

September will be International Gaucher Awareness Month, and because it is important that people know more about this disease and how to combat it, I take the occasion to insert here an article from the publication *Spotlight On Health* that provides important information about this disease.

Gaucher Disease predominately affects Jewish people of Eastern European descent—Ashkenazim—and the foundation notes that a large majority of those most susceptible to the disease remain unaware of it. This makes their work particularly important as part of our overall effort to give people the tools with which they can protect their health, and I ask that the article from *Spotlight On Health* about Gaucher Disease be printed here, in time for International Gaucher Disease Awareness Month.

GAUCHER DISEASE: LEARNING THE TRUTH

(NAPS)—A simple test could help diagnose and treat a genetic disease that can cause severe debilitation. Yet nine out of 10 people most at risk for the condition do not even know it exists.

The condition, called Gaucher disease, can affect all people, but is primarily seen in Jewish populations of Eastern European descent. The carrier rate for these people may be as high as one in 15 and the rate of the disease in the general population is believed to be about one in 100 to 200 people. If both parents carry the disease, the odds of a child being born with it are one in four.

Gaucher disease is passed down from parent to child and can occur at any age. Signs and symptoms can include:

- Fatigue
- Unusual bruising
- Bleeding episodes
- An enlarged abdomen
- Bone pain.

Although the disease can be devastating, it can often be managed. However, people must first be aware of the condition, which many are not. "A survey showed that 90 percent of the Jewish population is unaware of Gaucher disease. That means many people may be symptomatic and have no idea that they even have the disease," says Rhonda Buyers, National Gaucher Foundation Executive Director. "The good news is that, unlike other genetic conditions, Gaucher disease is treatable and can be diagnosed with the use of a simple blood test."

Buyers says that lack of awareness about Gaucher disease extends to physicians as well. In fact, a survey found that four of five blood specialists suspected leukemia or lymphoma when presented with the signs and symptoms of Gaucher disease.

Her group is working to change that. Not only does The National Gaucher Foundation fund research intended to cure Gaucher disease, it also works to promote physician and community awareness about the condition (September is Gaucher Awareness Month). At the same time, the foundation helps meet the needs of patients and families affected by Gaucher.

People interested in information on Gaucher disease testing or who want to learn more about the disease's symptoms can visit the group's Web site, www.gaucher-disease.org.

SCIENCE, STATE, JUSTICE, COMMERCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 28, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5672) making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased that the report accompanying H.R. 5672, the Science, State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of FY 2007, has directed funding under the COPS Methamphetamine Enforcement and Clean-up account for the Tennessee Meth Educational Program.

Tennessee Tech University will use this funding to design and implement the meth educational program in keeping with President Bush's National Drug Control Strategy, which aims to reduce all drugs in the United States by 25 percent within 5 years.

Some schools in Tennessee have begun implementing educational programs in public schools designed to stop meth abuse. However, in many cases, there have not been effective follow-up programs for classroom teachers, school counselors, school nurses, school psychologists, and administrators. And, school counselors report that methamphetamine abuse is an inhibiting factor in the personal and educational development of their students—whether or not their school has had a methamphetamine program. To address these issues, Tennessee Tech University will develop an in-service program for public middle and high school personnel in 15 counties (17 school districts) to: review the symptoms and identification of meth use; explain the hazards of meth abuse for children; and examine how to utilize reporting procedures (such as those involving the school field officers) and legal consultation.

Since 1999, the number of meth labs in Tennessee has increased by more than 500 percent. Last year, Tennessee accounted for 75 percent of all meth lab seizures in the Southeast. Only three states nationwide had more meth lab seizures in 2005. Many of the worst effects of meth are felt by the children involved. Children taken from active meth labs are separated from adult family members and sometimes from siblings, and cannot even keep their toys or clothing for comfort. In addition, children often must be taken to the hospital to test for exposure to a variety of toxic substances. In 2004, Tennessee was forced to place more than 700 children of meth users in state custody.

I am pleased that Tennessee Tech University will be collaborating with schools in Tennessee to address this critical problem, and I am very grateful to the Appropriations Committee for directing this important funding to Tennessee Tech University.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 10, 2006, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall numbers 358 and 359. The votes I missed included motions to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2463 and H.R. 5061 respectively. The former authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to conduct feasibility studies to address certain water shortages within the Snake, Boise, and Payette River systems in Idaho, while the latter is the Paint Bank and Wytheville National Fish Hatcheries Conveyance Act.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 358 and 359.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, on July 10, 2006, I missed the following rollcall votes due to an emergency landing in Denver, CO, en route to Washington DC:

(1) Rollcall vote No. 358, H.R. 2563: To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct feasibility studies to address certain water shortages within the Snake, Boise, and Payette River systems in Idaho, and for other purposes.

(2) Rollcall vote No. 359, H.R. 5061: Paint Bank and Wytheville National Fish Hatcheries Conveyance Act (15 minutes).

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" to rollcall vote No. 358, and "yes" to rollcall vote No. 359.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF COMMANDER WILLIAM MILNE OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Commander William J. Milne for his service to the United States House of Representatives and his continued service to our country in the United States Coast Guard.

Commander Milne was assigned as the Coast Guard liaison officer to the United States House of Representatives in July 2003, and I am proud to have had the opportunity to work closely with him. In my leadership roles on the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee and in numerous other venues, my staff and I have often relied on Commander Milne's knowledge and understanding of the operational missions, the current day-to-day challenges, and the roles and responsibilities of the United States Coast Guard.

While Commander Milne began his House career 3 years ago as the chief of the Coast

Guard's House Liaison Office, his Coast Guard career began more than three decades earlier as a 1975 graduate of the Recruit Training Center in Alameda, CA.

In 1975, Seaman Apprentice Milne was assigned to his first unit working as a Search and Rescue communications watchstander and a Motor Life Boat coxswain. During this assignment he also became one of the few distinguished registered SURFMAN in the Coast Guard while being promoted quickly to the rank of boatswain's mate first class and accepting the duties as executive petty officer of Station Umpqua River in Winchester Bay, OR. Commander Milne received five promotions within his first 3½ years in the United States Coast Guard.

In 1983, he was promoted to chief petty officer and transferred to the Second Coast Guard District in St Louis, MO, serving in the Rescue Coordination Center overseeing search and rescue and bridge operations in a 22-State area throughout the Midwest before being selected to attend Officer Candidate School in Yorktown, VA, in 1986. Later that year, he was promoted to the rank of ensign, thus beginning his commissioned career.

During his 31-year career, Commander Milne has been assigned to seven coast Guard cutters and has commanded the cutters *Cape Cowin*, *Redwood* and *Juniper*. His shore assignments have included the Professional Development staff at the Coast Guard Academy, Office of Financial Management at Coast Guard Headquarters, and as Surface Operations Assignment officer at the Personnel Command.

This week, Commander Milne will leave his post as the Coast Guard's House liaison and head off to the Naval War College in Newport, RI. He will be missed in the United States House of Representatives.

It has been my pleasure to work with Commander Milne. On behalf of all who have also been fortunate to work with him, we wish Commander Milne and his wife Martina the best in all of their future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE UPTON,
JR.

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. George Upton, Jr. for his remarkable 50 years of service in the Sampson County Agricultural Extension Service. George's tremendous spirit, dedication and work in the agricultural industry has greatly helped the citizens of Sampson County and the State of North Carolina, and George should be commended for his service.

George demonstrated a strong work ethic and commitment to improving the agricultural industry from an early age. After receiving his degree in Animal Science from North Carolina State University in 1959, George began his career as a 4-H agent with the Sampson County Agricultural Extension Service. Later, George went on to become a livestock agent and is now the Sampson County Cooperative Extension director.

George has brought exemplary service and visionary leadership to every position he has

held throughout his career. Not only has he served as an educator and mentor, but George has helped make significant advancements in agriculture during the last 50 years. For instance, George has helped implement innovative programs, contributed to the utilization of new technologies in the livestock area, and he has been instrumental in obtaining additional funding for agriculture. George has been essential to the creation of the Sampson County Friends of Agriculture.

George has received numerous awards recognizing his contribution to agriculture and to Sampson County. He has received awards from the Cooperative Extension Service, has been recognized by the beef and pork industry, and he has been inducted into the Sampson County Hall of Fame. In addition, the Sales Arena and Show Ring at the Sampson County Livestock Facility are named in his honor.

There may be no greater tribute to George, however, than the recent creation by his friends and colleagues of the George Upton, Jr., Livestock Endowment for Sampson County. This endowment honors George's outstanding 50 years of service and brings together his commitment to Sampson County and its people with his passion for the livestock program. The endowment will be housed by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service Foundation and will provide programmatic funding for adult and youth livestock programs, awards and recognition for competitive activities, and educational scholarships in animal science. This endowment will help ensure that George's commitment to providing improvement to and opportunities for livestock programs in Sampson County will continue for generations to come.

We thank George, on behalf of the citizens of Sampson County, NC, and the Nation for his remarkable service to agriculture. May God's strength, joy and peace be with him always.

HONORING THE STATE OF HAWAII
FOR COMBATING UNDERAGE
DRINKING

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Hawaii State Legislature for increasing penalties for adults who supply alcohol to persons under the legal drinking age of 21. I believe this is one important step toward attacking the supply chain that fuels the national problem of underage drinking.

According to authorities, adults are by far the main source of alcohol for underage drinkers. A report to Congress by the National Academy of Sciences identified friends and adult purchasers as the most frequent sources of alcohol among college students and older adolescents. Family members were cited as the most frequent source for younger adolescents. The Century Council, a not-for-profit educational organization dedicated to fighting drunk driving and underage drinking, found that 65 percent of underage drinkers get their alcohol from family and adult friends.

Hawaii's new law is among 7 bills that have passed into law and nearly 20 that have been

introduced in States throughout our great Nation that link underage drinking and providing alcohol to those under 21 with a penalty relating to the revocation of driving privileges for the offender. Diageo, a large beverage alcohol company, in an example of enlightened corporate citizenship, is among the firms that have led the effort to move this type of legislation in state legislatures throughout the country. As such, many have referred to bills like Hawaii's new law as a "Diageo Bill."

The American Legislative Exchange Council has made the "Diageo Bill" one of their model pieces of legislation for 2006. I urge all States to pass this type of measure.

While only one piece of this important puzzle, the State of Hawaii along with the people at Diageo and those of similarly committed companies should be commended for being a leader in the fight against underage drinking.

TEXAS RANGER DREW CARTER—
TEXAS LAWMAN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2006

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, it was a scene out of an old western movie: The villainous outlaw, realizing his defeat, surrenders in the hot sun to the valiant lawman. For Texas Ranger Drew Carter however, there was no mistaking that this scenario was not some Hollywood fantasy, but a dangerous reality. On July 13, 1999, Ranger Carter was waiting, with a knot in the pit of his stomach, at the center of a bridge connecting El Paso, TX to Mexico. He was waiting for true evil to show his face.

This tale begins 2 years earlier when a series of brutal murders occurred in homes along the railroad tracks in Texas. Texans were paralyzed with fear by a serial killer dubbed the "Railroad Killer." He baffled law enforcement because it seemed as if he randomly chose his victims and the times of the attacks, making it impossible to know who and when he would strike next. He used any weapon available: a pickax, a sledgehammer, a tire iron, a shotgun. The only common factor was that each victim lived by railroad tracks.

Slowly, through cooperation of local, State, and federal agencies, Angel Resendez Ramirez, an illegal Mexican immigrant would be wanted for the brutal slayings. He was elusive, slipping back and forth across the U.S./Mexican border more than a dozen times, and evading several FBI arrest traps. It would finally take the unyielding efforts of Texas Ranger Drew Carter to end Ramirez's violent reign.

The Texas Rangers are the most well-known and respected law enforcement officers in the World, more famous than Scotland Yard itself. Established in 1823 by Stephen F. Austin, the Rangers were the protectors of new settlers in the untamed Spanish Province, of what is now Texas. They have done battle with horse thieves, bank robbers, "Indians," outlaws, and were even instrumental in the U.S.' success in the Mexican-American War. Over the next 150 years, the responsibilities of Texas Rangers grew to include investigations, fugitive apprehension, and assisting other law enforcement across the State. They are elite; there are only 118 commissioned Rangers,