

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING LINDA FAGAN
HALDERMAN, M.D., FACS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Doctor Linda Halderman upon being named one of "The 2007 Women of Distinction" by The Fresno County and City Republican Women Federated.

Doctor Linda Halderman graduated with honors and high distinction from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1991. She then continued to Hahnemann University School of Medicine, where she received an MD degree in 1997 and academic honors in the following areas: CT surgery, CT surgery subinternship, critical care/SICU, general surgery, surgery research, psychopathology, clinical medicine, obstetrician/gynecologist, pediatrics, family medicine, psychiatry and pathology. Doctor Halderman started her general surgery residency at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and completed her residency at University of California, San Francisco in Fresno, CA.

In her career Doctor Halderman has focused on serving those that live in underserved rural areas of California. For a year she practiced general and trauma surgery coverage in the underserved communities of King City, Needles, Porterville, Selma, and Truckee. About 4 years ago she opened her own practice in Selma, CA. At her private practice she offers numerous services; from focusing on gallbladder disease, to benign and malignant breast disease (and mastectomies) to cosmetic dermatology. Her practice encompasses many areas of general surgery. Her work is important, but it is what she does away from the office that is even more amazing.

Doctor Halderman is involved in government reform, research and volunteer activities. She has over 50 publications and presentations that have focused on the role of government in healthcare. She has spoken on local radio and television news outlets, discussing various medical matters, particularly in regards to the latest medical breakthroughs with breast cancer. Further, Doctor Halderman has served on many panels and roundtables, including a Healthcare Town Hall Meeting co-hosted by California State Assemblyman Bill Maze and Porterville/Tulare/Visalia Chambers of Commerce, "The California Common Sense Healthcare Revolution: solving the crisis" a panel sponsored by College Community Congregational Church, and the "Business Healthcare Summit" a panel co-hosted by Assemblyman Mike Villines and the Fresno Farm Bureau. She has also made presentations to various Republican party organizations, the American Cancer Society, high schools, and University of California, San Francisco in Fresno.

Doctor Halderman is extremely active within the community on many different levels. She is involved in several community service and

professional organizations. Most recently she has been affiliated with American College of Surgeons, American Society of Breast Surgeons, California Health Collaborative Cancer Detection Program (Continuous Quality Improvement Committee Board Member and Physician Educator), California Medical Association, Fresno-Madera Medical Society (Board of Governors 2005, Editorial/Publications Board Member 2003-2004), Selma Community Hospital Foundation (Board of Trustees 2004-2006) and the Selma Community Hospital Foundation (Executive Board Member 2005-2008). She is an amazing advocate for healthcare reform that is beneficial for the patient as well as the physician.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Doctor Linda Fagan Halderman upon being awarded with "The 2007 Women of Distinction". I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Doctor Halderman many years of continued success.

HONORING RABBI CAROLE
MEYERS

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, today I would like to take a moment to honor the memory of a good friend and a community leader, Rabbi Carole Meyers. Rabbi Meyers died at the age of 50 on Thursday, July 26, after a brief battle with bone cancer. She served as Rabbi of Temple Sinai in Glendale, CA, from 1986 to 2001.

Over the 15 years Rabbi Meyers served at Glendale's Temple Sinai the congregation nearly doubled in size, boosting its education programs for both children and adults.

Rabbi Meyers significantly raised the profile of the temple through her extensive work in the community. Rabbi Meyers was involved with Habitat for Humanity and the Glendale Community Foundation. She served on the Mayor's Task Force on Hate Crimes, helping to craft a citywide response plan to fight hate crimes. Rabbi Meyers also trained as a chaplain for the Glendale Police Department and helped to create an annual AIDS Awareness Prayer Service with other Glendale religious leaders.

After retiring in 2001 to spend more time with her family, Rabbi Meyers remained active in our community serving on the board of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, developing curriculum for Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles, and presiding at marriages and bar and bat mitzvahs.

In 2001, shortly after the tragic events of 9/11, Rabbi Meyers had the distinction of delivering the opening prayer in the House of Representatives. In such a sad and somber time Rabbi Meyers's prayer was uplifting and life-affirming. Her words helped console our nation. And her words that day still ring true

today as we try to find answers to her untimely death.

On this floor in November 2001, Rabbi Meyers prayed,

It takes courage to pray meaningfully in the wake of events shaping our lives.

It is not that we do not turn to God, we do. We come with our praise and with our entreaties, but we strain to hear an answer, to sense God's presence radiating back to us, over the abyss that grief and fear have created.

Shall we this morning, just for a moment, stop speaking to God, asking God, about God, entreating God, and instead make an effort to find once again that experience of God's presence that grounds our faith.

Come with me to that place. Perhaps it was when you witnessed the birth of your child, new life so precious and pure, perhaps when you saw your soul reflected back at you in the eyes of someone whose love was infinite. Perhaps in the tangle of pain and darkness when somehow there was a presence to call, to let you know you would move forward. Perhaps when a piece of music shook you to your core, bringing an exquisite awareness of the depth of human experience.

Perhaps when you truly saw the miracle of nature surrounding us, the sun rising and setting, day after day of nature in its magnificent order, there was a moment when you knew that an Other exists before whom we stand in awe and whose greatness we strive to reflect in the actions of our lives.

Eternal God, be with us as we move through this time of uncertainty. Help us know that we can lend Your presence and use our lives to reflect it. Then we will have the faith to bring light and joy, peace and comfort, justice and goodness to this magnificent world God has created. Amen.

IN RECOGNITION OF FOR THE
LOVE OF THE LAKE

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a local community conservation organization of which I have been a volunteer and supporter, For the Love of the Lake.

This group of enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers generously gives of its time and effort to help preserve and enhance White Rock Lake Park in Dallas, Texas. As a member of this local community, I understand the desire to ensure White Rock Lake stays clean and beautiful. I also labor alongside many volunteers as an Adopt-a-Shoreline Leader by picking up litter and recyclables to maintain this urban oasis so that it can continue to be enjoyed by families, local citizens, and visitors. These regularly scheduled weekend clean ups help build a strong sense of community and civic duty, essential to the American spirit.

Beyond preservation, For the Love of the Lake has also sought out innovative opportunities to enhance and renovate White Rock

• 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.

Lake Park. They have built partnerships with the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department to implement new programs such as the White Rock 'n' Roll Run and, have created "Litter-free Louie," a mascot to help educate others on the importance of keeping our lake clean. I am proud to be associated with this valuable organization and am grateful for all that they do for White Rock Lake Park and the city of Dallas.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in recognizing their passion and hard work.

HONORING READERS' BOOKS, OF
SONOMA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Readers' Books, which has been named the 2007 Sonoma Valley Business of the Year. This store has become an institution for Sonoma and the surrounding communities as a source not simply of literature, but intellectual fulfillment in many different forms.

Sixteen years ago, Andy and Lilla Weinberger dropped by my office to run an idea past me: they wanted to move into the Bay Area, and were hoping to open a bookstore that would do more than sell books. They imagined a location for the community to gather to enjoy books and hear authors, but also to serve as a forum for local issues and current events. Sonoma was suggested, and after a visit they were off and running.

Readers' Books has been an incredible resource to the community over the last 16 years, and has played host to a wide variety of groups and events. The Weinbergers have supported programs for young and old, such as sponsoring authors at the Vintage House Senior Center. They have worked to bring many of these authors into schools to read for students, and have helped serve as judges for a students' writing contest. Similarly, they provide a meeting space for many community groups, and offer the store as a forum for political discussion, including an impartial explanation of ballot measures around election time.

Readers' Books exemplifies the importance of independent stores for the sense of community in a town. Despite the rise of chain stores and Internet shopping, Readers' Books and small, independent stores like it continue to offer an irreplaceable location not just for shopping, but for communities to come together.

Readers' Books is indeed a wonderful bookstore. With a friendly staff happy to step forward with assistance or recommendations, the Weinbergers have created a bibliophile's heaven. If something isn't available from their selection, they can help a customer find it quickly and efficiently.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we congratulate Andy and Lilla Weinberger on the occasion of Readers' Books being named the 2007 Business of the Year. They are truly pillars of their community, and we have all greatly benefited from the wonderful store they started 16 years ago.

HONORING VIOLET HEINTZ

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Violet Heintz upon being named one of "The 2007 Women of Distinction" by The Fresno County and City Republican Women Federated.

Mrs. Heintz served on the Fresno County Board of Education for 32 years. She has demonstrated her lifelong commitment to community service through numerous education projects and community activities benefiting the children of Fresno County. Her dedication to education advancements led Mrs. Heintz to serve on the original governing board and licensee for the local television channel KVPT Channel 18. KVPT is better known as Valley Public Television and is one of only 14 channels in California that is part of the Public Broadcasting System. The mission of the station is to "deliver information through broadcast programming and related services to enhance and promote life long learning." This is also the mission of Mrs. Heintz. She has served on the Fresno County Trustees Association's Executive Board, the Central Valley Technology Center committee and the Fresno County Educator of the Year committee.

Her involvement in and contributions to the community have been recognized through many awards, including; the Fresno County Association of California School Administrator's Golden Apple Award, California and National PTA Honorary Service Award, Women of the Year finalist, Fresno County Status of Women, Phi Delta Kappa Community Education Award, the William E. Nili Scholarship Service Award, and the Alison Berg Award. In recognition of her timeless service, on April 23, 1999, The Elkhorn Correctional Facility Boot Camp in Fresno County was dedicated in her honor. The school is now called the Violet Heintz Education Academy. The Academy is designed to educate students that have been committed by the Juvenile Court to a long-term program for non-violent offenders. This dedication is a tribute to all of the great things that Mrs. Heintz has done for the Fresno County Department of Education.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Violet Heintz upon being awarded "The 2007 Women of Distinction". I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mrs. Heintz many years of continued success.

COMMEMORATING 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORANGE GROVE MONTHLY MEETING OF RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS IN PASADENA, CA

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Orange Grove Monthly Meeting of Religious Society of Friends in Pasadena, CA.

The Orange Grove Monthly Meeting of Friends was founded in 1907 by a group of 20

Eastern Quakers who had moved to Pasadena. Quakers have played leading roles in working for peace and an end to war, promoting racial and gender equality, and supporting environmental and other social justice causes. After World War I, the Meeting members supported the American Friends Service Committee, AFSC, which engaged in post-war relief efforts in Western Europe and Russia, and also helped establish AFSC's Pacific Coast branch.

During World War II, the Meeting house served as a hostel for Japanese-Americans being sent to internment camps, and aid was sent to those already interned. The Meeting members provided hospitality and financial support to area conscientious objectors and their families, and after the end of the war, hosted families displaced by the war and its aftermath.

Meeting members have frequently led the way in civil rights and social justice movements. Meeting members took part in efforts to desegregate the Pasadena school system, participated in freedom rides in the South and attended the Selma, AL, protests.

The Orange Grove Monthly Meeting of Friends founded educational institutions that provide a nurturing educational environment for children. Pacific Ackworth Friends School (1942) and Pacific Oaks School (1945) were established by Meeting parents. In 1961, Mara Moser, an Orange Grove Friends member, established Mothers' Club to support families of men in prison. Mothers' Club later evolved into a child development and family center serving low-income families.

Members of the Orange Grove Monthly Meeting of Friends are active participants in the community. Meeting members routinely provide dinner for the homeless at Union Station in Pasadena, participate in many prison visitation programs and allow the meeting house to be used by local groups for activities such as a tutoring program for elementary school children.

It is my pleasure to recognize the Orange Grove Friends Meeting of Pasadena on its 100th anniversary of active participation in the life of our community. I ask all members to join me in extending a hearty congratulations.

HONORING NANCY GARDNER, OF
SONOMA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Nancy Gardner, who is leaving the North Bay Regional Center after 15 years as that group's executive director. She is moving on to serve as CEO of Guide Dogs for the Blind, but she leaves behind an organization that she has developed into an incredible resource for people with developmental disabilities, families, and our community.

Ms. Gardner was born in Kansas, and graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in psychology. She received a master's degree in special education and human development from the University of Kansas in 1976 before moving to California and working for with NBRC from

1980–1982. During this time she also taught courses on developmental issues and adult education at local community colleges. From 1983 to 1992, she helped coordinate several different efforts to provide services at the county and State level to adults and children in need of a helping hand. She also served the State Assembly as an analyst on legislation relating to social and developmental services, mental health and rehabilitation.

In 1992, Ms. Gardner joined NBRC as executive director, taking responsibility for leadership and management of this \$105 million organization. NBRC serves a population of over 6,000 people with developmental disabilities around the North Bay region of Sonoma, Napa, and Solano counties. Based on a belief that people with developmental disabilities should have access to the same opportunities available to other citizens, NBRC offers a wide variety of services tailored to the individual. These services include diagnostic functions, individual planning, family support, advocacy and transition services, as well as an excellent array of community education and program development opportunities. The work Ms. Gardner has led at NBRC has been of immense value to thousands of individuals and families throughout the North Bay to help them rise above disability.

Ms. Gardner has served on too many boards and commissions to enumerate them all. Her work with non-profits and commissions throughout California has made her a truly valued member of our community and an acknowledged leader in her field. In addition to her work on disabilities, she remains dedicated to her husband, five children, five grandchildren, and two dogs.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we thank Nancy Gardner for 15 years of hard work guiding the North Bay Regional Center. Her determined leadership has bettered the lives of thousands of individuals throughout the region. Her work is not done, however, and she is moving on to fuse her love of dogs with her deep passion for aiding people with disabilities.

HONORING DR. LUIS LEAL ON HIS
100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Professor Luis Leal on the occasion of his 100th birthday. Professor Leal is a distinguished member of the Santa Barbara community. He is a man who has devoted his life to scholarship and education, a man dedicated to expressing and revealing the richness of Mexican, Latin American, and Chicano literature and culture.

Luis Leal was born in 1907 and grew up in Mexico City during the Mexican Revolution. He came to the United States seeking a college education and earned a bachelor's degree at Northwestern University. After a hiatus to serve in World War II, Leal earned his doctorate from the University of Chicago.

After a career teaching at the University of Mississippi, Emory University, and the University of Illinois, Leal "retired" to the Santa Barbara area at the age of 69, only to be invited

to join the faculty at UC Santa Barbara as a scholar and teacher, first in the Spanish and Portuguese Department and then in the newly established Center for Chicano Studies.

Leal has enjoyed a distinguished career as one of the most highly regarded scholars of Mexican and Latin American literature, and was one of the first to draw attention to this relatively new field of study. He is the author of over 30 books and 300 articles. In 1988, he received the Distinguished Scholar Award from the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies in recognition of his lifetime achievement. In 1995, UCSB created the Luis Leal Endowed Chair in Chicano Studies in recognition of his accomplishments.

Leal has also received renowned cultural honors from the Mexican and American governments. In 1992, Mexican President Salinas awarded Leal the Mexican Order of the Aztec Eagle, the highest award granted to foreign citizens. It was President Bill Clinton who presented Leal with the National Humanities Medal in 1997.

As a man who has devoted his life to education and to advancing the study of Mexican, Latin American, and Chicano literature, I today recognize Luis Leal as a distinguished scholar and professor, and as a man dedicated to making our community and this Nation a richer, more vibrant place.

HONORING JUDGE DEBRA
KAZANJIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Honorable Debra Kazanjian upon being named one of "The 2007 Women of Distinction" by the Fresno County and City Republican Women Federated.

Judge Kazanjian is a graduate of California State University, Fresno where she received a bachelor of arts degree, *summa cum laude*. She earned her juris doctor degree from McGeorge School of Law at the University of the Pacific. After completing her education, she returned to Fresno, CA, where she was born and raised. She practiced as an attorney for 19 years before being elected superior court judge in 2000. Currently, she is assigned to the probate court.

Aside from being a Superior Court Judge, Judge Kazanjian has served the legal community of Fresno County in many different capacities, including: president of the Board of Trustees of the Fresno County Law Library, two terms as a member of the Board of Directors of the Fresno County Bar Association, President of the Fresno County Young Lawyers Association, Chair of the Family Law Section of the Bar Association, member of the Domestic Violence Roundtable, and Scoring Judge at the Fresno County Mock Trial Competition. She has also spoken at numerous legal and community forums. Judge Kazanjian's community service record is as long as the list of legal services. Her community service includes: 5 years on the Fresno County Planning Commission where she also served as Chairwoman in 1995, member of the City of Fresno Charter Review Committee,

one of the 1993 Top 10 Business/Professional Women of the Year, Member and Chairwoman of the Little Hoover Commission City Clerk's Office Task Force, and member of the City of Fresno Blue Ribbon Task Force on City Council Ethics and Operations. Further, she is a past president of the Fresno State Alumni Association, and a member of the Channel 18 Business Advisory Committee and the Junior League of Fresno. Lastly, she has served in the Fresno Public Education Fund's "Principal for a Day" program.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the Honorable Debra Kazanjian upon being awarded with "The 2007 Women of Distinction". I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing the Honorable Debra Kazanjian many years of continued success.

HONORING THE WORK OF WILLIE
GALVAN

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Willie Galvan for his role as a dedicated advocate of Hispanic and Veterans' family rights. As National Hispanic Heritage month comes to a close, I am honored to recognize a truly invaluable member and voice of our Hispanic community.

For the last 25 years, Willie has been an active member of the American GI Forum of California, an organization that works with returning Hispanic veterans and citizens to find avenues that can improve community conditions. In addition to his long-term commitment as a member, Willie also currently serves as the organization's state commander.

Originally from Victoria, TX, Willie Galvan's community organizing amongst Hispanic veterans and families began in his hometown after his honorable discharge from the U.S. Army. His work to address inequity continued when Willie and his family moved to California in the early 1970s. In the central coast communities, Willie has maintained his support for veterans while also dedicating himself to the needs of low-income families. Willie has worked tirelessly on a range of initiatives, from organizing youth development programs to starting a non-profit health care clinic, later to become Marian Community Clinic.

As a man who has spent his life committed to alleviating the struggles within the Hispanic community, Willie deserves this and many more honors. Today I stand before you expressing thanks and respect for Willie Galvan, a man whose compassion and service to those community members most in need is an example to all.

IN HONOR OF BIG BETHEL AFRICAN
METHODIST EPISCOPAL
(AME) CHURCH

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is an honor that I am able to help celebrate

the 160th Anniversary of Big Bethel African Methodist Episcopal, AME, Church in Atlanta. For 160 years, Big Bethel AME Church has been a leader in the Atlanta area and a cornerstone of the community. Big Bethel AME Church stands as one of the oldest and most successful churches in Atlanta, and continues its strong community work today. Big Bethel's anniversary, on October 21, 2007, is truly a day for celebration.

Big Bethel AME Church has a rich and remarkable history. After the Civil War ended slavery, Bethel Church joined the African Methodist Episcopal connection in 1865. The AME Church was founded by Richard Allen, a former slave who had purchased his freedom and started the AME Church partly in response to discrimination. Out of the AME church emerged schools, social welfare programs, character building campaigns and national leaders. Big Bethel AME Church was at the cutting edge of these programs and served as a platform for opportunity in the South, especially for African Americans. For example, in 1879, the Gate City Colored School, the first public school for African Americans in the city, was founded in the basement of Big Bethel. Big Bethel AME Church also played a key role in the early development and growth of Morris Brown College, with the college's first classes being held at the church. Throughout its history the pews of Big Bethel AME Church have held such eminent dignitaries as: Booker T. Washington (early 1900s), President William H. Taft (1911), Mary McLeod Bethune (1937), former Georgia governor and former President Jimmy Carter (1970), Nelson Mandela (1990), and, as a successful presidential candidate, William J. Clinton (1992).

Over the many years, trials and tribulations, successes and honors, Big Bethel AME Church has withstood the test of time. Big Bethel AME Church has been well served throughout its history by dedicated leaders, and active congregations. This tradition continues today under Reverend Gregory V. Eason, Sr., who I would like to recognize for his leadership in the community.

In conclusion, it is my belief that we must all dedicate ourselves to the idea of creating what Dr. Martin Luther King used to call the "Beloved Community." Big Bethel AME Church in Atlanta has been building such a community for 160 years and I am excited for this community to grow and prosper for another 160 years and beyond.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RODNEY ROBERTSON, MR. LARRY BURGER, AND DR. JAMES T. BLAKE

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to three patriots who labor in the nuanced field of missile technology for the United States: Dr. Rodney Robertson, Mr. Larry Burger, and Dr. James T. Blake.

Their work—individually and collectively—offers insight into why the United States is a world leader on the cutting edge technology that will determine the future of our nation.

Dr. Rodney Robertson is the Director, U.S. Space and Missile Defense Technology Cen-

ter where he directs the development of space and directed energy programs for support of Army forces worldwide.

Under his leadership, several notable programs were developed that will keep our Nation free and safe: a solid state laser to destroy artillery and rocket fire aimed at U.S. combat forces; a high altitude sensor to provide persistent surveillance and communications over large combat operations; general space-based information (including satellite communications, imagery distribution, and tracking of friendly and enemy forces).

Mr. Larry Burger is the Director of the Space and Missile Defense Future Warfare Center where he leads efforts to bring space and missile defense capabilities and concepts to the men and women who fight in theatre.

His technical direction has brought the warfighter experimentation element at U.S. Army Strategic Command (ARSTRAT) in Colorado Springs together with the simulation and analysis capabilities of SMDC in Huntsville, AL to develop advanced warfighting techniques and procedures for the U.S. Army.

To accomplish this mission, Mr. Burger organized the Future Warfare Center into several novel divisions to bring new concepts and technologies to our warfighters. The Frontiers Division, which Mr. Burger also directs, looks carefully at the needs of the Army Future Force more than 15 years out. This division works with the U.S. Strategic Command and participates in wargames at that level.

Dr. James T. Blake is the U.S. Army Program Executive Officer for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation, which provides modeling, simulation, training and testing to support the soldier in the field. This work informs the Army leadership and tactical commanders in the development of warfighting analysis and alternative solutions.

Dr. Blake joined the Army as a private in 1968 and retired as a Colonel in 1995. He is a Master Army Aviator and served as the Army's Senior Uniformed Army Scientist. After retirement, Dr. Blake joined Texas A&M University as the Program Manager for the Institute for Creative Technologies, an internationally recognized research Center for Advanced Modeling and Simulation.

Dr. Blake received his B.S. degree in accounting from University of Tampa, an M.S. degree in systems engineering from the Naval Post Graduate School, and a Ph.D. degree in computer science from Duke University.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in honoring these great patriots for their work—past and present—which serves to keep the U.S. military the only superpower on the planet.

HONORING STANISLAUS COUNTY BINATIONAL HEALTH WEEK COMMITTEE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Stanislaus County Binational Health Week Committee upon their diligent work and commitment to bring Binational Health Week to their community.

Binational Health Week, BHW, began in 2001 with seven California cities, 98 activities,

and 115 agencies involved. There were an estimated 18,720 people that were reached. This service has grown tremendously over the last 6 years. In 2006 those numbers grew to include: 31 states, 42 California cities, 1,014 activities, with about 3,000 agencies involved and an estimated 300,000 people reached. This year the event will take place throughout 31 states in the United States and three provinces in Canada. BHW has extended its outreach to include participation from 46 Mexican, 11 Guatemalan and 15 Salvadoran consulates.

With the efforts of all participating parties, BHW has become one of the largest mobilization efforts in the Americas to improve the health and well-being of an underserved population, including immigrants and migrants of Mexican and Central American descent. It encompasses an annual week long series of health promotion and health education activities that include workshops on health care and health insurance referrals, health education and health promotion by encouraging healthy behaviors and routine health care. They also provide information about local social services and clinics. The success of BHW is due to the thousands of organizations and volunteers dedicated to a common cause.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the Stanislaus County Binational Health Week Committee on their success in bringing the Binational Health Week to their county. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing the committee many years of continued success.

CONTINUED PROHIBITION OF INTERNET GAMBLING

HON. TOM FEENEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. FEENEY. Madam Speaker, last year, I cosponsored legislation with Congressman BOB GOODLATTE to help stop the widespread growth of gambling over the internet. Though Federal law already prohibits gambling over telephone wires, the passage of this legislation was necessary to maintain the original intent of the law while also bringing it up to speed with the explosion of current and future technology. However, this update of the law made clear that it would only affect interstate commerce, respecting the rights of States by leaving to them the decision whether and how to regulate gambling within their own borders. New legislation before the Financial Services Committee attempts to undo all of this previous work, instead granting the Federal Government the expansive and exclusive right to regulate all online gambling. This new legislation would represent the first time in history that the Federal Government would be given power to issue gambling licenses, and it marks a significant shift away from allowing States to determine for themselves what type of policy is best. Proponents of this legislation state that the bill offers States the right to "opt out" of this regulation, but the truth is that the States already have the right to determine their own policy towards gambling without any broader Federal regulation that threatens to undermine their control over licensing standards and enforcement actions.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2007.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FRANK AND RANKING MEMBER BACHUS: We, the Attorneys General of our respective States, have grave concerns about H.R. 2046, the "Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act of 2007." We believe that the bill would undermine States' traditional powers to make and enforce their own gambling laws.

On March 21, 2006, 49 NAAG members wrote to the leadership of Congress: We encourage the United States Congress to help combat the skirting of state gambling regulations by enacting legislation which would address Internet gambling, while at the same time ensuring that the authority to set overall gambling regulations and policy remains where it has traditionally been most effective: at the state level.

Congress responded by enacting the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006 (UIGEA), which has effectively driven many illicit gambling operators from the American marketplace.

But now, less than a year later, H.R. 2046 proposes to do the opposite, by replacing state regulations with a federal licensing program that would permit Internet gambling companies to do business with U.S. customers. The Department of the Treasury would alone decide who would receive federal licenses and whether the licensees were complying with their terms. This would represent the first time in history that the federal government would be responsible for issuing gambling licenses.

A federal license would supersede any state enforcement action, because 5387 in H.R. 2046 would grant an affirmative defense against any prosecution or enforcement action under any Federal or State law to any person who possesses a valid license and complies with the requirements of H.R. 2046. This divestment of state gambling enforcement power is sweeping and unprecedented.

The bill would legalize Internet gambling in each State, unless the Governor clearly specifies existing state restrictions barring Internet gambling in whole or in part. On that basis, a State may "opt out" of legalization for all Internet gambling or certain types of gambling. However, the opt-out for types of gambling does not clearly preserve the right of States to place conditions on legal types of gambling. Thus, for example, if the State permits poker in licensed card rooms, but only between 10 a.m. and midnight, and the amount wagered cannot exceed \$100 per day and the participants must be 21 or older, the federal law might nevertheless allow 18-year-olds in that State to wager much larger amounts on poker around the clock.

Furthermore, the opt-outs may prove illusory. They will likely be challenged before the World Trade Organization. The World Trade Organization has already shown itself to be hostile to U.S. restrictions on Internet gambling. If it strikes down state opt-outs as unduly restrictive of trade, the way will be open to the greatest expansion of legalized gambling in American history and near total preemption of State laws restricting Internet gambling.

H.R. 2046 effectively nationalizes America's gambling laws on the Internet, "harmonizing" the law for the benefit of foreign gambling operations that were defying our laws for years, at least until UIGEA was enacted. We therefore oppose this proposal, and any other proposal that hinders the right of States to prohibit or regulate gambling by their residents.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS GANSLER,
Attorney General of
Maryland.

BILL MCCOLLUM,

Attorney General of
Florida.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL LATINO
AIDS AWARENESS DAY AND 25TH
ANNIVERSARY OF HIV/AIDS

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, today we celebrate National Latino AIDS Awareness Day, and the 25th anniversary of HIV/AIDS. Let us mark this day with a renewed spirit and effort to battle against this deadly virus.

HIV/AIDS disproportionately affects Latinos in this country, for while Latinos only represent 14 percent of the population of this country, 19 percent of those with HIV/AIDS are Latinos. 100,000 Latinos have died from this disease. We cannot continue to allow HIV/AIDS to ravage our communities.

Educating and reaching out to our children, family, and friends to address drug use, sexuality, and sexual activity should be our number one priority, because knowledge is the first step in successful prevention. The fact that these are topics that have been deemed unmentionable for generations is one of the reasons the epidemic of HIV/AIDS affects Latinos disproportionately; this is something that we must strive to change.

We must utilize our strengths to defeat this epidemic in our communities; we cannot allow silence and lack of information on this virus to be the cause of such tragic illness and death any longer.

Access to care is also a major issue for many Latinos. This week the House will be voting to override the President's veto of the Children's Health Insurance Program, legislation which will provide 10 million low-income children with health insurance. This access to health care will allow these children to begin and continue to live healthy lives.

For a person with HIV/AIDS, access health care is imperative. Many cannot obtain private insurance, are uninsured, or do not know how to apply for public insurance. This lack of insurance leads to less access to care, which further stymies the possibilities of successfully living with HIV/AIDS. I believe that access to appropriate and affordable health care is a basic human right, and while the passage of the Children's Health Insurance Program, SCHIP, will be a good first step, it is by no means the only step we need to take.

This has been a long, frustrating battle, and it is far from over. Today I join in solidarity with those who have suffered or watched a loved one suffer from HIV/AIDS. As I recommit myself to the fight against this virus I ask you to please join me.

TRIBUTE TO JUNIUS W. WILLIAMS,
ESQ.

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives

to join me as I rise to recognize and honor a good friend of my Congressional District and dedicated public servant, Junius Williams, Esq., a multi-faceted contributor to the community. Mr. Williams is being honored for his many years as a torch bearer in a variety of disciplines. Fortunately, for all of us in the Greater Newark Community, Mr. Williams has complete mastery of all these disciplines, which include academia, activism, Christianity, legal proficiency and mentorship.

In his role as an advocate for urban revitalization, Junius Williams served as the Director of Community Development and was at the helm of one of Newark's most significant projects, the Model Cities Program in the early 1970s. He also led the University Heights Neighborhood Urban Renewal Development Corporation. As a planner and developer, he had responsibility for the construction of over 1,200 housing units and accompanying amenities in Newark.

In 1978, Mr. Williams was elected as the youngest president of the National Bar Association. During his tenure as president, he presented a critique to the United Nations of the proposed constitution for the African nation of Zimbabwe. As an attorney, Mr. Williams was successful in representing Rev. Jesse Jackson in the historic court decision to bring single-lever voting to New Jersey, making it possible to cast one vote for the Presidential candidate and all of his delegates. He received his law degree from Yale University.

Mr. Williams has held other significant roles over the years including serving on the board of trustees for Essex County College, chairman of the Board of Education Law Center, chairing the board of trustees at Greater Abyssinian Baptist Church and serving as an official observer of the first South African National Elections in 1994. He is an accomplished musician, producer and performer. He currently serves as the director of the Abbott Leadership Institute, where he teaches parent advocacy skills to parents and professional educators at Rutgers University in Newark.

Madam Speaker, I am sure my colleagues agree that Junius Williams deserved to be feted at a celebration in his honor on Friday, October 12, 2007, for his many years of dedicated service to the community. I am proud to have him working in the 10th Congressional District and wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

HONORING BINATIONAL HEALTH
WEEK COMMITTEE: COUNTIES OF
FRESNO, MERCED, TULARE AND
KERN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Madam, Speaker, I rise today to commend the Binational Health Week Committee for the Counties of Fresno, Merced, Tulare, and Kern upon their diligent work and commitment to bring Binational Health Week to their community.

Binational Health Week, BHW, began in 2001 with seven California cities, 98 agencies, and 115 agencies involved. There were an estimated 18,720 people that were reached. This service has grown tremendously over the last

six years. In 2006 those numbers grew to include: 31 states, 42 California cities, 1,014 activities, with about 3,000 agencies involved and an estimated 300,000 people reached. This year the event will take place throughout 31 states in the United States and three provinces in Canada. BHW has extended its outreach to include participation from 46 Mexican, 11 Guatemalan and 15 Salvadoran consulates.

With the efforts of all participating parties, BHW has become one of the largest mobilization efforts in the Americas to improve the health and well-being of an underserved population, including immigrants and migrants of Mexican and Central American descent. It encompasses an annual week long series of health promotion and health education activities that include workshops on health care and health insurance referrals, health education and health promotion by encouraging healthy behaviors and routine health care. They also provide information about local social services and clinics. The success of BHW is due to the thousands of organizations and volunteers dedicated to a common cause.

Madam, Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the Binational Health Week Committee for the counties of Fresno, Merced, Tulare and Kern on their success in bringing the Binational Health Week to their counties. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing the committee many years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, on October 2, I inadvertently voted "no" on rollcall 931, Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the immediate and unconditional release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. I intended to enter an "aye" vote on this rollcall.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF WILLIAM JOHN NATHEY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of William John Nathey for his contributions to the settlement of Niceville, a City in my district in Northwest Florida.

William Nathey, born in England in 1820, traveled to the United States on a timber ship. After settling in the community of Boggy, he built a large gristmill in 1857. He traveled as far as Mobile, AL, to retrieve gristmill stones, which he brought back by oxen. The stones from the Nathey Gristmill have been preserved and are now located at the Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida.

The Nathey legacy extends much further than the gristmill stones. When he settled in Northwest Florida, he met and married a woman from North Carolina. Their first child, William John, born in 1846, carried on the

Nathey family legacy and went on to be a key figure in the establishment of the City of Niceville.

William John followed in his father's footsteps and set up his homestead in Northwest Florida. While his father had worked the land to support his family, William John sold carpentry shingles and often traveled to neighboring cities to support his family.

Strong family values and a solid Christian foundation also carried on from generation to generation in the Nathey family. William John and his wife, Mary Jane, were two of the founding members of the First United Methodist Church in Niceville. The Nathey family tree continued to grow with their children and grandchildren and carries on today. Many of William Nathey's descendants still reside in Northwest Florida.

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Nathey Gristmill, Governor Charlie Crist recently approved the designation of the William Nathey Bridge, which is to be celebrated with a dedication ceremony on November 12, 2007. Appropriately, the William Nathey Bridge crosses Boggy Bayou, which was the southern border to William John's original homestead.

I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to a man and a family who have served as an inspiration to us all. Such a unique family history stretching back so many years is something to truly be admired and honored.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to honor the life and legacy of William Nathey, and as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the construction of the Nathey Gristmill, our community reflects upon how this family has helped to create a home for so many. May God continue to bless them.

REGARDING H.J. RES. 52

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker. I rise to oppose the escalating rhetoric in Washington that is dividing our Nation, diverting attention and resources from the needs of Americans, and extending President Bush's failed policy in Iraq. I join the majority of Americans in seeking an end to the Iraq war and allowing U.S. troops to return home safe and soon.

Americans are united in support of our troops. Americans are beginning to unite behind ending the war. Ratcheting up rhetoric only divides Americans and distracts from the stark reality facing our Nation—our Nation is bogged down in President Bush's Iraq war.

My vote to recommit and amend H.J. Res. 52 was a vote to return to substantive debate of policy and priorities. This was a vote against the rising level of incivility in American political discourse. This was a vote to repudiate the MoveOn.org advertisement questioning General David H. Petraeus' loyalty to our Nation.

While members of MoveOn.org have been allies with Democrats and the majority of Americans who are seeking an end to the Iraq war, the decision by the group's National leaders to attack General Petraeus only contributed to the vitriol in Washington and provided

a rally point for those who wish to extend the failed Iraq policies of President Bush and Congressional Republicans.

Just as the Swift Boating of Senators JOHN KERRY and Max Cleland poisoned the political process and disenfranchised the public by questioning the patriotism and character of honorable men, the attempt to discredit General Petraeus is equally damaging. General Petraeus is an honorable person who deserves respect, even as the public deserves to hold him accountable for the policies he implements.

Irresponsible and heated rhetoric has resulted in the current impasse on Federal funding for Government operations. To prevent funding shortfalls that would force a Government shutdown, Congress was forced to pass H.J. Res. 52 as a stopgap bill.

With bipartisan support, the House of Representatives has passed all 12 of the appropriations bills necessary to fund Government operations in Fiscal Year 2008 under pay-as-you-go balanced budget discipline. However, President Bush's combative posturing and veto threats have so thoroughly blocked progress that the Senate has only approved a third of those bills.

During the short 9 months that Democrats have led the House of Representatives, we have taken America in a new direction by developing a fiscally responsible record accomplishment. We are putting the needs of the American people first and making long-delayed investments in our future with no new deficit spending. We are investing in health care for America's children and veterans, strengthening homeland security to better protect the American people and creating American jobs by building safer roads and bridges.

President Bush has responded with vetoes, tough talk of veto threats, including a threatened veto on the bipartisan reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program H.R. 976, which passed the House with 45 Republicans joining the vast majority of Democrats. A veto of this legislation by the President would deny 10 million low-income children the health care they need and deserve.

While President Bush claims that a \$35 billion increase for children's health care is too much, he is seeking \$190 billion in additional funding for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan—the largest single-year amount so far. The President continues to pursue an open-ended and dangerous commitment of American troops in Iraq and an open wallet from the American people to pay for it.

It is time for Americans to stand together—Republicans and Democrats—to end the Iraq war.

CONGRATULATING MRS. DONNA DOHERTY, RECIPIENT OF THE 2007 "SAM AND JANE CALI STAR AWARD" PRESENTED BY THE BROADWAY THEATRE LEAGUE OF NEPA

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute

to Mrs. Donna Doherty, this year's recipient of the Sam and Jane Cali Star Award presented by the Broadway Theatre League of NEPA in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Each year the award is presented to a distinguished community leader who has demonstrated exemplary dedication and service to the arts in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Named for the current president of the Broadway Theatre League of NEPA, Sam Cali and his late wife, Jane Nicolais Cali, the award is sponsored by the Fidelity Deposit Discount Bank and will be presented this year at the BTL's season opening gala on November 3.

Married to Scranton Mayor Chris Doherty, Donna Doherty has a long history of dedicated service in promoting the arts. In addition to serving on the board of trustees of the Everhart Museum in Scranton, Mrs. Doherty served as Scranton coordinator for "Miles of Mules," an initiative of the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor that combined history and art, linking communities in eastern Pennsylvania.

Her long-standing enthusiasm for the arts is evidenced by the success of her numerous arts related community efforts. In 2001, Mrs. Doherty committed herself to "Art and Jazz on the Ave," a project that showcased the energy, diversity and skills of the region's many artists. Using empty retail stores on a historically preserved block of downtown Scranton as gallery space, the event offered juried competition that included over 100 local artists. Accompanied by a street festival featuring local jazz musicians and culinary stylists, the event attracted the attention of thousands of people.

Mrs. Doherty has also served as co-chair of "Arts in Bloom," a fund raising event that benefits the Everhart Museum. Mrs. Doherty is currently the owner of Heart to Art, a full service design and marketing company dedicated to building better communities through collaborative art experiences. Mrs. Doherty and her husband are the parents of six children.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mrs. Doherty on this auspicious occasion. Her selfless devotion to the arts has been an enriching experience for so many and has had a lasting positive impact on improving the quality of life for all who live and work in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I inadvertently missed last Wednesday's vote on final passage of H.R. 2895. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "yes" on the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007.

VISION CARE FOR KIDS ACT 2007

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my continued support for children's vi-

sion awareness and the Vision Care for Kids Act of 2007 (H.R. 507). Unfortunately, millions of children in the United States suffer from vision problems, many of which go undetected and negatively affect a child's life.

I know all too well how important it is to have a regular eye exam. When I was young, my own eyesight problems caused me to struggle in school until those problems were properly diagnosed and corrected.

This legislation will help improve access to eyesight testing and follow-up treatment for children so they can see, study, and learn to the best of their ability. I hope the Senate will pass this critical legislation so we ensure that our children are receiving the best eye care possible.

Madam Speaker, I urge everyone to support this legislation and I look forward to working with my colleagues as we strive to increase awareness in preventive vision care for children.

HONORING YUM! BRANDS AND THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the partnership of YUM! Brands and the World Food Programme (WFP) for their efforts during World Hunger Relief Week.

A 2006 report by the Food and Agriculture Organization estimated that 854 million people worldwide suffer from hunger. This is more people than the populations of the United States, Canada and the entire European Union combined. Hunger is the number one risk to health worldwide. It weakens the immune system, making people, especially children, vulnerable to life-threatening diseases. A report by the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition found that over 5 million children die before the age of 5 from malnutrition.

YUM! Brands, which is headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky has been fighting hunger in the United States for over 10 years. During this period, they have donated over 97 million pounds of food to combat hunger in the United States.

When YUM! Brands wanted to expand their efforts worldwide, they searched for a well established organization that shared their same long-term global mission of eliminating hunger. After an extensive search YUM! Brands teamed with the World Food Programme (WFP). The WFP has been providing food aid to the world for over 41 years. Given the background of both these organizations I know they will make a significant difference toward eradicating this epidemic.

The partnership has already launched an important initiative to bring awareness to and stop world hunger. During World Hunger Relief Week, October 14th–20th, YUM! Brands will be activating a global campaign of TV advertisements, print ads and public service announcements. YUM! Brands employees will mobilize in their communities to bring awareness to this cause. The company will simultaneously promote the partnership and raise millions in funds for the WFP to use in feeding the hungry around the world.

I salute YUM! Brands and their partnership with WFP to end world hunger. I encourage my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in supporting this partnership during World Hunger Relief Week.

HONORING DR. HOWARD
KNOBLOCH

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Howard Knobloch of Bay City, Michigan. The Bay Medical Foundation will honor Dr. Knobloch for over 60 years of work as a pediatrician in the Bay City community at a dinner to be held on October 24th.

Dr. Knobloch graduated from Maryland University Medical School in 1936. After completing his internship and pediatric residency, Dr. Knobloch joined the practice of Dr. Fernald Foster in 1940. From 1942 to 1946 he served as an Army captain. Once his military service was completed, Dr. Knobloch returned to Bay City and resumed his illustrious career as a pediatrician.

His motto is, "If this were my child, what would I do for him?" and Dr. Knobloch has lived this philosophy daily. In the beginning, he charged \$2 for an office visit and \$3 for a home visit. He was still making home visits at the age of 77. He never turned away a patient and held office hours 6 days a week. He also served on the staff of Bay Regional Medical Center for 60 years, holding various positions during that time. He was Chief of the Medical Staff for two terms, Medical Staff Secretary/Treasurer for two terms, Vice-President for eight terms and Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics for 35 years.

His peers have recognized Dr. Knobloch on numerous occasions. The Michigan Academy of Pediatrics has awarded him the Franklin D. Roosevelt Service Award, the Harry S. Truman Service Award, and in 1996 named him Doctor of the Year. The American Academy of Pediatrics presented him with the Pediatric Review and Education Program Award. In 1990 the Michigan State Medical Society recognized him as the oldest practicing physician in their membership and in 2002 Bay Regional Medical Center presented the first Excellence in Teaching Award. This award was created in honor of Dr. Knobloch for his dedication, commitment and compassion for the health care of the community. Recently at the age of 96, Dr. Knobloch published an autobiographical book entitled, "An American Pediatrician's Odyssey."

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding the life and career of Dr. Howard Knobloch. He is an inspiration to all health care providers, and anyone desiring to improve and deliver quality healthcare to our children.

NATIONAL LATINO AIDS
AWARENESS DAY

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize National Latino AIDS Awareness Day. Today marks the fifth consecutive year that the U.S. has acknowledged October 15th as National Latino AIDS Awareness Day. This day presents us with the important opportunity to remember that Latinos, who represent only 14 percent of the population, account for nearly 19 percent of all AIDS cases. Today there are approximately 200,000 Latinos living with AIDS in the U.S.

Latinos make up the fastest growing minority population in the United States. Therefore, it is increasingly important that we work to achieve equality in treatment and ensure that Latinos who suffer from HIV and AIDS do not face barriers to care. National Latino AIDS Awareness Day serves both as a day of remembrance for those who are living with or have lost their lives to AIDS as well as a day to promote awareness of this disease among the Latino population.

TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a talented group of students from Lawrence Technological University in Southeastern Michigan for being selected to compete in the U.S. Department of Energy's 2007 Solar Decathlon. Lawrence Tech's AloeTerra team is one of just twenty teams from across the United States, Europe and Canada chosen to participate in this event.

The Solar Decathlon is an international competition organized by the Department of Energy that brings together young people from many countries to design, build and operate an energy-efficient, completely solar-powered house. More than that, the Solar Decathlon is a chance to engage the public on how small changes in building and design practices can have a big impact. With rising energy prices and increased public concern over global warming, Americans want to know what they can do in their own lives to use energy more efficiently and cleanly. Indeed, the name of the Lawrence Tech team says it all: AloeTerra means "healing the land."

At the same time, there is a large and growing world market for renewable energy and efficiency technologies. This market is worth hundreds of billions of dollars over the next decade. Clean energy creates good jobs, and that is something that all of us should encourage.

I am proud that Lawrence Technological University is in the 12th Congressional District and I am proud to represent these bright young people who have worked so hard to show how sustainability, aesthetics, and comfort can coexist. I urge all my colleagues to go

down to the National Mall where the twenty Solar Decathlon teams have assembled their homes into a solar village.

TRIBUTE TO MARY LEE SLATER,
A LIFE OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS,
CARING AND PROMISE

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to the late Mary Lee Slater, a mother of four, and grandmother to an only grandson. She died on Tuesday, October 9, 2007 and will be buried this Friday October 19, 2007 at Bethany Seventh Day Adventist Church in Miami, Florida where she was a member for many years.

Born on March 1, 1935 to the late Murdic and Illinois Jordan in Soperton, Georgia, she was the oldest of four siblings: James, Elvin, Floyd and Randolph. She moved to Miami, Florida with her family where she attended public schools, graduating from Booker T. Washington High School in 1953. She attended Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia.

Mary worked in the insurance industry for more than 30 years as an agent for such companies as Atlanta Life and American General. Because of her outstanding professionalism, work ethic and dedication to her career, she received numerous honors and awards including National Sales Achievement Award and Outstanding Sales Achievement Recognition.

Effectively balancing work and family, Mary was the dedicated mother of four loving children, Michael, Ronald, Surette and Illka. She was also the proud grandmother of one grandson, David "Boom Boom" Jonathan whom she loved and adored.

Always demonstrating love for her community, Mary was President of the High Ridge Neighborhood Improvement Association. With a reputation for helping others, solving problems and improving her community, she was a source of inspiration and wisdom. One of Mary's favorite programs was the Association's annual Thanksgiving Dinner, which provided an opportunity for residents, families and friends to gather in fellowship to give thanks to God for His many blessings. Mary received numerous awards and honors for her dedication and commitment to the community, including Making a Difference Award from Team Metro and Inner City Education Foundation Parent Club. She also served on the Model City/Brownsville Charrette Steering Committee.

A committed servant of God, whatever church Mary was a member of, she stood out as a beacon of light, who demonstrated the love of God to whomever she met. An active member in her church, Mary served on several ministries. She was a Deaconess, Sabbath School Teacher and dedicated servant. Her walk with God was evident. At Bethany Seventh Day Adventist Church, she was honored by the Sabbath School Department for Outstanding and Dedicated Service. Mary loved her church family.

Last Tuesday, Mary heard and answered her Lord's call to rest. She leaves to cherish

and celebrate her life four loving children, Michael, Ronald, Surette Sands (Christopher), and Illka; one grandson, David "Boom Boom" Jonathan; three brothers James Jordan (Loretta) of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, Elvin Floyd Jordan (Sandra) of Oakland, California and Randolph of Miami, Florida; and a host of relatives and friends. May God bless her soul and grant her eternal rest.

MOTIVA ENTERPRISES

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, on January 10, 1901, the world changed. It was on this cold day in Jefferson County, Texas, the Gladys City Oil, Gas, and Manufacturing Company discovered the largest oil reserve the world had ever seen. Since that day the modern petroleum age has been upon us and Jefferson County, Texas, has been a leader in the oil and gas industry, fueling our Nation's economy. With Motiva Enterprises recently announced expansion of their Port Arthur Refinery, this tradition of leadership will continue into the future.

Motiva Enterprises will be expanding their 104-year-old Port Arthur Refinery, becoming the largest refinery in the Nation. When construction is complete, it will produce 600,000 barrels of crude oil per day. This project will generate an economic boost to southeast Texas by bringing in 5,000 construction jobs and 300 permanent jobs.

Motiva is more than just an oil company; it is an active corporate citizen concerned about all aspects of the community where it resides. By putting together a community Citizens Action Committee composed of representatives from across the community, Motiva has helped address the community's concerns about health, jobs, environment, education, and children. Through the work of this committee and Motiva, the Motiva Youth Training Academy was opened. This academy partners with local businesses to provide juniors and seniors at local high schools with training to help them transition from high school into a professional career or to higher education.

Motiva is to be commended on its corporate citizenship and giving back to communities not only in southeast Texas but across the Nation.

And that's just the way it is.

IN HONOR OF THE EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLIC SERVICE OF
MICHAEL J. MADONNA

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Michael J. Madonna for his extraordinary service to the people of the State of New Jersey, and particularly to its law enforcement community.

Last month, Mike retired as President of the New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association. He's been active with the PBA since 1968, when he became the State Delegate of

the Oakland PBA. He later went on to serve on the State PBA Executive Board. In 1996, he began a nearly 11-year tenure as President of the State PBA. Mike has dedicated his life to keeping the people of New Jersey safe, putting his life on the line and sacrificing so much on our behalf.

The PBA is the largest union of law enforcement officers in New Jersey, with more than 350 Locals representing more than 30,000 municipal, county, state, and Federal officers. These officers have benefited greatly from the hard work and dedication that Mike has given the PBA these last forty years.

Tonight, the members of the PBA and community leaders from all across New Jersey will be honoring Mike for his career of service. I join them in thanking Michael J. Madonna for demonstrating such tremendous commitment to the safety and well-being of New Jerseyans statewide. The Garden State is a better place because of the service of people like him.

REMEMBERING NICHOLAS
PALMIOTTO

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I bring to the attention of the House Mr. Nick Palmiotto, a dedicated soldier, a leader, a father, a husband, a member of my Service Academy Advisory Board and my constituent from Sterling, Virginia, who passed away at the age of 44 on October 6 after a valiant fight against leukemia.

It was an honor to have Nick serve as a member of my Academy Board which assists in the selection of nominees for military academies. As a 1984 graduate of the Naval Academy, Nick recognized the character and integrity that would enable young men and women to become leaders and heroes, much like himself. Nick was the embodiment of what it meant to be a soldier and a true gentleman.

Nick Palmiotto was born on November 18, 1962, in Mount Kisco, New York. After completing high school at the top of his class, Nick attended the Naval Academy and graduated 11th in his class. He was accepted at the prestigious Nuclear Power School and was commissioned as a nuclear power submariner. Shortly thereafter, however, Nick was medically retired from the Navy after learning of a blood disorder that would prevent him from serving at sea.

Upon leaving the Navy, Nick continued his involvement with the military as a defense contractor, developing many high-tech programs which enhanced operations training and helped to save the lives of many soldiers on the battlefield. During the final years of his career he served in support of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Nick was an asset to the community and he will be greatly missed by all those who knew and loved him, including his two children, Kyleigh and Chad, and his wife, Janelle, of 19 years. We send our condolences to his family and friends and salute Nick Palmiotto for his life of service to his country.

HONORING MS. JANE DECKER

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise, not only for myself, but also on behalf of Congress Members ANNA ESHOO and MIKE HONDA, to honor Ms. Jane Decker who is retiring after 35 years of dedicated and honorable service in county government.

The County of Santa Clara encompasses what is popularly known as Silicon Valley. While the rest of the nation may speak of "Googling" or "Podcasting" as tech tools, those of us lucky enough to live there tend to regard the companies who invented those terms as neighbors, employers and members of the community.

Known internationally as the high tech center of the universe, Santa Clara County's people are diverse. In addition to those who are highly successful, the County also encompasses individuals who face challenges from life. It is especially those persons upon whom County government focuses. Jane Decker, in her long service to the County, helped make sure that as the County's people celebrated success, they did not forget those who suffered, whether from poverty, health troubles or tragedies. Jane Decker, with her high degree of professionalism, ethics and knowledge helped craft the strategies that allowed the government of Santa Clara County to meet its challenges successfully.

While Congressman HONDA and I served on the County Board of Supervisors, we had the pleasure of working closely with Ms. Decker. We appreciated her outstanding service then. In the roles we three Members of Congress play, each of us can attest to the high degree of intelligence, caring and dedication Ms. Decker has exhibited in her professional life.

Jane Decker joined the County of Santa Clara in 1979 as the Director of Intergovernmental Relations. Because of her demonstrable leadership qualities, she has been promoted several times until her most recent post as Deputy County Executive.

In addition to her professional commitments, Jane Decker is a committed and valued volunteer for several prominent organizations in the County of Santa Clara.

We collectively extend our thanks to Ms. Decker for her years of excellent service and wish her the best upon her retirement and this new phase in her life. She has served the people of Santa Clara County well.

KINGWOOD CIVILIAN SERVES
ALONGSIDE THE TROOPS IN IRAQ

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, Linda Shafer Mehrmann, of Kingwood, Texas, has recently returned from Iraq not as a member of our armed forces but as a civilian contractor. She has spent much of her previous working career in fine jewelry sales. Instead of being in an air-conditioned building, surrounded by diamonds and jewels, two years ago she decided

to go to a land of sand and rocks in order to support our troops.

In 2004, she was attending a job expo with her brother who was trying to get a job as a truck driver in Iraq. While she was waiting for him, a job recruiter struck up a conversation with Mehrmann and described a unique company position that she might be interested in because of her outgoing personality.

After discussing the position further and thinking about it for a week, she decided to become a Morale Welfare and Recreation Coordinator in Iraq. Even though she was a civilian, she worked alongside our troops in Balad, Iraq working 12 hour days 7 days a week. Her duties included operating a recreation center and a workout area for the troops.

She wanted to go to Iraq during Christmas because she felt that this would be a difficult time for the troops that were away from their families. While the troops defended our Nation's freedom in war, Mehrmann's job was to lift their spirits and be an inspirational force in their lives in Iraq.

She boosted morale by writing what she called, "love notes" to the soldiers which were small pieces of hot pink paper with inspirational quotes typed on them from a quote book. The notes were placed in an aluminum coffee can for anyone to reach in and take. At first, the macho soldiers were reluctant to accept the love notes from the 54-year-old grandmother of four, but after the first person took one the popularity of the notes quickly took off.

Her quotes became a commodity on the base and were sought by many from privates up to generals. The quotes became so popular that other areas of the base created their own quote cans and quotes even started to appear on the menu board of the mess hall.

She also distributed stickers and match box cars to the troops which they greatly appreciated and sent to their children in the U.S. The small gifts made a huge impact in brightening the day of the troops and their children were glad to receive a gift from their faraway parent. Some of her other activities on the base included hosting pool tournaments, talent shows and Texas Hold'em tournaments at the recreation center.

When she returned to the U.S. after two years, Mehrmann decided to create a support group for those that have returned from Iraq and for those that have friends and family overseas. The group Combat Zone Here and There meets once a month in a local church in Kingwood so that servicemembers and their families can discuss their Iraq War experiences at home and abroad. When Mehrmann describes the activities that other civilians like her do to boost morale with the troops, she said it helps put the friends and family of our servicemembers at ease.

Her job as a civilian support member brought colorful life to troops living in a land of brown sand and rocks. She turned a gym for the troops into a comfortable home away from home. Mehrmann said that she didn't go to Iraq for political reasons, but to share random acts of kindness with the troops.

I salute Linda Shafer Mehrmann for her bravery and willingness to assist our Nation abroad during a time of war. Her courage and support of our troops is an inspiration to us all. And that's just the way it is.

IN HONOR OF JACK KURLANDER
AND HIS LIFE OF SERVICE TO
SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the late Jack Kurlander, who spent a lifetime turning Sussex County, New Jersey into a destination for tourists and recreation-seekers. His vision truly transformed this picturesque region of the Garden State.

Born in Rhode Island and raised in Nutley, New Jersey, Jack Kurlander had been New Jersey's boys tennis champ while at Nutley High School. But, his love of sports extended to golf and skiing, as well. Spurred by his love of outdoor sports and recreation, Jack Kurlander set about turning this quiet Highlands region into a popular destination for a variety of outdoor sporting activities.

Jack Kurlander and his business partners, first the Fitzgerald Family and later the Mulvihill Family, were the force behind the development of ski resorts, tennis and swim clubs, picnic grounds, spa resorts, and major golf courses over the course of four decades. The Ballyowen Golf Course, in fact, is the top-rated public golf course in New Jersey.

Long before his vision took hold, Jack Kurlander was an avid inventor. He manufactured the first nylon tennis nets with his friend John Fitzgerald in the basement of a Nutley bakery. He created a ski-waxing machine, using his mother's disassembled washing machine to develop his invention.

This evening, outdoor enthusiasts will join together to dedicate the Memorial Garden at the 7th Hole of the Black Bear Golf Course and to pay tribute to their friend and patron. Jack suffered a heart attack in 1977, but it barely slowed him down from his mission to transform this beautiful region. Nearly thirty years later, a heart attack took his life in 2006 at the age of 76. It is said that Jack Kurlander was able to see things that were unapparent to anyone else. His gift for vision and his love of life are truly missed.

TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE FIRST
CLASS THOMAS R. WILSON

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, last month we marked the sixth anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks against America. The terrorists responsible carefully selected their targets; the World Trade Center standing for America's success, and the Pentagon for America's strong defense. These extremists sought to bring down the greatest democracy in the history of the world. They thought we were weak—or unprepared to defend our freedom. They were wrong. The terrorists soon discovered America is not comprised of buildings; America is made up of her people. We are strong. We stand together against those who seek to destroy us.

And so it is with great sorrow but immense pride that I recognize one of my own constitu-

ents who paid the ultimate price for our freedom. Private First Class (PFC) Thomas R. Wilson, United States Army, was killed on August 27, 2007, while proudly serving his country in Afghanistan as part of the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team.

PFC Wilson, who was only 21 years old at the time of his death, grew up in Maurertown located in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. He was a typical all-American boy. He loved being outdoors enjoying nature. His hobbies included hunting, fishing and hiking and he possessed a great love of art and photography. He was an active member of the 4-H and local chapter of Future Farmers of America (FFA). In high school PFC Wilson excelled in the classroom and on the athletic field. He was a member of the National Honor Society in addition to playing on Central High School's basketball and track teams. In 2004, he graduated from high school, where he is remembered by teachers and friends as "a student leader at all times."

After graduation, PFC Wilson went on to West Virginia University where he completed two years before joining the U.S. Army. Upon his completion of boot camp and airborne school, PFC Wilson was sent to Camp Ederly, in Vicenza, Italy and from there was deployed to Afghanistan.

PFC Wilson was a proud soldier. In e-mails he sent home from the war zone, he shared his commitment to the mission and his pride in the U.S. Army. According to his commanding officer, PFC Wilson's fearless actions on the day of his death saved the lives of many of his fellow soldiers. PFC Wilson has been posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and the Purple Heart for these noble actions.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Julie Hepner, PFC Wilson's mother, and his siblings, Chloe, Chelsea and Ethan. Not only did Tom answer the call of his country and in doing so protect the freedoms that we so cherish, but he also paid a dear price to bring freedom to people he had never met. He gave his life in order to make our Nation stronger and safer for future generations.

In 1962, speaking to a gathering of cadets at West Point General Douglas MacArthur delivered stirring remarks in which he described the "American man at arms." He said, "His name and fame are the birthright of every American citizen. In his youth and strength, his love and loyalty, he gave all that mortality can give. He needs no eulogy from me, or from any other man."

In an age when the word 'hero' is tossed around casually to describe everything from sports stars to singers in bands, PFC Thomas R. Wilson is a hero in the truest sense of the word—a possessor of courage and strength who pursued feats of noble purpose.

HONORING LAVENIA "BEANS"
VANDIVER, A TRUE TEXAS
ORIGINAL

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. EDWARDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true Texas original, Lavenia

"Beans" Vandiver who recently passed away. Born and raised in Moody, Texas, Beans was an inspiration and true friend to many, including a young state senator running for Congress in 1990. Beans stayed true to her Central Texas roots attending Moody schools and later attended Mary Hardin Baylor University. A devoted wife to her husband of 50 years Bert Vandiver Sr. and a loving mother to her children and grandchildren, Beans Vandiver was the best America and Texas has to offer, a vibrant force of nature that will be dearly missed.

As a businesswoman, Beans was the hard-working driving force behind several successful local businesses and real estate endeavors. Some of her proudest moments were helping young couples to realize a dream of owning their first home. Because of her success, Beans proved to be ahead of her time setting a positive example for others while shattering the glass ceiling for women in the business world.

As her beloved daughter Karen Vandiver-King also reminded us, Beans was a generous person who cared for the less fortunate and dedicated herself to giving back to the community.

Madam Speaker, today's world needs more people like Beans Vandiver and I join those who mourn her loss but celebrate the many lasting contributions and joys of her wonderful life.

I thank God for the life of Lavenia "Beans" Vandiver and ask his blessings for her family.

STATEMENT INTRODUCING AMERICAN FREEDOM AGENDA ACT OF 2007

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a comprehensive piece of legislation to restore the American Constitution and to restore the liberties that have been sadly eroded over the past several years.

This legislation seeks to restore the checks and balances enshrined in the Constitution by our Founding Fathers to prevent abuse of Americans by their government. This proposed legislation would repeal the Military Commissions Act of 2006 and re-establish the traditional practice that military commissions may be used to try war crimes in places of active hostility where a rapid trial is necessary to preserve evidence or prevent chaos.

The legislation clarifies that no information shall be admitted as evidence if it is obtained from the defendant through the use of torture or coercion. It codifies the FISA process as the means by which foreign intelligence may be obtained and it gives members of the Senate and the House of Representatives standing in court to challenge presidential signing statements that declares the president's intent to disregard certain aspects of a law passed in the U.S. Congress. It prohibits kidnapping and extraordinary rendition of prisoners to foreign countries on the president's unilateral determination that the suspect is an enemy combatant. It defends the first amendment by clarifying that journalists are not to be prevented from publishing information received from the

legislative or executive branch unless such publication would cause immediate, direct, and irreparable harm to the United States.

Finally, the legislation would prohibit the use of secret evidence to designate an individual or organization with a United States presence to be a foreign terrorist or foreign terrorist organization.

I invite my colleagues to join my efforts to restore the U.S. Constitution by enacting the American Freedom Agenda Act of 2007.

**CLUBCORP, THE WORLD LEADER
IN PRIVATE CLUBS CELEBRATING
50 YEARS OF SERVICE**

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, congratulations are in order for ClubCorp of Dallas, TX. ClubCorp, the World Leader in private clubs, is celebrating 50 great years of service and tradition.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent the numerous employees at ClubCorp who have generated millions of dollars for charitable causes and philanthropic events.

On October 19, 2007, ClubCorp will host the world's largest one-day charity golf and dining event to commemorate their anniversary.

Instead of receiving gifts for their 50th anniversary, ClubCorp will again be giving back and helping as many lives as possible. The tournament, the dinners, and the auctions are all designed to give aid to four different foundations and charities.

All proceeds raised during ClubCorp Charity Classic will be divided and donated to The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA), the PGA Foundation, the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation, and ClubCorp's Employee Partners Care Foundation.

ClubCorp continues to provide great service and tradition to its members and charities.

Congratulations again, and thank you, to ClubCorp.

**HONORING THE SERVICE OF SERGEANT
ADAM QUINN TO OUR
COUNTRY**

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to SGT Adam Quinn, 22, who died October 6, 2007 while serving our Nation in Afghanistan.

Prior to joining the Army, Adam graduated from DeLand High School in DeLand, Florida where he was a leader in the Junior ROTC program. He also attended the First United Methodist Church in DeLand with his family.

Adam joined the Army and took great pride in serving his country. His colleagues remember a compassionate individual who cared deeply for others while his family recalls his uncanny ability to make people laugh. Adam's character earned him the respect of his family, friends and fellow soldiers. He was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division based in Fort

Bragg, North Carolina which was deployed to Afghanistan. Adam served with great distinction—the recipient of the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart and numerous other awards and citations.

We should all remember Adam's courage and his ultimate sacrifice for our nation. The freedom and liberty we enjoy and the peace in the world for others for which he fought are part of the great legacy that SGT Adam Quinn leaves behind. He was laid to rest at Oakdale Cemetery in DeLand, Florida on October 12.

To Adam's wife, Faye; their child who will arrive in March of 2008; his parents, Charles and Sherry; his brother, Asa; and his entire family, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Madam Speaker, because of SGT Adam Quinn's sacrifice for our country, I ask all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing his service in our Nation's Armed Forces and remembering both his life and his dedication to the United States of America.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. DREW
MAYS**

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commend an individual from the District 1 represent, the Sixth Congressional District of Alabama, whose recent achievement in the field of music deserves the accolades and esteem of this body.

On June 3, 2007, Dr. Drew Mays of Birmingham took top honors in the world renowned Van Cliburn Foundation International Piano Competition for Outstanding Amateurs in Forth Worth, Texas. His winning performance in the final round included Beethoven's Sonata in C major, Op. 53 "Waldstein" and Liszt's Mephisto Waltz No. 1.

This event, whose prestigious sponsor has long been recognized internationally as a champion of musical excellence, gives its participants from around the world an opportunity to compete for top honors as amateur pianists. Created in 1999, the Van Cliburn Foundation's amateur competition is the most respected amateur piano competition in the United States, and was created to "celebrate the amateur spirit."

It is remarkable to note that as amateurs, competitors may not derive their principal source of income from public performances or piano instruction. Therefore, the level of artistic ability and expression is reached in tandem with balancing the pressures and concerns of daily life. This is an achievement indeed.

In addition to being a master of the piano, Dr. Mays is an ophthalmologist in private practice, specializing in glaucoma. He also serves on the staff of Birmingham's VA Medical Center, and serves as residency program director for the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. However, before his medical career began, Dr. Mays studied advanced music both at the Manhattan School of Music and at the Conservatory of Music in Hannover, Germany. In 1987, he earned a master's degree in music from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, the same year he began to work on his medical degree.

What is even more fascinating in my opinion is that Dr. Mays ended his musical career when he started medical school, starting a 15-year hiatus from playing the piano. Only in 2002 did Dr. Mays start to regularly play the instrument again, which culminated with his winning the Van Cliburn Foundation competition only 5 short years later.

In closing, I must remark that Dr. Mays' achievements are a realization of his unwavering commitment to the art of musical performance. Not only is Dr. Mays now a world renowned pianist committed to sharing the gift of music, but he is also a respected physician committed to helping patients with the gift of sight. Our great Nation should congratulate him on his achievements as one of Alabama's finest, and be honored to call him one of our own.

**HONORING JOHN J. DUPLESSIS,
SR.**

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize John J. DuPlessis, Sr., a remarkable man with a long history of service to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Mr. DuPlessis, a resident of Elizabethtown, will receive the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Boy Scouts of America on October 17, 2007.

John J. DuPlessis earned his undergraduate and graduate engineering degrees from North Carolina State University. He was employed for over thirty years with the Magnetic Division of Crucible Materials Corporation. He served as the President of the Crucible Magnetics plant in Elizabethtown from 1985 until his retirement in 1992. During his business career he was an active member of the Magnetic Materials Association, the Associated Industries of Kentucky, and the Gorham International Conference on Magnetic Materials.

Mr. DuPlessis has been an extremely active member of his community. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Elizabethtown Jaycees, was the first President of Let's Spruce Up, and has been active with the Elizabethtown Lions Club. He was also a board member and Chairman of the Elizabethtown Independent School System, and has been involved with Habitat for Humanity, Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, St. James Catholic Church and Baptist Builders.

John DuPlessis has had a long association with the Boy Scouts of America serving as Scout Master for Troop 829. Mr. DuPlessis was also Fundraising Chairman of the Lincoln Trail District Sustaining Membership Enrollment, Lincoln Trail Camping Chairman, Wood Badge trained, and a Silver Beaver recipient.

It is my privilege to recognize John J. DuPlessis, Sr. today, before the entire United States House of Representatives, for his hard work and service to his community.

RECOGNIZING THE TOPOFF
EXERCISE IN GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to underline the importance of territories in Homeland Security operations. I commend the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recognizing the importance of United States territories to the defense of the homeland and including Guam as the first U.S. territory to actively partake in the Top Officials or TOPOFF exercise being held this year in Arizona, Oregon, and Guam from October 15th to the 24th.

The 106th Congress directed that TOPOFF exercises be conducted biennially. Originally the TOPOFF exercise was to be conducted by the Department of Justice but was transferred to the DHS on March 1, 2003 along with the Office for Domestic Preparedness. These operations are designed to improve the Nation's capacity to manage complex and extreme terrorist events.

TOPOFF exercises began in 2000 and took place in Denver, Colorado and Portsmouth, New Hampshire. In focused on two different attacks one in each operational area including a bioterrorist attack and a chemical attack. TOPOFF 2 and 3 each incorporated lessons learned from the previous exercises and simulated different manmade and natural disaster events. Most recently, during TOPOFF 3 local, Federal and private sector organizations began to interface with international actors—a facet that is once again included in TOPOFF 4. Moreover, DHS has refined each subsequent exercise to reflect a more realistic scenario for local and Federal first responders.

TOPOFF 4 which begins today, October 15th, will be a 10-day exercise and will focus on five objective areas: prevention, intelligence and investigation, incident management, public information, and evaluation. The simulation will involve a series of radiological detonation devices, better known as “dirty bombs”, being simultaneously detonated in the participating regions and will involve the interaction of Federal, State, and Territorial officials along with international regional partners and private sector participants. The scenario though plausible is entirely fictional and is based on no specific military or government intelligence and has been tailored to ensure participants' specific training objectives are met.

I am encouraged that Guam will be included in TOPOFF 4 exercises. The inclusion of Guam in TOPOFF 4 adds a new layer of difficulty for national disaster planning and cooperation because it involves dealing with a massive event not in the continental United States. It also shows an underlying commitment by the U.S. government to the territories and their importance to maintain security for the entire Nation. Guam's participation in TOPOFF 4 exercises continues to demonstrate its strategic importance to overall U.S. security posture.

TOPOFF 4 will highlight the ability of Guam's local first responders to respond to a lethal radiological attack on Guam. I know that Guam's emergency first responders have been working closely with the Guam National Guard's 94th Civil Support Team in preparing

how to handle radiological release from a “dirty bomb”. It is this type of coordination at the local level that makes this exercise important and useful. The delayed Federal response following Hurricane Katrina reminds us that our local first responders must be ready and capable of responding to a variety of dangerous scenarios. The TOPOFF exercise is critical to helping our local first responders be prepared for events that are similar if not larger in scale to what happened during Hurricane Katrina so that we may be able to avoid the mistakes of the past and be more successful, as a nation and region, to responding to such catastrophes.

I commend the Department of Homeland Security in its choice to include Guam in the TOPOFF 4 exercise. The knowledge and experience gained from this experience will ultimately strengthen our national security. I also commend the Government of Guam and Federal officials on Guam who have worked very hard over the past several months in preparing for these exercises.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BOULDER
CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce. The Boulder City Chamber of Commerce has been dedicated to serving the community of Boulder City since its founding in 1932. The Boulder City Chamber of Commerce meets the specific needs of its community members in acting as a tourism bureau, a convention bureau and a business promoter.

The Boulder City Chamber of Commerce is the voice of small business for the Boulder City establishments. The Chamber consists of 408 dues paying members. The logistical operations of the Chamber are run by only two employees and a vast team of active volunteers and ambassadors who contribute their time and energy to serve their community. The Chamber is governed by a Board of Directors who work in and with the community in order to better anticipate its needs.

The Boulder City Chamber of Commerce has always provided extensive services to its members as well as the entire city of Boulder City. They act as the voice of the community on both a statewide and national level. The Chamber also hosts several significant annual events which include Spring Jam and Hometown Christmas. These events are looked forward to yearly and happen because of the tireless and dependable efforts of the members of the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce. I would personally like to thank Jill Lagan and Goldie Begley for taking time out of their lives in order to come to Washington, D.C. Meeting with members of Congress and participating in the “Las Vegas Chamber Goes to Washington” event strengthens their status as pillars of the community. The dedication and service of the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce should set an example for all businesses and members of the community alike.

I applaud all their efforts and look forward to watching their future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BERNARD SLIGER

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late Bernard F. Sliger, Ph.D., who served as Florida State University's President from 1977 to 1991.

Dr. Sliger will be remembered for his outstanding academic service to the university, as well as for his commitment to FSU's students. During his tenure, student enrollment at Florida State increased by nearly one-third. Dr. Sliger was especially proud to establish the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering and to initiate the Panama City Campus.

Dr. Sliger also led the university to its prominent rise in intercollegiate athletics. Under his leadership, Florida State University decided to join the Atlantic Coast Conference. As a 1990 graduate and former student-athlete at Florida State, I am proud and thankful for these achievements.

His colleagues remember Dr. Sliger for his easygoing nature and love for his school and his students. I will always remember the annual ice cream socials at his residence that brought together students, faculty, and administrators. It was considered one of the highlights of the year among students.

Dr. Sliger is survived by his wife, Greta, and four children, and I want to commend Dr. Sliger in their honor for his noble service to Florida State University.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COLONEL
TERRY S. ROBINSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Terry S. Robinson and congratulate him upon his retirement. Colonel Robinson has committed his life to serving others. He served over 26 years in the Air Force and has held numerous positions at the Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Program in Las Vegas over the past 12 years.

Colonel Terry Robinson was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. He remained in Ohio to continue his formal education and received his Bachelor's and Masters Degrees in Psychology. Upon graduation from college, Mr. Robinson joined the U.S. Air Force to fulfill his military obligation. Determined and dedicated to achievement while serving his country, he stayed in until he earned the rank of full colonel. Upon retirement from the United States Air Force, Colonel Robinson began working at the Nevada Power Company supervising their security forces as the Chief of Security and acting as a consultant to ensure a safe working environment for all employees and customers.

Colonel Robinson began serving specialized needs of the citizens of Nevada when he began with the Salvation Army Rehabilitation

Program as a Certified Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor. He advanced to Clinical Supervisor and he worked his way up to his current position of Clinical Program Director from which he is retiring.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Colonel Terry S. Robinson who has served the citizens of the State of Nevada diligently. His commitment to his work in facilitating and supervising the assistance of the people in Nevada is valued and should be applauded by all. I would like to thank him for his military and civilian service and wish him well upon his retirement.

MEJA EXPANSION AND
ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JANIS D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2007

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, my colleague from Virginia has offered a motion to recommit H.R. 2740, the MEJA Expansion and Enforcement Act, to the Judiciary Committee and to modify the legislation with regard to intelligence activities. I will support this motion to recommit, but wish to clearly state my understanding of the motion.

The motion to recommit would amend H.R. 2740 with a rule of construction, stating, "nothing in this Act shall be construed to affect in-

telligence activities that are otherwise permissible prior to the enactment of this Act." This amendment does not change the force of the legislation, does not limit the scope of the MEJA jurisdiction, and does not grant immunity to anyone, including contractor employees of the intelligence community. I am voting in support of this motion because it simply restates existing law.

Mr. Price's legislation would place contractor employees of non-defense related agencies under the extraterritorial jurisdiction of United States federal law, granting the Department of Justice authority to prosecute felony offenses committed by non-defense contractors. The motion to recommit restates what the underlying bill requires—that intelligence activities are subject to the requirements of MEJA. Nothing in this motion to recommit or the legislation should ever be construed to authorize, condone or legitimize the abuse of prisoners during detention or interrogations. It is with this understanding alone that I support this motion to recommit.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROB WIGTON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 15, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rob Wigton, the incoming President of the Nevada Association of REALTORS.

Mr. Wigton's career as a realtor started in 1995 when he began working at CENTURY 21 Clark Properties. In his first three years, he became one of the company's top producing agents. Then in 1998, he was offered an opportunity to purchase an interest with the company. In 2000, he joined Patty Clark and Shele Pandl and built an 18,000 square foot "Real Estate Mall" which housed many necessary services in real estate such as sales and property management, mortgage brokerage, and homeowner's insurance. This innovative idea has become a model in the real estate industry and remains one of the most ground-breaking ideas in Nevada real estate today.

Mr. Wigton has been actively involved in his local realtor board, serving as the chair of multiple committees and as the president of the board. He has also been actively involved in the Sierra Nevada Association of REALTORS and the Nevada Association of REALTORS.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Rob Wigton. His hard work and dedication to the Nevada REALTORS Association is to be admired, and I wish him well in his upcoming term as President.

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, October 16, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 17

- 9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Superfund and Environmental Health Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings to examine the federal Superfund Program's activities to protect public health. SD-406
- Veterans' Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense collaboration, focusing on the report of the President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors, the report of the Veterans Disability Benefit Commission, and other related reports. SD-562
- 10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled "Sudan Accountability and Divestment Act of 2007," an original bill entitled "Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007," and an original bill entitled "Flood Insurance Reform and Modernization Act of 2007." SD-538
- Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine consumer wireless issues. SR-253

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael B. Mukasey, of New York, to be Attorney General. SH-216

10:30 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Homeland Security, focusing on contractors and the work of the government. SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the digital television transition, focusing on government and industry perspectives. SR-253

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Daniel V. Speckhard, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador to Greece, Thomas F. Stephenson, of California, to be Ambassador to the Portuguese Republic, and Vincent Obsitnik, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Slovak Republic. SD-419

OCTOBER 18

9:30 a.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine a parliamentary perspective of challenges facing today's Europe. B-318RHOB

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Transportation. SR-253

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine lead and children's health. SD-406

Finance

To hold hearings to examine international trade, focusing on import health and safety for today and the future. SD-215

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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

To hold hearings to examine politics in government, focusing on the scope and enforcement of the Hatch Act. SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science, Technology, and Innovation Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine science parks, focusing on bolstering United States competitiveness. SR-253

Intelligence

Closed business meeting to markup pending intelligence matters. SH-219

3 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Ellen C. Williams, of Kentucky, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service. SD-342

OCTOBER 23

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the efficacy of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program, focusing on our Cold War heroes. SD-430

OCTOBER 24

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine to consider pending legislation. SD-562

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the future of radio. SR-253

OCTOBER 25

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gregory F. Jacob, of New Jersey, to be Solicitor, and Howard Radzely, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, both of the Department of Labor. SD-430

OCTOBER 31

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine vocational rehabilitation. SD-562

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine universal telephone service. SR-253

NOVEMBER 7

10 a.m.

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine the Government Accountability Office report focusing on funding challenges and facilities maintenance at the Smithsonian Institution. SR-301