

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### REFINERY PERMIT PROCESS SCHEDULE ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 7, 2006*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address H.R. 5254. While I join my colleagues in recognizing the need for resolving our Nation's problematic energy situation, I fear this bill may seek a solution by way of shortcuts that will only exacerbate the problem or develop new ones.

I believe most importantly that this bill problematically interferes with past base closure and realignment (BRAC) rounds. If nothing else, the bill will take away the legal right of communities to determine how local bases will be redeveloped. This is inconsistent with the principles this Congress has stood for when it comes to the base closure process and it is inconsistent with enabling local entities to seek what is best for their local communities instead of having those in Washington choose it for them.

Some communities face the possibility of having the power to determine how best to utilize lands on closed bases stripped away from them and given to the Secretary of Defense. This would jeopardize plans these communities have already developed, including projects for which they have already invested time and money. Expectations of entire local governments and public constituencies could be jeopardized. This is not good government.

The BRAC process has followed a simple and important principle associated with base closure: that the transformation of military installations to civilian use, once properly closed and environmentally cleaned up by the Federal Government, is best left in the hands of the community, not the Federal Government. H.R. 5254 would deprive some communities of this critical option and undercut this principle.

A closed military base on Guam has been converted into the Antonio B. Won Pat International Airport (GIAA). It is a crucial trade and transportation hub in the Western Pacific Region today. Interfering with the process that enables successes like the conversion to a commercial airport on Guam, a process that is often a difficult one for communities faced with job losses and lost economic expenditures from base personnel, is bad policy.

This bill nonetheless would give the Department of Defense the ability to flaunt BRAC law and the BRAC process by allowing the Secretary of Defense to designate three previously closed bases for the construction of oil refineries, themselves assets our Nation does need to grow, that could then be transferred to oil companies, potentially at no cost, irrespective of local redevelopment plans, irrespective of environmental cleanup needed at the base and irrespective of community desires and previous planning. I do not support the construction of refineries at the expense of local

communities. I am confident that current law sufficiently incentivizes refinery construction and that the oil industry, with record profits, can appropriately seek land and locations to construct these resources without having to rely upon land on closed military installations.

I might add that on Guam, H.R. 5254 is redundant. Shell Guam, with a large presence on Guam, has repeatedly offered the Department of Defense the ability to lease both significant storage facilities and refining capacity available on the island. The Department of Defense has never acted on this opportunity nor responded to the invitation.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I note that there is currently nothing that prevents the building of refineries on closed bases if a community chooses to do so. It is my understanding some communities with a closed base may even desire to host a refinery. But it should be their choice, not the sole decision of the federal government imposed on the local community. Those American communities already stricken by the economic pains of base closure should not and cannot now find that their reliance on BRAC law that enables community choices on how to redevelop land on closed bases will have been faulty. I do not believe that our country's energy situation can be solved at the expense of these communities and therefore am deeply concerned about H.R. 5254.

I join my colleagues in their concern with our country's over-reliance on oil, about our lack of refining capacity and about the need to develop policy to overcome these challenges. Unfortunately, H.R. 5254 goes too far and in the wrong direction in an attempt to address these challenges.

CONGRATULATING DR. PATRICIA  
DONOHUE FOR BEING NAMED  
RECIPIENT OF THE WILKES-  
BARRE CHAMBER OF BUSINESS  
AND INDUSTRY'S ATHENA  
AWARD

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Dr. Patricia Donohue, president of the Luzerne County Community College, in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania, who was a recipient of the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry's prestigious "Athena Award."

The Athena Award honors women who show excellence in business accomplishments, community service, personal achievements, and assisting the efforts of other women working toward their full leadership potential.

The concept started in 1980 when Martha Mayhood Mertz, then serving on the Board of Directors of the Lansing Michigan Regional

Chamber of Commerce, realized that only one woman was recognized for excellence in her Chamber in 75 years. Since its inception in Michigan, thousands of ATHENA Awards have been presented throughout North America, Eastern Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.

The Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber has honored local women for their achievements since 1985. MotorWorld Automotive Group has remained a sponsor of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber's ATHENA Award during that tenure.

Dr. Donohue oversees a \$36 million budget and remains active in the community volunteering her time with several organizations. She has spent countless hours providing guidance and mentorship to female professionals and young women.

Dr. Donohue is a member of the board of directors of the Luzerne Foundation, Osterhout Free Library, F.M. Kirby Center and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber. She is a member of the Council of Presidents of Luzerne County and serves on the board and executive committee of the Joint Urban Studies Center.

Dr. Donohue has made a lifelong commitment to Girl Scouting and serves on the Executive Committee of the Girl Scouts of Penn's Woods Council. She served as the first chair of the NEPA Technology Institute and is a graduate of the Leadership Wilkes-Barre Executive Leadership program and the Lackawanna Leadership Executive Program.

She is a member of the National Institute for Leadership Development and has sponsored/mentored more than 50 women for leadership training. Dr. Donohue serves on the Board of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges and on the United Way Campaign Cabinet.

Among her many awards are the Outstanding Leadership Award from the American Association of University Women, Harrisburg and the Central Penn Technology Council's Outstanding Service Award. She has been recognized by Who's Who in America and the Outstanding Young Women of America and is the recipient of the Outstanding Service Award from the American Cancer Society, the Merit Recognition Award from Harrisburg Area Community College, and was named Community Woman of the Year by the American Business Women's Association.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Dr. Donohue on this important occasion. Dr. Donohue's commitment to the advancement of women and her devotion to community service have enhanced the quality of life greatly in the Wyoming Valley. It is fitting, indeed, that she be selected for this unique honor.

• 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.

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF THE WOLVES

**HON. MELISSA A. HART**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the National Association of the Wolves and its members for all of their work in the community.

The National Association of the Wolves was founded approximately seventy-five years ago by a group of Italian-American businessmen in New Castle, Pennsylvania. With over 400 members in 14 dens (12 in Western Pennsylvania and 2 in Eastern Ohio), the Wolves promotes higher education among high school students by awarding college scholarships. Over the years, the National Association of the Wolves has raised over \$6.1 million for 2,537 students. In addition to providing scholarships, the Wolves have established endowments at colleges and universities across Western Pennsylvania.

The National Association of the Wolves will hold their national convention August 18 and 19, 2006 at the Avalon Inn in Warren, Ohio.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the National Association of the Wolves. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such a dedicated group like the National Association of the Wolves.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to explain my missed votes of yesterday June 12, 2006. Unfortunately, due to maintenance problems with numerous airplanes I was not able to arrive into Washington, DC until the votes had already closed. Had I been here for rollcall votes 521, 522, 523, 524, and 525 I would have voted aye on all 5 votes.

Mr. Speaker, for far too long the Nation of China has had a record of abusive and abhorrent human rights violations. I am pleased that H. Res. 608, H. Res. 804, and H. Res. 794 were brought to the House floor to bring attention to the continued religious persecution and to remember the horrible events in Tiananmen Square. We must continue to hold China accountable for its actions and these resolutions were a step in the right direction.

I am also glad that H. Con. Res. 338 was brought to the floor again calling on the nations of the Western Hemisphere to work together in combating Islamist terrorist organizations. Terrorism will never be an issue on which we can rest and we must ensure that all nations are working together to secure our borders and our nations against terrorist activities.

Again, I am sorry I was unable to be here for the votes on June 12, 2006, but I hope this explanation adequately conveys my support for these 5 votes.

IN HONOR OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CORNELIA DE LANGE SYNDROME FOUNDATION

**HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation on its 25th anniversary of Reaching Out, Providing Help and Giving Hope to children and their families across the country.

The CdLS Foundation is an outstanding organization that has been serving people and families living with Cornelia de Lange Syndrome since 1981. Their national headquarters is located in the Fifth District of Connecticut, which I represent. The Foundation is a non-profit, family-support organization that works to promote early and accurate diagnosis of CdLS, advance research into the causes of the condition, and assist those with CdLS throughout their lives. Their efforts impact the lives of people throughout the United States.

Mr. Speaker, CdLS is a congenital condition, which means it is present from birth. It impacts on virtually all of a person's being. Physical and mental manifestations of CdLS may include: missing limbs or fingers; severe reflux; feeding difficulties; cleft palate; eye problems; hearing loss; seizures; and behavioral issues. Overall, cognitive and physical development is slowed, and delays in speech and communication are even more pronounced.

The foundation celebrated a medical and scientific breakthrough in April 2004 when a research team led by scientists at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia identified a gene on chromosome 5 that, when mutated, causes CdLS. NIH recently made a substantial grant to support continued research designed to help families and scientists alike understand the cause of CdLS and improve care for people living with this diagnosis.

As a result of this discovery, we now know that CdLS affects approximately 1 in 10,000 live births, and it is thought to be present in as many as 20,000 children who have not been diagnosed. The foundation faces a significant challenge as it attempts to reach out to families who have a child with CdLS, especially those with more mild cases. Interventions and strategies for managing the syndrome and caring for these children can only be utilized once the presence of the syndrome has been confirmed.

In order to raise the visibility of the syndrome, the foundation distributes publications to families and medical professionals, and hosts meetings and conferences where researchers and families can meet to exchange information. The foundation also acts as a facilitator between families and the medical community, utilizing the expertise of its Clinical Advisory Board, a team of more than 40 clinical and education professionals who act as on-call advisors.

Once a family understands that their child has been touched by the syndrome, the foundation relies on its strong volunteer network to support children and families affected by CdLS, as well as educate local community members, government officials, and media about the syndrome. Most of these volunteers

are family members of someone living with CdLS.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that an organization with such integrity and willingness to help their fellow citizens has called Avon, CT its home. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking and recognizing the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation for its tremendous efforts.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. TOMMY CROOKS

**HON. SPENCER BACHUS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, doctors of optometry from around the Nation will convene in Las Vegas, NV, June 22–26 for the American Optometric Association's 109th annual convention. On Saturday, June 24, they will elect Dr. Tommy Crooks as the association's 85th president.

Doctors of optometry are the Nation's largest eye care profession, serving patients in nearly 6,500 communities across the country, in more than 3,500 of these communities; they are the only eye doctors. The American Optometric Association is the professional society for optometrists nationwide and has more than 34,000 members. Dr. Crooks will lead the association on its mission to improve eye and vision care in the United States.

Dr. Crooks is a resident of Birmingham, AL. He is a native son, a 1975 graduate of the University of Alabama and a 1979 graduate of the University of Alabama's School of Optometry who has practiced optometry in our State for 27 years. He is currently president and CEO of Eyecare Associates, Inc., in Birmingham, AL, a group practice consisting of 19 locations and 33 doctors.

Dr. Crooks has been a leader in his profession at the State, regional and national levels. He has been a member of the Alabama Optometric Association since 1979, serving as president in 1990. In 1985, the Alabama Optometric Association named Dr. Crooks Alabama Optometrist of the Year. He is also a past president of the Southern Council of Optometrists and the Birmingham Area Optometric Society and in 1990 was named University of Alabama-Birmingham Alumnus of the Year.

At the national level, Dr. Crooks has been a member of American Optometric Association, AOA, since 1979, and has served in the association's volunteer structure since 1989. He was elected to the AOA Board of Trustees in 1999 and was re-elected in 2002.

Dr. Tommy Crooks has built a distinguished record of service and leadership in his profession and in his community. I am confident that he will have a very successful term as president of the American Optometric Association. I join his wife Kaye and their two sons, his friends and colleagues in congratulating him on this achievement and wishing him good luck and good health.

RECOGNIZING THE INDUCTION OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL FRED H. CARLEY INTO THE MOBILE, AL, HALL OF FAME

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to rise today to extend my congratulations to LTC Fred H. Carley for his induction into the Mobile Alabama Hall of Fame. As a resident in my district, Mr. Carley has left a great and lasting impact on North-west Florida and Southeastern Alabama.

Fred Carley has always served as an active member in his community, be it encouraging young people through physical fitness and activities or proudly serving his country as an officer in the Air Force. A native of the Fowl River community in south Mobile County, AL, Fred Carley earned three degrees during his two active military tours at Auburn University, where he excelled in athletics, the arts, and academics.

During his professional career as an engineer, he still found time to coach both the Murphy High School and University of South Alabama track and cross-country teams, which went on to win many awards. Since his transfer to Eglin Air Force Base in 1969, Fred Carley has contributed to the fitness and well-being of countless young athletes in Northwest Florida, often leading them to national records and championships. He has also served as a member of the Senior Bowl Committee, SEAAU chairman of athletics, and president of the Air Force Engineering Association.

Lieutenant Colonel Carley has received many awards for his achievements. He was honored with the Presidential Physical Fitness Leadership Award, selected as 1 of 12 in the Nation, in 1964. He was also elected to the U.S. Military Packaging Hall of Fame for his work with the Department of Defense.

Mr. Speaker, the dedication that Frank Carley has shown to his students, community, and country is immeasurable. His service as a coach, mentor, U.S. Air Force officer, and engineer has benefited so many in Florida's First District and its surrounding areas for over 50 years. I congratulate LTC Frank Carley for his induction into the Mobile Alabama Hall of Fame and wish to thank him on behalf of the United States Congress for serving as a strong role model for generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO DONNIE IRIS

**HON. MELISSA A. HART**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Donnie Iris, an entertainer who hails from my district, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania.

Donnie Iris, a singer, first learned how to sing from his mother. In 1970, as a member of the Jaggerz, he earned a gold record for writing and singing the song "The Rapper". He then formed "Donnie Iris and the Cruisers" with his friend Mark Avsec. The band had the hit song "My Girl" and began to tour non-stop in 1980.

In August 2004, the band celebrated their 25th anniversary. This past May they released the album "Ellwood City". The title track "Ellwood City" is reminiscent of Iris's childhood growing up in the area. On Saturday, June 17, 2006 Armstrong cable is hosting an event honoring the musical achievements of Donnie Iris at the Folino Entertainment Stage in Ewing Park.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Donnie Iris and all of his musical and entertainment accomplishments. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

CONGRATULATING THE GREATER HAZLETON CAN-DO ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the Greater Hazleton CAN-DO organization on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

In 1956, when the deep anthracite coal mines were closing and regional unemployment reached 30 percent, Dr. Edgar Dessen, a local radiologist, formed a new committee to investigate how best to go about economic development.

Realizing that they would need funds to pursue their objectives, they began collecting dimes solicited from the regional citizenry. The unusual fundraiser netted about \$14,000, enough to buy more than 800 acres of land that became the Valmont Industrial Park. Eventually, it would grow into a 4,000-acre industrial corridor that would need major investment for infrastructure.

Dr. Dessen set a goal of \$500,000 to be raised in three weeks. A local banker told him "You can't do that!" But, he replied, "Yes, we can do." Thus was born the CAN-DO organization, an acronym that preceded the title which later was proclaimed to be the "Community Area New Development Organization."

Indeed, in that first major fundraiser, CAN-DO did not raise \$500,000; it raised \$740,000. Two more fund drives followed. One yielded \$830,000, while the second raised \$710,000.

The Valmont Industrial Park development was so successful that CAN-DO eventually acquired 1,150 more acres of land and created the Humboldt Industrial Park nearby.

Over the years, CAN-DO has been responsible for the development of over 3,500 acres for economic development, created 20,000 new jobs, increased the area's payroll by \$240 million, leveraged private investment of more than \$1.5 billion, and increased the local tax base by 20 percent.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the CAN-DO organization on this auspicious occasion. Those associated with CAN-DO over the past 50 years have made significant contributions to the quality of life in the greater Hazleton area and, for that, we should all be grateful.

TRIBUTE TO JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect on the inaugural Jewish American Heritage Month, which was celebrated across the country throughout the month of May. With the history of racial intolerance our country has witnessed, I believe we must remain steadfast in providing future generations opportunities to learn about the varied faiths and cultures that make this country so great.

I am especially pleased that my colleague Congressman JOE BACA hosted a Special Order condemning hate crimes and racial intolerance. We must fight intolerance and stop the spread of hate-inspired acts and images, and I thank Congressman BACA for leading this important discussion.

Mr. Speaker, we have seen how the national observance of Black History Month and Hispanic Heritage Month have brought, through education, greater awareness of the African American and Hispanic communities' contributions to our country. This past May, the many accomplishments of American Jews were recognized by the proclamation of Jewish American Heritage Month, issued by President Bush.

When the Jewish community in Miami approached me with the idea to help designate a month to honor the contributions of American Jews, I realized the potential impact of this endeavor. It is my hope that Jewish American Heritage Month will make a difference in the fight against anti-Semitism.

To those who would teach hate to their children, it might surprise them to learn that a Jewish man, Haym Salomon, was one of the largest financiers of the American Revolutionary War. To those who would paint graffiti on Jewish buildings, they should know that they have benefited from advances in medicine, trends in popular culture, and technological inventions, all developed by many famous and not-so-famous American Jews.

Fortunately, we have leaders in government, the business community, law enforcement, and education who work to eliminate hateful words and actions and encourage acceptance and sensitivity to diversity.

I am grateful to my colleagues who recognized the benefits that Jewish American Heritage Month would bring to the country, and I thank them for their unanimous support.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for your support and commitment. Throughout the process, you were an instrumental and invaluable advocate.

Leader PELOSI, Whip HOYER, and Congressman WAXMAN, thank you for your leadership and guidance.

And I'd especially like to thank Chairman HENRY HYDE—who was the lead Republican cosponsor of the House resolution.

Chairman HYDE helped immensely with spreading awareness of this resolution to our colleagues and the White House. I'd also like to acknowledge and thank Senator ARLEN SPECTER who introduced and worked to pass identical legislation in the Senate. And once again, I would like to thank my colleagues, who unanimously passed the resolution.

The amount of support for this initiative has been nothing short of inspirational:

As the inaugural Jewish American Heritage Month comes to an end, national prominence of American Jewish heritage continues in communities across the country. In fact, many Jewish communities began their observances even prior to May.

At the end of April, the Jewish Museum of Florida held a press conference with several community leaders to announce the Proclamation's release.

At the beginning of May, the American Jewish Committee incorporated a celebration of Jewish American Heritage Month into their 100th Anniversary celebration here in Washington.

On May 11th, the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia honored Senator SPECTER and celebrated the establishment of Jewish American Heritage Month at their annual gala dinner. On May 23rd, the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington hosted a breakfast reception in the Capitol where several Members including Representatives HYDE, RANGEL, CARDIN, BERKLEY, and LEWIS. And just last week, Mayor Michael Bloomberg recognized the conclusion of the inaugural Jewish American Heritage Month at a Jewish Heritage New York event at Gracie Mansion.

Like so many of the ideas that generate in this body, the creation of Jewish American Heritage Month all started with one community that wanted to make a difference.

I would like to thank two talented and dedicated women who helped lead this effort in Miami: Marcia Zerivitz of the Jewish Museum of Florida and Judy Gilbert-Gould of the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington and its Lillian & Albert Small Jewish Museum, who brought the celebration of Jewish American Heritage Month to the Capitol Building.

I respectfully request that the remarks made by their Executive Director Laura Apelbaum and their President Peggy Pearlstein be placed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

May 23, 2006 Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington event honoring the presidential proclamation of May as American Jewish Heritage Month.

Laura Apelbaum, Executive Director:  
Good Morning. I am Laura Apelbaum, the Executive Director of the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington and its Lillian & Albert Small Jewish Museum. On behalf of our board of directors and members, I want to welcome you today to this very special event.

I think we all can appreciate that as Jews living in America we are called upon to have a little bit of knowledge about a lot of history—ancient history, biblical history, Talmudic history, and Holocaust history to name just a few. Lesser known in our community and less well understood are the rich stories of American Jewish history—the stories beyond our own personal history that tie us to the Jewish community and to the national American story.

In 1795, shortly after the site of the nation's capital was selected, the first Jew arrived in the new federal district of Washington. Fittingly, he was a real estate developer who built office townhouses for new federal government offices of the Department of War and State. Over the next two centuries,

he was followed by tens of thousands of Jews, all of whom have become part of our community's history. Their lives and deeds tell a unique story of both a hometown and a capital city.

The story of Washington's Jewish community is in many ways similar to that in other communities across the country. Many of Washington's early Jews, my great grandfather among them, arrived in port cities and to avoid the sweatshops of New York and Chicago made their way to DC to open small Mom & Pop shops—groceries, furniture stores, tailors, jewelers. The presence of the federal government had a profound effect. Their clientele included Presidents, Supreme Court Justices and Congressmen. The few who served in the federal government for the century preceding the New Deal gave way to a wave of young intellectuals who arrived to serve a burgeoning federal government in the 1930s and '40s.

By the 1950s many of the small shops had grown into large downtown department stores, Hecht's, Landsburgh's and Kann's or other stores that spread with the community to the suburbs. Along the way the Jewish community organized synagogues and Jewish communal organizations.

Continued growth and prosperity in the post WWII era and into the "modern" era have created a community that spans three jurisdictions—DC and the Maryland and Northern Virginia suburbs and includes more than 215,000 members. We are now the sixth largest Jewish community in the country.

The Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington is the nation's central archives for this special community. Our collections are open to community members and researchers. Our programs, publications, and exhibits recount our unique communal history—at once local and national.

We first learned of the effort to create a special month to call attention to Jewish American heritage from a colleague, Marcia Zerivitz, the dynamic director of the Jewish Museum of Florida. It seemed to us entirely appropriate to mark the creation of this special month by honoring the many representatives and Senators—our friends and neighbors—that introduced the Congressional Resolution that led to President Bush recently proclaiming May 2006 as Jewish American History month.

Presentation—Society President Peggy Pearlstein: Ms. Wasserman Schultz, Chairman Hyde, Chairman Specter, special guests and friends:

In 1654, 23 Jews fled Recife, Brazil, and landed in New Amsterdam (now lower Manhattan) in search of political and religious freedom. These men, women, and children were the first of millions of Jews to seek refuge in America—the vanguard of today's American Jewish community—now the largest in the world.

One hundred and thirty years ago on June 9, 1876, a small yet committed Jewish congregation gathered to see their dreams of building their own shul come to fruition. In the presence of President Ulysses S. Grant, they dedicated a small but beautiful synagogue building that stands just at the foot of Capitol Hill at 3rd and G Streets, NW.

That building has been a witness to the history of the Jewish community, our city and our nation. It stands as a testament to the endurance of our community and to the commitment we have to preserving and caring for our past as we face the future.

Our Jewish Historical Society is committed to restoring this special building and to educating our community especially its youngest members about immigrant history, city history, and the continuing story of Jewish life in and around our capital city.

To commemorate the 130th anniversary of our local treasure, we have begun a major

restoration initiative to ensure the buildings' existence for many years to come. The building stands as a reminder of where we came from and its legacy, an important part of where we are going.

You can learn more about our community at a comprehensive exhibit now on display at the National Building Museum through July 4th. This exhibit, *Jewish Washington: Scrapbook of An American Community*, recounts the role that Washington area Jews have played in American Jewish life and in the nation's history.

This past year, Representative Wasserman Schultz and members of her district coordinated a nationwide effort to support passage of a resolution calling for a Jewish American Heritage month. They were joined in their efforts by Representative Hyde and Senator Specter resulting in unanimous approval, in both houses of Congress for the resolution. In April, President Bush signed the proclamation declaring the inauguration of Jewish American Heritage Month in May.

We have gathered to celebrate this Presidential Proclamation and to honor the three members of Congress who introduced the resolution supporting that proclamation:

It is my pleasure to present each of them with a very special gift.

This is a tzedakah box that is a miniature of the historic 1876 synagogue which our organization stewards. It was the first permanent home to Adas Israel Congregation. I hope that it will remind you of our appreciation for your role in commemorating Jewish American Heritage.

Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, 20th District of Florida.

Congressman Henry Hyde, 6th District of Illinois.

Senator Arlen Specter, State of Pennsylvania.

We also would like to take this opportunity to present a tzedakah box to President Bush and ask Jay Zeidman to accept on the president's behalf.

I want to thank everyone for attending what we hope will become an annual event.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE "SOLAR UTILIZATION NOW (SUN) ACT OF 2006"

**HON. LAMAR S. SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced the "Solar Utilization Now (SUN) Demonstration Act of 2006."

The "SUN Act" encourages state governments and private industry to team up to apply for federal grants. This will enable them to buy solar energy panels at nearly half the cost.

This bill is good for our energy security, national security and environmental security.

The answer to much of our energy needs comes up every morning. Solar power is clean, plentiful and has zero emissions and zero waste.

All states are eligible to participate and are required to contribute at least 10 percent of the funding. The federal government matches the grant at a maximum of 40 percent. The rest of the money comes from utilities or private industry.

Congress has a responsibility to help promote this new technology and I am pleased that this bill already has significant bipartisan support.

RECOGNIZING THE JAVITS-WAGNER-O'DAY PROGRAM AND THE SAN ANTONIO LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

**HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program, often referred to as JWOD. This important federal program provides needed employment opportunities for people with disabilities. In fact, JWOD provides more than 40,000 Americans who are blind, or who have other severe disabilities, with the job skills and training necessary to earn good wages and benefits, allowing them to gain greater independence and quality of life.

People with disabilities are often underserved in this nation. They traditionally face an unemployment rate of 70 percent, and thus rely heavily upon social support programs. JWOD empowers these Americans by helping them enjoy full participation in their community and marketing their JWOD skills into other public or private sector jobs. This, in turn, increases their independence and self-esteem.

The National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and NISH work with local nonprofit organizations nationwide to create new employment opportunities for people with blindness or severe disabilities. Such efforts benefit my constituency in San Antonio, Texas. Demonstrating a superlative federal-private sector partnership, NIB, NISH, and local nonprofits, such as San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind, enhance opportunities for economic and personal independence for people who are blind or who have other severe disabilities, primarily through creating, sustaining, and improving employment.

Through the JWOD program, San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind provides employment opportunities and training for over 5,000 people each year with visual and other severe disabilities. This enables them to lead more productive and meaningful lives, support their families, and gain important work experience.

On behalf of people with disabilities, I recognize and honor the important contributions of JWOD and the San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind. Their tireless work to enhance employment opportunities for people with visual and other severe disabilities does a great service to the city of San Antonio and its citizens.

TRIBUTE TO HOUR OF POWER  
FULL GOSPEL TABERNACLE, INC.

**HON. MELISSA A. HART**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Hour of Power Full Gospel Tabernacle, Inc. of Farrell, Pennsylvania on its 30th anniversary.

On Saturday July 1, 2006 the Hour of Power Full Gospel Tabernacle, Inc. will hold its 30-year anniversary celebration at the Shenango Valley Senior Center in Hermitage, Pennsylvania. At the celebration the church will also hold a Recognition Banquet.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Hour of Power Full Gospel Tabernacle, Inc. on its 30th Anniversary. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

HONORING THE CITY OF MERIDEN,  
CONNECTICUT ON THE OCCASION  
OF ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Meriden, Connecticut, on the occasion of its 200th Anniversary on June 16, 2006.

This city was known as the North Farms area of nearby Wallingford until 1806, when it was officially recognized as the Town of Meriden. The 1800s saw the beginnings of what would become a torrent of manufacturing activity in the city. Belts, hoops, pewter, guns, cutlery, nails, buttons, lamps, ivory combs, tin ware, organs, coffee grinders, and silver—the product that would lend its luster to Meriden's reputation as the "Silver City"—were all manufactured here. Stately mansions were constructed as manufacturers prospered. As the thriving city's population grew to over 24,000 in 1900, the Castle Craig was dedicated in Hubbard Park and the Curtis Memorial Library opened soon thereafter.

In the 1920s, the airport was built and the downtown traffic tower erected. Although the world wars and the depression brought hardships to the city as well as to the rest of the country, in March 1944, Meriden was proudly honored as "The Nation's Ideal War Community" for its industrial and patriotic contributions to the Nation.

During the mid-1900s, some of the city's older businesses, including International Silver, moved or closed. Urban redevelopment changed the look of some sections, but the "pleasant valley"—possibly the ancient meaning of the name Meriden—endured. Newly arriving immigrants added their own energy to the growing town. Civic groups grew in numbers and in service; daffodils, long planted at Hubbard Park, became the city's official flower with the celebration of the inaugural Daffodil Festival in April 1978.

In recent years, Meriden's downtown has undergone a renaissance, as a new hospital was erected and many corporate headquarters relocated to the east side of town on Research Parkway. City manufacturing firms produce electronics, nuclear instruments, automotive devices, plastics, gaskets, communications equipment, filters, vaccines, jewelry, food, candy, pewter, tools, and machines. The city is proud of its past as it eagerly embraces its future.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the city of Meriden in the United States House of Representatives, and I extend my best wishes to the city and its citizens for another 200 years of prosperity.

IN RECOGNITION OF HAYLEY HEATH FOR OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to rise today to extend my congratulations to Hayley Heath, a student in my district whose academic achievement in her National History Day project will be shared with the Nation.

National History Day encourages students to examine the past in order to create a better future. The students' projects allow for creativity in displays through exhibits, documentaries, and performances as they focus on a specific event or time period in history. In shaping America's future leaders, educators share a certain responsibility in allowing young people the opportunity to thoroughly examine and analyze the subject of history.

Hayley Heath, a student at the PATS Center in Pensacola, Florida, is one student who is seizing this opportunity. Her National History Day project, entitled "Forcing Justice: James Meredith Takes a Stand against Segregation at Ole Miss," won her great recognition at the district and State levels. Hayley was chosen as one of the twelve students selected from over thousands of entries across the Nation to display her National History Day exhibit in the White House Visitor's Center on June 15, 2006.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to a student who serves as a shining example of the hope we invest in the future of our Nation. I congratulate Hayley for her achievement and the recognition she will receive, and commend her for all of her hard work and dedication. I join with the citizens of Florida's First District in wishing her the best in all her future endeavors and thanking her teachers for their guidance as they continue to strive for academic excellence.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 850

**HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, in the course of my excused absence from official duties on Thursday, June 8, 2006, I regrettably missed the vote on the question of consideration of H. Res. 850, providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 5252, the Communications Opportunity, Promotion, and Enhancement Act of 2006. A point of order arose on the grounds that the bill included unfunded mandates as defined by the Congressional Budget Office, CBO.

It was argued that based on supposed inter-governmental mandates identified by CBO, the threshold required under the rule for identifying the unfunded mandate had been met, and thus was subject to a point of order. CBO stated that in implementation of the COPE Act, new entrants along with incumbent cable

providers, while engaged in a national franchise as proposed by the bill would be required to pay each franchise authority six percent of their gross revenues as a fee to support use of local rights-of-way and local Public Education Government channels. This payment was seen as an unfunded mandate.

However, under all franchise agreements across the country, companies are required to pay this type of fee in some form. It is not something newly mandated. I believe that the bill merely continues, and in most estimates, could exceed, the current flow of money from cable providers to local franchise authorities. In doing this, I believe the bill's authors intended to make sure that cities would not lose revenue they counted on from local franchise agreements, and I fully support that cause.

Due to this, I would have supported the opportunity to consider H.R. 5252, so that a true debate could continue on the underlying provisions of the bill.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I was inadvertently detained and missed rollcall votes No. 251–254. Had I been present I would have voted “aye” on each.

#### WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4939, EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

SPEECH OF

### HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 12, 2006*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I will vote for this defense supplemental without hesitation, but with a number of concerns.

As I've said in the past, I opposed the resolution authorizing the use of force in Iraq because I thought President Bush's decision to begin military action in Iraq was premature. I thought it would have been better to allow more time for other measures, including coercive inspections, to accomplish the goal of disarming Saddam Hussein. However, Congress—by adopting the resolution authorizing the use of force—left it to the President to decide if and when military action would begin.

But with our troops still in the field, actively engaged in operations that Congress has authorized, we have an obligation to fund those operations. I won't make our soldiers the victims of my regrets by failing to support this bill to provide them what they need to carry out those operations.

It's too bad the Republican leadership evidently didn't see the urgency in getting this funding to our troops to pay for key equipment and benefits. The president requested this funding back in February, but somehow the Republican leadership couldn't get it done until

now. In the interim, the Army was forced to cut back on ordering spare parts and supplies and freeze civilian hires, among other constraints.

So I'm glad we're finally focusing on this legislation today, which includes funding for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as funding to train and equip the military and police forces of those countries. I'm pleased that the conference report funds more up-armored Humvees, provides nearly \$2 billion to procure and develop countermeasures to prevent improvised explosive device attacks on our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, and funds the recently enhanced \$100,000 death benefit for soldiers' families.

I'm also pleased that—more than 9 months after Hurricane Katrina struck—the conference report includes funding for levee improvements and for Community Development Block Grants for the Gulf Coast States. The report also includes important funding for pandemic flu preparedness and for border security.

I do have strong concerns about some things that are in this conference report and some things that were left out.

I am disappointed that it does not include the additional funds that the Senate approved for work to reduce the increased danger of severe wildfires in Colorado forests caused by prolonged drought and insect infestations.

After the Senate acted, I wrote the House conferees to point out that these factors have raised to emergency levels the risk to our communities. I noted that hazardous-fuel reduction projects can reduce that risk, and our State has hazardous fuels projects waiting to be implemented but lacking adequate funding to do so. Unfortunately, the conferees did not include in the conference report the Senate-passed increase to the National Forest System to reduce the risk of catastrophic fires and mitigate the effects of widespread insect infestation.

I am also disappointed that the conference report does not include language prohibiting permanent military bases in Iraq. The House-passed bill contained a provision that I supported—H. Amdt. 750—which would ensure that no funds in the bill would be used to enter into a base agreement with the government of Iraq. The Senate-passed bill also contained a similar amendment—S. Amdt. 3855—which would prohibit funds to establish permanent military bases in Iraq or to exercise control over the oil infrastructure or oil resources of Iraq.

But the conference report includes neither version of this language, which I find baffling, since the clear will of both bodies was expressed through the passage of these amendments. Policymakers and experts across the political spectrum agree that the U.S. should make clear that it does not seek a permanent military presence in Iraq. GEN. George Casey has testified that gradually lowering the visibility of U.S. troops will remove one of the elements fueling the insurgency. And Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has testified that, “We have no desire to have our forces permanently in that country. We have no plans or no discussions under way to have permanent bases in that country.” I believe that Congress should have joined the administration in affirming this principle to send a clear signal to the Iraqi people that we fully support their efforts to establish democracy and exercise sovereignty.

Finally, I believe the administration must begin to take responsibility for the full cost of the war in Iraq and consider these costs through the regular appropriations process. With the enactment of this supplemental, Defense Department spending for operations in Afghanistan and Iraq will reach \$400 billion, with the majority of that provided for Iraq. Even though we are now more than 3 years into the conflict, virtually all of this money has been provided for Iraq as “emergency” funding and has not been offset. But there is no “emergency” here. So much of the costs are predictable. Instead, by funding this war through supplementals, the Bush administration avoids having to make tough choices—like raising taxes or making deep spending cuts. The American people deserve greater candor from the administration about both the predictable costs as well as the anticipated benefits of our undertakings in Iraq. I've attached a May editorial from the Rocky Mountain News that amplifies this point.

Nonetheless, as I said, I will vote for this bill without hesitation because its prompt passage is needed not just to support our men and women in uniform as they fight, but also to continue to lay the foundation for the harder mission of stabilizing Iraq.

[From the Rocky Mountain News, May 4, 2006]

#### A CRAZY WAY TO FUND THE WARS: IRAQ SPENDING IS NO LONGER AN 'EMERGENCY'

A congressional emergency spending measure is meant to be a quick response to sudden, unexpected and generally one-time events, the Gulf Coast hurricanes being an excellent example. The emergency bills are handled outside the regular budget process and under much looser rules.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, although obviously serious, hardly qualify as emergencies in the normal sense. Yet that is how the Bush administration and Congress insist on funding them, even though we're in our fifth year on one and fourth year on the other.

The result is that Congress has a poor grip on the wars' costs and how they fit in with other competing budget priorities. And the process has allowed Congress to avoid the question of how we are going to pay for those wars.

The Senate took advantage of the urgency of the latest emergency funding bill for Iraq, Afghanistan and hurricane relief to load it up with money for Hawaiian sugar growers, a Northrop Grumman shipyard, riverbank erosion in California and farm relief, among other largesse. A \$92 billion bill is now around \$108 billion.

The wars are not going away. The president himself has indicated we are likely to be in Iraq at least another 3½ years. Its annual cost has risen from \$51 billion in 2003 to \$102 billion this year, and the meter is running at about \$9 billion a month. In a few weeks the total will surpass \$320 billion, and Congress' analysts estimate that even if troop withdrawals begin this year, a best-case scenario, the costs of a phase-out in Iraq and Afghanistan will run an additional \$371 billion.

As was done in previous wars, the expected cost of Iraq and Afghanistan should be submitted as part of the regular annual federal budget, and Congress should give it the regular line-by-line scrutiny it gives every other part of the budget. This might have prevented the squandering in Iraq of the vast sums meant for reconstruction.

Congressional researchers complain that the Pentagon has refused to give them data

on current and cumulative cost obligations for the wars as well as one-year and five-year estimates. In the normal budget process, the Pentagon would have to provide those figures.

Incorporating war costs in the regular budget, Congress would no longer be able to compartmentalize, treating those expenditures as an aberration while going about business as usual elsewhere. Those expenditures are no aberration, and it's not business as usual.

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“BLUSTER BACKFIRES”

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, anyone who doubts the wisdom of the constitutional requirement that important officials be confirmed by the Senate before taking up their jobs should ponder the disastrous example of John Bolton, whom the Senate declined to confirm as Ambassador to the U.N., and who received a recess appointment from President Bush. His tenure has been disastrous, leading to a diminution of American influence and a failure to accomplish legitimate American goals.

Like many other Americans, I greatly regretted the fact that Deputy Secretary General Mark Malloch Brown recently gave a speech strongly critical of America's role regarding the U.N., but my regret was aimed not at Mr. Brown for giving the speech, but at the Bush administration, and specifically Ambassador Bolton, for actions that led to the speech. As a Member of Congress, I am troubled by the fact that I have to agree with the substance of a speech so sharply critical of our Government, but I believe that Mr. Brown did us a service in speaking out, because it may alert my colleagues in Congress and the American people in general of the need to press for a change in the disastrous policies that Ambassador Bolton pursues in the President's name.

In the Washington Post on Monday, June 12, Sebastian Mallaby wrote a thoughtful and persuasive piece about the Bolton record. Because the current situation regarding our representation of the U.N. does so much damage to legitimate American interests, Sebastian Mallaby's column is particularly welcome and I hope will be strongly considered by President Bush, Secretary Rice, and other policy makers in this administration. It is also very important for those of us in Congress to understand his points and I ask that his column be printed here.

[From the Washington Post, June 12, 2006]

AT THE U.N., BLUSTER BACKFIRES

(By Sebastian Mallaby)

Last month President Bush issued a rare apology. “Saying ‘Bring it on,’ kind of tough talk, you know, that sent the wrong signal,” he confessed. “I think in certain parts of the world it was misinterpreted.”

Well done, Mr. President, you've understood that bluster can backfire. Now how about sharing this insight with your ambassador to the United Nations?

John R. Bolton, the ambassador in question, has a rich history of losing friends and failing to influence people. He was notorious, even before arriving at the United Nations last year, for having said that 10 stories of

the U.N. headquarters could be demolished without much loss; he had described the United States as the sun around which lesser nations rotate—mere “asteroids,” he'd branded them. Perhaps not surprisingly, the Senate refused to confirm Bolton as U.N. ambassador. “Arrogant,” “bullying,” and “the poster child of what someone in the diplomatic corps should not be,” Sen. George Voinovich called him.

Bush sent Bolton anyway, bypassing the Senate by appointing him during a congressional recess. It soon turned out that dismissing foreign ambassadors as asteroid dwellers was merely a warm-up. As soon as Bolton got to New York, he blew up the preparatory negotiations for a gathering of heads of state, insisting that the other 190 members of the world body immediately agree to hundreds of changes in the summit document.

If Bolton had picked a fight on a worthwhile issue, this might have been justified. But one of the chief aims of his edits was to eliminate all mention of the anti-poverty Millennium Development Goals, even though these targets for reducing child mortality and so on are inoffensive. After a week of Bolton-induced bureaucratic battles, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice weighed in, explaining that the administration actually had nothing against the development goals. When the summit convened, Bush himself had to declare during his speech that he supported the targets that his ambassador had repudiated.

Bolton's next triumph was to demand U.N. reform, or rather to pretend to do so. An effort to create a credible human rights council was underway, but Bolton skipped nearly all of the 30 or so negotiating sessions. Then, when the negotiators produced a blueprint for the new council, Bolton declared it unacceptable, leaving furious American allies to wonder why he hadn't weighed in earlier to secure a better outcome. “The job now is to get clarity on what the U.S. wants,” the British ambassador said icily. But what Bolton really wanted was quite clear: to allow the negotiations to falter and then to condemn whatever they produced, throwing red meat to his U.N.-hating allies on the right of the Republican Party.

Next, Bolton blundered into U.N. management reform, an issue that may soon precipitate a crisis. The top U.N. officials, led by Secretary General Kofi Annan, had laid out a menu of radical changes, designed to eliminate useless conferences and reports and to move staff to departments that most needed them. Bolton added his own brand of bluster to this plan: If poor countries carried on resisting management reforms, rich countries would stop paying for the organization. The deadline for agreeing on reform is the end of this month, but no breakthrough is in sight. Officials are wondering what to do if U.N. checks start bouncing.

Not many reformers at the United Nations believe that the budget threat achieved anything. To the contrary, Bolton has so poisoned the atmosphere that the cause of management renewal is viewed by many developing countries as an American plot. And if Bolton carries through on his threat to cut off money for the United Nations, the United States will be more isolated than ever. Refusing to fund U.N. officials who are planning for a peacekeeping mission in Darfur is not a winning strategy.

Last week the U.N. deputy secretary general, a pro-American Briton named Mark Malloch Brown, went public with his Bolton frustrations. He pointed out that the United Nations serves many American objectives, from deploying peacekeepers to helping with Iraq's elections. Given this cooperation, the powers that be in Washington should stick

up for the United Nations rather than threatening to blow it up. They should not be passive in the face of “unchecked U.N.-bashing and stereotyping.”

This merely stated the obvious. If you doubt that U.N.-bashing and stereotyping goes on, ask yourself what gallery Bolton is playing to—or check out the latest cover of the National Rifle Association magazine, which features a wolf with U.N. logos in its eyeballs. But Malloch Brown's speech didn't seem obvious to Bolton. “This is the worst mistake by a senior U.N. official that I have seen,” he thundered in response. “Even though the target of the speech was the United States, the victim, I fear, will be the United Nations.”

Which would suit Bolton and his allies perfectly. But it should not suit Bush, at least not now that he's grasped that bluster can backfire. Arriving at the U.N. summit last September, a different Bush greeted the secretary general and gestured at Bolton; “has the place blown up since he's been here?” he demanded, teasingly. Well, it's now time for the new Bush to acknowledge that Bolton's tactics aren't funny. The United States needs an ambassador who can work with the United Nations. Right now, it doesn't have one.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 12, 2006, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation.

I request that the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD reflect that had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 251: “yes” on agreeing to H. Res. 804; rollcall No. 252: “yes” on agreeing to H. Res. 794; rollcall No. 253: “yes” on agreeing to H. Res. 608; rollcall No. 254: “yes” on agreeing to H. Con. Res. 338; rollcall No. 255: “no” on agreeing to the previous question during consideration of H. Res. 857.

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HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL DONALD P. LAUZON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMY

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend LTC Donald P. Lauzon as he retires from a distinguished career in the U.S. Army and as the Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Detroit District.

Born in Rhode Island and earning his Bachelor of Science from Rhode Island College, LTC Lauzon was commissioned into the Army in 1986. He served bravely overseas in Bosnia, in Iraq, and as the Company Executive Officer of the 547th Combat Engineer Battalion in Germany. Before arriving in Detroit, LTC Lauzon served as Chief of the Department of Military Training, National Geospatial and Intelligence Agency at Fort Belvoir in Virginia. His military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, the National Defense

Service Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and nearly a dozen other illustrious awards and badges. LTC Lauzon has also earned two Master's degrees: one in Military Operational Art and Science from the U.S. Air Force and another in construction management from Colorado State University.

While serving as the Commander in the Detroit District, LTC Lauzon's inspired leadership guided others through the quickly shifting business environment as well as towards a more organized and efficient Lakes and Rivers Division. The numerous successful projects he oversaw are a tremendous credit to his skill as an engineer and his abilities as a manager. LTC Lauzon has been a big player in the ongoing efforts to expand the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge—a project that is near and dear to my heart.

In retirement, I know LTC Lauzon will have more time to improve his golf game and spend more time hand making golf clubs. But most importantly LTC Lauzon will be able to spend quality time with his wife Kathleen and his two children Lauren and Zachary.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask you and all of my colleagues to join me as we honor the retirement of LTC Lauzon from the Army and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Detroit District. Though his leadership will be sorely missed, his past efforts and his foresight will be appreciated long into the future.

A TRIBUTE TO METROPOLITAN  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Metropolitan Baptist Church in Altadena, California. Metropolitan Baptist Church is one of the oldest congregations in the Altadena/Pasadena area and will celebrate 100 years of dedicated service to the community this month.

Founded on June 6, 1906 by Reverend J.D. Bushnell and 13 members, the church was located at 134 Waverly Drive in Pasadena. In 1911, the cornerstone was laid and articles of incorporation were filed with the Secretary of State. For many years, the church was located in Pasadena on Waverly and Bellevue Drive and then on Mentone and Claremont Streets. About 40 years ago, Metropolitan Baptist Church built their current church on N. Fair Oaks Avenue in Altadena.

Some of the programs that the church established over the last century include Music Ministry, Home Mission Society, Young People's Union, Mother's Board, Day Nursery, a Boy Scout Troop, Young Adult Choir, Bible Study, Children's Church, Prayer Warriors, Prayer Line, Hospitality Ministry, Senior Citizen Luncheon, and Health Fair.

In 1990, Reverend Tyrone Skinner began his tenure with Metropolitan Baptist Church. Reverend Skinner has been instrumental in establishing many new ministries, such as Praise Team, Praise Dancers, Petals Ministry, 40 Stomp Team, and Mass Choir within the church, as well as establishing the Metropolitan Community Action Services Corporation. The church also serves the community by feeding and clothing the homeless at Union

Station, and the Pantry and Covered Dish Ministries.

Metropolitan Baptist Church is a place where the community at large is warmly welcomed. Many local religious, educational, and civic groups, such as the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, the NAACP, and the Pasadena Association of African American Educators use the facilities. In addition, the Young African American Male Conference and numerous community events honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. are held at Metropolitan Baptist Church.

It is my great honor to recognize Metropolitan Baptist Church upon its 100 years of ministry to the people of Altadena and Pasadena. I ask all Members to join me in wishing Metropolitan Baptist Church many more fruitful years of service to the community.

IN RECOGNITION OF DOYLE  
MOONEYHAM

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, it is with the greatest pleasure that I rise today to honor Mr. Doyle Mooneyham upon his retirement from the United States Postal Service after nearly 50 years of dedicated service.

In 1958, Doyle began his impressive career with the United States Postal Service as a letter carrier in Merced, California. Just a few years later, in 1961, Doyle was transferred to the Winton Post Office, in Winton, California where he has remained for the last 45 years. Throughout his extraordinary career, Doyle's work has clearly remained his priority. During his tenure with the Winton Post Office, Doyle has exemplified the unofficial U.S. Postal Service's motto as "neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." Throughout his nearly 50 years of service, Doyle never used a sick day until he underwent hip replacement surgery in 2005. Even after taking a year off of work to recuperate, Doyle still has 2,926 hours of sick leave, the equivalent to a year and a half of work. This is quite a remarkable accomplishment that very few individuals achieve in their lifetime. It is truly reflective of Doyle's commitment to his work, the community and the United States Postal Service.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and privilege to join Doyle Mooneyham's family, co-workers and friends in recognizing his lifetime of service to our community, and to congratulate him on his retirement from the U.S. Postal Service. Our community benefits greatly from the splendid example that he has set throughout his career. It is with the greatest sincerity and respect that I ask my colleagues to join me in offering Mr. Doyle Mooneyham best wishes for continued success and happiness in the years ahead.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4939, EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 12, 2006*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it is a disservice to the American people that the toughest challenges to our Nation at home and abroad are not addressed in a straightforward manner.

More than 1,000 days after the war in Iraq began, we continue to fund it on an emergency basis deceiving the American taxpayer of the true cost of this war through a budgetary maneuver that simply pushes the enormous cost onto the next generation. It is no longer appropriate for Congress to approve this funding as an emergency. We must account for this through the normal budget process to ensure that taxpayer money is spent responsibly and with accountability.

As for our response to protecting Americans at home from disasters, 75 percent of the American public is at risk from one or more natural disasters, such as floods, fires, or earthquakes—yet the Federal Government continues to pour money into disaster-prone areas without any forward thinking plans. Instead of funding upfront mitigation, planning, and preparedness for disaster-prone communities, we spend even more money in emergency supplemental for things that we should know by now to expect. Our bizarre budget rules make it cheaper to appropriate billions after the fact than to invest millions in proven prevention programs.

This emergency supplemental demonstrates Congress's complacency in dealing with tough choices and avoids fiscal responsibility.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I was participating in a very important briefing by the Army Corps of Engineers on flood protection in my district on Monday, June 12, 2006 and missed 5 votes. Please note in the appropriate place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that had I been present, I would have voted as noted below:

Rollcall vote 255: "nay"; rollcall vote 254: "yea"; rollcall vote 253: "yea"; rollcall vote 252: "yea"; rollcall vote 251: "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, today I was unavoidably absent and

missed rollcall votes Nos. 251 through 255. Had I been present, I would have voted:

“Yes” on rollcall No. 251, H. Res. 794—Recognizing the 17th anniversary of the massacre in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, in the People’s Republic of China, and for other purposes;

“Yes” on rollcall No. 252, H. Res. 804—Condemning the unauthorized, inappropriate, and coerced ordination of Catholic bishops by the People’s Republic of China;

“Yes” on rollcall No. 253, H. Res. 608—Condemning the escalating levels of religious persecution in the People’s Republic of China;

“Yes” on rollcall No. 254, H. Con. Res. 338—Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the activities of Islamist terrorist organizations in the Western Hemisphere, and

“No” on rollcall No. 255.

ON HATRED AND VIOLENCE  
RELATED TO IMMIGRATION

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express concern about the sharp rise in hate crimes and racial intolerance, and to urge acceptance in our Nation.

A recent report from the Southern Poverty Law Center stated that there were 803 hate groups in the USA last year. This is up from 762 in 2004 and is a 33 percent increase since 2000. The center’s report stated the national debate that has focused on immigration has been “the single most important factor” in spurring activity among hate groups and has given them “an issue with real resonance.”

Hundreds of thousands of people marched peacefully throughout the Nation to give a voice for immigrants in this country. Half a million in Los Angeles, 300,000 people in Chicago, 40,000 in Washington, DC, and 20,000 in Milwaukee and Phoenix marched to defend the hopes and dreams of immigrant families. Nearly 40,000 students across Southern California, including students at several schools in my district, marched for the rights of immigrants.

Those who marched did so peacefully. I encourage everyone to remember the great history of change driven by nonviolent action, which is such a vibrant part of our Nation’s fabric. Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but I urge that such expression be done in a peaceful and nonthreatening manner.

OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS  
FIRST CONGRESSIONAL  
DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

**HON. HEATHER WILSON**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, the following high school students from the First Congressional District of New Mexico have been awarded the Congressional Certificate of Merit. These are exceptional students that serve the community and participate actively in school and civic activities. It is my

pleasure to be able to recognize these outstanding students for their accomplishments. Their parents, their teachers, their classmates, the people of New Mexico, and I are proud of them.

Certificate of Merit Award Winners 2005: Juanita Martinez, Albuquerque High School; Robert Cardwell, Monzano High School; Britten Smith, Highland High School; Gary R. Stinnett, La Cueva High School; Robert Sanchez, Rio Grande High School; Cameron Banes, Creative Education Preparatory Institute; David Gullett, Temple Baptist Academy; Ashley Martin, West Mesa High School; Leanne Raskob, St. Pius X High School; Jane Yein Song, Sandia High School; Dorothy Billau, Cornerstone Christian School; Jordan Spence, Evangel Christian Academy; Makenzi Williamson, Hope Christian Schools; Aaron Sims, Menaul High School; Emily Wildsmith, Southwest Secondary Learning; Nicholas Trumbley, Albuquerque Evening School; Karl Nieman, Career Enriched Center; Takesha Haynes, New Future High School; Suzia Van Swol, East Mountain High School; Erika Anaya, Moriarty High School; Samuel Lujan, Charter Vocational High School; Jessica R. Siegel, Sandia Preparatory School; Felicia Fuentes, South Valley Academy; Maggie Elizabeth Crank, Albuquerque; Danielle Threadgill, Bernalillo High School; Ruth Ann Huning, Los Lunas High School; Marie Jiron, Career Academy; Jesse Rafael Torres, Mountainair High School.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN L. “JACK”  
ASHER

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John L. “Jack” Asher, who has played a vital role in the development of Asher’s Chocolates, in Lewistown and Souderton, Pennsylvania, over the last 51 years. Started by his grandfather in 1892, Jack has led the company since 1966.

With over 1,000 molds, Asher’s can be respected as one of the largest candy molding companies, and one of the oldest family owned and operated candy manufacturers in America. The time-tested recipe for success is epitomized in the daily operation of one of the foremost confectioners in the country. I owned a small business for years and I understand, along with many others across Pennsylvania, the day-in and day-out work it takes to succeed. I applaud Jack for his commitment to his community and his business.

In early April, Jack was bestowed with the national honor of induction into the Candy Hall of Fame. This award recognizes Jack for his life’s achievements and dedication to the company, as his contributions to the business and the confectionery industry are immeasurable.

As our economy continues to move in the right direction, our small businesses are the driving force. These businesses make up our communities, neighborhoods and towns. The Pennsylvanians who have benefited from the efforts of Asher’s Chocolates—as employees, chocolate lovers and more—would certainly join me in thanking Jack for his contributions to the community and the economy, as well as

serving as an inspiration for the spirit of familial virtue.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, on June 12, 2006, I was speaking to a group of professionals in New York City about my work in Congress and, therefore, missed five recorded votes.

I take my voting responsibility very seriously, and had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on recorded vote No. 251, “yes” on recorded vote 252, “yes” on recorded vote 253, “yes” on recorded vote 254, and “yes” on recorded vote 255.

HONORING QUEBECOR WORLD  
PUBLICATIONS

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Quebecor World Publications as they mark the publication of the one billionth copy of Highlights magazine.

Few things in this world are as consistent and positive as Highlights magazine has been for the past 60 years. Since 1946, Highlights magazine has kept parents and kids smiling. As a parent, I remember sharing time with my two children, Mary Morgan and Chad, while reading this wonderful magazine. Countless Americans have enjoyed decades of good memories thanks to Highlights.

In an era when we have to guard our kids’ access to information like never before, it’s nice to know that America can still depend on Quebecor and Highlights magazine not only to entertain but to teach the morals and values we hold dear.

TRIBUTE TO MR. CHARLES  
HAUGHEY

**HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the passing of Mr. Charles Haughey, former Taoiseach of the Republic of Ireland, and to offer my deepest condolences today to the Irish nation and to Mr. Haughey’s family and loved ones, including especially his wife Maureen, his daughter Eimear and his sons Conor, Cian and Sean.

Mr. Haughey served both his constituency and the Irish nation with distinction and honor over his 35-year career in Dail Eireann. He will be most remembered for his key roles in laying the foundations for Ireland’s economic rebirth, and in promoting and furthering progress towards a lasting peace in Northern Ireland.

John Hume, the Nobel Peace Prize laureate, praised Haughey, saying "he worked very closely with me in preparation for the whole movement to get a lasting peace and an end to violence with The Downing Street Declaration. He privately worked with me in the preparation of that Declaration . . . Charles Haughey made a positive contribution to ending violence and achieving peace on our streets."

Charles Haughey was a major figure in the history of the Irish Republic, and his work for peace and prosperity at home will forever be remembered by friends of this small island so important to the history of our own country.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER  
AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT  
ON H.R. 4939, EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 12, 2006*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, when is enough, enough? I rise in opposition to H.R. 4939 because there is no limit to the amount of money Republicans are willing to spend on this counterproductive war in Iraq.

When the Bush administration beat the drums of war, it promised the American people that the total cost would be \$50 billion. More than 3 years later, the price tag for the Iraqi civil war stands at more than \$320 billion. Before the invasion, neoconservatives told us Iraq was an oil-rich country that could finance its own reconstruction. Yet this latest supplemental includes billions more for the "stabilization" of Iraq that could have instead gone to rebuild New Orleans.

The Vietnam war required only a single supplemental, after which it was financed through the regular budget process. But virtually all of this money for the war in Iraq has been provided in so-called "emergency" supplementals that do not require budgetary tradeoffs such as spending cuts or tax increases. As a result, every dollar spent in Iraq is a dollar of debt for our children and grandchildren.

For their money, future generations are getting a terrible return. Thanks to our seemingly open-ended occupation of Iraq, anti-American forces are growing stronger, not weaker. Despite parliamentary elections and limitless American aid for democracy building, Iraq is in the midst of a civil war. Though even the rubber stamp Republicans in Congress have shown a real interest in transferring authority to Iraqi security forces, their training proceeds at a snail's pace.

This emergency supplemental bill does provide badly needed funds for Katrina reconstruction. Particularly worthwhile is this legislation's support for levee improvements, the rebuilding of the Veterans Administration hospital in New Orleans, alternative housing for hurricane survivors, and community development block grants.

But the numbers speak for themselves. The bill provides more than three times more funding for defense-related expenditures than it

does for Katrina-related aid. Because I cannot support additional spending for a war that has already claimed nearly 2,500 American servicemen and women and countless Iraqi citizens, I urge my colleagues to vote "no."

IN RECOGNITION OF EUGENE SLAY

**HON. RUSS CARNAHAN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eugene Slay, a fine member of the St. Louis Community in my home state of Missouri. Mr. Slay is the son of immigrant grandparents, who came from Lebanon to settle in the city of Saint Louis. In 1920, Gene's grandfather, John Slay, created Slay Industries, a shipping company that has been a great addition to the area's proud legacy of transportation commerce. Gene Slay gathered the reins of the institution in 1952, and ever since has blazed the corporation down a path of success, currently employing more than 800 persons and deriving an annual revenue of more than \$100 million.

Of course, Gene Slay has not only been an effective and outstanding leader in business, but in the St. Louis community as well, giving his time to help those less fortunate. Gene Slay has always committed himself to activities that strive to give every person a chance to succeed. Specifically, I would like to recognize his work as an exceptional director of the Boys' Club of St. Louis. Mr. Slay has served as a member of the institution's Executive Board for 33 years and as its president for 14 years. Gene Slay has been a vital asset to the Boys' Club, building its endowment to \$4.4 million, allowing the organization to be a helping hand to more than 5,000 youth.

With these accomplishments in mind, I am proud to recognize Gene Slay as a prominent St. Louisan and I thank him for his efforts in our community. It is my great honor to announce that the Boys' Club of St. Louis will now be renamed the Gene Slay's Boys' Club of St. Louis, to acknowledge all of Mr. Slay's hard work and dedication. I congratulate Gene Slay on this honor and praise him for all the young people that he has helped and will help in the future.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE PERRY COUN-  
TY FAIR

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 150th Anniversary of the Perry County Fair which is held each year in Pinckneyville, Illinois.

While no records exist of the first fair in 1856, oral accounts passed down from those who attended describe the Pinckneyville town square decorated with tall corn stalks and the owners of the prize livestock showing them in the street. Although much has changed since that initial event 150 years ago, the Perry

County Fair remains a premier venue of agricultural and horticultural exhibition, as well as a place where families come to be entertained and old friends renew acquaintances once a year.

As the "oldest consecutive running fair in Illinois," the Perry County Fair has seen much of our Nation's history. The Civil War, Prohibition, the Great Depression, both World Wars, the ushering in of two centuries and a millennium all occurred during the time that the Perry County Fair has been in operation.

The Perry County Agricultural Society was established as the governing body of the fair and continues today as the organization entrusted with planning, funding and organizing the Perry County Fair. Early records note that a \$1.00 contribution was good for family entry to the first fairs and that \$10.00 provided for a lifetime family membership. As the fair has expanded through the years, the balance of providing a first class fair that is affordable to all families continues to be a struggle.

Competition of livestock, produce and the tasty results of many closely-guarded family recipes have been a staple of the fair since its inception. Other attractions at the fair through the years have been horse racing, beauty pageants, musical entertainment, rides and, always, good food.

Several generations have now enjoyed the Perry County Fair and it has become an event that not only draws families and friends together from Perry County but also attracts fairgoers from throughout Southern Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Perry County Fair. May it continue to provide entertainment for Southern Illinois families well into the future.

HONORING THE CONSECRATION OF  
ELIZABETH CHAPEL UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with tremendous joy and celebration that I rise today to honor the consecration of the Elizabeth Chapel United Methodist Church in Chumuckla, Florida where my wife Vicki and I have been members since 2001.

Elizabeth Chapel has been a home for me; a place of solace where I can go to be closer to God and get back in tune with what is really important in my life. Likewise, the church family has acted as a true family to my wife and me, continuously offering us their support, encouragement, and kindness.

Elizabeth Chapel United Methodist Church has served a vital role in the community of Chumuckla since 1937. Originating from the marriage of two smaller churches in the late 1930's, the church has remained a quaint group of adamant believers whose moral fiber and strength is unwavering.

On September 16, 2004, Hurricane Ivan tore through the area, leaving damage, destruction, and heartbreak in its wake. The hurricane left the church building irreparable and it was soon leveled to begin new construction. Though many members of the congregation lost their homes or had significant damage to

their own property in the storm, in the week that followed the hurricane, members of the church and others in the community came together descending on the church grounds to help FEMA distribute over 60,000 MRE's as well as ice and water to those in need.

In the months that followed, with the glorification of God's work in their hearts, the community, congregation and other churches in the surrounding area came together to begin rebuilding Elizabeth Chapel. It has been nearly 2 years since Ivan devastated the Gulf Coast, and the reconstruction is complete. On Sunday, June 11, 2006, I will join in the fellowship and celebration of the consecration of the Elizabeth Chapel United Methodist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I truly represent an incredible group of people. It warms my heart that the community, congregation, and other churches have come together, through the hardships and heartache that have been prevalent since hurricane Ivan, to once again provide a house of worship to the amazingly resilient members of Elizabeth Chapel United Methodist Church.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House floor during Friday's rollcall votes on 5 amendments to H.R. 5522, the Fiscal Year 2007 Foreign Operations appropriations measure.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcalls 245, 246, 247, 248, and 249.

I would have voted in favor of final passage of H.R. 5522.

#### CONDEMNING HATE CRIMES AND RACIAL INTOLERANCE

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I first want to thank my friend and fellow Californian, Congressman JOE BACA for organizing this Special Order to condemn hate crimes and racial intolerance, and particularly to address the very dangerous and growing problem of the use of the Internet to spread racism, bigotry, prejudice and anti-Semitism.

Mr. Speaker, I can speak personally of the horrors that can result from the propagation of hate. Such messages can be spread in many ways, but perhaps the most recent medium, the Internet, is the most effective and therefore the most dangerous. Modern technology has given us the ability to spread information and ideas far and wide almost instantly, and, as a result, the world has become very small indeed. Hate messages can circle the globe in minutes or even seconds. The circumstances of the terrorist arrests in Canada, the United States, and Europe just this last week are a reflection of how quickly messages of intolerance and exhortations to violence can be widely spread on the Internet.

Because of my deep concern for human rights, I co-founded the Congressional Human

Rights Caucus in 1983. In 1995, a number of colleagues joined me in founding the Congressional Task Force Against Anti-Semitism to address more specifically problems of racial intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, and anti-Semitism. I continue to co-chair both groups and remain steadfastly committed to fighting such ugly and vicious hatred. This is a battle in which we must all be engaged. We confront a central danger to America's national interests and cannot be complacent in the face of such threats.

Mr. Speaker, the Anti-Defamation League, which monitors far-right extremists, reports that neo-Nazis and white supremacists have capitalized on the recent immigration reform debate and have ratcheted up their anti-Hispanic action. Racist use of the national debate to further their ideology in pursuit of a "Whites only" America is a hateful display and reminds us of the insidious racism, prejudice, and anti-Semitism that exists and that is spread on the Internet.

The Anti-Defamation League reports a disturbing trend of increased violence against Hispanics and of persistently troubling levels of anti-Semitism. Games that target particular immigrant, ethnic or religious groups are indicative of the deeply-rooted hatred that we confront. The recent up-tick in the spread of racist shoot-to-kill video games on the Internet is very disconcerting. The level and intensity of attacks against Hispanics has reached dangerous new highs, with right-wing extremists joining anti-immigration groups. The recent racist protests and rallies held across our nation are a disgrace to our country and a threat to American stability.

Immigration is likely the most important factor in the growth of extremist groups, and in their gaining new members. We must be vigilant in guarding against the racist, xenophobic sentiments surrounding our immigration debates. While such hatred is sadly not new, our recent debates and legislation are attracting the attention of extremists. Over the weekend, the Ku Klux Klan and neo-Nazis protested nearby at the Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg, Maryland. Under the auspices of speaking out against "black on white crime" and illegal immigration, the message vocalized could not have been clearer: as a Klan member said, "Mexicans, Jews, all these immigrants, we want them out of here . . ." Such rhetoric is frightening.

There is no gain, but loss by all, when hatred and anger are spread. Hispanics, regardless of their citizenship or immigration status, are increasingly becoming the targets of hatred and violence from white supremacists.

In an attempt to call attention to some of the problems of modern tools for spreading hate, the Congressional Task Force Against Anti-Semitism sponsored a briefing last September that highlighted the importance of fostering international cooperation in combating internet hate, and of working with organizations like the OSCE to combat anti-Semitism globally.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join in working together to find ways to stop the use of the Internet to spread hate, so that we will not suffer horrible consequences. As I learned personally and tragically over six decades ago, words have consequences. Hate, intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, and Anti-Semitism lead to actions that a free society such as ours can—and must—never tolerate. We must speak out, we must take action.

#### LADY FALCONS SOAR TO VICTORY

### HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report that public high schools in the Sixth District of North Carolina are not the only ones housing state championships these days. Now O'Neal School in Moore County, North Carolina is able to sit in the same seat of glory having won the North Carolina Independent School Athletic Association 2A conference competition in women's soccer.

The Falcons endured fierce competition in the pursuit of their ultimate goal battling through two overtimes (one in the quarterfinals and the other in the semifinals). The fact that the road which they traveled to victory was so rocky made the end result all the more sweet. The women beat out their rival, Calvary Baptist Day School, 1-0 in the final game of the championship.

Freshman Syd Mcllwain made everyone proud with the excessive determination required for a defender to score the only goal of the game. The goal occurred on a corner kick in which sweeper Caroline Cordell kicked it perfectly for Mcllwain to head it in. After the game Mcllwain said, "I was just thinking that I had to get some part of my body on it," according to the Moore County Independent. It's a good thing that she did because that split-second decision was crucial to victory.

We are pleased to recognize all members of the O'Neal School soccer team who contributed to this nearly perfect championship season. Members of the team include: Alex Allen, Carey Averbook, Kristin Black, Caroline Cordell, Margaret Cross, Cate Dahl, Kathryn Davis, Jessica Gregory, Sarah Griffin, Kelsey Hukee, Meagan Johnson, Kate King, Lauren Krahnert, Kathryn Maples, Syd Mcllwain, Anna Post, Nicole Poteat, Kate St. John, Allaire Welk, and Stephanie White.

The women's outstanding record was achieved largely due to their ability to work together on and off the field. Responsibility for this close bond rests in the hands of Head Coach Kyle Kegl and Assistant Coach Jason Byrd whose hard work throughout the season was imitated by the players culminating in ultimate victory among private schools at the state level.

On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate the O'Neal Falcons for completing the first ever state championship and doing so with only one loss the entire year. Congratulations to Headmaster John Neiswender, Athletic Director Steve Dahl, the teachers, staff, students, parents, and fans for bringing home a state championship to our community.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE GUARANTEE OF MEDICAL ACCURACY IN SEX EDUCATION ACT

### HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Guarantee of Medical Accuracy in Sex Education Act," a bill that prohibits

the federal government from funding sex education curricula that contain medically inaccurate information.

Currently, the federal government is spending millions on abstinence-only education that includes medically inaccurate and misleading information. In 2004, the House Government Reform Minority Staff prepared a report that found more than two-thirds of federally funded abstinence-only programs use curricula that contain false, misleading, or distorted information about reproductive health.

The federal government should not be in the business of funding sex education that is rife with errors and examples of medically inaccurate information. Specific examples in current sex education courses include:

The first player spins the cylinder, points the gun to his/her head, and pulls the trigger. He/she has only one in six chances of being killed. But if one continues to perform this act, the chamber with the bullet will ultimately fall into position under the hammer, and the game ends as one of the players dies. Relying on condoms is like playing Russian roulette." From *Me, My World, My Future*, Revised HIV material, p. 258.

AIDS can be transmitted by skin-to-skin contact. From *Reasonable Reasons to Wait*, Teacher's guide, Unit 5, pg. 19.

Couples who use condoms for birth control experience a first-year failure rate of about 15 percent in preventing pregnancies. This means that over a period of 5 years, there could be a 50 percent chance or higher of getting pregnant with condoms used as the birth control method. From *Choosing the Best PATH*, Leader Guide, pg. 18.

Since 1998, the federal government has spent nearly \$1 billion on abstinence-only education. These programs that contain inaccurate information regarding contraception and STD/HIV prevention can make sex education both dangerous and counterproductive. Responsible sex education, by contrast, is an important component of a strategy to reduce unintended pregnancies, reduce the number of abortions and lessen the spread of STDs. The American Medical Association, the Institute of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health support the use of sex education that is medically accurate.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and join me in ensuring that sex education curricula contain accurate medical information that can help young people develop a healthy understanding of their sexuality, so they can make responsible and educated decisions throughout their lives.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to explain how I would have voted on several votes during the weeks of June 5th and June 12th during the second session of the 109th Congress. I was not able to be in Washington to cast these votes, as I remained in my district to attend my son's high school graduation.

On rollcall vote No. 223, on agreeing to the King of Iowa amendment, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 224, on agreeing to the Kingston amendment, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 225, on the motion to Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 226, on passage of H.R. 5441, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act for FY 2007, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 227, on Ordering the Previous Question, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 228, on agreeing to H. Res. 842, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 229, on passage of H.R. 5521, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 230, on motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to S. 193, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 231, on motion to Re-commit with Instructions H.R. 5254, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 232, on passage of H.R. 5254, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 233, on motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H.R. 5449, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 234, on motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to S. 2803, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 235, on consideration of H. Res. 850, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 236, on agreeing to the Obey amendment, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 237, on agreeing to H. Res. 850, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 238, on agreeing to the Smith of Texas amendment, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 239, on agreeing to the Markey amendment, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 240, on motion to Re-commit with Instructions, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 241, on passage of H.R. 5252, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 242, on agreeing to the McGovern No. 7 amendment, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 243, on agreeing to the McGovern No. 8 amendment, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 244, on agreeing to the Weiner amendment, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 245, on agreeing to the King of Iowa amendment, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 246, on agreeing to the Kucinich amendment, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 247, on agreeing to the Sanders amendment, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 248, on agreeing to the Hefley of Colorado amendment, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 249, on agreeing to the Blumenauer of Oregon amendment, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 250, on passage of H.R. 5522, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 251, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 794, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 252, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 804, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 253, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 608, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 254, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Con. Res. 338, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 255, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 857, I would have voted "yes."

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE SKANEATELES HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS LACROSSE CLASS-C NEW YORK STATE TITLE

### HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. WALSH, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the Skaneateles High School Girls Lacross program on their New York State Class-C State Title. The Lakers of Skaneateles fought hard to defeat Penn Yan Academy by a margin of 6-5.

Down 4-1 in the first half, Skaneateles battled through a tough defense to come up big and ultimately defeat Penn Yan. Late in the game, the Lakers managed to tie the game and ultimately, with a last minute goal, solidify their Class-C title. This classic hard earned victory marks the second straight state crown for Skaneateles.

I commend these young women on all their hard work and countless hours of devotion each of them have put into earning this success. On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I congratulate the team, coaches, faculty, administration, and families who played an important role in this victory.

Head Coach Bridget Marquardt, Assistant Coach Steve Rice, Whitney Johnson, Kelsey Nangle, Jessica Haswell, Stephanie Rice, Shannon Tierney, Maggie Tierney, Amy Riehlman, Libby Jolmson, Katie Schoener, Claire Hennigan, Emily Murphy, Jenna Lotkowitz, Alex Sherman, Emma Heuber, Karen Vitkus, Meg Dwyer, Abby Duggan, Laura Trenti, Emily Gaffney, Jessica Chalupnicki, Kaitlin Clark, Gigi Vaughn, Maragaret Shanley, and Heather Mullen.

#### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE COUPLED WITH ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIP

### HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report that the women of Ragsdale High School in the Sixth District of North Carolina have proven their amazing athletic ability with state championship titles in both tennis and track and field.

The outstanding athletes who run, jump, relay, throw, and ultimately put their entire heart into the sport, better known as the track and field team, have been battling in a tremendously competitive district. The past two seasons they achieved second place and were fearful that this year would produce similar results. The old cliché, however, proved true: "The third time's the charm!" This year the Tigers' hard work paid off and Ragsdale finished first in the state.

We are pleased to recognize all the members of the Ragsdale track and field team who

contributed to this impressive victory. Members include: Rachael Acquaye, Courtney Brandenburg, Laura Brentnell, Chloe Christian, Courtney Cole, Kierra Crutchfield, Naadia Crutchfield, Julia Gomez, Asha Gray, Dionne Harp, Tyera Herbin, Shea Jackson, Tay Jackson, Portia Jordan, Emily Kimmel, Savannah Lloyd, Jessica McCray, Raven McKiver, Albiana Mustafa, Charlse Nelson, Lakeya O'Neal, Briana Overdiep, Cary Quillian, Mercia Perry, Nikkita Rowlings, Paisley Robinson, Mollie Rogers, Eunique Singleton, Rachel Smith, Caitlin Thornley, Cecilia Woke, Antioinette Walker, Katherine Webb, Amy Wenner, and LaNisha Woods.

After 25 years of coaching, Head Coach Sam Bays capped a tremendous career by bringing in a state title. The players recognize him as the reason for much of their success, and he is obviously proud of them in turn. Neither the coach nor the track and field team could have jumped this hurdle without the help of Assistant Coaches Ronnie Smith, Tommy Norwood and Zachary Crutchfield.

We are late in congratulating the Ragsdale women's tennis team for capturing the state tennis title last year. Congratulations to: Tianna Carter, Cameron Chatman, Chelsea Chatman, Sruthi Cherkur, Kiera Crutchfield, Naadia Crutchfield, Jeanette Edwards, Ashley Johnson, Grace Kennerly, Hanae Matsui, Sirena Pickett, Paris Sims, Jessica Wise and Catherine Wood. Congratulations also to Head Coach Zachary Crutchfield for leading this group of extremely talented women to victory.

On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate the Ragsdale Tigers on the amazing achievements of both teams. Congratulations to Principal Dr. Kathryn Rogers, Athletic Director Mike Raybon, the teachers, staff, students, parents, and fans of Ragsdale High school for bringing academic as well as athletic excellence.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ANOKA  
CITY HALL

**HON. MARK R. KENNEDY**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the rededication of the City Hall building in Anoka, Minnesota on its 50th anniversary.

This building, with its unique construction in the shape of a revolver, was furnished to the city as a gift from its largest employer, Federal Cartridge. Anoka has had a long and proud history of dedication and sacrifice to our country.

Anoka rightly takes pride in its status as the first city to provide volunteers to the Union Army during the Civil War. These brave men exemplified Minnesotans' enduring commitment to freedom, and proved their courage during the First Minnesota Regiment's famous charge at the battle of Gettysburg.

I am delighted, today, to join the city of Anoka in celebrating its proud history. I know this is only the beginning of what's to come.

CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF  
DESOTO FOR BEING NAMED AN  
ALL-AMERICAN CITY

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend DeSoto on being named an All-American City by the National Civic League. Each year, the All-American City Award is given to ten communities that exemplify the true American spirit, and show outstanding abilities to identify problems and collectively conquer community-wide issues.

It takes collaboration from the whole community to be an All-American City, and DeSoto serves as a shining example of what can be accomplished when community members, government, businesses and non-profit organizations work together to address critical local issues.

I would like to congratulate my outstanding constituents in DeSoto; especially Mayor Michael Hurrst and the DeSoto City Council. Through their leadership, DeSoto has produced several exceptional grassroots initiatives including: DeSoto Dining and Dialogue, the Empowered Homeowners Associations Program, and the Youth Initiatives including the Hip Hop Summit.

DeSoto might be a small suburb of Dallas but has done a huge job in bettering the lives of average Texans through cooperation and grassroots initiatives. The accolades DeSoto is receiving are imminently well deserved, and I am confident of continued success for years to come.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER  
AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT  
ON H.R. 4939, EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 12, 2006*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Hurricane Recovery Conference Report, H.R. 4939. This supplemental bill, totaling \$94.5 billion, is the largest that the House of Representatives has ever considered. This is almost \$3 billion more than the bill the House considered earlier this year.

As I have said repeatedly on the House floor, I strongly oppose using so-called "emergency supplementals" to fund nonemergency, clearly foreseeable expenditures. This bill provides \$72 billion for continued military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The fact that our troops are on the ground in these dangerous places is not a surprise. They have been in Iraq for almost 3 years. Their needs are well known to everyone, except, it seems, the President and his budget staff. Every year, the President fails to budget for the cost of

military operations, and every year he pretends that the war is an unforeseen "emergency."

Funding our soldiers this way is dangerous because it leaves them ill-equipped and subject to last minute actions like this by Congress. If, by contrast, we funded military operations through the normal budget process, funding decisions would be made in the open and with the appropriate scrutiny they deserve. It would also allow for long-term planning and more thoughtful budgeting. We have all read about the contracting waste and fraud that has occurred in Iraq. A number of no-bid and open-ended contracts have wasted billions of taxpayers' dollars. This waste probably has made a few crooked businessmen wealthy and done nothing to protect our troops or help build a more stable democracy in Iraq.

Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, I refuse to continue to fund a failed policy. I opposed this war because I did not think the President had made a convincing case for the existence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and I opposed his illegal doctrine of preemption. Since then I have only been heartbroken by the utter incompetence of the planning and execution. Our service members are doing outstanding work, and I salute their sacrifice. But the policymakers in Washington have let them down and put them in an impossible situation. As I said in a letter to Secretary Rice last September, it is time to begin bringing our soldiers home. Spending good money after bad on a failed policy puts our troops and our national security in even greater risk.

Let me talk for a moment about the other good portions of this bill which were attached by the majority in a cynical attempt to buy votes for the overall bill.

There is true emergency funding in this bill. But it is money for Sudan and the gulf coast, and the preparation for the avian flu, not Iraq. This bill contains \$1.9 billion to meet the pressing border security needs that exist because the President has not made funding for border security a priority. Unfortunately, the bill contains \$708 million to pay for the deployment of National Guard troops to the border. This is a bad idea that will further burden National Guard units across America at a time when they are stretched historically thin.

This bill also contains \$19.8 billion to help ensure that we meet our commitments to rebuild and restore the gulf coast. As we begin another hurricane season, my prayers are for the safety of all Americans who live near the coast. Yet prayers alone will not prevent flooding and help towns recover from hurricane related destruction. A strong federal commitment is needed to ensure that we remain at the highest state of readiness possible and that we can respond to all hurricane related natural disasters.

Finally, this bill includes desperately needed funds for the Sudan. I am glad that this bill will provide \$350 million in emergency humanitarian food assistance. There is additional funding for international disaster assistance and famine assistance, and \$126 million to sustain the African Union Mission in Sudan peacekeeping forces.

I am sorry that these true emergency funds were attached to the foreseeable spending for the ongoing operations in Iraq. I have voted in the past for rebuilding the gulf coast and ending the genocide in Darfur, and I will continue to do so. But I will not fund a failed policy in

Iraq that is jeopardizing our soldiers needlessly, stoking the insurgency, draining our national resources, and doing nothing to protect Americans from terrorism at home.

RECOGNIZING THE START OF THE  
U.S.-KOREA FTA NEGOTIATIONS

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, negotiations for a free trade agreement (FTA) between the United States and the Republic of Korea commenced last week in Washington, DC. I would like to recognize this historic undertaking and emphasize the significance of a U.S. trade accord with the Republic of Korea.

On February 2, 2006, then-U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) Rob Portman and Korean Minister of Trade Hyun-Chong Kim announced our two countries would negotiate an FTA. Both sides hope to complete negotiations by March 2007.

I applaud the decision by the United States to negotiate a bi-lateral, free and fair trade agreement with a country that is not only a strong economic partner, but an important geographic ally as well. As my good friend and former USTR Rob Portman has noted, this agreement, if successfully concluded, will constitute the largest and most commercially significant FTA the United States has negotiated in 15 years.

The numbers are truly impressive. Korea is the 10th largest economy in the world with a GDP of nearly \$1 trillion and a per capita income of over \$20,000. It is the United States' 7th largest trading partner and our 5th largest market for U.S. agricultural products.

Trade between our countries surpassed \$72 billion last year alone and U.S. exports to Republic of Korea reached nearly \$28 billion during the same year, and included important goods like computer chips, industrial machinery, organic chemicals, agricultural produce, and civilian aircrafts.

Bolstered by an FTA, U.S. exports to Korea will no doubt increase substantially. A study by the U.S. International Trade Commission in 2001 revealed that an FTA with Korea could increase U.S. exports by over 50 percent, and agricultural exports by more than 200 percent within four years.

South Korea's average tariff on goods is just over 11 percent—three times higher than the U.S. equivalent. The average tariff applied by Korea on agricultural products is even higher—52 percent. An FTA will lock in duty-free access and help to reduce other non-tariff barriers for U.S. goods and agricultural products, providing significant opportunities for U.S. businesses, farmers, and ranchers, and provide another lucrative market for America's auto manufacturers and U.S. beef and beef-product exporters.

This FTA will also help to stimulate job growth in the United States, not only as a result of increased trade but increased domestic investment as well. Koreans have invested nearly \$20 billion in the United States, and have created American jobs through companies like Hyundai Motors, Samsung Electronics, and Kia Motors. And as the largest investor in Korea, the United States already has a leading presence in that country as well.

An FTA would also benefit the great State of Indiana, which I proudly represent in Congress. Korea is Indiana's 10th largest export market, and Indiana exports \$303 million in goods to Korea annually. And outside the realm of international economics, almost 10,000 Korean-Americans reside in the State of Indiana and more than 2,000 Korean students study at Indiana's prestigious academic institutions.

In fact, Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels and his staff are actually preparing to return to Asia to visit Japan and South Korea later this week so they can develop better economic and trading partnerships between Indiana and Asia. Governor Daniels is determined to make long-lasting economic relationships in Asia, especially with Korean companies, as he works to improve Indiana's economy, create new and better Hoosier jobs, and ultimately drive ahead Indiana's economy well into the 21st Century.

In addition to being a strong economic partner, Korea is a key U.S. ally and a very important one strategically. The United States and Korea have a mutual defense treaty that dates back to 1953, and Korea has supported U.S. military efforts abroad, as recently as in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

Further, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Korea pledged over \$30 million in aid for relief and recovery efforts—the 4th largest amount donated by any foreign country.

This new partnership between the United States and South Korea is sure to be a win-win for both of our countries. I look forward to working closely with the U.S. and Korean negotiators as talks proceed, so that we can ensure the best opportunities for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to extend my remarks to recognize the historic occasion of the start of formal trade negotiations between the United States and the Republic of Korea last week. I strongly encourage my colleagues to offer their own expressions of support for this important endeavor.

ONE SCHOOL, TWO STATE  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

**HON. HOWARD COBLE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2006*

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report that a school in the Sixth District of

North Carolina, in addition to continued promotion of academic excellence, has produced not one but two state championships recently. The first victory for Ledford High School was brought home by sophomore, Megan Williams, in the pole vault competition of the track and field championship. The second was achieved by Ledford's golf team.

In only her second year as a pole vaulter, Megan Williams battled through a knee injury to claim the title. All nerves resulting from an imperfect freshman season seemingly disappeared, allowing the true champion athlete to break through. Although not new to state level competition, with two previous cheerleading titles to her credit, this event appeared to be especially meaningful because of her success in the face of little experience. The combination of her determination, gymnastic skills, and training from her dedicated coach, Shawn Loggins, drove Megan to continue pursuing and obviously achieving excellence. Looking forward to new poles and new heights, it's no wonder that Megan Williams was named athlete of the week by The (Lexington) Dispatch.

The golfing Panthers of Ledford High School showed extreme poise under the pressure of defending a state title as they defeated Cardinal Gibbons by a remarkable 13 shots in their final performance of the year. Head Coach John Ralls was quoted by The High Point Enterprise as beaming, "Today we had six scores in the 70s . . . we had six guys who were capable." These scores are themselves an amazing feat, but more impressive is that Ledford has won in back-to-back years in such a difficult conference.

We are pleased to recognize all the members of the Ledford golf team who contributed to the victory. Players include: seniors Paxton Davis and Zack Smith, juniors Jake Dykhoff, Nick Goins (whose individual score placed him third in the state), and Logan Peck, and sophomores Jeff Boyan, Curtis Brotherton, Matt Lawson, Chris Moore, Jordan Stiles, and Ethan Worley.

The fantastic individual efforts of the players would not have been enough to bring home a championship, but through the collaborated efforts of the entire squad and the excellent coaching staff including Head Coach John Ralls and Associate Head Coach Jim Brotherton, it was possible to work together and clench the title as a team. The coaches were no doubt proud of their players as they led the Ledford High School golf team to yet another state championship.

On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate the Ledford Panthers golf team as well as Megan Williams and the rest of the track and field team. Congratulations to Principal Bill Butts, Athletic Director Don Palmer, the teachers, staff, students, parents, and fans of Ledford High School.