

horse farms, dairy farms and rose greenhouses are gone, but the five-person township committee form of government continues as it was in 1806.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the residents of Chatham Township on the celebration of 200 years of rich history and the building of one of New Jersey's finest municipalities.

TRIBUTE TO MUNCIE SHERIFF IN
SNIPER ARREST

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, a tragic tale of death and sniper shootings over the weekend has turned into a bittersweet success story for law enforcement in my home state of Indiana.

Early Sunday morning, after leaving a relative's hunting party on a Washington County farm, Zachariah Blanton, a 17-year-old Gaston, Indiana native, committed four shootings—two along Interstate 65 in Jackson County and another pair along Interstate 69 in Delaware County.

The previous two left Jerry Ross, age 40 of New Albany, dead and another man injured.

Mr. Speaker, this tale is all too familiar to those living in the 50-mile radius of this very Chamber from which we speak today. For it was October of 2002 when the hearts of the American people were troubled by barbaric acts of terror that felled innocent women, men, and even children, in the vicinity of our Nation's Capital.

Whatever the motivation, the acts of John Allen Muhammad in Washington and Zachariah Blanton are acts of terror. These perpetrators defied civilized behavior and believed they could defy the finest local, State, and Federal law enforcement in the world. How wrong they were.

Mr. Speaker, Zachariah Blanton was apprehended by Indiana law enforcement on Tuesday of this week, just two days after his heinous crimes.

Compared to the sad slayings that paralyzed Washington for nearly two months in 2002, one can only stand in honor and amazement at the quick end to the events of this week in the Hoosier State.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the coordination efforts of the Indiana State Police with Jackson County officials, but rise with particular deference to Sheriff George Sheridan and his Delaware County Department of whom the residents of East Central Indiana are most proud this morning.

Mr. Speaker, the nation is watching Delaware County and Sheriff George Sheridan, and the nation is impressed.

On behalf of the residents of east central Indiana, I offer a heartfelt thanks to Sheriff George Sheridan and all law enforcement officials across the Hoosier State. God Bless you for your hard work.

HONORING SANDY AUGLIERE ON
HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sandy Augliere on her 90th birthday and recognize her many accomplishments as well as her years of dedication to the Lake Barcroft community.

Sandy Augliere was born Mary Margaret Reed in Marion, N.C., but most everyone who has met her knows her simply as Sandy. Through her engaging personal demeanor and business acumen, Sandy has become an institution in the Lake Barcroft real estate community. In addition, Sandy has been a dedicated and loving wife to her husband Vince, and mother to her four children, Carol, Noel, Reed and Tom.

The senior associate broker at Long and Foster, Sandy has been in the real estate business for some 50 years. She has been in the top 1 percent of Realtors nationally and is a lifetime Million Dollar Club member. In the course of her impressive career, she has sold or re-sold approximately 700 to 800 of the 1,044 houses in the Lake Barcroft. Even today, Sandy works seven days a week, and has no plans to quit.

In establishing her impressive real estate accomplishments, she led opponents of discrimination against African Americans in the home buying market. Sandy sold homes to a diverse group of individuals and families, including Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall and Attorney General of the United States Ramsey Clark.

Throughout her ongoing success, she has never advertised on television. Instead, she depends on friends and word of mouth. If asked, Sandy is quick to point out that her personal touch has always been a hallmark of her success. This same personal touch has been felt in Lake Barcroft through her community service as Lake Barcroft Association president and Woman's Club president.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Sandy Augliere for her contributions to the Lake Barcroft community. She is an exemplary model of success and citizenship. I call upon my colleagues to join me in recognizing her on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF OLD TIMERS DAY

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the 100th Anniversary of Old Timers Day, a city tradition in New Castle, Pennsylvania, since 1906.

The first annual Old Timers picnic took place at Cascade Park on August 23, 1906, drawing in 7,000 residents of New Castle and has continued as an annual affair. The second year's picnic drew 11,000 people, and by the third year, attendance jumped to 17,000. The figures have fluctuated throughout the years,

but this event has always been a success and an important community event.

This year's festivities will be no exception, thanks to the chairmen and the community leaders who have planned the event. Activities will include: dancing, refreshments, prizes, and souvenirs.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the "Old Timers" of New Castle and their families. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute the achievements and fine traditions that truly improve the lives of the senior citizens of the New Castle and neighboring communities.

REPUBLICAN FISCAL POLICY IS
WORKING

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month the White House Office of Management and Budget handed down good news in its mid-year budget update—the Republican fiscal policy is working. This year's budget deficit is now forecasted at \$296 billion, which is 30 percent lower than the February projections.

We have made great progress in eliminating the budget deficit through fiscal responsibility and through increased tax revenues brought on by lower taxes.

Since the President's tax cuts were fully implemented in 2003, we have seen consistent and substantial growth in tax revenue. This reaffirms our knowledge that when we ease the tax burden on the American people, we become more productive. As we face future budget challenges it is important to keep that fact in mind.

We must do what is best for Americans. As we all can see by the new forecasts . . . cutting spending and reducing taxes produces real results.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS
THAT VENEZUELA SHOULD SUPPORT
STRATEGIES FOR ENSURING
SECURE AIRPORT FACILITIES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to revise my previous statement regarding H. Con. Res. 400. I rise in opposition to H. Con. Res. 400. While I believe the United States should address the issue of drug trafficking from Venezuela, this resolution is too harsh a condemnation of the Government of Venezuela.

It should be the goal of the United States to work closely with Venezuela and the other nations of this region to combat the trafficking of narcotics and other controlled substances. It is not only out of concern for the welfare of our own Nation if illegal substances and laundered

money are allowed safe passage here; we must also express our concern for the welfare of Venezuelans and others around the world. The control of harmful substances is an international effort in which we must all take an active and engaged role.

I am deeply committed to fighting our international war on drugs. However, the United States diplomacy has been entirely too weak in this regard, and we must recognize that Venezuela is an ally, not an enemy. Our foreign policy must be governed by what is best for the American people rather than by what party is in power. Recent evidence shows a general lack of enforcement in Venezuela of the measures necessary to avoid the trafficking of narcotics and other controlled substances. However, instead of delivering a political attack to a nation for a lack of customs control in an international airport, we must be constructive and pragmatic in our call for stricter enforcement.

I support the message of this resolution to ensure the compliance of the international community with the Organization of American States conventions and comprehensive treaties on narco-terrorism. However, we would benefit from more constructive engagement in diplomatic relations with our allies in the Western Hemisphere rather than simply issuing a reprimand.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this resolution and support better diplomatic relations with the Government of Venezuela.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PATIENTS' ACCESS TO PHYSICIANS ACT (PAPA)

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, this legislation responds to the fact that physicians are currently scheduled to receive a significant reduction in their Medicare payments over the next 5 to 10 years. The Medicare Trustees have projected that Medicare payments to physicians will be cut by 4.6 percent in January. And, if Congress does not act, physicians will see a cumulative cut of approximately 37 percent through 2015. Providers in Michigan alone stand to lose \$8 billion over this time period if the cuts that are forecast are allowed to take effect.

My legislation would provide a temporary halt to these Medicare physician payment cuts. It would provide a positive physician update, expected to be between 2 and 3 percent, in both 2007 and 2008. The update would reflect physician practice cost inflation. This follows the advice of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission's recommended formula of increases in physician practice costs minus productivity adjustment.

This legislation would also protect beneficiaries from any additional premium increases that would otherwise be caused by this change in physician payments for these 2 years. For seniors living on fixed incomes, unexpected increases in their living expenses can impose hardship. The Part B premium already consumes 9 percent of the average Social Security check. Thus, the bill ensures that beneficiaries would not see an increase in

beneficiary premiums due to Congressional action to increase physician payments.

It is critical that Congress protect the right of beneficiaries to see their doctor in Medicare. The vast majority of seniors and people with disabilities are and will remain in Medicare where they have the freedom to choose their own doctor and get the care that is right for them.

While ideally we will develop a new payment system that integrates payment and quality, we do not have enough information and data to implement such a system at this time. My legislation would provide a temporary increase for doctors while Congress continues to work toward a permanent solution.

IN HONOR OF MARY LOU McCUTHEON'S SERVICE TO THE SENIOR CITIZENS OF SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, for 15 years, Mary Lou McCutcheon has served the senior citizens of Sussex County with integrity, dedication and pride. Under her leadership, first at the County Office on Aging and then at the Division of Senior Services, seniors in Sussex County have seen an improved quality of life financially, medically, and socially. She has always put forth extra effort, going far beyond what was required of her job, to address the needs of the elderly in Sussex communities with true compassion.

Mary Lou has also served as a spokesperson for the elderly on both the state and national level. Just last year, Mary Lou was appointed by the Governor to be part of the New Jersey delegation to attend the White House Conference on Aging.

Her achievements have been too numerous to list and will not be forgotten anytime soon. Without a doubt, Mary Lou has touched the lives of many through her public service in Sussex County. Upon the occasion of her retirement, I extend my warmest appreciation to Mary Lou for her years of service and my best wishes for a happy retirement.

UNITED STATES AND INDIA NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROMOTION ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5682) to exempt from certain requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 a proposed nuclear agreement for cooperation with India:

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, I rise in qualified support of this legislation.

India is the world's largest and most diverse democracy and a strong ally and friend of the United States. As a member of the India Caucus, I recognize the benefits of increased eco-

nomics, security, and cultural cooperation between India and the United States and am proud that in recent years the relationship between our two countries has made rapid advances in so many areas.

Because of the growing importance of that relationship, it made sense for the Bush Administration to consider expanding the U.S.-India strategic partnership to include civilian nuclear energy development. In the context of our friendship with India, I support the concept of civilian nuclear cooperation, and I will support this legislation today.

U.S. law prohibits nuclear cooperation with countries that have not pledged under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty—like India—to forgo nuclear weapons. H.R. 5682 carves out an exception for India to allow it to gain access to long-denied civilian nuclear technology in exchange for opening 14 out of 22 of its nuclear facilities to inspections under the International Atomic Energy Agency. Importantly, the bill requires that India and the International Atomic Energy Agency negotiate a safeguards agreement and that the Nuclear Suppliers Group approve an exemption for India before Congress votes on the final cooperation agreement. That means Congress will have a chance to vote up or down once more, this time on the final negotiated agreement. I think that's the right approach.

In exchange for getting access to sensitive nuclear technology and fuel supplies, India has promised to continue the moratorium on nuclear weapons testing, to separate its civilian and military nuclear programs and not to transfer the nuclear technology to third parties.

But the deal would not prevent India from ramping up its military nuclear program. Whether or not India actually begins building more nuclear arms is less important than the fact that it will have the capability to do so, and it is unclear what actions countries like China and Pakistan might take in response to that new reality.

I tend to agree the statement by Rep. BERMAN (D-CA) in his additional views on H.R. 5682 that "only a halt on fissile material production would make this deal a net plus for nonproliferation." In the July 2005 joint statement between President Bush and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, India committed to "assume the practices and responsibilities" of other advanced nuclear powers. With four of the five recognized nuclear weapons states already having stopped producing fissile material for nuclear weapons and China believed to have halted production, it would seem that India should be able to "assume" this important practice.

Yet the agreement itself does not include any promise by India to cease its production of fissile materials. So I remain concerned about the potential effects of the agreement on our broader nonproliferation goals, since the real has ramifications far beyond the U.S.-India relationship. That's why I supported an amendment based on a proposal by former Senator Sam Nunn to allow the exports of nuclear reactors and technology to India but not the transfers of reactor fuel until it had been determined that India had halted the production of fissile material for its weapons program.

We must try to strike the right balance between strengthening our relationship with India and also maintaining our robust and time-tested international nuclear nonproliferation regime. I will support the bill today, but once the