

where the general public can see low impact development practices in place and functioning.

The Glensheen projects are important because shoreline conditions are rapidly changing along Lake Superior's North Shore due to increased tourism, business, and private development taking place. Innovative methods of treating the runoff from these changed conditions are imperative to maintaining the health of the lake.

The project was done as a joint effort with Southern St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District, Minnesota Board of Soil and Water, Wisconsin Sea Grant and the Carlton, Cook, Lake North and South St. Louis Joint Powers Board of Soil and Waters Conservation Districts.

I am proud and honored to share with my colleagues this well-deserved tribute for the hardworking staff of the University of Minnesota Duluth and their innovative efforts to improve the environment in the Duluth area.

AMBASSADOR JEANE J.
KIRKPATRICK

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I join those who mourn the death of former United Nations Ambassador Jeane J. Kirkpatrick. Ambassador Kirkpatrick was a great American patriot and champion of liberty for those living under Communist or other totalitarian regimes.

Like President Reagan, who appointed her to the U.N. post, Ambassador Kirkpatrick was an American original. She became a Republican when she found that the Democratic Party no longer reflected her values, just as Reagan did. She was Reagan's first female cabinet level appointee, and was his point person at the U.N., where she was a brilliant advocate for her country's interests.

If Ambassador Kirkpatrick did not originate the phrase "Blame America First," she certainly brought it to the attention of the American people with her use of the words in defending President Reagan's foreign policy at the 1984 Republican convention. She pointed out that Democrats and other critics were quick to place the responsibility for all the world's problems at the feet of their own country. Somehow, Ambassador Kirkpatrick said, they always blame America first. Unfortunately, those words too often still apply today.

Ambassador Kirkpatrick deserves a large share of the credit for helping the U.S. win the Cold War. Her efforts brought freedom to many around the globe who otherwise may not have been able to enjoy it. She remained a passionate spokesperson for her country's interests until her death. Her voice has been silenced now, and it will be missed.

OUR SOUTH ASIAN ALLY, SRI
LANKA

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, in my time in Congress, I have had the oppor-

tunity to visit our South Asian ally, Sri Lanka. This small island nation has directly suffered both the devastating effects of the 2004 tsunami and the continuing threat of homegrown terrorism, which has experienced a recent resurgence.

Many years before the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Sri Lanka was confronting the grim specter of suicide terrorism. In fact, many of the suicide tactics utilized by terrorists in the Middle East originated with the Tamils. Because of this and because of their ties with other international terrorist groups, the Tamils pose a threat to Americans around the globe as well.

Despite the fact that a cease-fire remains in effect, over the past year, the Liberation Tigers of Tam Eelam (LTTE) have continued to commit acts of violence against the legitimate Government of Sri Lanka. The recent spate of violence began in August of last year with the assassination of Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister, Lakshman Kadirgamar. In a further attempt to damage the democratic process, the LTTE prevented the Tamil population in the Wanni region from voting in the Presidential election last November. Since the Inauguration of President Mahinda Rajapaksa, the LTTE has stepped up attacks on unarmed civilians including the use of fragmentation bombs against a bus killing 64 and injuring 80. Additionally, they have carried out assassinations of the Commander of the Sri Lanka Army and the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army and attacked a convoy of off-duty sailors, killing 94 and injuring many more. In all of these cases, the attacks were carried out by suicide bombers.

The LTTE has cultivated a worldwide network of weapons suppliers. Here in the United States, the FBI was able to apprehend Tamil agents who attempted to purchase surface-to-air missiles in New York and Maryland. Tamil agents have been arrested here for attempting to bribe customs agents and funnel illicit funds through charities. While the Tamils continue their attempts to operate in the United States, Federal authorities are vigorously investigating and prosecuting those who are recruiting support for terrorism in Sri Lanka.

The Sri Lankan Government gives every indication that it is committed to a peaceful settlement to this conflict within their nation's borders. Even after an attempt on the life of Defense Secretary Rajapakse, the President's brother, the government refuses to institute an outright ban on the Tamil Tigers. Norwegian peace negotiators, who had presided over the current cease-fire agreements, continue their efforts to bring the LTTE to the peace table but, unfortunately, Tiger leader Prabhakaran has called for a full resumption of hostilities. The government is ready to except the Tigers as a peaceful political party but not as a purveyor of violence.

Sri Lanka is a beautiful nation filled with hopeful people who wish to live in peace, and I am hopeful that they will soon see a resolution to these dangerous difficulties.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JEFFERSON
COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my praise for the heroic actions of several law enforcement agencies in Colorado. Authorities from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Park County Sheriff's Office and Colorado State Patrol acted in a swift and competent manner during the hostage standoff at Platte Canyon High School in Bailey, Colorado on September 27, 2006.

Mr. Speaker, these men and women risked their lives to help save students that had been taken hostage by an adult gunman. The situation sparked strong reminders of Columbine High School from April 20, 1999.

Mr. Speaker, that day a young woman lost her life. As Emily Keyes escaped her captor, he shot and fatally wounded her. Her family has requested that this tribute be made to law enforcement. In my conversation with the family, they thankfully praised the Jefferson County Special Weapons and Tactics Regional Team for their actions. The family has since been in consistent communication with them and thankful for the role that they have played in the community.

The Keyes family has also expressed gratefulness for Park County Sheriff Fred Wegener. He was the man who gave the go ahead that day to storm the classroom in an effort to save the lives of the remaining hostages. The Keyes' family has continued to honor their daughter since her tragic death. Her memorial and a charity bike ride have attracted thousands of supporters; a testament to what I'm certain was a wonderful and bright young woman.

Mr. Speaker, while the events at Platte Canyon are tragic, the Keyes family has carried the memory of their daughter and support the actions made by law enforcement that day.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WELDON'S
SADDLE SHOP AND WESTERN
WEAR

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Weldon Burgoon and his business, Weldon's Saddle Shop and Western Wear, for 50 years of outstanding service in the Denton community.

Weldon Burgoon began hand-tooling leather goods during his teenage years while attending a class at Sanger High School, in the 26th District of Texas. There he met and later married his wife, Joy. His own business evolved after hand-tooling leather belts as a side job to working in his father's plumbing business. After opening its doors on the outskirts of Denton in 1957, today Mr. Burgoon's saddles are known worldwide for their quality and craftsmanship.

Mr. Burgoon's generosity and commitment to the Denton community has remained strong during the past 50 years. His shop is a principal supporter of the Denton County Livestock Association's Annual Youth Fair and