

have an ambulatory care program with outpatient clinics in Corpus Christi, Laredo, McAllen, San Antonio, and Victoria.

In addition to his lifelong involvement in the medical community, Mr. Coronado was honored as a member of the Senior Executive Service of the United States with three Presidential Rank Awards by Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H. Bush, and Bill Clinton. In addition to these prestigious awards, Mr. Coronado has received the Regent's Award in 2002 from the American College of Health Care Executives, the 1995 Ray E. Brown Award by the Association of Military Surgeons in the United States, and other numerous awards.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the wonderful dedication of Jose R. Coronado to the City of San Antonio and to the medical community of South Texas, and I thank you for this time.

MARRIAGE PROTECTION AMENDMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.J. Res. 88, the Marriage Protection Amendment offered by Representative MARILYN MUSGRAVE.

The resolution reads: "Marriage in the United States shall consist solely of the union of a man and a woman. Neither this Constitution, nor the constitution of any State, shall be construed to require that marriage or the legal incidents thereof be conferred upon any union other than the union of a man and a woman."

This resolution is identical to the resolution that was voted on by the House on September 30, 2004. Although the House received a majority vote on the previous resolution, H.J. Res. 106, it wasn't enough for a constitutional amendment. The American people are overwhelmingly supportive of a constitutional amendment that will protect traditional marriage between one man and one woman. In fact, since the vote in 2004, 16 States have passed State constitutional amendments to protect and defend traditional marriage, including my home State of Kansas. By an overwhelming margin of 70-30 percent, Kansans passed such an amendment in April 2005. The American people have been heard. Now it is time to ensure the will of the people be protected by passing a constitutional amendment that will define marriage as the union of one man and one woman. With activist judges overruling the will of the people time and time again, there is no other way than to amend the U.S. Constitution.

Marriage is the foundation of our society.

The well-being and welfare of children should always be our focus. Children that are raised in a home with a married mother and father consistently do better in every measure of well-being than their peers who come from divorced or step-parent, single-parent, cohabiting homes. When there is a breakdown in the family or failure to form marriages becomes widespread, society is harmed by a whole host of social pathologies from increased poverty, crime, mental illness, illegal drug use to

clinical depression, and suicide. The very best environment for children, our most vulnerable members of society, should be of the utmost importance. I will continue to fight for children and families and to defend the will of the people of the Fourth District of Kansas.

Next month, I will celebrate my 30th anniversary of marriage with my beautiful bride, Vicki. Our marriage has been a blessing. I have gained even more respect for the institution over the past 3 decades and will defend it against attack.

I vote in favor of protecting traditional marriage between one man and one woman today and I encourage my colleagues to vote for H.J. Res. 88.

RECOGNIZING ANTHONY CHARLES CHANDLER FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Anthony Charles Chandler, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 270, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

THANK YOU, CYPRUS

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, every year I have taken the time to remember the Black Anniversary of the Turkish Invasion of Cyprus. Thirty-two years ago, in 1974, Turkish forces invaded northern Cyprus and seized control of more than one-third of the island. In 1983, these illegal occupiers arbitrarily declared the territory to be an independent state. This so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" remains to this day shunned by the international community, recognized as legitimate only by Turkey.

This year, an "invasion" of another sort is taking place during this anniversary. The Republic of Cyprus has opened its skies, its communities, and its facilities to thousands of European and American evacuees fleeing the fighting in Lebanon. By boat, by ferry, by airplane these French, Italian, British, American and other evacuees arrive safely on Cypriot soil. There they find peace for the first time in many days as they make arrangements to return to their own homelands and family members, anxiously awaiting their safe return.

The Cyprus government has organized reception and hospitality for all foreign nationals arriving at the Larnaca Port from Lebanon. The Cyprus government is opening up hotels, and providing temporary housing in schools, exhibition spaces and prefabricated housing for evacuees while they arrange the next stage of their journey home. I am inserting a July 19 ANA-MPA wire story on the hospitality of the Cyprus Republic for all the evacuees landing on their shores.

As I see the many photos and broadcast images of evacuees from Lebanon arriving safely in Cyprus, my heart is too full to speak this year about the dark events of three decades past. I only wish to say "thank you" to President Papadopoulos and to the people of Cyprus, thank you for the sanctuary you are providing and serving as a critical transit point for these shell-shocked individuals and families.

The island of Cyprus remains divided because of the brutality and intransigence of just one country, Turkey. But this anniversary the world has witnessed the compassionate heart of the only true nation of Cyprus as it has embraced these evacuees and helped each of them find their way home.

MORE FLEE LEBANON VIA CYPRUS

NICOSIA.—Organising the reception and hospitality of foreign nationals arriving in Larnaca from Lebanon is a coordinating committee set up by the Cyprus government, which oversees the activities of the various government services and other bodies involved.

There is heightened activity and traffic at Larnaca port as hundreds of Europeans and Americans arrive on boats from Beirut.

Arrivals on Wednesday included the Norwegian ship "Hual Transporter" with more than 1,100 people on board, mostly of American or Scandinavian origin.

The U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus Ronald Schlicher said that several thousand U.S. citizens were expected to arrive on Cyprus, who would stay in hotels or—if there were not enough beds—in schools and an exhibition space equipped with tents and prefab housing provided by the Cyprus government.

Thanking Nicosia, Schlicher said that the Cyprus Republic had offered significant assistance and that this could be a good opportunity to deepen U.S.-Cyprus cooperation.

Later on Wednesday, the Panamanian-flagged ship "Oriental Queen" is expected to arrive at the port in Limassol carrying another 800-900 Americans, to be followed by the cruise ship "Serenate" that will left off passengers that were on a scheduled cruise to Port Said in Egypt and then depart immediately without passengers.

The Greek ferry boat "Terapetra", chartered by the French government, set sail for Beirut at dawn on Wednesday to pick up another 2,000-odd people, followed by the Greek Navy tank-landing craft "Alcyone" soon after it arrived from Greece.

According to an announcement by the Greek armed forces general staff, meanwhile, the tank-landing craft "Ikaria" was expected to arrive in Beirut at 14:30 on Wednesday afternoon.

The foreigners arriving in Cyprus are mostly leaving from Larnaca airport, or staying at hotels until arrangements for their departure can be made.

Meanwhile, during the U.S. State Department briefing on the Lebanon evacuation efforts, Assistant Secretary for Consular Affairs Maura Harty expressed gratitude for help offered by the Cyprus Republic.

"We're so grateful to them . . . Cypriots have met every helicopter and ship with sandwiches and water and juice. They're just

being fantastic. Department of Defense is meeting planes as well for security reasons and for protection purposes," she said.

She also noted that the U.S. was trying to minimize the time spent by its citizens on the island and would try to coordinate the arrival of ships with chartered planes to take them home, as far as possible.

"We just want that throughput to be as efficient as it can be. So there is bottled water. There is a fair grounds that we have rented. There are some air-conditioned facilities. The Cypriot Civil Defense Force has been very helpful to us in what they have provided," she added.

IN RECOGNITION OF MASTER
ARTIST WAN KO YEE

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Master Artist Wan Ko Yee, an exceptional artist whose work has been exhibited throughout the world. His work encompasses the genres of painting, calligraphy, literature, and sculpture. Philosophically, his paintings reflect Buddhist themes and the ideas of tolerance and peace between nations. In esthetic terms, his paintings are infused with balance and an appreciation of the natural world.

It is my hope that cultural diplomacy will begin to have enhanced value in coming years as a means of building understanding between nations. Toward this end, it is important to create awareness of the history and culture of Asian communities in this country and throughout the world.

In 2003, Master Artist Wan Ko Yee exhibited selected works at the House of Representatives in an exhibit that was well attended and appreciated. He has been recognized by the Royal Academy of Arts of the United Kingdom, and the Organization of American States. I commend Master Artist Wan Ko Yee on his artistic contributions.

RECOGNIZING DANIELLE McCURDY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Danielle McCurdy of Blue Springs, Missouri. Danielle recently won the Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship sponsored by Comcast and the Comcast Foundation. She will formally receive the award on July 26, 2006.

Danielle completed a lengthy nomination and selection process, and was chosen from a field of numerous qualified candidates. Comcast recognized Danielle's leadership skills, dedication to community service, positive attitude, and academic achievement.

Comcast and the Comcast Foundation have committed a significant portion of their resources toward motivating young people. In Danielle, Comcast found a high school student who will surely be a force for positive change in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Danielle McCurdy of Blue Springs,

Missouri. Danielle's commitment to excellence is remarkable, and I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF JOHN EDWARD PECHMANN

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding leader in Southeastern North Carolina, Mr. John Edward Pechmann. Mr. Pechmann unexpectedly passed away on July 15, 2006. John leaves behind a wife, Amy, and son, Jack, but his legacy and contributions will live on in the hearts and minds of many for generations to come.

In lamenting the loss of this great man, The Fayetteville (NC) Observer eloquently described John as "a Renaissance man—a talented lawyer, a fine fisherman, a skilled manager, an expert antiques collector, and a devoted father and husband." As head of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, John dedicated his life to ensuring that our outdoors were enjoyed, protected, and sustained. Indeed, in 2001, John received the Governor's Award as North Carolina's Conservationist of the Year. As a lawyer, John displayed the integrity and honor that reflects the best of our judicial system. As a leader in the community of his beloved home and state, Fayetteville, North Carolina, John never saw a challenge too great and never met a stranger he did not want to help. As a father and husband, John always put family first and loved the time he spent with his son fishing. Next month, there will be a fishing education center dedicated in his honor at Lake Rim in his home county of Cumberland. Although, John will not be there in person to rightfully receive the honor and praise he so deserves for his commitment to fish, wildlife, and the environment, the center will be a lasting memory that all can enjoy and strive to emulate.

Samuel Logan Bringle, the legendary leader in the Salvation Army, once said some very important words that are reflective of the character and life of John. He said, "The final estimate of a man will show that history cares not one iota about the title he has carried or the rank he has borne, but only about the quality of his deeds and the character of his heart." Indeed, John Pechmann has reflected this through his sacrifice and commitment.

Mr. Speaker, dedicated service to others combined with dynamic leadership has been the embodiment of John's life. May we all use his wisdom, selflessness, and integrity as a source of inspiration and encouragement during our walk on this earth. Indeed, may God bless to all of our memories the tremendous life and legacy of John Edward Pechmann.

MICROSOFT'S "OPEN PLATFORM
PRINCIPLES" ANNOUNCEMENT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I commend Microsoft's announcement today that it will

adopt a set of "Open Platform Principles" that will govern the development of Windows desktop operating systems.

Four years ago, the Justice Department rejected calls to force Microsoft to remove code out of Windows and to reorganize its business. Instead, the department adopted a consent decree setting out basic rules to preserve competitive opportunities for other companies, while ensuring that Microsoft could continue to improve its products. As a result, the U.S. software industry is thriving with competition and innovation.

The "Open Platform Principles" that Microsoft announced today give me tremendous confidence that innovation and competition will continue. The principles broaden the Department's consent decree and makes them a standard part of how Microsoft does business. They give every company, large and small, confidence that they will be treated fairly and can compete equally.

In 2004, the European Commission ordered Microsoft to delete code out of Windows. To the commission's shock, absolutely no one bought this substandard version of Windows. The commission now appears intent on actively managing how Microsoft designs Vista, its new platform. Microsoft's new guiding principles ensure that Windows will continue to be a great platform for innovation and competition. The fact that Microsoft adopted these principles voluntarily shows that it recognizes the important responsibilities that come with being an industry leader. I congratulate Microsoft for taking this important and forward-looking step.

RECOGNIZING SOPHIA LEE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sophia Lee of Blue Springs, Missouri. Sophia recently won the Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship sponsored by Comcast and the Comcast Foundation. She will formally receive the award on July 26, 2006.

Sophia completed a lengthy nomination and selection process, and was chosen from a field of numerous qualified candidates. Comcast recognized Sophia's leadership skills, dedication to community service, positive attitude, and academic achievement.

Comcast and the Comcast Foundation have committed a significant portion of their resources toward motivating young people. In Sophia, Comcast found a high school student who will surely be a force for positive change in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Sophia Lee of Blue Springs, Missouri. Sophia's commitment to excellence is remarkable, and I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.