

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO JACOB SIEGERT

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Jacob Siegert of Littleton, CO. Mr. Siegert has been accepted to the People to People World Leadership Forum here in our Nation's Capitol. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the People to People program founded by President Eisenhower in 1956.

Mr. Siegert has displayed academic excellence, community involvement and leadership potential. All students chosen for the program have been identified and nominated by educators.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in paying tribute to Jacob Siegert, and wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF GRAFTECH INTERNATIONAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of GrafTech International upon the celebration of its 50th anniversary.

Beginning in 1956, GrafTech, with its global headquarters in Parma, OH, has led its industry in research, development and testing of graphite and carbon science. Through GrafTech's 50 years of dedicated work, the company boasts nearly 700 patents and new technologies. In 2003, GrafTech was named a National Chemical Landmark for its work on the discovery and development of carbon fibers. This great research scopes the discovery of carbon fibers to new graphite materials for fuel cells.

GrafTech has been recognized 11 times as the recipient of the R&D 100 awards. GrafTech employs 3,800 workers in 13-state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities spanning 4 continents and serving over 80 countries. With its global headquarters located in Parma, OH, and more than 100 years of manufacturing excellence in Lakewood, OH, GrafTech International provides nearly 300 jobs for the area and has been recognized for significant job creation in Northeast Ohio. I am proud that this great company is located in my congressional district.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the 50-year anniversary of GrafTech International. GrafTech has served as a pioneer in its industry. I wish GrafTech International continued years of success and offer my thanks in providing many northeast Ohioans with a great workplace.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING WEEK AND THE EMPLOYEES AND RESIDENTS OF PICKERING MANOR

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Assisted Living Week as a time to honor the doctors, employees and the residents they serve in assisted living facilities across the county. This year's theme of "Hearts In Harmony," properly expresses the shared desire of everyone in the assisted living community to deliver care in a respectful and loving manner to the residents and the families they serve.

Today, I want to take a moment to honor the great work that the nurses and staff of Pickering Manor, an independent living facility in Newtown, PA, do every day to honor this theme and enhance the lives of senior citizens throughout my district.

Pickering Manor was opened in 1963 through the great generosity of H. Russell Pickering, who bequeathed his residence fortune for the creation of a facility to serve the older citizens of Newtown, PA, and its surrounding communities. This unique non-profit facility is located in historic Newtown in beautiful Bucks County, PA, and is owned and operated by the Community Welfare Council of Newtown. Even after extensive growth, Pickering Manor continues to be funded solely by its residents and contributions from individuals, businesses and organizations throughout the community.

It is easy to see that Pickering Manor takes great pride in its ability to provide a comfortable and friendly atmosphere throughout its full spectrum of services, which ranges from independent living to highly skilled nursing. The facility provides its residents with a variety of independent living choices. Pickering Manor offers 24 apartments and 10 landscaped cottages for its residents to choose from. This variety, combined with its well manicured grounds and a multitude of activities ensures that Pickering Manor's residents have a beautiful place to live and interact with friends and family.

The generosity of H. Russell Pickering in bequeathing his home and his treasure to create a place where his neighbors could call home is a testament to the American character and our ideals of compassion and civic involvement. His legacy lives on at Pickering Manor.

The idea that we may need long-term or personal care as we get older is not something many of us think about on a day-to-day basis. However, it is something we must all plan for as we grow older. It is good to know that there are places like Pickering Manor and the people who staff it that embody the idea of this year's theme and the ideals behind National Assisted Living Week.

HONORING ALL AMERICAN POST COMMANDER THOMAS RONAYNE

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the dedication of my constituent, Thomas Ronayne. As commander of Post 1469 in Huntington Station, he has devoted himself to the betterment of life for veterans on Long Island. In fact, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States honored Thomas Ronayne as an All American Post Commander last month. This is one of the most esteemed titles within the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization.

Commander Ronayne is one of only 101 VFW post commanders around the world to be designated with this prestigious honor. With his hard work ethic, Ronayne has increased membership and services provided at Post 1469 in Huntington Station, NY. I am pleased to say that he has also contributed to the flourishing involvement in VFW programs on Long Island.

It is an honor to have All American Commander Thomas Ronayne working and living in the Second Congressional District of New York. He has dedicated his entire life to serving his country and I am grateful for his service. We should all be so lucky to have citizens like Thomas Ronayne in our districts.

I hope you will join me in applauding Commander Ronayne for his dedication to the VFW, his country and particularly Post 1469.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE SILVESTRI

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay respect and tribute to Mr. George Silvestri, who passed away on July 6 at the age of 87.

George Silvestri was born in Youngstown, OH in 1919 and graduated from East High School. After high school George served in the U.S. Army under General Patton for 4 years and earned the rank of sergeant in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. After his discharge in 1945, he returned home to Youngstown and soon after married Elvira DeCato.

George applied his experience serving his country to serving the Mahoning Valley by forming a construction company with his brothers, Frank and Anthony. The Silvestri Brothers Construction Company later expanded to a number of different companies that focused on a wider range of development and construction.

These construction companies contributed to some of the most well known projects in the 17th District, such as the Delphi Packard plant

• 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.

in Warren, the GM Assembly plant in Lordstown, and General Electric in Ravenna. In addition to these sites, the Silvestri Brothers's companies were instrumental in developing and building interstates and expressways throughout the Mahoning Valley, as well as western Pennsylvania.

Aside from these larger endeavors, Mr. Silvestri and his brothers developed sewer and water line projects, as well as residential development in and around the Youngstown area. This small- and large-scale infrastructure was crucial to the growing economy of the Mahoning Valley. His companies laid not only the foundation for businesses and transportation throughout the 17th District, but also for future entrepreneurs in the Mahoning Valley.

A member of the Ohio Contractors Association, the Trumbull County Builders Association, and the National Italian American Federation, George Silvestri retired in 1984. Mr. Silvestri's legacy in the Mahoning Valley will live on through his work and the many people who have benefited from his contributions. I am honored to have represented George Silvestri and he will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO SYDNEY STREICHER

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Sydney Streicher of Centennial, CO. Ms. Streicher has been accepted to the People to People World Leadership Forum here in our Nation's Capitol. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the People to People program founded by President Eisenhower in 1956.

Ms. Streicher has displayed academic excellence, community involvement and leadership potential. All students chosen for the program have been identified and nominated by educators.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in paying tribute to Ms. Streicher, and wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF YES! ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Yes! A Journal of Positive Futures, as it celebrates 10 years of innovative journalism exploring the possibilities for peace and environmental justice in our world. Yes! is more than just a magazine, it is a catalyst for positive social action, encouraging its readers to actively take part in the global movement for a more harmonious and sustainable world.

Yes! magazine is a quarterly journal produced by the Positive Futures Network, a non-profit organization dedicated to the collective power of individual and community efforts worldwide to bring healing, justice, and peace to all sectors of our society. In 1996 Yes! Magazine was founded to promote the belief

that profound change is needed to save our society from an unsustainable path. Printed on recycled paper and available online, this ad-free alternative news source embodies the sustainable and inclusive lifestyle it advocates. Distributed worldwide, Yes! Magazine is a growing phenomenon that has tripled its subscriptions in the past 3 years alone. In 2001, Yes! A Journal of Positive Futures received the Utne Magazines Alternative Press Award for Best Cultural Coverage.

In addition to saying "No!" to the dominant trends of violence and oppression, this journal shouts a resounding "Yes!" for creative and constructive alternatives. Each issue addresses a specific concern within the fields of social, economic, and environmental justice, identifying innovative scientific and cultural solutions. Yes! Magazine serves as a tool to unite the activists of different peace movements by reporting on the grassroots efforts of ordinary individuals creating extraordinary transformations across the board and challenging readers with a call to action.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and tribute to Yes! A Journal of Positive Futures for 10 years of meaningful journalism proving that peace is not only possible, but practical as well.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTRAL BUCKS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of the Central Bucks County Chamber of Commerce. Since its establishment in 1946, the Central Bucks Chamber has served a vibrant community of small businesses and it has helped promote an atmosphere that has made Southeast Pennsylvania one of the best areas for economic investment in the State of Pennsylvania.

The Central Bucks Chamber was founded in 1946 by a group of 12 area businessmen. In 1971, with great foresight, they hired an ad man from New York, Don F. Whitney, to serve as their Executive Director. Don Whitney not only brought his experience in advertising to bear to heighten the profile of Central Bucks to businesses, but he also brought his love for Bucks County, his new home.

With an outsider's eye and an insider's love of the region, Don F. Whitney, forged over a unique vision of the Chamber over 27 years, growing the Chamber from its original 12 members to over 2,600 businesses.

Today, with a membership of 2,600 and growing, the Central Bucks Chamber is second only in the region after the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce. The Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce continues to forge strong alliances between business and culture, profit and non-profit, and between established and emerging businesses. This synergy provides a dynamic mission for the Chamber's membership and they continue to exceed expectations.

To do business in Bucks County, membership in the Central Bucks Chamber of Com-

merce is an essential and powerful tool. With each new membership added to its rolls, the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce will continue to create the foundation for a successful business environment in Bucks County, assuring economic opportunity, jobs and a better life for all of its residents.

Congratulations on 60 wonderful years.

REMEMBERING U.S. ARMY SPC JOSE L. RUIZ

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, U.S. Army SPC Jose L. Ruiz made the ultimate sacrifice for his country on August 15, 2005 while conducting security operations in Mosul, Iraq. SPC Ruiz who served in the Army's 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, also known as the Stryker Brigade Team, was killed by enemy forces using small arms fire shot from a passing vehicle. Brave Americans like SPC Ruiz are the reason that our country has been able to overcome adversity throughout its history.

SPC Ruiz was inspired to join the military following the attacks by terrorists on our Nation on September 11, 2001. In a phone conversation with his wife shortly before his death, SPC Ruiz said that he felt like he had fulfilled his duty as a soldier and was proud to be defending his country. Sadly, SPC Ruiz was scheduled to return home just 6 weeks after his death.

Raised in Brentwood, New York, SPC Ruiz went on to graduate from Brentwood High School in my district and then the New York Institute of Technology before joining the Army. Ruiz was devoted to his education, his family and his country.

The courage of SPC Ruiz is a testament to the dedication of our young soldiers. He is survived by his parents, Eduardo and Juliana King, his wife of 6 years Alexa, and his baby daughter, Liana. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to his family and thank SPC Ruiz for his selfless devotion to our Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 461, on Ordering the Previous Question providing for the consideration of the bills (H.R. 4830) Border Tunnel Prevention Act of 2006, (H.R. 6094) Community Protection Act of 2006 and (H.R. 6095) Immigration Law Enforcement Act of 2006, I am not recorded, due to an injury I sustained the night of September 19, 2006 and my subsequent visit to the hospital this morning. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 462, on Agreeing to the Resolution providing for the consideration of the bills (H.R. 4830) Border Tunnel Prevention Act of 2006, (H.R. 6094) Community Protection Act of 2006 and (H.R. 6095)

Immigration Law Enforcement Act of 2006, I am not recorded, due to an injury I sustained the night of September 19, 2006 and my subsequent visit to the hospital this morning. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 463, on motion to suspend the rules and pass the Military Personnel Financial Services Protection Act, I am not recorded, due to an injury I sustained the night of September 19, 2006 and my subsequent visit to the hospital this morning. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO MOLLY LONNEMAN

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Molly Lonneman of Littleton, CO. Ms. Lonneman has been accepted to the People to People World Leadership Forum here in our Nation's capital. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the People to People program founded by President Eisenhower in 1956.

Ms. Lonneman has displayed academic excellence, community involvement and leadership potential. All students chosen for the program have been identified and nominated by educators.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in paying tribute to Molly Lonneman, and wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF ROBERT WOODWORTH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in admiration and remembrance of my cherished friend, Robert T. Woodworth—devoted father, grandfather, brother, uncle, friend, United States veteran and long-time community activist.

Mr. Woodworth was born in Cleveland to loving parents. His father drove streetcars in the city and his mother was a loving housewife. With extended family nearby, he learned early on the significance of family and community.

As a young adult, Mr. Woodworth enlisted in the United States Air Force, giving him the opportunity to travel the world. The languages he learned and friends that he made never left him, transcending time and distance. He spoke fluent German, Spanish and French and always remained closely connected to friends living in faraway lands.

Mr. Woodworth's warm demeanor and quick smile easily drew others to him. His unwavering belief in community service and volunteerism was illuminated throughout Cleveland's Westside, especially within our democratic process, where his grassroots involvement constantly affected our neighborhoods in a positive way. His leadership and diligence had been key in several political races, including his role as campaign manager for then council candidate Nelson Cintron. Councilman

Cintron became the first Hispanic councilman in Cleveland's history. I had the opportunity to work with Mr. Woodworth in his role as a Ward 14 and precinct leader. He also played an active role in my first election to Congress in 1996 and in my subsequent reelection campaigns.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition, gratitude and celebration of Robert T. Woodworth, for his civic activism that uplifted our entire Westside Cleveland community. His unwavering commitment to his family, friends and community, enriched and inspired all throughout our Cleveland community and far beyond.

IMMIGRATION LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the second consecutive week to remind the House that the time has passed for half measures on immigration reform.

None of the bills we debate today will secure our border unless they are coupled with a more comprehensive approach. Some of them are good bills and should be part of wider legislation to secure the border and make our immigration system work. But on their own, these proposals fall short because they only look at the enforcement side of the equation. Put them together with the bill we passed last week, add the enforcement-only package we passed in December, and throw in any other enforcement measures that you like and I promise you that all of them, collectively, won't win the fight against illegal immigration.

Without a total fix—one that gets at the root of the problem—we will continue to see people finding a way to get into the United States in pursuit of jobs and a better way of life. Fences won't stop them. And stopgap measures by this body will not stop them.

The Senate majority leader has said that there isn't even time to take up all these half-measures in the other chamber; it is highly doubtful that any of these will become law.

Mr. Speaker, let us put away these half measures and go to conference with the Senate on the bill this chamber passed—H.R. 4437—and the bill the Senate passed—S. 2611. We need a comprehensive fix to the problem and that means dealing with all parts of it, not just criminal aliens and the end of "catch and release." Those are all part of the solution, but on their own, they fall short. Without a guest worker program and a recognition of the 12 million undocumented immigrants living in our midst, we will only exacerbate the problem.

So what are we really debating here? Nothing. We've sent a bill to the Senate, and they've sent a bill back to us. The time for playing games is past. The American people want action—they want a solution that works.

Let's negotiate with the Senate and find a comprehensive solution that will secure our borders once and for all. Let us reject these piecemeal bills and do what's right for the American people; let us go to conference with the Senate on H.R. 4437 and S. 2611.

TRIBUTE TO HANNAH MARCH

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Hannah March of Littleton, Colorado. Ms. March has been accepted to the People to People World Leadership Forum here in our Nation's Capital. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the People to People program founded by President Eisenhower in 1956.

Ms. March has displayed academic excellence, community involvement, and leadership potential. All students chosen for the program have been identified and nominated by educators.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in paying tribute to Hannah March, and wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

HONORING HOWARD A. FROMSON AS HE CELEBRATES HIS 85TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the many family and friends who have gathered to celebrate the 85th birthday of our dear friend, Howard A. Fromson. Inventor, artist, and philanthropist, Howard has spent a lifetime enriching the lives of others. He has and continues to make outstanding contributions to our community and society.

The founder and CEO of Anocoil Corporation, Howard's entrepreneurial and innovative spirit has ensured that his company remains at the forefront of lithographic plate technology. He is credited with conceiving and patenting the universally used silicated anodized lithographic printing plate—used in commercial and newspaper printing throughout the world. Under his leadership, Anocoil has become and remains North America's largest independent manufacturer of lithograph plates, providing products and services to a variety of leading publishers in North and South America, Europe, and Asia. Founding the company in 1957, Howard has never left behind his inventive nature. As an inventor in electrochemistry and process metallurgy, Howard holds more than 100 U.S. and foreign patents in his field.

Throughout his life, Howard has made many contributions through his professional career, however, he has also brought joy and wonder to our communities through his artistic and philanthropic work as well. His artistic works which marry sculpture form and function are displayed in museums throughout Connecticut including the Wadsworth Museum of Art and the New Britain Museum of American Art. In fact, a pair of his tetra chairs is part of the planned Lincoln sculpture walk along the Connecticut River in Hartford.

Howard has always believed in the importance of giving back to the community which is why he established the Howard A. Fromson Foundation. A strong supporter of public education, he created the Fromson Scholars Program which has helped send over 400 teachers from Connecticut to the Taft School to

study science, math, computer applications, and foreign language. This program has allowed hundreds of our teachers to improve their own skills which have been of great benefit to the thousands of students they have and will continue to instruct. In addition to these educational initiatives, Howard, both through the Foundation and personally, has generously supported cultural and health institutions throughout the Greater Hartford Area. His outstanding efforts on behalf of our teachers and public education system were recognized by both the Connecticut Commissioner of Education and the Connecticut State Board of Education and in 2002 he was honored by the Hartford Business Journal with their Accolades Award for Individual Giving.

I have often said that our communities would not be the same without those individuals who selflessly dedicate their time and energies to making them better places to live and work—individuals like Howard Fromson who has quietly touched the lives of many and made all the difference in our community. I consider myself fortunate to call him my friend and I know that sentiment is shared by many. Today, as he celebrates his 85th birthday, he also reflects on a lifetime of invaluable contributions and endless generosity—a legacy which is sure to inspire others. It is with my heartfelt congratulations and warmest wishes that I join his wife, Sandy; his children, Michele, Michael, Timothy, and Brett; his seven grandchildren; family and friends in this wondrous celebration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 468 I was on the floor for this vote and others in series. My vote on H.R. 6095, Immigration Law Enforcement Act of 2006, did not register. I would have voted "yea."

IMMIGRATION LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Immigration Law Enforcement Act of 2006. This bill reaffirms the inherent authority of State and local law enforcement to voluntarily investigate, identify, apprehend, arrest, detain and transfer to federal custody aliens in the U.S. in order to assist in the enforcement of the immigration laws.

Presently, many cities are enacting so-called "sanctuary" policies, which prohibit local police from asking about a person's immigration status or reporting illegal aliens who commit crimes to immigration authorities for deportation. Passed in 1996, the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act forbids localities from preventing their police officers from asking for or reporting immigration

information to the Federal Government. Existing federal law says:

Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal, State or local law, a Federal, State, or local government entity or official may not prohibit or in any way restrict any government entity or official from sending to or receiving information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual.

Despite this ban, some cities continue to prohibit their officers from asking about immigration status or providing information to the Federal Government. Make no mistake about it: This is a situation of local governments blatantly violating Federal law.

As a result, U.S. taxpayers pay to incarcerate illegal alien prisoners who are later released back onto the streets. Sanctuary policies tie the hands of local law enforcement officers and keep illegal aliens who commit crimes in our country, rather than deporting criminals according to U.S. law. These sanctuary policies have disastrous consequences.

Our State and local governments serve as the front line of defense against terrorism and criminal aliens. Every murder, every rape, every violent gang crime committed against Americans by illegal aliens is an utterly preventable crime. If we better enforce our immigration laws to keep criminals out, we will save lives. We must use the law enforcement resources we have, at every level, to enforce our laws, with the end result of making our Nation a safer place for our grandchildren to grow up in.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRANITE CITY

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the First Presbyterian Church of Granite City, Illinois.

In 1906, a major earthquake rocked San Francisco, President Theodore Roosevelt became the first American to win the Nobel Peace Prize, the Dow Industrial Average closed above 100 for the first time and the Wright brothers received a patent for their flying machine. Also in 1906, a growing group of Christians who had been meeting weekly in a local school organized the First Presbyterian Church of Granite City.

From the initial 25 members, the congregation had grown to 112 when the first service was held on Easter Sunday, April 15, 1906. The coming years would see continued growth, both in the size of the congregation and in the physical facilities. The church, on 2160 Delmar, in Granite City, was completed in 1916 and an educational wing was added in 1930.

Also, in 1930, a new organ was installed. That organ was replaced in 1951 and again in 1961. Music has always played an important part in the life of the First Presbyterian Church and that was further enhanced with the creation of two paid positions of organist and choir director in 1942. In 1993, the Grand

Concert Series was instituted which allowed the Church to extend its musical gifts to the community at large.

The 1990s saw even more changes for the First Presbyterian Church. A fire, in 1994, caused extensive damage and made it necessary to move services to a nearby church while the church could be restored. The resulting renovation brought about not only a beautiful new sanctuary but also a spirit of renewal for the church family. This spirit was further enhanced as First Presbyterian merged with Mitchell Presbyterian in 1998.

As the First Presbyterian Church has weathered the changes of the past 100 years, so has the neighboring community. In response to the changing conditions, First Presbyterian has initiated and joined in a number of programs to expand their ministry. A Vacation Bible School, summer drama camp, and an association with the United Congregations of Metro-East are but a few examples of this community outreach.

As much as they celebrate their past, the congregation of First Presbyterian Church looks forward to the future. Their strong commitment to their faith, their families and their community enables them to constantly strive for new ways to fulfill their mission, "Bringing People to Christ."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 100th anniversary of the First Presbyterian Church of Granite City and to wish the best to them for many years to come.

CHÁVEZ: OUTRAGEOUS AND OUTLANDISH

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the Boston Globe Editorial on Friday, September 22, accurately describes the antics of Venezuelan President Chávez at the U.N. He was simultaneously outrageous and outlandish, using the great forum of the U.N. General Assembly for a semi-coherent diatribe. He gave a clear example of why his support in elections in Latin America has been toxic to those who've received it. Recently, in Peru and in Mexico, being tied to Chávez by their opponents, accurately or not, was very damaging to presidential candidates.

I hope Americans will also make it clear to Chávez that his crudity and disrespect for democracy will find little support here.

DEVIL IN DISGUISE

The Bush Administration deserves to be criticized for many of its foreign policies, but Hugo Chávez is not the one to do it. By his intemperate and foolish remarks at the United Nations Wednesday and his continuing support for authoritarian regimes, the Venezuelan president has forfeited his claim to leadership in world affairs.

"The devil came here yesterday," Chávez said in reference to President Bush's speech of the day before. Chávez made the sign of the cross and engaged in other theatrics to provoke his audience of the U.N. General Assembly. George Bush was reelected with 50.7 percent of the vote in 2004 after a vigorously fought, unfettered campaign, and he will leave office without a fuss in 2009 after eight years. Bush can be called many things but not the ultimate embodiment of evil.

Chávez has been brandishing anti-Americanism ever since he became president in 1998. He intensified his denunciation of the Bush administration after a failed coup in 2002, which he believed Washington had fomented. Venezuela, with its vast oil reserves, has benefited greatly from the surge in oil prices since 2001. Chávez is criticizing the leading force behind a world economic system that has enriched his country and enhanced his power.

Were Chávez really concerned with the oppressed of the world, he would not consort with Kim Jong Il and Bashir Assad, who have continued their fathers' repressive regimes in North Korea and Syria. Nor would he have created an informal alliance with antidemocratic Iran, or extended a lifeline to Fidel Castro in Cuba, or visited Iraq in 2000 to support Saddam Hussein. If the United States opposes a dictator, Chávez backs him.

This monotone foreign policy, combined with his outburst this week, undercuts Venezuela's campaign for the Latin American seat on the U.N. Security Council, which will be decided by a two-thirds majority of the General Assembly on Oct. 16. The Security Council has important votes coming up in the next year, on sanctions against Iran and action to stop genocide in Darfur, among others. Venezuela, under the leadership of Chávez, would not make a positive contribution.

Deprived of an international forum, Chávez would have more time to spend on his reelection campaign. It ought to be as freely contested as the 2004 race between Bush and John F. Kerry. And if Chávez wins on Dec. 3, he ought to devote his six-year term to solving the great recurring problem of Venezuela: How a country endowed with such natural wealth can leave almost half its people in utter poverty. Chávez would earn more enduring fame by leading Venezuela out of this resource trap.

HONORING MARY ELIZA MAHONEY,
AMERICA'S FIRST PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED
AFRICAN-AMERICAN NURSE

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring Mary Eliza Mahoney who was the first African-American registered nurse in the United States. She was a visionary, a leader, and because of her dedication and untiring will to encourage future generations, would become an inspiration to thousands of men and women of color who work diligently every day in the field of nursing.

Mary Mahoney's interest in the nursing profession began when she was just a young girl. She worked for fifteen years at the New England Hospital for Women and Children (now Dimock Community Health Center) in Roxbury, Massachusetts as a nurse's assistant, but this would not be her only occupation. She also worked as a cook, a janitor, and a washerwoman. In 1878, at the age of 33, she was admitted as a student into the hospital's nursing program established by Dr. Marie Zakrzewska. Sixteen months later, she was one of four who completed the course.

After graduation she worked primarily as a private duty nurse for the next 30 years all

over the Eastern Seaboard of the United States. At the culmination of her nursing career, she was the director of an orphanage in Long Island, New York, a position she held for 10 years.

In 1896, Mahoney became one of the first African-American members of the predominantly white American Nurses Association (ANA). However, recognizing the need for nurses to work together to improve the status of African Americans in the profession, she helped to establish the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses (NACGN). This was important in many ways. It was because of her inspiring efforts and unselfish devotion to caring for others that helped make it possible for nurses to be received at the White House by President Warren G. Harding. Mahoney also gave the welcoming address at the first convention of the NACGN and served as the association's national chaplain.

Mahoney's life of tending to the needs of the sick ended with her death on January 4, 1926. She was indeed an icon in the nursing profession, bringing to light the hard work, sacrifice, and commitment that nurses put forth everyday.

My sister Frances was a nurse for many years before retiring, and I saw the hard work, the sacrifice, and long hours of commitment that she gave to this notable profession. She made me appreciate even more what nurses do and how they are a vital and valued part of the healthcare industry.

Mary Mahoney advanced the nursing profession and was not afraid to confront issues that affect nurses. She was a woman of superlatively high standards, complete integrity, and boundless enthusiasm for whatever task she took in hand. It was because of the life she lived and her outstanding contributions to nursing, that The Mary Mahoney Medal was established in her honor posthumously by the NACGN in 1936. In 1976, she would be further remembered by being inducted into the Nursing Hall of Fame.

Madam Speaker, let us honor this woman of courage and faith by passing this resolution.

TRIBUTE TO BERTHA GARDNER
BYNUM

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an ordinary woman, who has led an extraordinary life. Mrs. Bertha Gardner Bynum turned 107 years old on September 15th, and I ask you to join me in celebrating her long and wonderful life.

Bertha Gardner was born on September 15, 1899 in the Privateer area of Clarendon County, South Carolina. She attended St. James and Bracey Schools. However, the State of South Carolina didn't make the educating of young African American children a priority in the early 20th century. Consequently, when they had exhausted what little formal education that was available to them, Bertha and her siblings had to find work as sharecroppers on local farms to help out the family.

Her family eventually moved to nearby Sumter to find a better life, but Bertha dreamed of much more. Bertha left South Carolina and

moved to New York, where she did domestic work. She was later blessed with her only child, Elizabeth Gardner Nelson.

Bertha returned to Sumter and on January 20, 1943 she married Simon Bynum. After Simon's death, Bertha led the life of a very independent woman. She lived alone and traveled almost everywhere she went on foot. She became a member of Jehovah Baptist Church, and later transferred to Salem Baptist. There she served as a member of the Usher Board, and is presently recognized as the Mother of Salem Baptist Church. However, declining health has prevented her from attending in recent years.

Blessed with a long life, Mrs. Bynum has struggled through adversity and witnessed extraordinary changes in the world around her. Today she continues to read her bible and shares advice with all that will listen. She is the last survivor of her 13 siblings and lives with her daughter and son-in-law where she is surrounded by the love of five generations of her extended family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in sending best wishes and Godspeed to the matriarch of the Gardner family. She has shown a true devotion to her faith and her family, and is a living legacy. She deserves our deepest respect and admiration.

HONORING THE SHENENDEHOWA
HIGH SCHOOL COLOR GUARD

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the young women of the Shenendehowa High School's Color Guard for their second place finish at the Scholastic Open Class Winter Guard 2006 World Championship in Dayton, Ohio. This accomplishment reflects the immeasurable amount of time and effort that each member of the team made in order to succeed. Their triumphant endeavor is a tribute to the dedication of the team, their training staff, and their families.

Competitive Color Guards provide an educational experience through a combination of sport and performing arts. The experience promotes perseverance and teamwork, which will be beneficial to the performers throughout their lives. The talented young women comprising this accomplished team are: Amelia Allen; Lauren Anderson; Larissa Krushelnytsky; Beth Murphy; Leah Homing; Taylor Nelson; Amanda Lesniewski; Ali Kawola; Sarah Ozols; Carolyn Drislane; Lauren Drislane; Faith Beidl; Kim Cologgi; Kaitlin Lacey; Casey Breen; Jessica Young; Samantha Lovering.

The success of this devoted team is also due to the hard work and commitment of their Director, Scott Snell and Show Designer, Jeff Namian as well as the rest of the staff, including: Jennifer Lawrence; Christine Mertes; Gretchen Shyne; Bill Ryan; Patrick Leombrone; Nick Charles; Sonya Balaban.

It is my privilege to recognize the Shenendehowa Color Guard for their achievement. Their ability to come together as a group of individuals and finish at the top of a world-class event is inspiring. On behalf of the

United States Congress, I offer my heartfelt congratulations and wish the entire team the best of luck and continued success in the future.

WELCOME TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, His Excellency Nursultan Nazarbayev, will arrive on an official visit to the United States on September 27, 2006, and it is my honor to welcome this distinguished leader to Washington.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, President Nazarbayev inherited a weak economy and the world's fourth largest nuclear arsenal. While Kazakhstan could have become an immediate nuclear superpower and resolved its economic concerns through military might, President Nazarbayev instead chose a path that included economic and democratic reforms, and Kazakhstan is now one of the most stable and prosperous nations in Central Asia.

For the past six years, Kazakhstan has enjoyed a 10 percent annual growth in its GDP. Kazakhstan also became the first country in the Commonwealth of Independent States to be granted market economy status by the United States. Today, more than 300 US companies account for the largest share of Foreign Direct Investment in Kazakhstan.

By 2015, Kazakhstan is expected to be one of the top ten oil producers and exporters in the world, with reserves comparable to Kuwait's. Now more than ever we need a reliable energy partner which has proven to be a friend and ally of the United States. It is appropriate now for the United States to deepen our strategic partnership with Kazakhstan.

President Nazarbayev's visit is timely. During the course of his visit, it is my hope that we will use this opportunity to set a long-term agenda for closer cooperation with Kazakhstan.

This year, Kazakhstan will celebrate its 15th anniversary of independence, and I join my colleagues in congratulating the people and government on this important occasion. Kazakhstan's path to democracy and independence has not been easy, but its progress is impressive.

I commend President Nazarbayev for his leadership and friendship with the United States, and I remain committed to furthering our partnership.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN MARSH

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Marsh, an important figure in the history of the Nation, California, and California's 11th District. This Sunday marks the 150th anniversary of this early pioneer's death at the hand of bandits.

The legacy of John Marsh is storied. He was one of the first educated Americans to settle in the far west and was dedicated to bringing more settlers into the region. Born in 1799 in Salem, Massachusetts, he received a bachelor's degree at Harvard University in 1823. Between 1828 and 1832, Marsh studied medicine under an army physician.

Marsh arrived in Los Angeles, CA on Feb. 4, 1836. He worked as a self-appointed doctor and was paid in cowhides. Traveling to northern California, he bought a tract of land in 1837 measuring 17,000 acres. He named the land Rancho Los Meganos, which means "sand dunes." This land included parts of what is currently Contra Costa County and the northern San Joaquin Valley. He had an adobe house built on his property and would treat explorers as they came by. His payment was in heads of cattle, which increased his cattle stock to 6,000, and his settlement grew quite prosperous.

Years before the 1849 gold rush, Marsh sent out letters to his friends in Missouri, calling them to come out and enjoy California's environment. These letters were published in many Missouri newspapers and in 1841 30 travelers from that state visited his ranch. Other letters wherein Marsh gave accurate details about the land potential of California reached the governor of Michigan.

During the Mexican-American war, Marsh opposed any military endeavors in order for America to gain land. However, he supported the ideals of Manifest Destiny and peaceful westward expansion into Mexico's territory. In order to accomplish this, he continued to write letters and send maps to encourage settlers to come into the area and promote the annexation of California into the United States.

During the gold rush, Marsh was able to sell off some of his 6,000 head cattle to feed miners coming into the area. He also found gold himself near the Yuba River before the incoming rush of miners.

In 1851 he married a schoolteacher named Abigail Smith Tuck, who gave birth to his daughter Alice. He started construction on a Gothic-style manor made entirely out of stone that included a 65-foot tower. He had it built for \$20,000 and it was completed in 1856, after the death of Abigail. On September 24, 1856 Marsh was murdered by three bandits on the road to San Francisco.

The Marsh House still stands as a tribute to Marsh's contributions. Marsh's pioneer spirit helped make California and the Nation what it is today, and on the anniversary of his death, I honor his legacy.

COMMUNITY PROTECTION ACT OF
2006

SPEECH OF

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6094, the Community Protection Act of 2006. Right now, the government is releasing numerous rapists, child molesters, murders and other dangerous illegal aliens onto our streets. The Department of Homeland Security's Inspector General said that in the first six months of 2005, more than 696 high-risk aliens were released.

This act will ensure that these dangerous illegal immigrants will not be released back into society. If we are to address the public safety concerns created by our Nation's lax illegal immigration policies, then we must adopt new procedures to will expedite the removal of dangerous criminals.

Of the 55,322 illegal alien criminals found in 2005, about 24 percent were arrested on drug offenses, 15 percent for property-related offenses and about 12 percent were arrested for more serious crimes such as murder, robbery, assault, and sexually related crimes. Even more troubling is the fact that the 55,322 illegal alien criminals committed a total of 700,000 crimes or 13 crimes each. These repeat offenders pose a serious threat to the safety and security of our country.

H.R. 6094 will give the Department of Homeland Security the authority to get these criminals off of our streets and out of our country. One of the key provisions of this bill addresses the problems created by illegal immigrants who belong to violent gangs. In the last decade, the U.S. has experienced a dramatic increase in the number and size of transnational street gangs. These gangs have held entire communities hostage with their violence and our current laws don't do enough to stop these gang members from crossing our border.

The Community Protection Act designates these violent gang members as an inadmissible class—expanding the authority of Homeland Security officials to detain and deport alien gang members. These are common sense provisions that should have adopted years ago. We now have the opportunity to do the right thing and pass this bill that will help combat the violence created from criminal aliens.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ADAN
GUTIERREZ

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Adan Gutierrez, the local columnist for the Zapata County News, one of the largest community newspapers in Zapata County.

Adan Gutierrez was born on August 29th, 1946, in the City of Zapata in the State of Texas. He currently resides in the City of Zapata as one of its most involved members of the community. He served proudly in the United States Army for ten years, and shortly after being honorably discharged, started working at the local library in 1984. His passion for literature was evident and helped him become the Assistant Librarian in less than two years. He was on his way to a higher administrative position within the Library when he suffered from a brain aneurysm in 1993.

But this did not slow him down; instead, it made him even more involved in the community through his frequent correspondence with the editor of the Zapata County News regarding current news events. Due to the quality of his writing, he was invited to become a regular columnist for the Zapata County News in writing about the history of Zapata County, cultural local events, and other social events. He presently is teaching conversational Spanish

at the Zapata County Public Library to residents of the community. It is said of Mr. Gutierrez's involvement with the Zapata County News by his fellow peers that "Adan has a conversation with Zapata County every Thursday morning and we really enjoy it." One can only wish to have the extent of local community impact that Mr. Gutierrez has and I commend him for it.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize Mr. Adan Gutierrez.

HONORING ROUND ROCK
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the successes and achievements of the Round Rock Christian Academy located in Round Rock, Texas. Established in 1975, the Round Rock Christian Academy exemplifies excellence in education and moral character development. It continues to produce outstanding young adults imbued with the high Christian values through active participation in intellectual, physical, spiritual, and social activities.

The Round Rock Christian Academy maintains a low student-to-teacher ratio and demands significant teaching experience and high standards from its teachers. As evidence to the impact of its high teaching and moral standards, since its inception, the academy has produced numerous National Merit Scholars and its students consistently test two grades above the national average. The academy possesses a strong parent education program and ranks among the very best in athletics and fine arts programs.

In fact, as testimony to the success of the Round Rock Christian Academy's faculty and family support, 100 percent of the graduating seniors of the Class of 2006 are college bound. This is truly a commendable achievement for any school and speaks volumes of the dedication that the Round Rock Christian Academy has toward the future of its students and the future of the next generation citizens of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during rollcall vote No. 465 on September 21, 2006.

On rollcall vote No. 465, I would have voted "no".

REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE
JOEL T. BROYHILL

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor today to share some sad news.

One of Virginia's great public servants—former 10th District Congressman Joel T. Broyhill, a resident of Arlington, Virginia—died this past weekend.

It could be said that this region of Virginia was shaped in many ways by the life of Congressman Broyhill. He laid the foundation for major transportation projects, including the Metrorail system, Washington Dulles International Airport, and the Woodrow Wilson Bridge.

Congressman Broyhill dedicated most of his life to serving his country. He was born in Hopewell, Virginia, on November 4, 1919. He attended Fork Union Military Academy and then attended George Washington University. He also received an honorary doctorate degree from Georgetown University.

Mr. Broyhill worked at his father's real estate company, M.T. Broyhill & Sons, which was a business his family began in Hopewell. The family later relocated to northern Virginia when Congressman Broyhill was growing up.

Before coming to Congress, Congressman Broyhill had a distinguished military career in the U.S. Army. He entered the U.S. Army in 1942 as an enlisted man and served in the European Theater during World War II in the 106th Infantry Division.

He fought in the Battle of the Bulge at the age of 25 and was taken prisoner and held in a German POW camp. After six months in captivity, he saw a chance to escape. He and another American soldier hid under some hay in a barn, hoping that the Germans would not come through the barn looking for them and thrusting their bayonets into the hay. Fortunately, the Germans did not find them, and Mr. Broyhill made his escape. He rejoined advancing American forces and was released from active duty in 1945 as a captain of infantry.

After the war, he resumed his family's real estate pursuits and in 1952, the same year that President Dwight D. Eisenhower was elected, Mr. Broyhill was elected to the 83rd Congress from the 10th District of Virginia and to the 10 succeeding Congresses, serving for 22 years.

I feel a special connection with Mr. Broyhill because I represent Virginia's 10th District today. Although the district has gone through a number of changes over the years, it was Congressman Broyhill who led the way. He was the first Member of Congress to represent the 10th District, Virginia's newest congressional district at that time.

He began his congressional career and service as a member of the House committees on Post Office and Civil Service and the District of Columbia, and later became a member of the Ways and Means Committee. Congressman Broyhill was known for being a strong advocate for Federal and postal workers and for the postal service.

It was appropriate that in the year 2000, Congress passed legislation I introduced which was signed into law naming the central mail processing facility for Northern Virginia in Merrifield in honor of Joel T. Broyhill.

Congressman Broyhill served the people of Virginia honorably and was especially known for the way he took care of his constituents' needs. According to the Almanac of American Politics in 1972, and I quote, "There were few offices that took care of constituents' needs and complaints with more efficiency." Mr. Broyhill estimated that he had helped more

than 100,000 residents of Virginia's 10th District during his more than 20 years in office. I still hear people today say "Congressman Broyhill helped me."

The almanac also describes Congressman Broyhill as one who, and I quote, "should be credited with voting his conscience."

We salute today the life and dedicated public service of Joel T. Broyhill and offer our condolences to his three daughters, Nancy, Jeanne and Jane Anne; his stepdaughter, Kimi, and his wife of 25 years, Suzanne (Suzy). He also has four grandchildren: Meredith and Maureen, who are fraternal twins; Lindsey, and Kathleen, and three great-grandchildren: Molly, Jack, and Kara.

TRIBUTE TO FORT LEONARD
WOOD AND PULASKI COUNTY,
MISSOURI

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to recognize the people of Fort Leonard Wood and Pulaski County, Missouri, for their commitment to improving the quality of life for military personnel.

In a recent study conducted by Expansion Management magazine and the Office of the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Military Communities and Family Policy, Fort Leonard Wood and Pulaski County ranked third among 126 civilian communities in the quality of life that they provide to military families. The "2006 Military Communities of Excellence" study compared the quality of life among these civilian communities in areas that include: public schools, housing affordability, standard of living, recreation and leisure, health care, crime and safety, spouse employment opportunities, continuing educational opportunities, affordable childcare, traffic and commuting, commercial air service, and Department of Defense Quality of Life legislative issues. It is also worth noting that Pulaski County placed third in the "Top 10 Metros Overall Quality of Life, Communities with Military Populations over 20,000".

Mr. Speaker, Fort Leonard Wood and Pulaski County, Missouri have dedicated valuable resources and time to earn this recognition. I know the Members of House will join me in recognizing this outstanding achievement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE VETERANS
CORPORATION REAUTHORIZA-
TION AND ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation on behalf of America's veterans seeking to start and operate their own businesses.

Along with my colleagues Mr. EVANS from Illinois and Ms. HERSETH from South Dakota, I offer The Veterans Corporation Reauthorization and Enhancement Act of 2006 to ensure

our veterans have access to the training, the assistance, and the capital to start and manage a business.

Congress passed The Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act of 1999 establishing the National Veterans Business Development Corporation to provide all of these crucial aspects of entrepreneurship to veterans.

As a result of that landmark legislation, the Veterans Corporation has provided training to over 8,000 veterans and has helped over 550 veterans start businesses during 2006 alone.

Unfortunately, Congress has yet to reauthorize the Veterans Corporation, leaving its funding in question each year.

It was an honor to offer an amendment to the Science, State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for 2007 (H.R. 5672) in June increasing its funding to \$1.5 million for the next fiscal year.

Now, I join with Mr. EVANS and Ms. HERSETH to introduce legislation ensuring funding for this worthy program through 2012.

By passing this legislation, we can make sure our brave service members returning from Iraq and Afghanistan will have access to entrepreneurship training.

Those who are courageously fighting abroad deserve the opportunity to start a business and achieve that aspect of the American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you to act on this legislation and encourage business ownership for veterans.

COMMUNITY PROTECTION ACT OF
2006

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to call on my colleagues in Congress to refocus their efforts on comprehensive immigration reform. What we need is not to debate and pass a bunch of bills that duplicate legislation already passed by the House—legislation that has little chance of passage in the Senate. What we need is to get back on track with what the bipartisan 9/11 Commission has repeatedly called for—comprehensive immigration reform. Only when we enact comprehensive reform will we be truly effective in securing our Nation's borders.

Today we are considering three bills, which do little to fix our Nation's illegal immigration problems. We need to do more, and we need to do it in a sensible, bipartisan and comprehensive fashion. The American people expect Congress to secure our borders, and that extends to understanding who currently resides in our country and why they are here. Just as importantly, in considering border security legislation, we need to focus on securing weapons of mass destruction to ensure they do not make their way through our ports of entry. I find it redundant and unnecessary that we are going back to consider legislation that has already been passed by this body when there is so much unfinished business we ought to be focusing on.

We need to focus on "smart security" and develop a comprehensive plan. I continue to

support the Kolbe-Flake-Gutierrez bill, which is a broad and multi-faceted approach to securing our borders. Under this legislation, we would hire and train more border patrol agents to secure our borders, improve our surveillance technology, and require employers to verify the status of their employees. This proactive approach ensures we keep those wishing to harm us out of our country and allows us to ascertain precisely who is in our country and why they are here.

We also need to refocus our efforts on monitoring exactly which materials come through our borders. As the lead Democrat on the Subcommittee for the Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack, I have called for the installation of radiation portal monitors at designated ports of entry to screen all inbound cargo for radiological or nuclear materials. I am dedicated to ensuring we have this important technology at every entry point.

However, instead of addressing these real problems, the Republican leadership has chosen to bring up legislation that we have already passed—not because they want a solution to our immigration problem, but because they need to distract the American public from their inability to accomplish any real reforms. My Democratic colleagues and I have fought for increased funding for more border patrol agents, detention beds, and immigration and customs agents, but Republicans have voted against those efforts 10 times.

I call on my colleagues to refocus their efforts to enact a comprehensive immigration plan. Time in the 109th Congress is quickly running out, and we are doing our country a disservice when we focus on political rhetoric instead of real solutions. It is time to get back on track with what the bipartisan 9/11 Commission has tasked us with—comprehensive reform.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REV. J.
BAZZEL MULL

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, Rev. J. Bazzel Mull, a true Tennessee legend and Southern gospel icon, passed away on September 5 at the age of 91.

Just five days later, he and his beloved wife, Elizabeth, would have celebrated their 62nd anniversary.

No couple could have been more loyal to each other than they were, and Rev. Mull's most famous line was "ain't that right, Mrs. Mull?"

Rev. Mull served God and the people of East Tennessee throughout his life.

He brought enjoyment to millions through his television programs, his radio stations, and his live gospel music shows.

Through all this, as well as his personal testimony, cheerfully overcoming blindness, he led countless numbers to a closer walk with Jesus Christ.

He had a great sense of humor and once told me on his TV program that no one should be a mugwump. He said that was "a fellow with his mug on one side of the fence and his wump on the other."

This Nation is a better place today because of the life of Rev. J. Bazzel Mull.

I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD the story by Doug Mason which was published in the Knoxville News Sentinel on September 6.

[From KnoxNews, Sept. 6, 2006]

SOUTHERN GOSPEL MUSIC ICON DIES AT 91

(By Doug Mason)

"Ain't that right, Mizz Mull?"

The Rev. J. Bazzel Mull, who died Tuesday at age 91, may be the most quoted man in East Tennessee.

For 60 years, his gravel-truck voice was a staple of regional radio and TV, and his familiar query to his wife and "Mull Singing Convention" co-host was a much-mimicked catchphrase to generations of East Tennesseans.

Elizabeth Mull was best known as "Mizz Mull" or "Lady Mull" to listeners of the "Mull Singing Convention" broadcasts. The couple would have celebrated their 62nd anniversary on Sunday.

J. Bazzel Mull (the "J" stood for Jacob) was born Oct. 4, 1914, in Burke County, N.C. He began preaching in 1939 and moved to Knoxville in 1942, where he began a radio program on radio station WROL-AM. Later, he was heard on WNOX-AM.

The Rev. Mull owned several East Tennessee radio stations during his long career. At the time of his death, he was the owner of gospel radio station WJBZ, Praise 96.3, in Knoxville.

"The Mull Singing Convention," which moved to television in 1956, is still broadcast at 7 a.m. Sundays on WVLT, Channel 8. The program was seen on WBIR, Channel 10, before moving a few years ago to WVLT.

"The Mull Singing Convention" celebrated its 50th anniversary in August. The Rev. Mull's grandson, Doug Hutchison, said the program is confirmed as the longest-running locally produced television show in the United States.

Elizabeth Mull and daughter Charlotte Mull Hutchison now host the program. The Rev. Mull withdrew from the TV show, and from his Sunday evening preaching service on WJBZ, after suffering a stroke about nine months ago.

Hutchison said his grandfather's stroke brought on dementia. Several other strokes followed, including one about a week and a half ago that left the Rev. Mull unresponsive. He was moved from the hospital to a nursing home, where he died at 4:30 a.m. Tuesday.

The Rev. Mull was a businessman who promoted Southern gospel music concerts and published and distributed a series of six "Mull's Singing Convention" songbooks. The latest hymnal was published as "Number 7" in the series, even though it followed edition No. 5.

"He didn't like the number 6," said Hutchison, who explained that he doesn't know why (perhaps it was because 666 is the biblical Mark of the Beast).

"For a blind man to achieve as much as he did, he was bound to have some eccentricities," said Hutchison, who manages WJBZ and the other Mull family enterprises.

The Rev. Mull lost his sight at 11 months old, the result of falling into an open-pit fire. "Through his 20s he could tell daylight from dark," Hutchison said. "But from his early 30s on, he was completely blind."

Hutchison said that many people didn't realize his grandfather was blind. In public, he wore oversized glasses with thick lenses—possibly to obscure the fact that he often had his eyelids closed during his TV broadcasts, Hutchison theorized.

"He was never one to bring to the forefront his handicap," the grandson said. "I talk to people still today that did not know he was blind."

Elizabeth Mull—who met her future husband at a church revival in Lenoir City—was “100 percent his eyes,” Hutchison said.

“Everywhere they went, she drove him; she led him everywhere.” She also read the Bible to the Rev. Mull.

As a young man, it was sometimes Hutchison’s job to guide his grandfather to the microphone to emcee the gospel concerts he promoted.

During the 1970s and early ’80s, the Rev. Mull presented 60 to 75 concerts a year throughout the Southeast, Hutchison said.

More recently, “Mull Singing Convention” concerts have been limited to two per year at Governor’s Palace in Sevierville.

During his broadcast heyday in the 1960s and ’70s, the Rev. Mull was heard on a network of powerful radio stations that carried his preaching and concerts coast-to-coast.

Family vacations were rare, said Hutchison, who said his grandfather “believed in work.”

Once, however, the family took a trip to the Bahamas, and a waiter at a restaurant instantly recognized the Rev. Mull’s voice when he ordered a meal. The Bahamian was a regular listener to the “Mull Singing Convention,” which reached the islands via New Orleans radio station WWL.

J. Bazzel and Elizabeth Mull were inducted into the Gospel Music Association Gospel Music Hall of Fame and the Southern Gospel Music Association’s Southern Gospel Hall of Fame.

The Rev. Mull presented top Southern gospel acts at his concerts, including fellow Hall of Fame members the Chuck Wagon Gang. Hutchison said his grandfather discovered the group, moving it from Texas to Knoxville.

Like his good friend Cas Walker, the millionaire grocer and politician who died in 1998 at age 96, the Rev. Mull truly achieved the status of icon in his home region.

Most longtime Knoxvilleans have a J. Bazzel Mull story to tell, or at least have uttered a gravelly “Ain’t that right, Mizz Mull?” at some point in their lives.

The Rev. Mull had personality, his grandson said. “He loved to laugh and he loved to preach. And he would mix the two. He’d tell a joke to break the ice, then he would preach to you before you knew what happened.”

That voice the Rev. Mull’s extended neighbors knew so well and loved to imitate was naturally his own, his grandson said. “He never smoked; he never drank, nothing. That was just his voice. And it was very distinctive.”

WJBZ will pay tribute to the Rev. Mull all this week. Listeners and gospel music artists will share their memories on air.

The funeral service will be Thursday at Mann Heritage Chapel, 6200 Kingston Pike.

Receiving of friends will be 2-4 p.m. and 5-8 p.m., with a service following. The Revs. Mike Ramage and Dino Bray will officiate.

The burial service will be 11 a.m. Friday in Lenoir City. Interment will be at Lakeview Cemetery at Lenoir City Park.

“It’s hard to be sad for him at 91,” Hutchison said of his grandfather’s death. “The sorrow is for us, the joy is for him. He can see now and the first thing he had ever seen was the face of Jesus.”

TRIBUTE TO OBERLIN COLLEGE

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Oberlin College and its

distinguished African American alumni during the October 6–8, 2006 reunion of the Oberlin College Alumni Association’s affiliate group, the Oberlin Alumni Association of African Ancestry. The reunion entitled, “And We Rise! . . . Celebrating over 170 years of the Black Presence at Oberlin College,” acknowledges the historic and present contributions of Oberlin College and its illustrious African American alumni toward the establishment of a world and a nation based upon the principles of social and economic justice.

We commend Oberlin College for its remarkable role in fostering higher education among African Americans and we encourage Oberlin’s African American alumni to keep engaged with their alma mater to ensure that future generations will have educational access to develop the skills needed to address the complex challenges that face our people and our Nation in the days ahead.

RESOLUTION TO CALL FOR INTER-RELIGIOUS UNDERSTANDING AND DIALOGUE

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution calling on the people of the world and their religious and political leaders to work towards ecumenical understanding and interfaith dialogue.

Usually, it is not my habit to address religious issues on the floor. I strongly believe in a person’s right to religious freedom, as well as the separation of church and state. However, due to recent incidents in various parts of the world I am deeply concerned about the apparent lack of religious respect and tolerance. Therefore, I could not stand by without introducing this resolution.

Not just Christians and Jews, but also Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and the followers of many other religions believe in values like peace, respect, tolerance and dignity. These are values that bring people together and enable us to build responsible and solid communities. I strongly believe that this is what religion is, or should be about. People all over the world share these universal values.

While few religious leaders and scholars would doubt the commonalities that exist among the various religious groups, the followers of these religions unfortunately struggle in their effort to peacefully coexist. It is my impression that too often, the differences in belief are stressed instead of their common grounds. Too frequently, religious feelings get hurt—sometimes intentionally, but more often, unintentionally.

In the last few weeks, we have again witnessed a lack of mutual understanding and misled reaction. These recent events have shown that even religious leaders are sometimes prone to lacking the adequate sensitivity in dealing with other people’s beliefs. The reaction to this incident on the other hand was definitely disproportional, which indicates that the situation was used for political reasons.

The specific incident I am referring to is this: His Holiness Pope Benedict’s debatable statement about the prophet Muhammad at a German university two weeks ago and the fol-

lowing unrest in parts of the Arab world. The subsequent unrest resulted in the murder of a nun in Somalia and the burning of churches in the Gaza Strip.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned that many regions of this world are suffering from the effects of armed conflicts with religious aspects. I believe that the differences of faith are not the real reason for these conflicts. As a matter of fact, religious differences are actually exploited to convince people to participate in primarily political conflicts.

Given the fact that most religions share basic values, it is most unfortunate that religious people can be played off against each other so easily. One possible reason for this may be that people do not know enough about other people’s beliefs.

This resolution encourages the peoples of the world and their political leaders, including the ones in our country, to learn about their neighbor’s beliefs.

I am convinced that religious and spiritual understanding plays a positive role in facilitating trust and overcoming political differences.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution expresses our assistance for all projects that support a productive and constructive inter-faith dialogue. I know that there are people here in the States and in many other countries of the world, working hard on this issue. I am aware of the fact that some of them risk their political and social credibility or even their lives. All of them deserve our deepest recognition.

Moreover, I want us to urge political and religious leaders, and all peoples of the world, to move forward in a conciliatory spirit, to deal with religious matters in a responsible and balanced way, and to focus on their common grounds.

We all know that there will be no peace among the nations without peace among the religions, and we also know that there will be no peace among the religions without a dialogue among the religions. To support this dialogue and to show that we are conscious of its importance, I ask you to support this resolution.

A TRIBUTE TO HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Holy Family Catholic Community parish in Glendale, California. In 2007, Holy Family will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Holy Family Catholic Community was founded in 1907, in Glendale, California by Father James O’Neal. The parish originally consisted of only 15 members, who met for weekly services in residential homes. Today, the parish proudly counts over 4,000 families in its membership.

The Holy Family Catholic Community is committed to emphasizing education for the young people of the community. The parish operates both a high school and a grammar school, and hosts annual fundraising events in order to fund quality education for its students. For over a decade, Holy Family High School has sent 100 percent of its graduating seniors

on to college. Over 45 percent of Holy Family High School students receive tuition scholarships from the parish, allowing them to take advantage of the excellent educational opportunities provided by the school.

The Holy Family parish has been served by many distinguished and dedicated pastors throughout its history. From 1975 to 1995, the community was served by Monsignor Arthur J. Lirette who has also acted as Chaplain for the Glendale Police Department, State Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, and Episcopal Vicar of the San Fernando Region. Since 1995, Father Joseph P. Shea has served as head pastor of Holy Family, following a six-year stint as the Director of the Office of Vocations for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

To celebrate the occasion of its centennial, the Holy Family parish has undertaken a mission of spiritual and physical renewal. The theme of the anniversary celebration is "Jubilee," in honor of an ancient Judeo-Christian tradition, in which all people cooperate to restore the world to its original state of justice, equality and beauty. Jubilee years mark a time of renewal, fellowship, and forgiveness. The Holy Family parish will be participating in a series of spiritual retreats, as well as renovating its church building, in honor of this tradition.

I am proud to recognize the centennial celebration of the Holy Family Catholic Community in Glendale, California, and I ask all Members to join me today in honoring this parish.

APPLING COUNTY, GEORGIA,
RECREATION DEPARTMENT'S 14
AND UNDER BOYS ALL-STAR
BASEBALL TEAM—STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, the Appling County, GA Recreation Department's 14 and Under Junior Boys All-Star team (Hunter Williams, Tate Carter, Joseph Livingston, Colby Griffin, Michael Norris, Todd Hagen, Kyle Hardwick, Ryne Powers, Tyler Avera, Zack Griffis, Ryan Taylor, Cale Turner, Scott Fariss, Kasey Kersey, Coach Jeff Williams, Coach Jay Powers) traveled to Fitzgerald, GA on July 12th to participate in the 2006 BGPA Junior Boys Class "C" State Tournament.

The 4-day tournament was a double elimination tournament. The first game, Appling had to play Union County from District 7. Appling jumped on them quickly and "Run-ruled" them in five innings, with a 9 to 0 final score. That moved Appling on to play Thursday against Adel-Cook County from District 3. Appling played the whole game behind until the bottom of the seventh inning, when it tied the game up and forced it into extra innings. In the eighth inning, Appling scored one run to end the game. That moved Appling on to play for the undefeated game against Bowdon County from District 4 on Friday morning.

Bowdon beat Appling in 2005 for the championship, but this time would be a different story. The game began with Appling scoring 1 run in the top of the first inning. Neither team scored in the second inning, and in the third inning, Appling scored 1 and held Bowdon scoreless. In the fourth inning, neither team

scored, so after four innings the score was 2 to 0 in favor of Appling. In the top of the fifth inning, Appling scored three runs and when Bowdon got up to bat, they scored four runs, making the score 5 to 4. The sixth inning went scoreless, and then Bowdon scored 1 run in the seventh inning to tie the game. The Bowdon team had the bases loaded with no outs, but Appling County fought on and kept them from scoring another run. The game went into extra innings, and in the top of the eighth inning, Appling scored 3 runs. Bowdon then came in to bat in the bottom of the eighth and went scoreless—making Appling the State Champions! It was an enjoyable tournament and the Appling County Recreation Department is very proud of the team.

TRIBUTE TO LEE COLLEGE

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, residents of Chambers County and Baytown, in my Congressional district, who currently lack high-speed internet access, will soon be able to obtain an extremely reliable high-speed internet service comparably priced to DSL. This is due to the efforts of a consortium consisting of Lee College, Chambers County, Chambers Liberty Counties Navigation District, East Chambers Independent School District, and Trinity Bay Conservation District.

The consortium began working on the project in 2000, after the Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund board authorized Community Network Grants in order to fund internet access for underserved areas. Lee College applied for a \$500,000 grant on behalf of the consortium. The consortium was one of the few groups that were awarded the full grant of \$550,000—the amount applied for plus a 10% match by the consortium.

Among the technical challenges facing the consortium was constructing four 150-foot towers, wiring ten buildings, and coordinating with the governmental agencies involved. Once those challenges were resolved, the consortium faced the challenge of finding a company to maintain the system. Fortunately, the consortium was able to contract with TeleShare Communications Services.

TeleShare was looking for opportunities to expand, and, according to Mark Ocker, TeleShare's president, ". . . the opportunity to use an existing network by partnering with Chambers County and Lee College came up, and it proved to be a great match for both TeleShare and the consortium."

I am pleased to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations and thanks to Lee College and all the members of the consortium for their efforts to improve the lives of the residents of Chambers County and Baytown.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MOBILE
WORKFORCE STATE INCOME TAX
FAIRNESS AND SIMPLIFICATION
ACT OF 2006

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Mobile Workforce State Income Tax Fairness and Simplification Act of 2006. The issues addressed by this legislation impact many thousands of individuals and businesses every year in our country. My purpose in introducing this bill is to begin a discussion on these important issues.

In today's economy, many individuals are required to travel outside of their state of residence to engage in business. Most of these trips are for a brief duration as the employee works in a non-resident state for a short time and then returns to his/her state of residence. Despite the brief presence these individuals may have in non-resident states, many states impose a personal income tax on individuals and a corresponding withholding obligation on employers. States currently have widely inconsistent standards for such individuals to file non-resident personal income tax returns, and inconsistent requirements for employers to withhold income taxes on these employees.

Concerns have been raised that the vast majority of individuals are not aware of these varied state filing requirements. Concerns have also been raised that many employers do not have payroll systems that track employee travel and are consequently required to incur extraordinary and inappropriate expenses to attempt to comply with these various withholding requirements.

A uniform, fair and easily administrable law to address these issues, including appropriate de minimis rules would appear to ensure that the correct amount of income tax is paid without placing an undue burden on individuals or employers. Any solution to these issues would continue to provide full taxation of an individual's wages in a resident state to the extent the resident state determines to impose an income tax on its residents.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENHANCED
OPTIONS FOR RURAL HEALTH
CARE ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, September 21, I introduced the Enhanced Options for Health Care Act (H.R. 6154). This legislation allows critical access hospitals to use beds designated for critical access use, but currently not being used for that purpose, for assisted living services financed by private payments.

This bill will help improve the financial status of small rural hospitals and extend the health care options available to people living in rural areas without increasing federal expenditures. Currently, fear that rural hospitals will lose critical access status if beds designated for critical access are used for another purpose is

causing rural hospitals to allow beds not needed for a critical access purpose to remain unused. This deprives rural hospitals of a much-needed revenue stream and deprives residents of rural areas of access to needed health care services.

My colleagues may be interested to know that the idea for this bill comes from Marcella Henke, an administrator of Jackson County Hospital, a critical access hospital in my congressional district. Ms. Henke conceived of this idea as a way to meet the increasing demand for assisted living services in rural areas and provide hospitals with a profitable way use beds not being used for critical access purposes. I urge my colleagues to embrace this practical way of strengthening rural health care without increasing federal expenditures by cosponsoring the Enhanced Options for Rural Health Care Act (H.R. 6154).

ON THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Leslie Blair and the hundreds of other individuals from Massachusetts who lost loved ones on September 11, 2001. This September 11th, I attended an event at the Massachusetts State House with Ms. Blair and other families who lost loved ones on September 11, 2001 to commemorate and celebrate their lives. The day of remembrance and reflection was filled with heart wrenching testimonials of loss, powerful tributes to inspirational courage, and life affirming stories of love and family. Ms. Blair's testimonial about her sister, Susan Leigh Blair, was truly moving.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include Ms. Blair's remarks in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Good morning. My name is Leslie Blair. My sister Susan Leigh Blair was one of the beautiful faces you just saw in that extraordinarily moving tribute video. Sue was killed on September 11, 2001, as she went about her normal routine on an exceptionally beautiful Tuesday in the South Tower of the World Trade Center.

That video is such a moving tribute to the beautiful souls we lost on horrible and hateful day. Now I have seen a lot of beautiful memorials to the tragedy of September 11, but in static, granite ways, they tend to honor the memory of a day where nearly 3000 vibrant individuals died. This video montage honors the lives, not the deaths, of our loved ones. In those faces, we see the joy of today. And in those eyes, we see the promise for tomorrow, a tomorrow that never came, and a promise that could not be fulfilled.

My son, Nicolas is three. He and I watched this video together, and he asked me what it was. Looking at the smiles, the celebrations, the graduations and weddings, the sun and the sea, the embraces, the families, he looked at all of these lives, and he said, "It's too much." And as you and I know too well, the loss of one is too much. This video memorializes the loss, not just of individuals, but their lives, their promises, their hopes and their joy, and it's just too much.

I was asked to speak today about the value of one life and what one life means—how powerful and impactful one life can be. And like you, I know what I have lost because Susan isn't here. But magnify that loss by all of the families and friends and factor in thousands of coworkers and clients from a today five years ago, and then somehow add in the tomorrows that will never come, and I mean, our country, our world has truly suffered an amazing blow by not having them here. What have we lost as a society because just one of these beautiful smiling faces is no longer here? That is a big question. Let me tell you how I tried to answer it.

I started off by reading recent commentary by some of today's most intelligent economists, authors, politicians, sociologists. Surely the war on terror, the unease and unrest, the social upheaval can somehow be related to our loss. But that didn't seem to answer my question very well. So I turned to the great philosophers and thinkers from a world before 9/11 to see how they had answered that question. The meaning of life—very academic and metaphysical, but, in fact, not very helpful in answering my question.

Then, I looked through my copy of the Portraits of 9/11 book—a consolidation of many of the NY Times obituaries. Certainly we lost smart, successful people in the prime years of their contributions to the world. We lost bankers, investment brokers, insurance executives, servicemen and women, rescue workers, flight crew, corporate management, consultants, technicians, hockey scouts. To lose the brightest, most productive individuals in a society certainly has an economic impact, a social impact. But that didn't seem to answer the question either.

Then I looked my copy of We Remember, a compilation of tributes from Mass 9/11 Fund members, from us. There I found the heart wrenching loss of children, spouses, siblings, parents, friends, and more photos of life and love. I tried, but I couldn't read it cover to cover. So I flipped around. I landed on Capt. John Ogonowski's tribute, and in there, John's family included a poem by Bessie Anderson Stanley. In 1904, Bessie entered a magazine contest and won \$250—so maybe not a great thinker of her time, but her definition of success started to get at what we lost.

He has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has enjoyed the trust of pure women, the respect of intelligent men and the love of little children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who has left the world better than he found it, whether an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who has always looked for the best in others and given them the best he had; whose life was an inspiration; whose memory a benediction.

And I read the rest of John's pages, and I read Ann's pages, and Ace's pages, and Fred's pages, and Betty's pages, and Robin's pages, and it was easier to read more and more pages of these beautiful people whose lives, by Mrs. Stanley's definition were clearly successful. Their lives inspired others and their memories have been a blessing to those who loved them.

And I read the little booklet in front where I found pages of scholarships and funds, awards, forums, lectures, and music. These beautiful souls, through the inspiration and blessing of their living, of having been here and made a mark, these people are still con-

tributing to society today. They are no longer corporate executives or technicians or bankers, or hockey scouts but through their memory and in honor of their lives, we are able to perpetuate their success.

My sister's scholarship rewards teachers so that her passionate commitment to children and her unfulfilled dream of teaching can live on. Mark Bavis' foundation provides college funding and leadership training. Todd Hill's scholarship awards sportsmanship and perseverance. The list goes on. Surely the promise of Susan and Mark and Todd has not died.

So at this point in my research, I abandoned my original question, because inspired by these individuals and how much they were loved and how unique they were and how their promises could be fulfilled, I think I found a more important question. If we, as individuals, incorporate the spirit of our loved ones, their vibrancy, their vitality, their potential, their love, can we not change the world? Can we not increase the potential we had before 9/11 by carrying the potential of our loved ones in our hearts and in our lives and in our own successes?

We all know, too well, the devastating impact of a few evil individuals. But we, as individuals, can and are counteracting that evil impact. In honor of those vibrant successful lives, we can make a more significant impact on society, in our communities, our schools, our businesses, by our own individual actions.

And I think back to that video, the smiles of a today that has passed and the hope for a tomorrow that will never come. And I remember the success described by Mrs. Stanley. Surely our loved ones left a mark on the world in their own right. And we, by loving them and remembering them, make their mark deeper. And we, by doing that, make our own mark. Honoring the characteristics that we loved about them and carrying those characteristics into our today's, do we not carry our loved ones into the future? We have the opportunity today to continue their success. And despite our loss, or maybe because of it, we have the opportunity to live our individual lives successfully, as if tomorrow may never come. Individually, yes, together certainly, we can leave the world better than we found it, as they did. And we can give their promise for tomorrow, through our own promise, to those who love us.

SENIOR CITIZENS DEMAND AFFORDABLE DRUG COVERAGE ON DONUT HOLE DAY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of last Friday, September 22, "Donut Hole" Day. Donut Hole Day was not a happy day but a marker to remind policymakers about the problems that the Part D plan is imposing on America's seniors and people with disabilities this year.

September 22 was the day when the average person with Medicare fell into the Part D donut hole—a black hole of coverage for those whose annual drug costs fall between \$2,250 and \$5,100. The donut hole is a \$2,850 gap in coverage when people with private Part D plans continue to pay insurance

premiums even though they receive no coverage. September 22 was also the day that senior citizens and persons with disabilities came together in events across the country to demand an affordable drug benefit in Medicare.

Nearly 7 million senior citizens and people with disabilities are expected to enter the donut hole. A Kaiser Family Foundation study estimates that, of the people who will fall into the donut hole, 1.9 million (28 percent) have incomes less than 150 percent of poverty; 2.9 million (42 percent) are in fair or poor health; and 3.8 million (55 percent) are women.

The donut hole is an unprecedented phenomenon. This type of coverage gap is not found in the Federal Employees Health Benefits plan or in any other private plan. It is an insurance mechanism especially crafted for people with Medicare.

An analysis from an August report from the Center for Economic and Policy Research concludes that if Medicare had been allowed to negotiate drug prices in the same way as the Veterans Administration, the savings would have been more than enough to eliminate the donut hole gap in coverage. In fact, the close to \$50 billion that could be saved in the first full year of the program is more than twice the size of the donut hole.

The real winners in the Part D program are the drug and insurance companies. In a report released this week by the Committee on Government Reform Democratic staff shows that profits grew by over \$8 billion (27 percent) for the ten largest pharmaceutical manufacturers in the first half of this year.

The losers in the Part D program are people with Medicare. The prices charged by the top Part D plans in my Congressional District were 79 percent higher than the prices negotiated by the Federal government. A recent Merrill Lynch analysis found that in 2006 prices for popular brand-name drugs had increased by 8.6 percent over the last year, twice as fast as the overall information rate.

The donut hole puts seniors and people disabilities' health at grave risk. A New England Journal of Medicine study found that seniors' behaviors change when faced with a prescription drug benefit cap after which they have to pay the full costs of their drugs—and the donut hole is a cap. The study found that found that seniors who confront a cap are more likely to skip doses of treatments, less likely to visit hospital emergency departments, and, sadly, sometimes more likely to die sooner. Their annual mortality rate was 22 percent higher than those without such a cap on benefits.

Representatives MARION BERRY of Arkansas, TOM ALLEN of Maine and I introduced H.R. 752, the Prescription Drug Savings and Choice Act, which would take Medicare in a new direction by siding with senior citizens and people with disabilities—not the drug companies. This bill would give people with Medicare the choice of enrolling in a Medicare-administered drug benefit and we would force drug companies to lower their prices by requiring Medicare to negotiate for deep discounts. The savings could be used to fill the donut hole.

Ms. Pauline Metzger-Aronson wrote to me earlier this year to tell me that she fell into the

donut hole in June. She will pay a monthly premium for the rest of the year, although she will not receive any benefits because she will not climb out of the donut hole. She told me that the saying, "As you amble through life, whatever be your goal: Keep your eye on the donut and not upon the hole" had new meaning because "some of us seniors have reached the point where the donut is gone and we are now forced to look into the hole." H.R. 752 would help Ms. Metzger-Aronson and many others. It is a step in the right direction which will put America's seniors and people with disabilities first. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

HONORING GEORGIA HOUSING WEEK

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, today marks the end of Public Housing Week in the State of Georgia. I would like to commend those who work hard every day to ensure that our fellow Georgians have safe and affordable housing. The following proclamation was issued at the Capitol building in Atlanta, Georgia last week, and I would like to submit it for the RECORD.

PROCLAMATION

The Federal Public Housing Program was initiated under the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 as part of the Nation's New Deal Initiative, and has provided housing for millions of Americans since the outset of this program.

Georgia, being the first State in the Nation to construct Public Housing for its citizens under the Federal Public Housing Program, continues to be a leader of this industry and recognized across the country for its excellence in providing decent, safe, and affordable housing for Georgia's citizens.

The Georgia Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development work in partnership to provide public housing for over 110,000 families in the State of Georgia, as well as local jobs, economic opportunity, family services, and neighborhood revitalization for the majority of Georgia cities through their local housing authorities.

Governor Sonny Perdue of the State of Georgia proclaims September 19th through the 26th as Public Housing Week in Georgia. I encourage all citizens to express their appreciation for the commitment and the service of those in the Public Housing Industry within the State of Georgia.

CONGRATULATING ARAGON HIGH SCHOOL ON THE COMPLETION OF ITS MODERNIZATION PROGRAM

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the passage of an important

bond issue, Measure D, and the improvements it has made in the San Mateo Union High School District. Voters in my district saw a great opportunity to advance our community and overwhelmingly approved a \$137.5 million bond measure. Combining this bond measure with other resources the district undertook a \$234.5 million capital improvement program. Some of these funds were dedicated for new construction and modernization of Aragon High School. The community will be celebrating the completion of this project with a ribbon cutting ceremony on October 28, 2006.

Aragon High School has been a California Distinguished School since 1988 and has many accomplishments. It is one of only three high schools in the County to have earned and improved an 800 Academic Performance Index Score (API) on the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) tests. Soon after the passage of the bond issue, Aragon High School was the first in the district to provide Advanced Placement (AP) courses that have challenged students dedicated to academics and has encouraged the professional development of California AP teachers.

Aragon High School's developments have encouraged others outside the County as well. The school's demonstration of a commitment to reform necessary for academic success has led to Aragon's participation in the New American High School initiative for school reform, receiving a \$40,000 grant tied to middle and elementary feeder schools. The capital improvement program and the school's dedication to academic success have helped to ensure students' acceptance into the most prestigious colleges and universities in America with 57% of the Class of 2006 accepted to four year colleges. These graduates earn nearly \$2 million annually through scholarships and grants.

Beyond academics, Aragon High School can boast of extra-curricular programs that have been improved with the passage of Measure D. Students of Aragon High School participate in award winning vocal and instrumental music programs, including performances of the band at Carnegie Hall in New York, an invitation with the Boston Pops Symphony, and the honor to represent California and the United States at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.

The Measure D modernization and new construction program at Aragon High School is made possible by the Board of Trustees, joined by community leaders, elected officials, parents, school staff, and the public at large that volunteered and helped pass this bond issue and do what is best for the youth attending schools in the community.

The San Mateo Union School District has been and is devoted to its academics and voters within the County. The people of the community have contributed to these successes by voting on Measure D and by dedicating themselves in the classrooms. I commend them for their efforts that have provided a safe and modern teaching and learning facility in San Mateo County.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 26, 2006 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 27

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Christopher A. Padilla, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, and Bijan Rafiekian, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

SD-538

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-253

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine new technologies to improve care for people with diabetes and reduce the burden on the health care system, focusing on the development of an artificial pancreas.

SD-342

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 3599, to establish the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument in the State of New Mexico, S. 3794, to provide for the implementation of the Owyhee Initiative Agreement, S. 3854, to designate certain land in the State of Oregon as

wilderness, H.R. 3603, to promote the economic development and recreational use of National Forest System lands and other public lands in central Idaho, to designate the Boulder-White Cloud Management Area to ensure the continued management of certain National Forest System lands and Bureau of Land Management lands for recreational and grazing use and conservation and resource protection, to add certain National Forest System lands and Bureau of Land Management lands in central Idaho to the National Wilderness Preservation System, and H.R. 5025, to protect for future generations the recreational opportunities, forests, timber, clean water, wilderness and scenic values, and diverse habitat of Mount Hood National Forest, Oregon.

SD-628

Armed Services

Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine United States policy and practice with respect to the use of riot control agents by the U.S. Armed Forces, followed by a closed session in SR-222.

SR-232A

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine Federal efforts to protect children from commercial sexual exploitation, focusing on international initiatives to combat child pornography and trafficking.

2200-RHOB

2:30 p.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Bioterrorism and Public Health Preparedness Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine measures to improve emergency medical care.

SD-430

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Frank Baxter, of California, to be Ambassador to the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, and Charles L. Glazer, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Republic of El Salvador.

SD-419

Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing regarding intelligence matters.

SH-219

3 p.m.

Judiciary

Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine United States refugee admissions and policy.

SD-226

SEPTEMBER 28

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine issues relating to military voting and the Federal Voting Assistance Program.

SH-216

Environment and Public Works

Superfund and Waste Management Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 3871, to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a hazardous waste electronic manifest system.

SD-406

9:45 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the situation in Darfur, focusing on prospects for peace.

SD-419

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Aviation Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine new aircraft in the National Airspace System.

SR-253

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to mark up an original bill entitled "Technical Corrections to the Public Transportation Portion to SAFETEA", and S. 2657, to extend the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996.

SD-538

Budget

To hold hearings to examine the state of the economy.

SD-608

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine the National Capital Region's strategic security plan, focusing on the ability of the responsible Federal, state and local government agencies of the National Capital Region to respond to a terrorist attack or natural disaster, including the coordination efforts within the region.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Finance

Long-term Growth and Debt Reduction Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine America's public debt.

SD-215

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine intelligence matters.

SH-219