

the Michigan House of Representatives Appropriations Committee. Representative Jacobetti was widely acknowledged as an effective advocate for veterans and for all of northern Michigan.

Before this important facility was established in Michigan's Upper Peninsula (U.P.), the only places for a U.P. veteran to go for long-term care were Michigan's Lower Peninsula or Wisconsin. Only after veterans organizations in the Upper Peninsula advocated for and requested this facility did the state of Michigan, with help from the Federal Government, establish the Jacobetti Home for Veterans. With the establishment of the Jacobetti Home for Veterans, Michigan became one of the first states to have two full-service, long-term care facilities for veterans.

It is important to note that the Jacobetti Home prides itself on truly being a home, not just a long-term care facility. The fact that the Jacobetti Home refers to its residents as "members" reflects the philosophy that has guided the Jacobetti Home over the last 25 years. The staff of the Jacobetti Home does not refer to residents as "patients" or "guests," but as "members," a title that underscores that residents of the Jacobetti Home for Veterans truly belong to a larger U.P. community.

The Jacobetti Home provides a ceramic shop, chapel, puzzle room and a solarium. The staff and veteran volunteers of the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans provide members with outings and classes almost daily. With the help of volunteers, watercolor, woodworking, and sewing classes are offered as are shopping trips, picnics, and a host of other activities.

As of May of this year, the Jacobetti Home for Veterans had served 1,950 members. This impressive number is a glowing testament to the hard work and dedication of the Jacobetti staff who have been tireless in their efforts to serve Upper Peninsula veterans.

Dr. James Heron deserves enormous credit for leading the Jacobetti Home for nearly two decades in a dual capacity as both Director and Medical Administrator. Brad Slagle, the Director of the facility since August of 2005, deserves our support as he leads the organization into the future.

As the 25th anniversary of the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans draws near, I would also like to salute the great number of individuals who volunteer thousands of hours each year to keep the Jacobetti Home for Veterans running. Almost every year, I attend the Jacobetti Home for Veterans' annual volunteer appreciation banquet to recognize the countless hours volunteers at the Jacobetti Home give to this veterans facility. I am pleased to note the roster of volunteers grows every year. Only a few years ago, area citizens contributed 10,000 volunteer hours per year to the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans. Today, volunteer hours have increased to approximately 14,000 hours per year.

Volunteers help with the annual Jacobetti trip to the U.P. State Fair, as well as dinner nights and fishing trips. Volunteers put on Christmas parties, New Year's parties, Vegas nights and bingo. The Jacobetti woodshop is run by volunteers. Volunteers are also critical to the fundraisers that keep the Jacobetti Home operational. So, as all of the Upper Peninsula prepares to celebrate this 25th Anniversary, I tip my hat to the many volunteers

who contribute so much personal time to make the Jacobetti Home such a special place for our veterans to live.

These values of volunteerism, community and a responsibility to those who have sacrificed for our country are just a few of the things that make the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans special. Mr. Speaker, as we honor our brave fighting men and women serving abroad in Iraq and Afghanistan, it is important that we not forget them when they return home. In that spirit, for 25 years now, the Jacobetti facility has truly been a home for those who have served our country. Given the unique spirit of volunteerism and community service exhibited by the staff and volunteers of the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans, I know we can expect the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans to be serving today's soldiers, when they are tomorrow's veterans, 25 years from now.

Mr. Speaker, I close by asking that you and the U.S. House of Representatives join me in paying tribute to the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans, a facility that truly serves those who have served all of us. In this time of conflict, it is more vital than ever that we retain those values of volunteerism, community and responsibility—values that the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans truly exemplifies.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SCOTT
SULLIVAN AND JOELLE JARVIS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Scott Sullivan and Joelle Jarvis for their unparalleled commitment to serving others. Sullivan and Jarvis founded the Corps of Compassion, a grass roots organization that is helping families in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The organization is founded on the belief of people helping people, and making a difference right now.

Scott and Joelle founded the Corps of Compassion after hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated portions of the Gulf Coast. Their efforts to reach out and assist thousands of displaced Americans from these tragic events have inspired so many to help their fellow citizens. Since the hurricanes, the organization and its volunteers have provided numerous resources and services. For example, the Corps of Compassion has coordinated and sent one dozen tractor trailers to Louisiana. These trailers were filled with food, baby products, medical supplies, paper goods, clothing, water and furniture for the hurricane victims. The organization in conjunction with Feed the Relief helped and funded almost 10,000 hot meals for first responders in New Orleans.

This incredible organization has also raised close to \$400,000 in monetary donations for emergency assistance and collected over \$1,000,000 in goods and donated services for disaster victims. As a result of their ongoing efforts, the group was named by the Las Vegas Review Journal as the "Best Community Organization of 2006". In addition to donating goods to people, Corps of Compassion has helped many families through case management by connecting them with legal information, tax help and informing them of the aid for which they qualify.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Scott Sullivan and Joelle Jarvis. Their work with Corps of Compassion has enriched countless lives thrown into turmoil following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. I applaud them for their service and wish them the best with their continued mission.

A BLUEPRINT FOR NASA?

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I made the attached statement in the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee of the House Science Committee, regarding the National Academy of Science's Decadal Plan for Aeronautics on July 18, 2006.

Thank you Chairman Calvert, Ranking Member Udall, and members of this subcommittee for the opportunity to speak today about aeronautics. Under your leadership, this Congress has been tremendously supportive of aeronautics and I am grateful for that. I am also grateful to my colleague, Representative JoAnn Davis who has fought for strong aeronautics programs.

NASA's role in aeronautics is fundamental. Its research is important because NASA is able to develop long term, high-risk enabling technologies that the private sector is unwilling to perform because they are too risky or too expensive. In fact, this has historically been the role of government-sponsored research. This is true not only with aeronautics but also with pharmaceutical research, defense research, energy research, and environmental research.

When the government sponsored basic research yields information that could lead to a service or product with profit potential, the private sector transitions from research to development in order to bring it to market. While it is not always as simple as this, it is clear that where there is no basic research, there can be no development. This research has resulted in monumental innovations that affect our daily lives. Its contributions are especially significant in the areas of national security, environmental protection, and airline safety.

NASA's aeronautics programs also contribute substantially to the nation's economy. The NASA Glenn Research Center in Brook Park, Ohio, for example, is a cornerstone of the state's fragile economy and a stronghold of aeronautics research. In FY04, the economic output of NASA Glenn alone was 1.2 billion dollars per year. It was responsible for over 10,000 jobs and household earnings amounted to 568 million dollars.

Civil aeronautics is also the major contributor to this sector's positive balance of trade, contributing \$29 billion in 2005 alone. Aeronautics contributes to a stronger economy by lowering the cost of transportation, enabling a new generation of service based industries like e-commerce to flourish by performing the research that leads to inexpensive and reliable flights.

These are only a few of the reasons that the proposed cuts to aeronautics are so pernicious. Many of the recommendations by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) are already headed down the path of irrelevancy because we simply won't be able to pay for them. We will be feeling the effects of the proposed cuts—about 25% in FY07 alone—immediately in terms of economic jolts and then in the long term from the loss of innovation. In addition, the Administration's