he is most passionate, sharing his invaluable perspectives with all who work in this important field.

In recognition of Joel Carp's hard work and tireless dedication, he has received the Melvin A. Block Award for Professional Distinction from the Associated YMYWHAs of Greater N.Y., the City of Chicago's Commission on Human Relations Award, and a special award from the YMCA of the USA for helping to restore Agency for International Development funding for human services in Lebanon.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois, I thank Joel Carp for his many outstanding contributions to our social service network and to the Chicago area Jewish Community. His efforts have had a profound impact on the lives of his co-workers, friends, family, and countless other individuals. I wish him continued happiness in all his future endeavors.

HONORING MR. ANDERSON
KAMBELA MAZOKA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Mr. Anderson Kambela Mazoka of Zambia who passed away yesterday at age 56 in the Morning Side Clinic in Johannesburg, South Africa. News of this great leader's death has come to us as a shock and a surprise.

Mr. Mazoka was born on March 22, 1943 in southern Zambia to Mr. Juda Mazoka and Mrs. Bertha Mazoka. His parents were teachers. They encouraged their son to excel in school, and excel he did. He was among one of the first graduates of the University of Zambia, which was founded in 1966. He worked briefly in Zambia, before he moved to the United States, where he both worked and studied.

In the early 1970s he returned to Zambia to work for Zambia Railways. In the period of 2 years he was promoted to general manager by the former president Kenneth Kaunda. His distinguished career also included acting as the managing director of South Africa's mining giant, Anglo American Corporation.

Perhaps Mr. Mazoka's greatest legacy though, was his active political life in which he fought for democratic causes and improving the lives of the poor in Zambia. As a charming and self confident man, he incited support and excitement from his followers who want so badly to see change in their country.

He ran for president of Zambia in 2001 on the platform of providing free education, free medical services and addressing poverty. Although he narrowly lost the election, he continued fighting for these causes.

Mr. Mazoka dominated opposition politics. After his narrow loss for president he remained the greatest challenger to the parliamentary majority in Zambia, the Movement for Multiparty Democracy (MMD).

He was the president of the United Party for National Development (UPND), the strongest opposition party in Zambia, which aligned with two other parties to create United Democratic Alliance (UDA). His sudden death has left a vacuum in his party and in the Democratic Alliance, a difficult blow to their cause in year where they face the first general elections since 2001.

Congresswoman BARBARA LEE's niece's father, Mr. Mazoka, envisioned a better Zambia for all. As members of Congress, let us honor this man who fought for democratic causes in one of our most beautiful countries in Africa.

We offer our deepest condolences to his family. Mr. Mazoka is survived by his wife Mutinta and his three children. I join his family, friends and loved ones in saluting Mr. Mazoka for his lifelong commitment to public service and the positive impact his work has had on countless people.

MEMORIAL DAY

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to all those who have fallen in the defense of our country. Each year, Memorial Day is a special time to honor the departed, support the wounded, and praise the enduring commitment of all those who serve.

In my district this weekend, the white headstones of the Los Angeles National Cemetery will be surrounded with flowers and families. Amid the bustle of West Los Angeles, this serene and mournful field honors the great sacrifice that has sustained our blessed country and the core values we cherish.

My district is also home to the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration, which is the

largest VA facility in the continental United States. The land was generously donated after the Civil War to serve as an old soldiers home and I am pleased that efforts are finally underway to move toward this goal with plans for a State Veterans Home on the property. We must continue, however, to expand other services and programs to meet veterans' needs. I remain deeply opposed to the VA's consideration of plans to divert portions of the property for commercial use. I am determined to continue working with local veterans groups, local officials, and the surrounding community to ensure that the entire property is preserved for programs that benefit and serve our veterans.

The sanctity of our battlefields, monuments, and veterans institutions is of utmost importance to preserve military history and pay respect to those who fought. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the efforts of my constituent Leon Cooper, a World War II veteran of the Pacific Theater, who has been working to raise awareness about the build-up of garbage and refuse at the site of the Battle of Red Beach on Tarawa Atoll in the remote island nation of Kiribati. Nearly 1,000 Marines were killed and over 2,000 were wounded during heavy fighting over the span of just a few days in November 1943. I applaud Mr. COOPER for his commitment.

Although Tarawa has a monument to the Marines who died on Red Beach, heavy construction in the area has spurred an effort to find a new location closer to the battle site itself. I fully support this effort, which would also create an opportunity for the 2nd Marine division to restore the beach to a more appropriate and respectable condition. I encourage our local U.S. Embassy in Fiji to work with the Government of Kiribati on sanitation and conservation projects that would provide long-term solutions for maintaining the coastline and preserving the area. It would be a tribute to our veterans and a benefit to the Kiribati people.

And while we honor generations past, we must also be keenly aware of the needs of soldiers now deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan. It is unacceptable that returning veterans are facing unreasonable delays obtaining care and benefits. The number of new enrollees waiting for their first appointment at the VA has doubled in the past year. I am deeply concerned about the inadequate screening and services for the more than 1/3 of returning troops who seek mental health care. It is imperative that we fight the budget cuts and misplaced priorities that have led to this deplorable situation.

As we observe Memorial Day, let us give thanks to all of our brave men and women who have stood in harm's way or stand there today, far from home, living at great risk, and fighting under the stars and stripes. We owe them an enduring debt of gratitude.

FEDERAL TELEPHONE EXCISE TAX

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say good riddance to an outdated, antiquated tax that has long outlived its usefulness—the long distance telephone tax. This tax is known to many Ameri-

cans only as another indiscernible line on their phone bill which reads as an access fee or charge for service.

But in fact, this tax began as part of the War Revenue Act of 1898 as a temporary means to finance the Spanish American War. Interestingly, this wasn't the only onerous tax in the War Revenue Act. The Act also gave us the much debated estate tax.

Back then, the excise tax was designed to be a luxury tax for people who owned telephones. Today, the war is ancient history and if you ask anyone walking down the street to join you in shouting "Remember the Maine," I'd expect you to get quizzical stares. Today, there is no specific purpose for this tax. Telephones are a virtual necessity—not a luxury—and the revenues collected by this tax flow into the general fund. But this once temporary tax remains and costs American taxpayers, our small businesses and families almost \$6 billion dollars a year.

On the tax, Gene Kimmelman, director of Consumers Union is quoted as saying, "this is the poster child for how messed up our telephone pricing system is today. It makes no sense to have to pay a tax to fight a war that was over more than 100 years ago." Well today the tax has been repealed.

Americans will soon be able to file for a refund as part of their 2006 tax return for the past three years of charges and the Treasury Department estimates that \$15 billion will be refunded to the American public.

I encourage all Americans to take advantage of this opportunity to get their returns and I call on my colleagues to set their sights on ending this tax's equally unnecessary counterpart, the local telephone excise tax. These are outdated, out-of-touch taxes and they should all be removed from the tax code.

COMMEND KIMBERLY BURNITZ FOR HER PARTICIPATION IN THE P3: PEOPLE, PROSPERITY, AND THE PLANET STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the efforts of Kimberly Burnitz, and college student from Lockport, Illinois. Earlier this month, Kimberly and her team from Eastern Illinois University, came to Washington to compete in the P3—People, Prosperity, and the Planet—Student Design Competition.

Sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency, the P3 design competition gives college-level students a chance to grow their technical and scientific skills by working on projects that address sustainability challenges faced by the developing world. After reviewing over one hundred proposals, the EPA provided grants to 41 of the most promising student projects that addressed these challenges while preserving the environment.

Among the teams chosen to develop their project, the students of Eastern Illinois University worked on a unique initiative to increase drinking water supplies in rural Haiti and other developing nations. Through extensive research and testing, Kimberly's team devised locally feasible methods for Haitians to im-

prove water cistern designs and repair cistern cracks.

While not among the final winners of the contest, their innovative project truly embodied the objectives of the competition—to find environmentally friendly ways to raise living standards and foster economic growth in the developing world.

Mr. Speaker, these are goals we can all agree on. Therefore, it is with great pleasure that I thank Kimberly for all her hard work, congratulate her team on their success, and wish them great success in all of their future endeavors.

URGING THE SENATE TO PASS THE STEM CELL RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, one year ago the House passed the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act, by a vote of 238-194. I was pleased to see this Chamber put science before ideology. The promise of finding cures for a whole host of debilitating diseases seemed bright.

But the year has come and gone, and the Senate has yet to take up its version of the legislation. Further delay is unacceptable. Today, I join my colleagues in the House to urge the Senate to schedule a vote on this critical, life-saving, and life-affirming measure.

This bill takes an ethical and moral approach to a challenging subject while respecting the value of life. It allows for federal funds to support research on stem cell lines derived from the surplus embryos of fertility treatments. Fertility clinics do not need these embryos and they would otherwise be discarded, not implanted. It requires explicit written donor consent, and it does not allow stem cells to be sold for profit.

Many Members of Congress like to talk about "values." Today, I say to them: using discarded embryos to find life-saving cures is our moral obligation. Saving lives is precisely what we should all care about.

Parkinson's disease, cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, spinal cord injuries, and juvenile diabetes do not discriminate—every one of us has had a family member or friend whose life has been changed by one of these debilitating conditions. This is not and should not be a partisan or ideological issue. People from both ends of the political spectrum—from Nancy Reagan to the late Christopher Reeve—have embraced the promise of stem cell research. It is my hope that the United States Senate will follow their lead.

Cures for many serious ailments may lie in stem cell research. We owe it to generations of Americans and their families to help find treatments that could lead to an improved quality of life. I urge my colleagues in the Senate to pass the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5427), making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank Chairman HOBSON for his work during consideration of the Energy and Water Appropriations Act to include language in the final version of the legislation to block funds that would have allowed an ill-advised policy directive by the Department of Energy to go forward. The policy directive would have prevented contractors to the agency from continuing to provide defined benefit pension plans and comprehensive healthcare coverage to their employees. Chairman HOBSON's language blocks federal funds from implementing this directive.

The Department of Energy's policy directive amounts to nothing more than an attack on organized labor unions and their members. Not only did the policy directive allow only a scant 90 days for the new restrictions to be executed, but no labor unions were consulted on the proposed policy prior to its promulgation. The Department of Energy failed to clear its policy with the Department of Labor to determine whether it is consistent with the requirements of the Service Contract Act and the Davis-Bacon Act.

Moreover, while this policy sets a significant precedent by having one of the largest federal departments prohibiting certain employers from offering workers the security of defined benefit pension plans and comprehensive health coverage, it was not cleared by the Office of Management and Budget. The Department of Energy should not be driving pension and health care policy—especially when it does so without due deliberation and input from stakeholders and agencies with expertise on these issues.

Additionally, the House is currently in the process of crafting a reform of our Nation's pension system. It is disconcerting that an Executive agency would undertake a policy directive that could contravene the actions of the Congress in what should be a legislative matter.

It is my hope that the House will maintain its position in opposition to the Department of Energy in respect to this policy initiative, or any other legislative vehicle that would allow its execution as we enter negotiations with the other body in conference.

HONORING THE 2006 STATE CHAMPION DOWNERS GROVE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH TEAM

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate the

Downers Grove South High School Speech Team on capturing the 2006 Illinois State Championship. On February 18, 2006, they bested 8 other teams to finish in first place and claim the championship title.

Even more impressive is the fact that this is the school's 11th state speech championship, making Downers Grove South the "winningest" high school in state speech team history. In addition, the members of this exceptional team provided Downers Grove South with its third state championship in the "Performance in the Round" event.

Today, our hats are off to team members Liz Adamski, Kyle Akerman, Joel Bennett, Jaclyn Bernard, James Courtney, Jeff Danziger, Cullen Deady, Meghan Deady, Stephanie Gilbert, Geysa Gonzalez, Eric Jensen, Sean Liston, Justin Matkovich, Tess Mody, Dan Nelson, Chris Nichols, Colleen O'Neill, Cauley Powell, Anne Quiaoit, Alex Safranek, Eileen Schroeder, Becca Seale, Shobana Shanmugum, Tara Smith, Adam Tanguay and Danielle Tannenbaum—for continuing their school's tradition of hard work, dedication, and commitment to excellence.

I also would like to congratulate the coaches—Head Coach Jan Heiteen, Elighie Wilson, Kim Pakowski, Chris Blum, Justin Ashton, Tiffany Bruce, Aggie Valenti, Bridget Frodyma, Katy Gaby and Kavi Chawla—teachers, and parents for providing the guidance and support that helped the speech team achieve this great accomplishment.

Once again, congratulations to the Downers Grove South High School Speech Team on their state championship. I wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

FALLEN SOLDIERS' MOTHERS ARE ALSO WAR CASUALTIES

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share a moving article published on Mother's Day in the San Antonio Express-News. Since this piece speaks eloquently for itself, I see no reason to add any extra words.

FALLEN SOLDIERS' MOTHERS ARE ALSO WAR CASUALTIES

(By Mary Alice Altorfer)

"Mama, Mama," is the universal cry of the dying in battle. Men maimed and broken scream for their mothers, who mercifully can't hear them.

Posthumous medals for valor muffle the child and honor the warrior, but for a Gold Star Mother, ribbons and ceremony are as short-lived as the cherished remains being buried. Without being a statistic, she, too, is a casualty of war. Heard in her strangled weeping are guttural pleas to God to ease the pain of losing a child. For this heartbroken woman, a coffin, even one draped in the American flag and carried by white-gloved Marines, is the grim totality of her forced enlistment into a war that breached the refuge of home.

The bomb in this woman's living room is the conspicuous absence of her baby. Yes, baby, because no matter how old or how long deceased, the person for whom taps sounded only sleeps in his mother's heart, naptime being eternity.

Mother's Day becomes a sad reminder and an accolade for her supreme contribution to patriotism. Or maybe it's a time to be angry and resentful—why my son or daughter? Pride crumples in a darkened room filled with pictures of a young man or woman whose potential bled out onto a foreign soil.

This imagined scenario is a relentless assault on memories of all the boo-boos she kissed and Superman Band-Aids plastered on scraped knees and dinged elbows. If only Mama could have been there to fix things, to make them better, to chase the monster away, to kiss away hurts one more time, then maybe she, too, could quit crying.

Questions and accusations stifle remorse, but tears like water, ever the enemy of rock, wear down resistance. Solace wrestles with acceptance, but grief takes on a presence of its own. Guided by ghosts, it is either torment or release from them.

When burying a child, remembrance is love and guilt is debilitating; however, my quantifying and simplifying a mother's loss and angst seems as unsentimental as some potbellied politician pontificating on Memorial Day. How can anyone suppose a wound so deep it bleeds concurrently with every thought of the initial one? Such trauma is personal, so much so that empathy even seems contrived.

In the middle of the night, this woman still awakens to the imagined cries of her baby, only to clutch a pillow instead. Holidays are a poignant reminder of her diminished family, her unwitting contribution to a distant conflict that ignored every mother's boundaries and ended innocence as abruptly as the life she mourns. Her naivete is six feet under, too. The flag so gloriously waving in front of her home also casts a shadow.

This Mother's Day, there are women embracing memories rather than their children. These mothers fully understand the costs of war and wonder if the old generals and politicians who enact them ever walk in a military cemetery and sob aloud? Do their sons and daughters wear our country's uniform and see active duty?

Do beribboned chests ever exhale and tremble at the sight of an old woman kneeling at Arlington, her fingers lovingly touching a carved name as if it were warm and whispering back to her?

Maybe it is; maybe that's why her face is pressed against the stone so she can once again hear, "Mama, Mama."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, had I been in Washington yesterday, my votes on the following rollcalls would have been as follows:

- Roll No. 196, Deal Amendment—"yes."
- Roll No. 197, Markey Amendment—"no."
- Roll No. 198, DeLauro Amendment—"yes."
- Roll No. 199, Andrews Amendment—"yes."
- Roll No. 200, Berkley Amendment—"no."
- Roll No. 201, Markey Amendment—"yes."
- Roll No. 202, Bishop Amendment—"no."
- Roll No. 203, Hefley Amendment—"no."
- Roll No. 204, Flake Amendment—"yes."
- Roll No. 205, Flake Amendment—"yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably absent for a portion of the House's proceedings on May 18th and all proceedings on May 19th due to very urgent personal family business.

Had I been present on May 19, for the four votes which occurred during consideration of H.R. 5385, Making appropriations for the military quality of life functions of the Department of Defense, military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

I would have voted "aye;" on rollcall vote 176—Final Passage;

I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 175—the Blumenauer Amendment;

I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 174—the Rule on H.R. 5385;

I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 173—ordering the "Previous Question"—(Rule on H.R. 5385).

And, Mr. Speaker, had I been present on May 18, for the final five votes which occurred during consideration of H.R. 5386, Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

I would have voted "aye;" on rollcall vote 172—Final Passage—H.R. 5386;

I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 171—the Hefley Colorado Amendment;

I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 170—the Putnam of Florida Amendment;

I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 169—the Oberstar of Minnesota Amendment;

I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote 168—the Chabot of Ohio Amendment.

CONGRATULATING INTERNATIONAL FIRE MARSHALS ASSOCIATION

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the members of the International Fire Marshals Association (IFMA), who will be celebrating their 100th anniversary on June 6. I particularly would like to commend Ron Farr, Past President of IFMA and current Fire Chief and Fire Marshall for the Kalamazoo Township Fire Department. I applaud Ron and his courageous colleagues for their tireless efforts to keep our community safe.

Since it was formed in 1906, the men and women of the International Fire Marshals Association have dedicated themselves to saving the lives, homes, and properties of folks throughout our great Nation. Today, the Association has over 1,800 members representing over 20 nations and we are truly grateful for their service here in southwest Michigan.

There is nothing more important to us than the safety of our loved ones, and this organi-

zation has stood watch, protecting the public for the last 100 years. I would like to thank the International Fire Marshals Association and its membership for the continued quality service they provide our community and congratulate them once again on this milestone. We are truly fortunate to have folks like Ron Farr and his colleagues in southwest Michigan, dedicating their lives in the name of public safety.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR. FRED L. MCGHEE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, south Alabama recently lost a friend, dear not only to the Poarch Creek Band of Creek Indians but to the entire State of Alabama. Today, I rise to pay tribute to the memory of Mr. Fred L. McGhee.

Elected first as chairman of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians at the age of 50 in 2000, Fred served honorably and respectfully, bringing cohesion to the Poarch Creek community and the surrounding city of Atmore.

Fred grew up in the close-knit Poarch Creek community in south Alabama and attended the Poarch Consolidated Indian School where his initial love for Native American culture began to germinate. He devoted his time to the intense study of Indian culture as well as historic preservation. Coupled with his previous experience in leading the nine-member Tribal Council, he was the natural fit to be chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing this beloved member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. Fred will be greatly missed by his eight sisters; three sons, Greg McGhee of Atmore, Joe McGhee and Fred Lee McGhee, both of Pensacola, Florida; two daughters, Tracy McGhee and Cierra McGhee, both of Atmore; four grandchildren; and friends that he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

ON THE VETERANS IDENTITY PROTECTION (VIP) ACT

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I introduce the Veterans Identity Protection (VIP) Act.

On May 3, 2006, a personally-owned computer was stolen from the home of a VA employee. The stolen files contained information that included the names, birth dates, and social security numbers of 26.5 million veterans. This represents data from every military veteran discharged since 1975.

This legislation will ensure that our veterans are made whole as a result of any damages suffered by a veteran as a result of this theft. The VA's mission is to serve and honor our Nation's veterans. We must do more than just provide a call center and put the burden on our veterans to deal with the consequences of this blunder.

This legislation will set up an independent Office for Veterans Identity Theft Claims to receive, process, and pay claims in accordance with this Act.

I am here today to introduce a bill that will ensure that Veterans will be made whole if they are harmed by this release of information without spending years in court and thousands of dollars for lawyers.

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues that May is Mental Health Month. I would also like to thank those who have dedicated their lives to mental health care.

Now more than ever, we must commit ourselves to full mental health parity. Nearly 30 million Americans suffer from mental health disorders and more than 1 in 5 Americans will experience a mental health disorder in their lifetimes. Many millions suffer from serious, debilitating, and life altering mental disorders such as Alzheimer's and schizophrenia. Nearly every American has friends and relatives that cope with such disorders.

Mental health professionals not only help people with organic mental health disorders, but also help people recovering from traumatic and life changing experiences. Over the last few years, Americans have experienced the trauma of a major terrorist attack and two wars overseas. Tens of thousands of families have experienced firsthand the loss or serious injury of a loved one. Tens of thousands of soldiers who have sustained serious injuries will need assistance adjusting to a life far different than they left. Thousands of American soldiers will return home in need of mental health services related to their combat experiences.

I hope that the Committee on Education and the Workforce will continue to work to ensure that the mental health needs of the elderly are met as we reauthorize the Older Americans Act. The elderly are the most vulnerable to mental health disorders and elderly men are the demographic most to likely commit suicide. Specifically, I want to ensure that senior citizens have access to mental health services in their community or in the same place that they receive primary health care services. I am pleased that we are beginning to make some headway on this important issue.

HONORING THE IMMORTAL FOUR CHAPLAINS OF THE USS (USAT) "DORCHESTER"

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, sacrifice is a common virtue of the U.S. Armed Forces and this Memorial Day we will pause to honor our fallen men and women in uniform. Throughout history, members of the Armed Forces have lost their lives to preserve our freedoms. Sixty-

three years ago, Father John Washington, Reverend Clark Poling, Rabbi Alexander Goode and Reverend George Fox died aboard the USS (USAT) *Dorchester* on February 3, 1943, as a result of a torpedo attack by a German U-Boat.

In the mayhem after the attack, the Four Chaplains provided comfort to fallen soldiers and handed out life vests to the survivors. After the life vests ran out, they removed their own life vests, gave them to needy soldiers, and stood arm-in-arm together praying for the comfort of the soldiers. Eighteen minutes after the attack, the USS (USAT) *Dorchester* sunk with the Four Chaplains aboard. John Koenig, a resident of the 7th District of Virginia wrote of their sacrifice in a letter saying "By putting others in front of themselves without regard to race, creed, or color, thus in making the ultimate sacrifice costing each his life so that others might live, they exemplified the finest in saintly virtues."

On behalf of the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Midlothian, Virginia, and the following members of the vestry: Alison Althouse—Senior Warden; Margaret Stevens—Registrar; Reverend Stephen Cowardin—Rector; Reverend Kathryn Jenkins; Rose O'Toole; Stewart Dendler; Leonard Vance; John Flikeid; Jo Anne Simpkins; Matthew Whitworth; Betsy Collins; Lois Thompson; Stefani Ross; Jennifer Wester; and William White, I am honored to recognize the sacrifices of the Immortal Four Chaplains of the USS (USAT) *Dorchester*.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES J. VINCENT,
JR.

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man of honor, faith, family, and selfless service. On April 13, James (Jim) J. Vincent, Jr. lost his life when the County Rescue helicopter he was piloting had a catastrophic failure.

Jim Vincent was a native of my home town of Menominee, Michigan. Jim excelled at high school sports and developed discipline, leadership, and respect at an early age. He enlisted in the United States Navy, where he spent 6 years serving his country. Wanting to become a pilot, he joined the United States Coast Guard, received world-class training, and began flying search and rescue missions.

I had the pleasure of working with Jim when he moved to Traverse City, Michigan, and was based out of the Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City. On a couple of occasions I flew with Jim. His skills as a pilot were impeccable. He took his job seriously, and Jim was the consummate professional. He had an ability to relate and work well with officers, enlisted men, and civilians. He treated everyone with respect and was always willing to lend a hand.

There are countless stories of Jim helping others with everything from re-wiring their homes, to work at the local American Legion, to helping friends pack up and move during relocation for work. One of the more touching stories about Jim was told by a fellow Coast Guardsman who went through officer training school with him. This cadet was at a point

where he wasn't sure if he could complete the training. During one particularly difficult training task, Jim put his arm around his classmate and told him "You know what, it's gonna be all right." That classmate found strength in Jim's words and managed to complete officer training school. He went on to become Cmdr. Sam Creech, who is now the operations officer at Jim's old base, Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City.

After 20 years of combined service in the Navy and Coast Guard, Jim and his family moved back home to Menominee where they could be near their extended family and build their dream home. Jim, his wife Gina, their sons, Jim III and Luke, and their daughter, Vanessa, worked together on construction of their home overlooking the waters of Green Bay. They put a lot of sweat and love into the home.

Jim worked for a while as a contract employee for the Navy at the Marinette Marine shipyard, just across the Michigan/Wisconsin border from Menominee. However, Jim wanted to continue to fly helicopters. In the summer of 2004 he landed a job with County Rescue flying Eagle III, an emergency air and ground transportation program, which provides Critical Care level treatments during rapid transport of critically ill or injured patients. The job was just outside Green Bay, Wisconsin, which required days away from home. Jim found the job very rewarding and by all accounts, he quickly earned the respect and admiration of his peers. While he was serious about his job, he also had a great sense of humor—often playing pranks on co-workers.

Mr. Speaker, for anyone who works in the military there are significant sacrifices that their families make in terms of time away from the family. While Jim did need to spend time away from his family throughout his career, he always had a deep love for his family. Jim had a strong faith in God and was an active member of Holy Redeemer Catholic Church. He and Gina believe in the power of God. In February they attended a conference put on by Father John Corapi and Jim was fond of Father Corapi's teachings. Now, as Gina, Jim III, Luke, and Vanessa struggle to move forward with their lives, they have turned to God for strength and comfort. With this strong faith, support from family and friends, and with time, I am confident that they will find the strength to persevere.

As we commemorate this Memorial Day, I am reminded of a beautiful sunny summer day in Traverse City when Jim Vincent walked across the Coast Guard hanger to greet a veteran who was seated awaiting the start of a program. As Jim approached the veteran, he reached out to shake the man's hand and simply said, "Sir, thank you for your service to our country." The veteran's eyes welled with tears as he replied, "You're welcome." So as I conclude Mr. Speaker let me simply say "Jim, thank you for your service to our country."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, during consideration of the Agri-

culture Appropriations Act of 2007, on May 23, 2006, I inadvertently voted in favor of an amendment, H. Amdt. 895, offered by Representative BLUMENAUER.

It was my intention to vote in opposition to the amendment. My true intention was to vote "no."

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union has under consideration the bill (H.R. 5427), making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to thank the chairman and staff of the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee for their continued support of the Florida Everglades FY07 Energy and Water Appropriations bill.

This legislation includes funding for the Army Corp of Engineers to proceed with Everglades Restoration, which will ensure natural water flows continue through Everglades National Park.

The Florida Everglades is a unique and precious ecosystem that must be preserved for future generations. Everglades Restoration is an invaluable investment that will ensure the Everglades is restored and protected.

I am pleased that the chairman included \$164 million for Everglades Restoration, which is so critical to ensuring continuation of this vital project. Just last week, the Interior Appropriations bill included an additional \$69 million for Restoration. The funding provided in the Interior bill, combined with that in the Energy and Water bill, will together provide a total of \$233 million to allow restoration to move forward.

I thank my colleagues from Florida for their continued support of the Florida Everglades and Restoration funding. Additionally, I would like to thank the Governor of Florida for his steadfast support of Everglades Restoration. Floridians understand the great benefit the Everglades provide not just to our ecological diversity, but also to our economy, which is so dependent upon tourism and ecotourism.

On behalf of myself, and the residents of southern Florida I am so proud to represent, I thank the chairman for his support of this funding.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO VERNON AND DARLENE BURK

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Vernon and Darlene Burk for their 55 years of marriage and for their service to the Boulder City community.

Their 55 years of marriage exemplify a loving relationship. They both are hard-working, generous, compassionate, resourceful, wise and are outstanding role models for their four children, Dianna, Karen, Jackie, and Michael and six grandchildren.

Vernon and Darlene's exceptional character is evident in their professional lives as well. Vern served the Clark County School District for 30 years, retiring as the Associate Superintendent of Facilities and Transportation. He now serves on the Boulder City Hospital Board. As a small business owner, Darlene ran the Burk Fine Arts Gallery for 25 years. Darlene not only participated in the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce, she also served as President. During her time with the Chamber of Commerce, she was instrumental in creating the Old Town Merchants Association and was named "Woman of the Year."

Both Vernon and Darlene are extremely active in Bethany Baptist Church, where Vernon is on the Board of Elders and Darlene had served as treasurer. Five years ago, the Burk Horizon Academy, an alternative high school in Las Vegas, was named in their honor. They also managed the renovation of the Boulder City Dam Hotel, a historic landmark and place to be for the rich and famous during the 1930s.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Vernon and Darlene Burk on the floor of the United States House of Representatives. They are very good, personal friends of mine, and I thank them for their continued service to the State of Nevada.

RECOGNIZING ARTURO S.
RODRIGUEZ

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague from California, Mr. BERMAN, to pay tribute to Arturo S. Rodriguez, president of the United Farmworkers of America, a longtime advocate for the rights of workers and working families.

Rodriguez was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas, and earned a bachelor's degree from St. Mary's University in 1971 and a master's degree in social work in 1973 from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. Rodriguez learned of the farmworker movement and Cesar Chavez in 1966 from his parish priest, and became active with the farmworker movement as a college student. He first met Cesar Chavez in 1973, and soon after married Chavez' daughter, Linda.

Throughout the 1970s, Rodriguez worked with United Farm Workers to push for farm worker rights, including the pioneering Agricultural Labor Relations Act, which passed the California State Legislature in 1975. Rodriguez helped organize union representation elections throughout California, from the Salinas Valley to the Imperial Valley on the Mexican border to Ventura County citrus orchards. By fall 1979, Rodriguez was directing a UFW lettuce boycott in Michigan.

Throughout the 1980s and early 1990s, Rodriguez was directly involved with renewed grape boycotts, involving pressure on business, a public fast by Chavez, and walkouts

by grape workers to try and gain the first wage increase in 8 years. The UFW-supported 1992 grape worker walkout was a part of the largest vineyard demonstrations since 1973 in the Coachella and San Joaquin valleys. The UFW organized thousands of workers at dozens of ranches to participate in the walkouts. Those efforts produced an industry-wide pay raise.

Rodriguez became UFW president in May 1993, shortly after Cesar Chavez' death. Rodriguez recruited 10,000 new farmworkers as associate union members in the year after he assumed the UFW presidency. On the first anniversary of the Chavez' passing, Rodriguez led a 343-mile Delano-to-Sacramento march retracing the steps of an historic trek by Chavez in 1966. Since then, the UFW has won over 20 union elections and signed over 20 new, or first-time, contracts with growers.

Farm workers under most UFW contracts at mushroom, rose, citrus, strawberry, wine grape and vegetable companies enjoy decent pay, complete family medical care, job security, paid holidays and vacations, pensions and a host of other benefits. Unfortunately, the majority of farm workers in California and the rest of the nation still have none of these protections. Arturo Rodriguez continues to advocate for federal legislation that would allow undocumented farm workers and their family members to earn legal status by working in agriculture.

Rodriguez lives at the UFW's national headquarters at La Paz in Keene, Calif. He has three children, Olivia, Julia and Arthur IV, plus two grandchildren, Isabella and Sofia. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring Artie for his commitment to farmworkers and their families throughout our Nation.

HONORING THE AFRICAN AMERICAN
EDUCATION TASK FORCE

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the African American Task Force for its clear record of success in encouraging and acknowledging academic achievement by African American youth in Oakland, California.

This month, the African American Education Task Force Held its Fifth Annual Awards Celebration at the ACTS Full Gospel Church in Oakland. At this celebration, almost 1,200 African American students from the 8th through 12th grades were honored for attaining grade point averages of 3.00 or above for the 2005-2006 school year.

These outstanding young people's accomplishments are especially remarkable in light of the great budgetary challenges faced by the State of California and the Oakland schools. I want to commend each and every student being honored for this outstanding accomplishment for understanding the importance of staying in school and the responsibility each individual has to take advantage of the educational opportunities available to him or her. By continuing to be the best students you can be and completing your education, you will have more opportunity to achieve your personal goals and our shared goal of world peace. Your accomplishments represent your dedication and commitment to achieving your

goals, and I am proud of you. The skills you have learned and the discipline you have developed will benefit you greatly.

I am honored to represent you in the United States House of Representatives, and on behalf of all the residents of California's 9th U.S. Congressional District, I again salute you on your exemplary academic performance. I am confident that in the years to come you will continue your record of service and success, and I wish you the very best in all of your future endeavors.

SUN WALL

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced a bill to direct the administrator of General Services to install a photovoltaic system, known as the "Sun Wall" on the headquarters building of the Department of Energy. There is no more appropriate Federal building with which to demonstrate the power and promise of photovoltaics than the Department of Energy headquarters building, known as the Forrestal Building, located in Washington, DC.

Photovoltaics reduce the consumption of fossil fuels and offer distinct advantages over diesel generators and primary batteries. Photovoltaics are highly efficient and have no moving parts, so the need for maintenance is virtually nonexistent. Over 25 Federal buildings throughout the country, from Boston, MA, to San Francisco, CA, already use photovoltaics to great effect.

Located in our Nation's Capital, the Sun Wall project will serve as a model for the entire country. The design for the Sun Wall project has already been selected after an open competition. It is an attractive and energy efficient design that can generate a maximum of 200 kW of electricity and includes a solar thermal installation for hot water and hot air. The Sun Wall would be the largest building-integrated solar energy system on any Federal building in the country. All that is left to do is to provide the funding needed to purchase and install the proper equipment.

Mr. Speaker, an identical provision to this bill was enacted as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Public Law 109-58, last August. While the bill authorized funding for fiscal year 2006, no funding was appropriated for that year. This bill offers the same language as was included in that act, but allows funding to be appropriated in fiscal year 2007.

PALESTINIAN ANTI-TERRORISM
ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2006

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today, the House considers H.R. 4681, legislation that I'm sad to say is both overbroad in its reach and misses the mark by penalizing the Palestinian people without compelling Hamas to abandon its anti-Israeli rhetoric, its rejectionist policies and its support for terror and violence.

First of all Madam Speaker, I want to be clear: I have always and continue to unequivocally denounce and condemn any and all terrorist acts, whether committed by Hamas or any other terrorist group.

That is why I voted for S. Con. Res. 79 in February which declared that that no U.S. assistance should be provided directly to the Palestinian Authority if any representative political party holding a majority of parliamentary seats within the Palestinian Authority maintains a position calling for the destruction of Israel.

My position on Hamas's responsibilities in light of its having attained a majority of seats in the Palestinian Legislative Council, and thus its assumption of power as the governing party of the Palestinian Authority, has been clear:

Hamas must recognize Israel;
Hamas must renounce violence and terrorism;

Hamas must abide by previous peace agreements, like the Oslo accord, and act in accordance with the Roadmap; and

Hamas must return the Palestinians to the negotiating table with Israel, and reach the mutually agreeable peace agreement that is called for in the Roadmap and the earlier agreements.

This is Hamas's responsibility of governance. I believe the United States should do everything that it can to both insist upon and

to facilitate Hamas taking up this burden of responsibility, and we should not rest until the goal of a negotiated settlement is achieved. Moreover, we should not slow the Middle East peace process by making these targets preconditions for our engagement in the process. As the assassinated Israeli Prime Minister Yitzak Rabin reminded us: I do not need to make peace with my friends.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to understand that engagement and negotiation for peace is a process, not an event, and it necessarily involves the belligerents to a conflict, not those whom we would aspire to put at the negotiating table.

I agree that we should not fund Hamas, but not at the expense of average Palestinians, which is the end result of this legislation. Among other things, this legislation obstructs a return to negotiations by imposing an impossible-to-achieve Presidential certification process. This legislation undermines U.S. national security interests by eliminating the President's authority to waive sanctions in the interests of national security. This legislation restricts U.S. diplomacy with moderate Palestinians by failing to distinguish between those in government and other political leaders and activists who are not affiliated with Hamas and have rejected terror, recognized Israel, and support a two-state solution. These are a few of the important reasons this legislation needs to be rewritten.

Madam Speaker, supporting the fragile Middle East peace process requires us to keep as many channels as possible open and to those who are empowered by their electorate to represent their interests at the negotiating table.

That's why we must reject counterproductive proposals like H.R. 4681 and continue working on all fronts to ensure the goal of a peaceful, two-state solution between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5427), making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Chairman, under general leave for H.R. 5427, the Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2007, I submit the following table:

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL FY 2007 (H.R. 5427)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2006 Enacted	FY 2007 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE - CIVIL					
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY					
Corps of Engineers - Civil					
Investigations.....	162,360	94,000	128,000	-34,360	+34,000
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 109-148).....	37,300	---	---	-37,300	---
Construction.....	2,348,280	1,555,000	1,947,171	-401,109	+392,171
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 109-148).....	101,417	---	---	-101,417	---
Rescission.....	---	---	-56,046	-56,046	-56,046
Subtotal, Construction.....	2,449,697	1,555,000	1,891,125	-558,572	+336,125
Flood control, Mississippi River and tributaries, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee.....	396,000	278,000	290,607	-105,393	+12,607
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 109-148).....	153,750	---	---	-153,750	---
Operations and Maintenance.....	1,969,110	2,258,000	2,195,471	+226,361	-62,529
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 109-148).....	327,517	---	---	-327,517	---
Regulatory program.....	158,400	173,000	173,000	+14,600	---
FUSRAP.....	138,600	130,000	130,000	-8,600	---
Flood control and coastal emergencies.....	---	81,000	32,000	+32,000	-49,000
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 109-148).....	2,277,965	---	---	-2,277,965	---
General expenses.....	152,460	164,000	142,100	-10,360	-21,900
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 109-148).....	1,600	---	---	-1,600	---
Office of Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works).....	3,960	---	1,500	-2,460	+1,500
Total, title I, Department of Defense - Civil... Appropriations.....	8,228,719	4,733,000	4,983,803	-3,244,916	+250,803
Emergency appropriations.....	(5,329,170)	(4,733,000)	(4,983,803)	(-345,367)	(+250,803)
Emergency appropriations.....	(2,899,549)	---	---	(-2,899,549)	---
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR					
Central Utah Project Completion Account					
Central Utah project construction.....	31,351	37,587	37,587	+6,236	---
Fish, wildlife, and recreation mitigation and conservation.....	937	965	965	+28	---
Subtotal.....	32,288	38,552	38,552	+6,264	---
Program oversight and administration.....	1,719	1,603	1,603	-116	---
Total, Central Utah project completion account..	34,007	40,155	40,155	+6,148	---
Bureau of Reclamation					
Water and related resources.....	874,679	833,424	849,122	-25,557	+15,698
Rescission.....	---	-88,000	-88,000	-88,000	---
Subtotal, water and related resources.....	874,679	745,424	761,122	-113,557	+15,698
Central Valley project restoration fund.....	52,219	41,478	41,478	-10,741	---
California Bay-Delta restoration.....	36,630	38,610	40,110	+3,480	+1,500
Policy and administration.....	57,338	58,069	58,069	+731	---
Total, Bureau of Reclamation.....	1,020,866	883,581	900,779	-120,087	+17,198
Total, title II, Department of the Interior.....	1,054,873	923,736	940,934	-113,939	+17,198

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL FY 2007 (H.R. 5427)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2006 Enacted	FY 2007 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
TITLE III - DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY					
Energy supply and conservation.....	1,812,627	1,923,361	2,025,527	+212,900	+102,166
Clean coal technology:					
Deferral of unobligated balances, FY 2005.....	257,000	---	---	-257,000	---
Deferral of unobligated balances, FY 2007.....	-257,000	257,000	257,000	+514,000	---
Rescission, uncommitted balances.....	-20,000	-203,000	-257,000	-237,000	-54,000
Transfer to Fossil Energy R&D.....	---	-54,000	---	---	+54,000
Total, Clean coal technology.....	-20,000	---	---	+20,000	---
Fossil Energy Research and Development.....	592,014	469,686	558,204	-33,810	+88,518
Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserves.....	21,285	18,810	18,810	-2,475	---
Elk Hills School Lands Fund.....	83,160	---	---	-83,160	---
Strategic petroleum reserve.....	164,340	155,430	155,430	-8,910	---
Northeast home heating oil reserve.....	---	4,950	4,950	+4,950	---
Energy Information Administration.....	85,314	89,769	89,769	+4,455	---
Non-defense environmental clean up.....	349,687	310,358	309,946	-39,741	-412
Uranium enrichment decontamination and decommissioning fund.....	556,606	579,368	579,368	+22,762	---
Science.....	3,596,393	4,101,710	4,131,710	+535,317	+30,000
Nuclear Waste Disposal.....	148,500	156,420	186,420	+37,920	+30,000
Departmental administration.....	250,289	278,382	278,382	+28,093	---
Miscellaneous revenues.....	-121,770	-123,000	-123,000	-1,230	---
Net appropriation.....	128,519	155,382	155,382	+26,863	---
Office of the Inspector General.....	41,580	45,507	45,507	+3,927	---
Atomic Energy Defense Activities					
National Nuclear Security Administration:					
Weapons activities.....	6,369,603	6,407,889	6,412,001	+42,398	+4,112
Defense nuclear nonproliferation.....	1,614,839	1,726,213	1,593,101	-21,738	-133,112
Naval reactors.....	781,605	795,133	795,133	+13,528	---
Office of the Administrator.....	338,450	386,576	399,576	+61,126	+13,000
Subtotal, National Nuclear Security Administration.....	9,104,497	9,315,811	9,199,811	+95,314	-116,000
Defense environmental cleanup.....	6,130,448	5,390,312	5,551,812	-578,636	+161,500
Other defense activities.....	635,577	717,788	720,788	+85,211	+3,000
Defense nuclear waste disposal.....	346,500	388,080	388,080	+41,580	---
Total, Atomic Energy Defense Activities.....	16,217,022	15,811,991	15,860,491	-356,531	+48,500
Power Marketing Administrations					
Operation and maintenance, Southeastern Power Administration.....	37,930	40,115	53,726	+15,796	+13,611
Offsetting collection.....	-32,386	-34,392	-48,003	-15,617	-13,611
Subtotal, O&M, Southeastern Power Administration	5,544	5,723	5,723	+179	---
Operation and maintenance, Southwestern Power Administration.....	32,834	34,539	45,139	+12,305	+10,600
Offsetting collection.....	-2,970	---	-13,600	-10,630	-13,600
Offsetting collection (P.L. 106-377).....	---	-3,000	---	---	+3,000
Subtotal, O&M, Southwestern Power Administration	29,864	31,539	31,539	+1,675	---
Construction, rehabilitation, operation and maintenance, Western Area Power Administration.....	511,982	490,770	688,511	+176,529	+197,741
Offsetting collection.....	-276,210	---	-472,593	-196,383	-472,593
Offsetting collection (P.L. 98-381).....	-4,120	-3,705	-3,705	+415	---
Offsetting collection (P.L. 106-377).....	---	-274,852	---	---	+274,852
Subtotal, O&M, Western Area Power Administration	231,652	212,213	212,213	-19,439	---

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL FY 2007 (H.R. 5427)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2006 Enacted	FY 2007 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Falcon and Amistad operating and maintenance fund.....	2,665	2,500	2,500	-165	---
Total, Power Marketing Administrations.....	269,725	251,975	251,975	-17,750	---
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission					
Salaries and expenses.....	218,196	230,800	230,800	+12,604	---
Revenues applied.....	-218,196	-230,800	-230,800	-12,604	---
Total, title III, Department of Energy.....	24,046,772	24,074,717	24,373,489	+326,717	+298,772
Appropriations.....	(24,031,132)	(24,277,717)	(24,630,489)	(+599,357)	(+352,772)
Advance appropriations from previous years..	(35,640)	---	---	(-35,640)	---
Rescissions.....	(-20,000)	(-203,000)	(-257,000)	(-237,000)	(-54,000)
TITLE IV - INDEPENDENT AGENCIES					
Appalachian Regional Commission.....	64,817	65,472	35,472	-29,345	-30,000
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.....	21,812	22,260	22,260	+448	---
Delta Regional Authority.....	11,880	5,940	5,940	-5,940	---
Denali Commission.....	49,500	2,536	7,536	-41,964	+5,000
Nuclear Regulatory Commission:					
Salaries and expenses.....	727,032	768,410	808,410	+81,378	+40,000
Revenues.....	-611,010	-620,328	-656,328	-45,318	-36,000
Subtotal.....	116,022	148,082	152,082	+36,060	+4,000
Office of Inspector General.....	8,233	8,144	8,144	-89	---
Revenues.....	-7,410	-7,330	-7,330	+80	---
Subtotal.....	823	814	814	-9	---
Total, Nuclear Regulatory Commission.....	116,845	148,896	152,896	+36,051	+4,000
Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.....	3,572	3,670	3,670	+98	---
Tennessee Valley Authority: Office of Inspector					
General.....	---	15,100	---	---	-15,100
Offset.....	---	-15,100	---	---	+15,100
Total, title IV, Independent agencies.....	268,426	248,774	227,774	-40,652	-21,000
Grand total.....	33,598,790	29,980,227	30,526,000	-3,072,790	+545,773
Appropriations.....	(30,683,601)	(30,271,227)	(30,871,000)	(+187,399)	(+599,773)
Emergency appropriations.....	(2,899,549)	---	---	(-2,899,549)	---
Rescission.....	(-20,000)	(-291,000)	(-345,000)	(-325,000)	(-54,000)
Advance appropriations from previous years..	(35,640)	---	---	(-35,640)	---