

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATION OF THE 60TH BIRTHDAY OF DAVID ALLEN

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today in honor of my dear friend David Allen, who will celebrate his 60th birthday on November 15, 2007. Born in Pittsburgh, PA, and raised in the Collinwood/Glenville neighborhood of Cleveland, David is a proud 1965 graduate of Glenville High School. He went on to receive an associate's degree from Cuyahoga Community College, bachelor's degree from Cleveland State University and a master's degree from Boston University. Additionally, David served honorably in the United States Army obtaining the rank of captain.

David began his career as a research economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, where he researched the impact of reserve requirements on commercial bank profitability in Federal Reserve District I.

In 1975, he came to the hill as a majority staff consultant for the House Budget Committee. There he served as staff liaison to my predecessor Congressman Louis Stokes and Congressman Parren Mitchell. Some of the highlights of his tenure include: heading task forces on health, labor and education, and housing and community development; helping develop first Congressional Black Caucus Alternative Budget; and authoring the first 10 percent minority business set-aside included as an amendment in the Local Public Works Act of 1976. He would later serve as senior economist for the Joint Economic Committee where he advised Congressman Stokes on business and economic development issues in the Cleveland district.

After years of public and private service, David and his wife Sandra founded The KEVRIC Company, Inc. in 1981, which was named in honor of their two sons, Kevin and Eric. The company provided management, technical, and scientific support services to private and public sector clients. He sold the KEVRIC Company in 2003 and would later found another consulting firm, Stepco, named as a tribute to his daughter.

Though we grew up in close proximity to each other, I did not meet David until he began dating my dear friend Sandra when we were students at Case Western Reserve University. Since that time our friendship has continued to grow. David's stellar accomplishments and success reflect his tremendous hard work and determination. He is a shining example for people of color and all people of the realization of the "American Dream" and I am extremely proud to call him my friend.

On behalf of the people of the 11th Congressional District, I am extremely pleased to join with his wife Sandra; children Kevin, Eric and Stephanie, my goddaughter and namesake; his two daughters-in-law, three grand-

children, family and friends in wishing David Allen a very happy and blessed 60th birthday! And I wish you many, many, more.

HONORING "DIGGER" O'DELL, 2007 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER

HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donald "Digger" O'Dell upon receiving the 2007 Lifetime Achievement Award. It is with great admiration I congratulate Donald "Digger" O'Dell on behalf of all those who have benefited from his hard work and dedication.

Digger O'Dell is a lifelong resident of Chelsea, Michigan. He served his country in the Korean War from 1952 to 1955, and continues to serve his country and his community through his continuous acts of kindness. Whether it is helping to roof a home, cleaning the snow off a sidewalk, or taking someone to the airport or hospital, he never seeks acknowledgement in the things that he does, because in his own words, "it's what human beings should do."

Mr. O'Dell is retired from Chelsea Proving Grounds and has been a part-time employee of Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home for the past 25 years. He is a member of the Washtenaw County Veterans Honor Guard and performs on average 100 military funerals per year. Digger has been a member of the American Legion Post 31 and the VFW Post 4076 for well over 50 years.

The most thoughtful act of kindness occurred this past year when Digger and his wife Margaret placed over 1,200 flags on graves of veterans in the Chelsea area. They have done this meaningful job for many years, but this year they had no assistance. As he continues to serve his country and his community, it is realized that Donald "Digger" O'Dell is one of the unsung heroes of Chelsea.

I personally thank Donald "Digger" O'Dell for his continued service to his country and the Chelsea community. May others know of my high regard for his selfless contributions and service to others, as well as my best wishes for him in the future.

HONORING EDWARD (ED) ST. JOHN

HON. C. A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Edward, Ed, St. John, founder, president, and CEO of St. John Properties, Inc. After graduating from the University of Maryland in College Park in 1961,

Ed St. John founded St. John Properties, Inc. Since 1971, St. John Properties has developed, constructed, and maintained ownership of over 13 million square feet of office, industrial, and retail space. The company serves business space requirements of over 1,600 tenants in Maryland, Colorado, Wisconsin, Virginia, and Louisiana.

Ed is a leader and active member of the community. He serves on the boards of several organizations, including the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, the Economic Alliance for Greater Baltimore, Anne Arundel County Economic Development Corporation, the Johns Hopkins University Real Estate Institute, and the Maryland Science Center. He was inducted into the Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame in 2001, and named Maryland Entrepreneur of the Year for Real Estate in 1997.

Ed St. John created the Edward A. St. John Foundation in 1998 with a philanthropic focus on educational enrichment for children based on the belief that education has the power to transform lives and strengthen communities. To date, more than \$40 million has been pledged and donated through outright contributions and gifts-in-kind to over 300 educational, medical, philanthropic, and other non-profit organizations throughout the Baltimore/Washington region.

Many colleges and universities have benefited enormously from Ed's philanthropic endeavors. The Edward St. John Endowed Scholarship at Bowie State University provides scholarships based on merit and financial need to full-time students who are majoring in either business administration or mathematics. In addition, he has made a \$5.85 million commitment to the Johns Hopkins University School of Professional Studies in Business and Education. His donation will launch a full-time master's degree program to complement the university's part-time real estate curriculum.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Edward, Ed, St. John. His legacy as a leader in real estate will be matched only by his devotion to philanthropic projects. It is with great pride that I congratulate Ed St. John on his exemplary career in the real estate business.

CONGRATULATING RALEIGH WILKERSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor the long and distinguished career of Raleigh Wilkerson, on the occasion of his retirement from the Alabama Farmers Federation.

With a career spanning over 33 years, Raleigh served in almost every capacity at the

• 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.

Alabama Farmers Federation. Raleigh joined the Federation in May 1974 as a field representative for a nine-county region of the Black Belt. He was named director of the beef division 5 years later and has overseen the cotton; meat, goat and sheep; and hay and forage divisions.

In his first year as director of the beef division, Raleigh initiated the annual Beef Tour, which continues to remain popular with Alabama's cattle producers. As beef director, he headed a beef marketing program—a highly successful program that in 1 year helped ship about \$30 million worth of Alabama cattle to 19 different States. Even though the marketing program has been phased out, the relationships established with other States are still paying dividends today.

As director of the cotton division, he helped bring the Boll Weevil Eradication Project to Alabama. Because he missed the personal interaction with farmers throughout the State, Raleigh surrendered his position with the Commodity Division in 2003 to return to the field as area organization director. Last year, Raleigh was named president of the newly formed Alabama Youth Agricultural Foundation, an organization that seeks to serve as a perennial source of funding for helping Alabama youth in agriculture. Raleigh has graciously agreed to continue to serve in this capacity until it is more established.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout Alabama. I know his family, his wife, Nancy; their daughters, Allison McCain and Avery Beatty; his many friends; Alabama farmers, and past and present Alabama Farmers Federation employees join me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his service over the years on behalf of the city of Camden and the State of Alabama.

Raleigh will surely enjoy the well deserved time he now has to spend with family and loved ones. On behalf of a grateful community, I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF THE SOLANO COUNTY CHILD WELFARE SERVICES DIVISION FOR THE UNVEILING OF THE SOLANO HEART GALLERY

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise with the support of my colleague, the Honorable GEORGE MILLER, in the House of Representatives, to recognize the Solano County Child Welfare Services Division for the unveiling of the Solano Heart Gallery. Their tireless efforts throughout the years have facilitated the placement of numerous foster children into permanent homes. It is especially fitting to highlight the success of the Solano County Child Welfare Division during our celebration of National Adoption Month.

Throughout the United States there are more than half a million children in foster care, with more than a fifth of those children looking for permanent homes. In the foster care system, far too often it becomes difficult to keep

brothers and sisters in the same home. In addition, many of these children face difficult physical, emotional, and behavioral challenges. These stressors compound developmental concerns and make the necessity of a permanent home even more critical. In response, the Solano County Child Welfare Division chooses to live by this simple creed, "Every child deserves a permanent, loving family and a home in which they can develop to their fullest potential." This creed is exemplified by the dedication and commitment that we see every day in Solano County.

As we celebrate the 17th annual National Adoption Month, the Solano County Child Welfare Division continues to find new and effective ways to match foster children with "forever families." Building on its success from previous years, and the ability to place 57 children into permanent homes in 2007, the Solano County Child Welfare Division is unveiling the Solano Heart Gallery. This gallery will feature many of the 190 children in Solano County who are currently seeking stable and loving homes. This Heart Gallery will travel throughout Solano visiting every city in the county during the 2008 calendar year.

We are proud to represent a county that places such a high priority on the future of our children. It is because of dedicated public servants in our community that we can all expect great things from this next generation of children. We are pleased to say that through the work of the Solano County Child Welfare Division and the newly unveiled Solano Heart Gallery, the children of Solano County will always come first.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT PHILLIP DAVID QUANDT

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary life and accomplishments of St. Petersburg Police Department Sergeant Phillip David Quandt.

Phillip Quandt was a lifelong resident of St. Petersburg, Florida. He was born on February 2, 1962 in St. Anthony's Hospital. He graduated from Central Pinellas Christian School in 1980 and earned his Bachelor's degree from Bob Jones University. Never one to sit idle, Phillip not only obtained his Master's degree in 1997 from Troy State University, but was working on his Doctorate at Argosy University until his recent passing and tragic death on August 27, 2007.

Madam Speaker, Phillip Quandt's ambitions set him on a bright law enforcement career with the St. Petersburg Police Department where he was hired on November 5, 1984. Sworn in as a police officer on July 31, 1985, Phillip immediately distinguished himself as a rising star in the Department. In addition to serving as a patrol officer, Phillip was a prolific DUI officer, Community Police Officer, Career Criminal Detective, and Auto Theft Detective. Then on May 1, 2000, Phillip Quandt was promoted to the high ranking level of Sergeant. He served as both a Community Policing Sergeant and a Patrol Sergeant.

Even though Sgt. Quandt was a shining star in the St. Petersburg Police Department, he

shone even more brilliant in his family life. He met his lovely wife, Robbyn, in college and fell deeply in love. The two were married on January 2, 1987. Phillip and Robbyn were blessed with two wonderful children, fifteen-year old, Ryan, and eleven-year old, Trevor.

Like the St. Petersburg Police Department, Robbyn and the boys are absolutely devastated by the sudden and unexpected passing of Phillip. While their loss is profound, I am certain that they are proud to continue the legacy of service and honor that Sgt. Quandt has left behind.

Madam Speaker, I salute Sergeant Phillip David Quandt for a job well done and pray for his family and their well being.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, today I offer my congratulations to the United States Marshals Service, as well as a hearty "Welcome Home" to Fort Smith, Arkansas.

At "high noon" today, trucks from ABF Freight System arrived with precious cargo: the history of the United States Marshals Service. They arrived from Wyoming to their new hometown of Fort Smith, the future site of the United States Marshals Museum.

Today's arrival is a symbolic event, but just a temporary stop. The Marshals collection, now inside Arkansas' borders, will be secured in a safe location while we build a proper home of the legendary history of the Marshals Service.

From the arrival of the "Hanging Judge" Isaac Parker and through such men as Deputy Marshal Bass Reeves, an African-American deputy who arrested more than 3,000 men, the history of the Marshals Service and the history of Fort Smith, Arkansas, have been continually linked.

Today, we take the next step in making that link permanent. The legacy of the United States Marshals Service is now in Arkansas.

Congratulations to Fort Smith and congratulations to the United States Marshals.

Welcome home.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I was detained in my district and was unable to have my vote recorded on the House floor on Monday, November 5, 2007, for H.R. 3222 (roll No. 1034), H.R. 513 (roll No. 1035), and H. Res. 744 (roll No. 1036). Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of these measures.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
TEAMSTERS JOINT COUNCIL 7**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I along with Hon. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER, Hon. ANNA G. ESHOO, Hon. MIKE HONDA, Hon. GEORGE MILLER, Hon. TOM LANTOS, Hon. ZOE LOFGREN, Hon. MIKE THOMPSON, Hon. PETE STARK and Speaker NANCY PELOSI are proud to rise today to honor Teamsters Joint Council 7 on the occasion of their 100th anniversary. Theirs is a proud history, whose origins in the days of the California Gold Rush speak to a long-time concern for the welfare of working people.

In the mid-1800s, when San Francisco was a booming Gold Rush town, the Teamsters Association was formed to address competition from Australians who had arrived with stronger horses. While not a true trade union, it was the first teamster organization on the West Coast and the precursor of Teamsters Joint Council 7.

The Teamsters Association collapsed in the depression of 1854, and in 1856, a new Draymen's and Teamsters Union was formed. By 1888, however, the majority of working teamsters had dropped out, leaving a guild of employers and bosses. Due to poor conditions, a second attempt was made to create a union in 1900, and again the organization was commandeered by employers.

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters came into existence in 1903 and stepped up to organize local unions by occupation after the 1906 earthquake led to a more complex system of goods distribution. On November 18, 1907, the Joint Council was chartered to oversee these groups.

By 1912 there were 13 groups ranging from hackmen to ice wagon drivers. The Joint Council helped in disputes with employers as well as differences among the locals, relieving union officers of many routine duties and improving the welfare of the membership.

In those early years, Teamsters Local 85 dominated the operations and provided notable leadership. Local 85 had demonstrated its ability to create solidarity when they called a strike in 1901. Other labor unions rallied around, and the employers backed down. This action earned San Francisco a reputation as the strongest "Union Town" in the nation.

Today Joint Council 7 has 15 affiliates and serves the greater Bay Area from Santa Rosa in the north to Salinas/Monterey in the south. The current affiliates are:

Local 70, Oakland, Chuck Mack, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 78, Hayward, Steve Mack, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 85, San Francisco, Van Beane, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 278, San Francisco, Jack Bookter, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 287, San Jose, Bill Hoyt, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 315, Martinez, Dale Robbins, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 350, Daly City, Robert Morales, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 490, Vallejo, Carlos Borba, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 624, Santa Rosa, Bob Carr, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 665, Daly City, Ernie Yates, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 853, San Leandro, Rome Aloise, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 856, San Bruno, Joseph Lanthier, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 890, Salinas, Franklin Gallegos, President; Local 896,

Vallejo, Rene Medrano, Secretary-Treasurer; Local 912, Watsonville, Brad Sebring, Secretary-Treasurer.

Under the leadership of president Chuck Mack, who has served for 25 years, the organization has developed many additional functions. These include legal support, a commercial drivers' training program, political activity to support working families, alcohol and drug treatment, and maintenance of a charitable trust to assist members after disasters and tragedies as well as to support community causes.

Their own words say it best: "100 hundred years old and our members are still priority number one!"

Madam Speaker, organized labor in this country has led to better wages, health care, and pensions for workers. Throughout the years, Teamsters Joint Council 7 has reaffirmed its commitment to the working families of the Bay Area. We all wish Joint Council 7 continued success in the future and hope that their second hundred years will be as productive as the first hundred.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ELECTION
OF CARL B. STOKES AS MAYOR
OF CLEVELAND**HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of a personal hero, Carl B. Stokes. Today marks the 40th anniversary of his historic election as mayor of the city of Cleveland. The first African American mayor of a large American city, Carl Stokes was an inspiration not only to people of color, but all Americans.

Carl Stokes was born June 21, 1927 in Cleveland, OH to Charles Stokes, a laundry worker, and Louise Stokes, a cleaning woman. His father died when he was two, leaving his mother to raise Carl, and his brother, my predecessor, former Congressman Louis Stokes, alone. They lived in Cleveland's first federally funded housing project for the poor Outhwaite Homes.

Although a good student, Carl dropped out of high school in 1944. He worked briefly for Thompson Products before joining the U.S. Army at the age of 18. Following his discharge in 1946, Stokes returned to Cleveland and earned his high school diploma in 1947.

He would attend several colleges before earning his bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota in 1954. He went on to graduate from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1956 and was admitted to the Ohio bar in 1957.

While studying law he was a probation officer. For four years, he served as assistant prosecutor and became partner in the law firm of Stokes, Stokes, Character, and Terry, and continued to practice throughout his political career.

In 1962, he became the first black elected to the Ohio House of Representatives, where he served for three terms. He made his first run for mayor of Cleveland in 1965, narrowly losing the bid. He would mount a second run in 1967 where he was able to mobilize both black and white voters to defeat Seth Taft, the

grandson of a former U.S. president William Howard Taft, by a 50.5 majority. As mayor, Stokes opened city hall jobs to blacks and women and initiated Cleveland: Now!, a public and private funding program aimed at the revitalization of Cleveland neighborhoods. Additionally, the National League of Cities elected him as their first black president-elect. He was reelected in 1969, and in 1971 chose not to run for a third term.

After his mayoral administration, Stokes lectured to colleges around the country. In 1972 he became the first black anchorman in New York City when he took a job with television station WNBC-TV. He returned to Cleveland in 1980 and began serving as general legal counsel for the United Auto Workers.

In 1983, he decided to run for the municipal court judgeship that I had vacated against an incumbent judge appointee. This election was the beginning of a long friendship that I could have never dreamed of or anticipated as a young volunteer on his 1967 campaign. From 1983 to 1994 he in that seat where he developed a reputation as a fair judge with a common sense approach to the law.

President Bill Clinton then appointed him U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles. He was awarded 12 honorary degrees, numerous civic awards, and represented the United States on numerous goodwill trips abroad by request of the White House.

Along with all of Carl Stokes great achievements, he inspired a young, black college student who was volunteered to work on his 1967 mayoral campaign to follow her dreams. He was a shining example for this young black woman, that through hard work and determination you could do the impossible. That young African American woman was me. I am able to serve here in Congress as the first African American woman elected to the House of Representatives from the state of Ohio, because Carl Stokes paved the way for me and many others. If there were no Carl Stokes, there would be no STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES. I am truly blessed to have been able to call him and his brother my friend. So, it is my honor and privilege to recognize this significant milestone today, and simply say, thank you Carl Stokes for your courage and tenacity forty years ago, and for inspiring me to follow my dreams.

HONORING AMBASSADOR RONALD
WEISER AS THE 2007 CHELSEA
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR**HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, it is my special privilege to recognize Ambassador Ronald Weiser upon his receiving of the 2007 Chelsea Citizen of the Year Award. It is with great admiration that I congratulate Ambassador Ronald Weiser on behalf of all who have benefited from his hard work and dedication.

Ambassador Weiser, founder of McKinley Properties, understands the importance of a vibrant downtown to the growing Chelsea community. Through McKinley Properties, the

Ambassador has contributed his time and financial resources to ensure a historic landmark was restored and brought into the 21st century.

What has been the symbol of Chelsea for over a century, has been beautifully restored, housing businesses, cafes, restaurants, and a community commons area. The revitalization of this once industrial sector has enabled the city to expand with the potential of endless opportunities.

Ambassador Weiser saw something in the citizens of Chelsea and the atmosphere of a city which made him envision a prosperous, vibrant community. He brought back to life the symbol lighting up the night, the symbol recognized by many, "Chelsea's Clock Tower."

Therefore, I rise today to honor Ambassador Ronald Weiser for his endless support of the Chelsea community. May others know of my high regard for his selfless contributions and service to others, as well as my best wishes for him in the future.

HONORING MARTIN (MARTY) R.
RESNICK

HON. C. A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Martin (Marty) R. Resnick, founder, owner, and CEO of Martin's Catering. He has recently been inducted into the prestigious Baltimore Business Hall of Fame. Martin Ronald Resnick was born in Baltimore on September 3, 1931. He graduated from City College in 1949, deciding to enter the world of business instead of going to college. Marty's early business career started in department stores, learning the world of business until 1964 when he opened his first catering company, Eudowood Gardens. Martin's Catering now has the capacity to serve over 20,000 people operating in 7 locations.

For over 40 years, Marty spent nearly all of his energy in the catering business, earning numerous awards from small business associations. Martin's, Inc. has annual sales of over \$30 million. Several organizations have named him "Man of the Year", and former mayor of Baltimore William Donald Schaefer declared June 24, 1981, to be "Martin Resnick Day in Baltimore". Although his business interests are many and consuming, he devotes his boundless energy to many causes, including the University of Maryland Foundation, the Morgan State University Foundation, the Baltimore Alliance for the Prevention and Control of Hypertension and Diabetes, and the Baltimore City Police Department Foundation.

Marty and his company "adopted" Riverview Elementary in 1989. Riverview Elementary is located in an economically disadvantaged community, and many of the students who attend Riverview come from single-parent homes. Before Martin's Caterers adopted Riverview, the school had poor attendance and the need for encouragement from caring, positive role models. Today, he is "Uncle Marty" to more than 1,000 students. Marty also provides jobs for the parents of his "nieces and nephews", where he teaches them good work ethic and valuable skills to learn and grow in their career.

Marty received an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Philosophy from Israel's Sinai University, and there is a Yeshiva in Jerusalem that bears his name. Even with all of his many business demands, Marty is truly an adoring family man, who has always placed his family first.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Martin (Marty) R. Resnick. His legacy as a professional will be forever preserved in the Baltimore County Business Hall of Fame, and will be matched only by his devotion to his family and community. It is with great pride that I congratulate Marty Resnick on his exemplary career in the catering and event planning business.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR.
ROBERT B. INGRAM, JR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory. Mr. Robert B. Ingram, Jr., known as Bob to his many friends and family, was one of the most influential and respected political writers in Alabama's history.

Born in Centre, Alabama, in 1926, Bob and his 2 sisters were raised in Cherokee County by his widowed mother during the Great Depression. He graduated from Cherokee County High School and served with distinction in World War II as a radio operator and gunner aboard the USS *Panamint*. He graduated from Auburn University in 1949 and soon began working for the Cherokee County Herald.

Soon thereafter, Bob joined the Montgomery Advertiser, where he worked as a reporter. He left the world of journalism for several years and served as state finance director for former Alabama Governor Albert Brewer. From 1979 until 1993, he was editorial director at WSFA-TV in Montgomery, and he ended his editorials with the words that became his trademark, "And that's the way I see it . . ."

Bob Ingram also wrote 2 books, "That's the Way I Saw It," and "That's the Way I Saw It II," published a magazine, and spent 30 years as a political analyst for 3 Montgomery television stations. He received many awards throughout his storied career. He particularly cherished the honor bestowed on him by Auburn University Montgomery with the creation of the Robert Ingram Lecture Series. Four years ago, he was inducted into the communication hall of fame at the University of Alabama, and earlier this year, he received the Mass Media Achievement Award from the Auburn University Journalism Foundation.

Bob Ingram reported on—and was witness to—many of the most pivotal events in Alabama's history, including the civil rights movement and the career of former Governor George C. Wallace. While known for his legendary objectivity, Bob was never afraid to speak his mind. Be it with praise or criticism, Mr. Ingram served as a watchdog for the people of Alabama his entire career. For nearly 50 years, his weekly column, "The Alabama Scene," was a treasure trove of political tidbits, history, and news for Alabamians.

Bob Ingram was also active with several charitable and civic endeavors. He was a Paul

Harris Fellow of the Rotary Club, and served as a deacon at Cloverdale Baptist Church in Montgomery, where he taught Sunday school for more than 35 years. Most recently, he volunteered his time with the Montgomery Ostomy Association.

The Montgomery Advertiser's tribute to Bob Ingram was especially poignant, stating, "Most of those who knew Ingram through his writings and television analyses never met him in person, but they felt he was their friend."

Madam Speaker, Bob Ingram was a reporter, a publisher, an author, a commentator, and a speaker for the better part of a century. He was an outstanding example of the quality individuals who have devoted their lives to the field of journalism, and I ask my colleagues to join with me in remembering one of our State's most revered journalists and esteemed citizens.

Bob Ingram loved life and lived it to the fullest, and his passing marks a tremendous loss for all of Alabama. He will be deeply missed by many, most especially his children, Robert B. Ingram III, Beth Ingram Lamberth, and Ragan Ingram; his sister, Rozanne I. Jones; his 8 grandchildren; his great-grandchild; as well as countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL
OF THE HISTORIC WAILUKU
COURTHOUSE

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial of the historic Wailuku Courthouse on the island of Maui. I would also like to congratulate the many people and companies in history who helped build and occupy the Courthouse.

Angus P. McDonald began construction on the Wailuku Courthouse on October 18, 1907. His work was completed in late 1908 and the building opened in February 1909.

The Wailuku Courthouse was occupied by the Honorable Judge Aluwae Noa Kepoikai, from 1892 to 1894 and again from 1904 to 1909; the Honorable Judge Seldon B. Kingsbury from 1909 to 1913; the Honorable Judge William S. Edings from 1914 to 1918; the Honorable Judge Leslie L. Burr from 1918 through 1922; the Honorable Judge Daniel H. Case from 1922 to 1943; the Honorable Judge Cable A. Wirtz from 1944 through 1951 and in 1956 to 1959; the Honorable Wendell F. Crockett from 1959 to 1961; the Honorable Judge Takashi Kitaoka from 1962 to 1968; the Honorable Judge George Fukuoka from 1968 through 1982; the Honorable Judge Kase Higa from 1977 to 1985; and the Honorable Judge Arthur Ueoka from 1982 to 1983.

As the population of Maui County grew and the demands on county services increased, the Wailuku Courthouse was eventually vacated by the Court in 1988.

In October 1992, the GW Murphy Construction Company began renovating and restoring the Wailuku Courthouse to allow for its continued use by the County of Maui. In October 1993, the offices of the Maui County Department of the Prosecuting Attorney were moved

into the Wailuku Courthouse and the Department continues to occupy the building to this day.

The Wailuku Courthouse has since been home to the following Prosecuting Attorneys: Larry L. Butrick from October 1993 through July 1995; Richard T. Bissen Jr. from August 1995 through January 2003; Davelynn M. Tengan from January 2003 through January 2007; and currently Benjamin M. Acob, who was appointed on January 2, 2007.

I extend a sincere mahalo (thank you) to all of the past and current residents of the Wailuku Courthouse. The building stands as a symbol of your shared commitment to justice and equality for all the residents of Maui. Congratulations on this historic centennial.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, on November 5, 2007, due to transportation delays I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall votes 1034, 1035, and 1036.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 1034, 1035, and 1036.

IN TRIBUTE TO JIM RYAN

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jim Ryan, who passed away on November 6, 2007. Mr. Ryan was a compassionate leader and public servant who worked for many years in the Fourth Congressional District. Mr. Ryan's involvement in the nonprofit and political arena in the metropolitan Milwaukee area was truly impressive.

Mr. Ryan served as a Milwaukee County Board Supervisor. He served the Village of Hales Corners for over 30 years; nearly 20 of those years were spent as Village President. He was to retire from public service and not seek another term as Village President next year.

Mr. Ryan was known as the consummate professional with strong consensus building and problem-solving skills and a strong knowledge of how government worked at all levels. Mr. Ryan served as President and CEO of the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center where he started the Flight for Life program; worked for the State of Wisconsin as a child welfare supervisor; and for Racine County's Human Service Department. While serving as a County Board Supervisor, he was chair of the Ryan Commission which played a significant role in changing how the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District was administered.

Mr. Ryan faced a considerable challenge in his private life and was to retire from his successful public life. He was diagnosed with stomach cancer a year ago. Mr. Ryan's wife, Lisa, four children, Jimmy, John, Kristen, Cathryn; and three grandchildren all live in the Milwaukee area and were an integral part of his support network during this health crisis.

Mr. Ryan remained the Director of Penfield Children's Center where he served for more than a decade. Penfield Children's Center located in Milwaukee's central city serves all of Milwaukee County. Penfield Children's Center works with the child's family to ensure that each child has everything he/she needs to succeed and achieve his/her full potential. One of my granddaughters was born with a weight of less than 2 pounds. She received care at Penfield and benefited from their superb services.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. Ryan and his contributions to the Fourth Congressional District. Mr. Ryan's work throughout the years will continue to make a "positive impact" on the people of the entire metropolitan Milwaukee area.

TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND ADAMS

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a constituent who has served his country admirably in our Armed Forces and, in civilian life, continued to serve his local community.

Mr. Raymond Adams is "Ogemaw County Veteran of the Year" as named by the Ogemaw County Veterans Alliance. The Veterans Alliance through its member organizations, represents all veterans in Ogemaw County. The Ogemaw County Veteran of the Year Award is considered the highest honor that the Alliance bestows upon fellow veterans.

A native of Ogemaw County, Mr. Adams has been a patriot all of his life. He was so determined to serve his Nation that, even when the Air Force initially turned him away, he re-applied. It took three attempts and a few years before he was able to successfully enlist in the Air Force in September of 1962.

After basic training, Mr. Adams was sent to McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey to train as an air policeman. He was stationed there until June 1965, where he learned the skills and duties of an air policeman.

Following his training at McGuire Air Force Base, Mr. Adams went to Vietnam. He was stationed just outside of Saigon.

A modest man, Mr. Adams downplays his own service in Vietnam. In his own words, he writes, "I didn't see too much action. I was one of the lucky guys." Regardless of his own humility, Mr. Adams' service is to be commended and appreciated.

While stationed in Vietnam, he received additional K-9 training, learning to handle and utilize a police dog.

In June of 1966, Mr. Adams returned home to Michigan and entered civilian life. For a few years he worked in construction and spent some time working in local automobile factories. He was hired into Michigan Bell in January 1969, where he would work for the next 25 years, retiring in 1994.

Mr. Adams would also raise a family in the area. In January of 1970, Mr. Adams married Gayle Wangler. As of today, they have been married nearly 40 years. Together, they raised two daughters.

Even after Mr. Adams left the military and re-entered civilian life, his sense of service remained strong and intact. An active member of Ogemaw Hills Free Methodist Church, he has remained deeply involved in his community and dedicated much of his personal time to helping those in need. His church group has built schools and churches in Mexico and throughout Central America. Mr. Adams belongs to the Red Cross and has volunteered time with Habitat for Humanity. He has also been active with Hospice of Helping Hands and the Ogemaw County Mobile Food Bank. He volunteered to assist clean up and recovery efforts in Louisiana and Mississippi following Hurricane Katrina.

Ray has also remained an active advocate for his fellow veterans. He is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Last year, I was honored to attend the opening of a new Veterans Museum at the Ogemaw County Fairgrounds. Ray was instrumental in helping to put together this important monument honoring his fellow local veterans. When Ray's local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post needed remodeling, Ray helped take the lead, handling many of the permitting issues that needed to be cleared before work could be completed.

While he has donated his own time, energy and effort to these many valuable community causes, he has never asked for any recognition. As one local resident put it, not only is it appropriate that Mr. Adams be recognized as "Veteran of the Year," but he would certainly be eligible to be "Volunteer of the Year."

Clearly, Madam Speaker, this is a man who understands profoundly the value of service and the responsibility we all have to help others. On November 11th, Veterans Day, members of the Ogemaw community will come together to honor Mr. Raymond Adams. As this noble, hardworking and humble man is recognized by his fellow veterans and by his community, I would ask, Madam Speaker, that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in saluting Raymond Adams for his lifetime of service and offering him the thanks of a grateful Nation.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3685, EMPLOYMENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Chairman, this bill does not do all I want, but I will support it because of what it will do.

Earlier this year, I cosponsored H.R. 2015 because I think that in our country nobody should be denied a job on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity and because I think we need a Federal law to supplement the laws that Colorado and some other States have enacted to reduce or prevent such unfair discrimination.

As a cosponsor, I hoped the House would take up H.R. 2015. So, I regret that instead we are considering a similar but not identical measure. Unlike the bill I have cosponsored, H.R. 3685 does not fully protect the full lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. And because of that, some supporters of

the bill I have cosponsored have suggested that it would be better for Congress to pass no legislation rather than to enact this bill in its current form.

I understand their frustration, because I recognize that transgender people face particularly pervasive and severe bias in the workplace and society as a whole and have little protection against employment discrimination under existing State laws, municipal ordinances, or private employment policies.

But although I share their disappointment about the bill's shortcomings, I will support it because I am convinced that H.R. 3685 will improve protections for many thousands of people who might otherwise continue to face unjust discrimination.

Madam Chairman, history shows that legal progress against injustice does not come easily or swiftly.

For example, when Congress and the ratifying States approved the Constitution's 15th Amendment to try to assure the right to vote would not be denied on the basis of race, women were not included—and, although in 1893 Colorado's male voters amended our constitution to include women, other States excluded them until a further amendment took effect. Similarly, since then until the Civil Rights Acts of 1957 and 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and subsequent amendments, it has required repeated legislative enactments to construct the structure of legal protections in place today.

Erecting that structure of protection took longer than it should have, but it would have taken longer still if Members of Congress had refused to vote for good measures because they were not good enough.

And while I would have wished it otherwise, I think that is the choice before the House today.

We can vote to further the spirit and intent of the 1964 Civil Rights Act—which protects against discrimination against employees or job applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin—by expanding it to similarly bar discrimination based on sexual orientation. Or we can refuse to take that step because it is not the entire journey we want to complete.

I want to take that step, although I know it is not the only one needed. So I will vote for this bill.

IN PRAISE OF FREDRICK A. MILLS

HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fredrick A. Mills upon his receiving of the 2007 Lifetime Achievement Award. It is with great admiration I congratulate Frederick Mills on behalf of all those who have benefited from his hard work and dedication.

In 1963, Fred and his wife Venetia, moved to Chelsea when he took a math and coaching position with the Chelsea School District. After 3 years, Mr. Mills took the position of Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations with the Chelsea School District, which he held for 29 years, before retiring in 1995. Since then, Mr. Mills has worked for Chelsea Lumber Company in contractor sales.

For the last 49 years Fred Mills has given his life to the Chelsea community and education. Mr. Mills has been a member of the Chelsea Community Hospital board of trustees, Chelsea State Bank board of directors, Chelsea Village Economic Development Committee, Chelsea Industrial Development Committee, Chelsea Recreation Planning Committee and the Chelsea City Charter Commission. In addition, he has served on the Washtenaw/Livingston and Wayne County School Business Officials Board, Michigan School Business Officials Board, and the Association of Assistant Superintendents and Business Officials of Livingston, Monroe, and Washtenaw Counties. Mr. Mills is an active member at the First United Methodist Church, a charter member of the Chelsea Lions, and was a member of the Chelsea Jaycees. His presence is felt throughout the Chelsea community and across the State.

Fred Mills has seen Chelsea grow from a small rural community to a thriving city, helping along the way to make sure the qualities that make Chelsea a special place to live and raise a family are preserved. Mr. Mills is a true asset to the community as a whole and his contributions over the years will continue to be felt for years to come.

I thank Mr. Mills for his continued support of the Chelsea community. May others know of my high regard for his selfless contributions and service to others, as well as my best wishes for him in the future.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF ROBERT MILLER CRESWELL

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, Wilcox County and indeed the entire State of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory. Mr. Robert Miller Creswell, known to his many friends as "Mr. Bob," was a devoted family man and a dear friend to his community.

Born and raised in Worcester, Massachusetts, Mr. Bob graduated from Massachusetts State College in Amherst, now known as the University of Massachusetts. He was inducted into the U.S. Army on February 11, 1941. Mr. Bob served with distinction as a combat trooper during World War II, dropping into the battlefields of the Netherlands under hostile Nazi fire.

While stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia, Mr. Bob met Grace Morgan, a teacher in Columbus, Georgia. The two married in 1954 and had four children: Barbara, John, Phil and Tom.

Following his service in the U.S. Army, Mr. Bob served in the U.S. Army Reserve until retiring in 1977 as a lieutenant colonel. In 1964, he became reservoir ranger at Lake Allatoona, Georgia. Mr. Bob and Grace brought their family to Camden, Alabama in 1969, when he was promoted to reservoir manager for the Alabama River Lakes.

Hollis Curl, publisher of the Wilcox Progressive Era and personal friend of Mr. Bob, wrote, "I don't know just what Mr. Bob saw as his major achievement, but I believe it is safe

to say that he looked with extreme pride on the family he and his wife, Grace, raised together." Hollis went on to write, "Mr. Bob's tenure as the man in charge of the Corps of Engineers Alabama River Lakes was impressive. Unlike many in similar positions, Mr. Bob was a friend to the community and to the people he served. He knew the role of the Corps and he was a master at abiding by the rules while at the same time helping citizens conform to regulations they might not have understood."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Throughout his life, Mr. Bob Creswell set a standard of excellence second to none. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Grace, and his daughter, Barbara. He will be deeply missed by his family—his sons, Philip M. Creswell, John R. Creswell, and Thomas L. Creswell; two grandchildren, Joshua Morgan Creswell and Laura Grace Creswell; four step-grandchildren, Clayton R. Tartt, T. Hester Tartt, Jennifer R. Goggans, and N. Anne Goggans—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

TRIBUTE TO HELEN IRENE MORS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Helen Irene Mors on the recent celebration of her 100th birthday on November 3, 2007.

Irene was born on November 3, 1907 in Thornton, IA, to Frank and Alberta Arnold. She is one of four brothers and three sisters. In 1928 she married John C. Mors in the world famous Little Brown Church in the vale in Nashua, IA. They happily lived together and had two sons. She was a proud homemaker for her family and loved to sketch and paint during her free time. Irene still lives in her own home in rural Iowa.

There have been many changes that have occurred during the past 100 years. Since Irene's birth we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television and the Internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and the birth of new democracies. Irene has lived through 18 U.S. presidents and 24 governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

I congratulate Helen Irene Mors on reaching the milestone of her 100th birthday. I am extremely honored to represent Irene in Congress, and I wish her happiness and health for many years to come.

ALPINE LAKES WILDERNESS ADDITIONS AND WILD PRATT RIVER ACT

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Additions and Wild Pratt River Act. This legislation builds upon a proud Washington tradition of protecting our public lands and improves the quality of life for many of my constituents and other outdoor recreation enthusiasts from across the state of Washington.

One of the popular glories of my district in Washington State is the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, a 362,000 acre wilderness that straddles the crest of the Cascade Mountains just west of the Seattle/Tacoma metropolitan area. My legislation will expand the boundary of the existing wilderness area to embrace important lower-elevation lands and complete watersheds. In doing this, we are—with a single exception—addressing only federal lands already under the administration of the U.S. Forest Service.

FITTING THIS ALPINE LAKES WILDERNESS EXPANSION INTO A LARGER FRAMEWORK

Preserving our natural heritage of the wildest, most natural Federal lands as wilderness is an ongoing effort by Congress. Set in motion 43 years ago with enactment of the historic Wilderness Act on September 3, 1964, Congress, to this day, has consistently pursued this work in a bipartisan, or perhaps I should say, nonpartisan way.

The people of the State of Washington understand how this bipartisanship works for their lasting benefit. We live today with the benefits of three great national parks. In many ways, Mt. Rainier, Olympic, and the North Cascades National Parks are the anchors of the popular outdoor recreational resources that are treasured by our residents and visitors alike. To these treasures add a wide spectrum of other recreational areas on our public lands, including wilderness areas that have received this highest form of federal protection from Congress. It is fair to say that every one of these conservation achievements—as proud a record as any State can boast of—has been the product of bipartisan work by generations of our State's elected leaders.

The honor roll for this proud tradition of bipartisan conservation leadership is too long to recount here. However, two names would be found at the top of anyone's listing—former Senator Henry M. "Scoop" Jackson, a Democrat, and former Governor and Senator Daniel J. Evans, a Republican. It is noteworthy that each was a key architect in the protection of the original Alpine Lakes Wilderness through legislation Congress enacted in 1976. I am proud to follow their significant accomplishment with my own legislation.

THE ALPINE LAKES WILDERNESS ADDITIONS AND WILD PRATT RIVER ACT EXPLAINED

Madam Speaker, my new legislation could not be more straight-forward. It does not propose to resolve every matter that some might raise concerning these lands. But it does complete the fundamental protection that Congress alone can provide for these lands under the proven provisions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the Wilderness Act.

First, I want to stress that this legislation is limited solely to lands within the Eighth Congressional District. It only concerns that portion of the existing Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary which is within my district.

Second, as with the Wild Sky Wilderness Act passed by this House earlier this year, a key objective of this proposal is to provide the protection of the Wilderness Act for lower elevation lands. This serves several goals. It will bring into an expanded Alpine Lakes Wilderness a richer diversity of ecosystems, including deeply forested valleys, increasing the biodiversity of the overall wilderness area. And addition of these lower elevation lands has the direct effect of protecting a broader array of outdoor recreational opportunities easily accessible for our people.

Third, a key element of this legislation is the designation of the entirety of the Pratt River, from its headwaters within the existing 1976 boundary of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness to its confluence with the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River, as a "wild river" pursuant to the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Obviously, there are huge benefits from assuring strongest protection and consistent management embracing entire watersheds where we have the chance. This legislation will complete that job for the Pratt River, with "wild river" protection for its full length, and inclusion of its entire watershed within the expanded Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

Finally, this legislation includes a specific provision addressing the best future management of two small tracts of lands that are presently owned by the State of Washington through its Department of Natural Resources. I believe that the State agrees with local outdoor and conservation organizations that there are good reasons that the boundary of the additions to the federal Alpine Lakes Wilderness should include these two tracts, as has often been done before, and as was contemplated under the provisions of section 5 of the 1964 Wilderness Act. Though these tracts are within the boundary of the proposed federal wilderness area, these State lands would not become subject to Forest Service administration or the provisions of the Wilderness Act unless and until they are acquired by the Forest Service.

And, Madam Speaker, that is all that this new legislation proposes. It represents a straight-forward approach to complete the work of Congress for the protection of these key lands and waters in ways that only we in Congress can confer.

As I noted earlier, this legislation specifically does not seek to address or resolve every issue about details of the management of these lands that are, within the framework of the wilderness and wild river designations, properly left to the professional discretion of the Forest Service. A good example is the question of completing of a trail segment within the proposed wilderness that is referred to as "the Pratt Connector." User groups, conservation leaders, and others interested in this area have varying views about the merits of this proposed trail segment. Under the Forest Service's existing authority this decision is best left to the consultative processes the Forest Service routinely follows in such cases. Thus, there is no need for this matter to come to Congress as part of this legislation.

BACKYARD WILDERNESS

Madam Speaker, the Alpine Lakes Wilderness is one of the treasures of Washington

State. It reaches from icy and isolated mountain peaks down to deep valleys covered by silent forests where visitors are reminded of the original landscape of so much of our state. It is a recreational treasure, too, with the existing wilderness area anchoring a spectrum of recreational opportunities, not only within its boundaries but in the surrounding area. And all of this is, on its western side, situated so near to the Seattle/Tacoma metropolitan area that this special place is affectionately known as our "backyard wilderness."

The statutory protection proposed in this legislation for the additional wilderness lands and for the Pratt River will enhance the overall fabric of protection and public use opportunities of the Alpine Lakes area. Like other wilderness areas Congress has established literally at the city limits of major urban area—Salt Lake City, Albuquerque, Tucson, and greater Los Angeles, for example—we should act now to assure we have used the strongest policy tools in our nature-protection toolkit to conserve and protect the wild jewel that is the centerpiece of a beloved, much-used landscape for our people.

These wilderness additions, and the protection of the Pratt River "fit" into the larger pattern we have been putting in place to protect our wild heritage. And this wilderness will serve vast, untold numbers of Americans.

First, it serves those who choose to adventure into its quiet valleys and up to its sentinel peaks. Some of those are hardy mountain climbers; for others the adventure is an afternoon walk, grandparents introducing their grandchildren to nature and its most wild and inviting along a quiet, easy wilderness trail.

Second, this expanded wilderness serves those who choose other forms of recreation in the adjacent lands. Mountain bikers find challenges along trails that bring them along the wilderness boundary.

A perfect example, where I walked with avid mountain bikers and other conservationists, is the trail along the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River. This trail is not within the wilderness, but closely follows its boundary. By an historic agreement worked out between user groups, bicycles are allowed on this trail adjacent to the proposed wilderness addition on alternate days, so that those hikers who seek a trail experience without encountering bicyclists know they can do so on specific days. Here is an innovative resolution to what might otherwise have been a festering controversy. That collaboration is a perfect example of the broad coalition of supporters for my proposal.

Similarly, we should respect the larger group of wilderness users—and I emphasize that these are wilderness users—who take pleasure from the wilderness that they view from the Mountain-to-Sound Greenway, an extraordinary corridor of protected federal, state, and private lands offering all kinds of recreational opportunities to those who travel across our state on Interstate 90, which crosses the Cascades at Snoqualmie Pass, just south of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Those who savor the wild scenery from more developed sites and roadways, are no less users of wilderness than the adventurers who trek to the highest, farther peaks.

Finally, Madam Speaker, there is the largest "interest group" of all—the future generations for whom we act today. As a grandfather, I understand that we have a stake today, in a future we ourselves will not live. That is the

world in which our grandchildren's children will live their lives, amid whatever kind of landscape we have left them. Count mine as one solid voice and vote on behalf of taking care that the landscape we bequeath to future generations is one with an abundant, generous, diverse system of wilderness areas, not only in the remotest stretches of the Arctic, but right here close to home—in a “backyard wilderness” such as the Alpine Lakes.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF JUDGE
CHARLES SKINNER

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Judge Charles Skinner, a true treasure to the community of El Dorado, Arkansas, and to Union County. Judge Skinner passed away November 2, 2007, at the age of 73.

Judge Charles Skinner spent his lifetime dedicated to public service and to improving the community around him. He devoted 20 years to Union County as a juvenile probation officer where he garnered much support and admiration for his professionalism and outgoing nature. His work over the years with youth where he taught the values of respect and service shaped the lives of numerous young people, and had a lasting impact on the quality of life in Union County that can still be felt today.

It was Judge Skinner's deep work ethic and dedication to helping others that led him to seek public office as Union County Judge. His popularity, which he gained through his selfless service, was evident in his 1990 landslide victory in which he won each precinct within the county. He will always be remembered and held in high regard for his service to Union County to make it a better place to live for all who called it home.

Throughout his life and career, Judge Skinner believed deeply in the fundamental idea of assisting others and giving back to those who needed a helping hand. I extend my deepest condolences to his wife, Jo Ann Skinner of El Dorado; his two sons, Charles Skinner Jr., of El Dorado and David Skinner of El Dorado; his brother, James Skinner of Magnolia; and to his numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends. Judge Skinner will be greatly missed in El Dorado, Union County and throughout the state of Arkansas, and I will continue to keep his family in my thoughts and prayers.

EXPRESSING CONCERN RELATING
TO IRANIAN REGIME AND
MAHMOUD AHMADINEJAD

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 5, 2007

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 435, a resolution that I authored with my friend, Mr. MACK.

This resolution expresses the concern of the House of Representatives about the growing

national security implications of Iran's relationships with countries in the Western Hemisphere.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has visited Latin America three times in the past year, and has signed agreements with several countries in the region worth billions of dollars. This is a strategic move on his part to build capabilities in our neighborhood.

On one side of the world, Iran continues to make progress on its nuclear program. And, on this side of the world, Iran has tried to sway leaders into supporting this dangerous agenda. And so far, his strategy is gaining momentum, which is extremely alarming.

Iranian involvement in Latin America is particularly concerning, especially considering Iran's history in places like Argentina. This week, Interpol, the world's law enforcement agency, will consider whether to uphold the arrest warrants for five Iranians and one Lebanese who planned and executed the 1994 bombing of the AMIA Jewish community center. Argentines are still waiting for justice to be served against those responsible, and Hizbollah and Iran are the lead suspects.

I also remain concerned about Hizbollah in our hemisphere as it relates to fundraising in the tri-border area, and other places. In fact, just last month, Admiral Jim Stavreedeas, head of the U.S. Southern Command wrote, “We consider Latin America and the Caribbean as being highly likely bases for future terrorist threats to the U.S. and others.”

The region has seen some progress, with new anti-terrorism legislation and increased counter-terrorism efforts. But, we all have a long way to go. Eliminating the threat of terrorism and its state sponsors is not just in the best interest of the United States. The countries in our hemisphere will be safer. The United States and Central and Latin America have an aligned interest.

I hope that this resolution is seen as a signal that the United States is willing to help our friends in Central and Latin America make their countries safer and free from terrorism.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR FRANK J.
RYAN

HON. MIKE FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mayor Frank J. Ryan and his service to the residents of Bound Brook, NJ.

Mayor Ryan is a graduate of Bound Brook High School and is married to Rachel “Te.” He is a father of two, and grandfather of four. Mayor Ryan served with honor in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. In 1959, Mayor Ryan was elected to the Board of Education, where he served for 7 years before also serving as the president of the Board of Education between 1966 and 1968. In 1998, he was elected to the Borough Council and in 2000 was elected mayor of Bound Brook.

Together, Mayor Ryan and I have worked on flood control for the Bound Brook portion of the Green Brook Flood Control Project. To date, we have secured more than 50 million Federal dollars and have completed more than half of the project. Mayor Ryan has been and remains a strong advocate of the project; ear-

lier this year he travelled to Washington to personally promote continued Federal funding for the project with senior members of the House Appropriations Committee.

Mayor Ryan is retiring this year from elective public service in Bound Brook. On behalf of residents of Bound Brook, I wish Mayor Ryan many happy years of rest and relaxation with his wife, Te, and I am pleased to honor his service to Bound Brook.

HONORING CENTRAL VALLEY
SAFETY SOCIETY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Central Valley Safety Society for their commitment to serving the Central Valley.

The Central Valley Safety Society, CVSS, was created as a non-profit organization in 1996 to provide safety and human resource professionals with a place to exchange ideas and information, for the professional enhancement of members and to recognize those who excel in safety and health. CVSS is based in the Central Valley and is the only group of its kind from Los Angeles to Modesto. The long time organizational members include; Pelco, Rich Products, The Fresno Bee, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District, Fresno County EOC and Clovis Cemetery District.

CVSS holds nine monthly luncheon meetings in downtown Fresno. Typically, there are 20 to 30 members present to discuss topics that cover a range issues from Heat Illness Protection, Hazardous Materials and Health and Wellness Programs. The speakers are typically volunteers from the community. Over the past 8 years, the organization has partnered with similar organizations in the Fresno area, such as; Ag Safe, Human Resource Association of Central California, Fresno County Employer Advisory Council and California State University SHRM Student Chapter. CVSS has partnered with these and other organizations to plan and participate in a half-day human resource and safety seminar and it is held annually in October.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Central Valley Safety Society for their commitment to serving the Central Valley. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing the organization many years of continued success.

CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FL,
CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the people of St. Pete Beach, FL, as they celebrate the city's 50th anniversary this weekend.

It is an honor to represent this beautiful beach community that is home to one of our Nation's finest beaches and picture perfect

sunsets. The residents there take tremendous pride in their city, which has just the right combination of parks, shops and cultural offerings.

St. Pete Beach is a barrier island with a permanent population of just over 10,000. It was incorporated in 1957 with the consolidation of the towns of Pass-a-Grille, Don Cesar, Belle Vista and St. Petersburg Beach.

Today it is a popular tourist destination when its population doubles during the winter months. Visitors flock to St. Pete Beach to enjoy its 38 acres of public parks and 39 acres of public beaches.

This is also a fiercely patriotic city as flags fly on homes throughout the community. The people there have also led a seven-city effort to collect items to send our troops serving overseas. They want our soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, and coastguardsmen to know they are loved and appreciated.

Madam Speaker, as the city prepares for its festivities this weekend, let me commend Mayor Ward Friszolowski, Vice Mayor Michael Finnerty, Commissioners Linda Cheney, Ed Rutten cutter and Harry Metz, and all the city's employees for their dedication to governing and managing one of our Nation's finest hometowns and vacation destinations. St. Pete Beach reminds us of all that is right in Florida and why it is such a great place to live, to work and to play.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 1059 on Wednesday, November 7, 2007.

However, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 801, providing for consideration of the bill, H.R. 3688, to implement the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF OREGON, OHIO

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a community in my District, that of Oregon, Ohio. Formally incorporated following elections in November of 1957, Oregon celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2007.

Oregon, located on the Western Bay of Lake Erie, was once part of Northwest Ohio's Great Black Swamp. Cultivated for its trees and rich earth, its first government—Oregon Township—was formed in 1838. It is bounded by the City of Toledo to the West, Lake Erie to the North, Wood County to the South, and Jerusalem Township to the East.

Through the 1800s and 1900s, water and rail systems developed in the region. Northwest Ohio is a cornerstone of water, rail, and surface transportation, and Oregon is at its hub. As a result of its location, its two largest employers built and remain in Oregon: Sun Oil

and BP refineries. Oregon continued to grow as an industrial center of the region, with several chemical plants and energy generating facilities. Industrialization brought residential and commercial growth, and Oregon thrives.

Throughout its earlier years of growth, its Western neighbor Toledo tried to annex Oregon Township. Annexation attempts failed, but so, too, did early attempts to incorporate Oregon on its own. In 1957 after another annexation attempt, the residents of Oregon voted overwhelmingly to incorporate as the City of Oregon.

Oregon's own residents coined the slogan "City of Opportunity" in 1958 shortly after adopting the City Charter. Indeed Oregon lives up to its slogan. The City is home to Maumee Bay State Park—a jewel on our Western Lake Erie shoreline—as well as Pearson Metropark, South Shore Park, and Coontz Recreational Complex. Oregon is home to one of Ohio's largest festivals, the German American Festival, as well as its own Oregon Fest. The community is an urban mix of business, industrial, residential, recreational, educational and municipal ventures.

The City of Oregon is a vibrant community full of pride. Oregonians celebrate their past while moving toward the future. It is a City on the move. While recognizing the achievements of its first 50 years, Oregon is poised for the next 50. Onward!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, on November 5, 2007, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on rollcall No. 1034, On Closing Portions of the Conference for Department of Defense Appropriations, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall No. 1035, H.R. 513—National Heroes Credit Protection Act, I would have voted "aye"; and on rollcall No. 1036, H. Res. 744—Recognizing the contributions of Native American veterans and calling upon the President to issue a proclamation urging the people of the United States to observe a day in honor of Native American veterans, I would have voted "aye."

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3685, EMPLOYMENT NON- DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Chairman, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3685, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 2007, introduced by my distinguished friend and colleague Representative FRANK. This important legislation extends the basic civil rights that we, as Americans, enjoy and cherish, to millions of gay, lesbian, and bisexual citizens.

This legislation also fulfills the vision and promise of our Founding Fathers who in the

"Declaration of Independence" proclaimed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." This legislation ensures that all of America's citizens inalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are protected.

The Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 2007 will make it illegal to fire, refuse to hire, or otherwise discriminate against employees simply based on their perceived or actual sexual orientation.

I would like to thank my colleague, Mr. FRANK, for introducing this important legislation, as well as for his ongoing leadership on this issue. I would also like to thank Chairman MILLER, of the Education and Labor Committee, for bringing this legislation to the floor. Madam Speaker, today marks a historic occasion. This bill has been introduced in every Congress since 1975, and the October 18th vote in the Education and Labor Committee to report this legislation to the floor was the first vote ever taken on this legislation in the House of Representatives.

Madam Chairman, we live in a Nation that has long prided itself on predicated success on merit and hard work. In recent decades, we have fought to create a level playing field, to allow women, African Americans, and other minorities to compete in the workplace. In addition to employment legislation, we have worked to eliminate discrimination against members of minority groups. Earlier this Congress, we passed a landmark piece of hate crimes legislation, which crucially included crimes motivated by prejudice of sexual orientation.

H.R. 3685 speaks to our Nation's core values of equality and justice. There are currently no Federal laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. This means that in the 30 States that have not enacted State legislation to this effect, employers may make critical personnel decisions, including firing, refusing to hire, demoting, or refusing to promote employees solely based on the sexual orientation of the individual.

Madam Chairman, I strongly believe that employees should be hired or fired on the basis of their merits. Their jobs should not be threatened because of sexual orientation. Many U.S. companies have recognized that it is in the interest of U.S. companies, as well as U.S. citizens, to make employment decisions based on qualifications and job performance. Ninety percent of Fortune 500 companies now include sexual orientation in their non-discrimination policies. Many major American companies, including General Mills, Microsoft, Citibank, and Morgan Stanley, have expressed their strong support for legislation outlawing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. In addition, a May 2007 Gallup poll clearly indicated that non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is broadly supported by the American people, with 89 percent of participants stating that they support equal treatment for gays and lesbians in determining employment opportunities.

However, anti-gay discrimination persists in the workplace. According to a 2005 survey, a quarter of gay, lesbian, or bisexual individuals disagreed with a statement that most employers in their area would hire openly gay, lesbian, or bisexual people. A 2007 study found

that 16 percent of gay and lesbian individuals reported being fired from or denied a job because of their sexual orientation. A study recently released by the Journal of Applied Psychology found that 37 percent of gay and lesbian workers, across the United States, have faced discrimination based on sexual orientation. 10 percent indicated they had been physically harassed, while 22 percent had been verbally harassed. Nearly 20 percent stated that they had resigned from a job or been fired as a result of discrimination based on sexual orientation. This is precisely why I believe that this Congress must act today, to protect the fundamental rights of all American workers.

H.R. 3685, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 2007 (ENDA), contains many important provisions that will make important strides toward ensuring workplace equality for all Americans. This legislation prohibits employers, employment agencies, and labor unions from using the sexual orientation of an individual as the basis for employment decisions, including hiring, firing, promotion, and compensation. It extends Federal protections already guaranteed to individuals based on race, religion, sex, national origin, age, and disability to gay, lesbian, and bisexual workers.

This legislation applies to private sector employers with 15 or more employees, as well as employment agencies, labor organizations, joint labor-management committees, Congress, and federal, state, and local governments. It authorizes the same enforcement powers, procedures, and remedies provided under existing Federal employment discrimination laws such as Title VII and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Today's bill could go further. It could, and in my opinion should, also extend protections to individuals on the basis of gender identity. However, I believe that it is an important and significant step forward, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact fully inclusive legislation, to ensure that all Americans will ultimately be protected from workplace and employment discrimination.

I am pleased to support the amendment offered by my colleague, Mr. GEORGE MILLER. This amendment clarifies the religious exemption under ENDA, addressing concerns raised by some religious schools. It makes explicitly clear that religious organizations are given an identical exemption, under ENDA, to the one found in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This provision exempts religious corporations, schools, associations, and societies from religious discrimination claims. Mr. MILLER's amendment clarifies that both denominational and non-denominational religious schools qualify for exemption from ENDA. I thank my colleagues who joined me in supporting this amendment.

In addition, I would also like to express my support for the amendment offered by my colleague, Ms. BALDWIN, and my disappointment that it was not adopted. This amendment would have expanded ENDA's protections to persons discriminated against based on gender identity, defined as the gender-related identity, appearance, or mannerisms or other gender-related characteristics of an individual, with or without regard to the individual's designated sex at birth. This amendment highlighted the activism and dedication of individuals such as Phyllis Randolph Frye, a lawyer in Houston who has struggled for the rights of transgender people for decades. Further, the

language included in Representative BALDWIN's amendment addresses concerns of shared facilities, dress, and grooming standards, stating explicitly that the construction of additional facilities is not required. If this legislation is to truly achieve its goals of equal treatment for all Americans, this amendment is tantamount to that success. I therefore strongly hope that my colleagues will join me in enacting this amendment in the future.

Furthermore, I oppose the motion to recommit on the grounds that it was designed to either permanently derail or at least delay this historic legislation. In addition, the motion to recommit was regarding the definition of marriage, which is utterly separate from workplace discrimination.

Madam Chairman, this non-discrimination legislation is good for America: it benefits American citizens and American companies. Non-discrimination protects the civil rights of individuals, and it has proven good for business in some of our nation's most successful businesses. Our nation is built on the ideals of hard-work and equality, key values that are enshrined in today's legislation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation, and in ensuring that all American workers enjoy basic employment protections.

WISHING MRS. MAGGIE KATIE
BROWN KIDD A HAPPY 103RD
BIRTHDAY

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important milestone in the life of my constituent Mrs. Maggie Katie Brown Kidd. On December 8, 2007, Mrs. Kidd will celebrate her 103rd birthday. Many family members and friends will recognize this momentous occasion with a party in late November.

Maggie was born during President Theodore Roosevelt's second term in office and has lived to see another 16 presidents in her lifetime. Maggie Brown was the eleventh and youngest child born to William (Doc) and Lucy Callahan. She is the sister of Johnny (John S.) Brown, Rosie May Brown, Pearlie Docia Ann Brown Seals, Jasper Brown, Sally Mack Brown Finch, Evie Brown Robinson, Lena Jane Brown Jewell, Mary Lou Brown, Jewell McNabb, Nora May Brown Barrow, Climmie Lee Brown Finch Haynes and James Richard (J.C.) Brown.

At a young age, Maggie united with the Mount Zion Baptist Church in Stephens, Georgia under the leadership of Reverend W.M. Combs, and was baptized by Reverend Henry Gresham. After church, she loved to play baseball on Sunday afternoons with her siblings. She remained with Mt. Zion until she moved to Atlanta, and still feels a connection to her home church.

On November 30, 1940, she married Willie (Dock) Kidd, III, son of Willie Kidd, II and Annie Lou Dalton, and brother of Bernice Kidd Wingfield, Ceola Kidd Jackson, Janie Kidd Jackson and Carrie Kidd Thomas. Mr. and Mrs. Kidd raised two children, John and Rosalyn. She is also a grandmother to four,

and a great-grandmother to three children. As her husband and all siblings have passed away, Maggie is the matriarch of her family.

Maggie still takes long vacation trips with her children and participates in family gatherings and activities outside of Georgia. Maggie is an avid quilter and enjoys a quiet afternoon stitching in her favorite chair.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life of Mrs. Maggie Katie Brown Kidd, by wishing her a very happy 103rd birthday.

LANTOS RECOGNIZES YAD
VASHEM CEREMONY HONORING
ALBANIANS WHO SAVED JEWISH
LIVES DURING THE HOLOCAUST

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues in the Congress to a ceremony that was held on November 1 at Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem. This ceremony, which recognized the unique role that Albanians played in saving every Jew who either lived in Albania or sought asylum there during World War II, marking the opening of "Besas: A Code of Honor/Albanians who Rescued Jews during the Holocaust." This exhibit by Jewish American photographer Norman Gershman documents the heroism of the rescuers and their families—65 percent of whom were Muslim—who saved more than 2,000 Jews from the ravages of the Nazi Holocaust.

Few people are aware that all Jews who lived in Albania during World War II or sought asylum there were saved from likely death during the Holocaust. Approximately 200 Jews lived in Albania during the early 1930s, while nearly 2000 Jews resided there by the end of the war—making Albania the only nation that can claim that every Jew within its borders was rescued from the Holocaust. When the Italian fascists invaded Albania in 1939, followed by the German Nazis in 1943, the Albanian population hid Jews; furthermore, Albanian government officials refused to comply with the order to provide a list of Jews living in Albania. While many Albanian citizens hid Jews on their own initiative, the rescue operation became more coordinated as the danger increased and "national liberation councils" in towns where Jews were hiding moved them from place to place—either with false passports or disguised as Albanian peasants. Albanians living in Kosova, Macedonia, and Montenegro, then part of the former Yugoslavia, were instrumental in gaining safe passage for Jews into Albania.

Not only were the Albanians isolated from centuries of institutionalized anti-Semitism, Madam Speaker, but they also have a history of religious tolerance based on the Kanun (a set of customary laws developed in the 15th century and passed down through the generations). Its underpinning moral code of besa, which is celebrated in the Yad Vashem photo exhibition, emphasizes a sacred promise to keep one's word as well as to provide hospitality and protection. As the Western concept of "foreigner" does not exist within the Kanun,

Albanians did not see Jews as “foreigners” but rather as “guests” who needed to be protected even at great risk to their hosts.

Information about the safe haven that many Albanians provided to Jews who were being persecuted during the Holocaust was suppressed by the communist regime of Enver Hoxha, who controlled the country for five decades. When former Congressman Joe DioGuardi and I became the first U.S. officials in 1990 to enter Albania in 45 years, Albania’s new leader, Ramiz Alia, showed us never-before-seen archives with letters, photographs and newspaper clippings about Albanians who saved Jews during World War II. Congressman DioGuardi sent this material to Israel, where the documents were authenticated by Yad Vashem. In cooperation with former Congressman Ben Gilman and the Albanian American Foundation, Albania was added to the “Righteous among nations” section of the U.S. Memorial Holocaust Museum in 1995.

The Yad Vashem exhibit was created with the help of the Albanian American Civic League and financial support from the Righteous Persons Foundation, the Jewish Communal Fund, the New York State Department of Education, the McBride Family Foundation, and the Albanian American Foundation. It will be on display for two months at Yad Vashem before traveling to museums and Holocaust memorial sites around the world. It will be displayed on January 27, International Holocaust Remembrance Day, at the United Nations headquarters in New York City.

Madam Speaker, as a Holocaust survivor who survived certain death due to the kindness of strangers, I am immensely grateful to the Albanian people for their bravery, selflessness and generosity in risking their lives to hide and protect so many Jews during one of the world’s darkest hours. I am delighted that this exhibition is finally giving Albania the recognition it deserves for the vitally important role its citizens played during World War II. I am grateful to my former colleague and friend Joe DioGuardi and the Albanian American Civic League for their efforts in ensuring that this information becomes publicly available. Madam Speaker, I wish to formally recognize the opening of this remarkable memorial and encourage all of my colleagues to visit it where possible.

INDIA HOUSE HOUSTON

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, America, as a Nation made up of many cultures, has always been one to embrace traditions of the past, while at the same time looking towards the future. Members of the India House organization follow this same time honored philosophy. Their mission to “unite cultures, create bridges, and serve human needs,” is a testament towards this group’s significance. With over 120,000 Indian-American’s residing in the Houston area alone, the importance for community interaction becomes increasingly apparent.

As the Indian population continues to grow throughout South East Texas, so does the need to raise awareness of their increasing

footprint. India House has successfully stepped up to this challenge through diverse organizations provided for all Houstonians. Services ranging from legal advice and financial education to yoga and meditation are made available by the organization.

Yet, until recently the rendering of these positive benefits was somewhat difficult resulting from their dispersed locations. In order to better connect the needs of their increasing community India House recently broke ground on their new facility. At 100,000 square feet it will be the largest of its kind in the Nation, offering over 500 different activities to the community annually.

Phase one of the projects will work towards further educating and assisting Houstonians, allowing them to thrive. This building, most importantly, will work towards meeting both the health as well as financial needs of the Indian-American population. Senior activities areas are also a part of the master plan, hoping to increase their social interaction. Yet perhaps the most important aspect included in this segment, comes with the availability to further ones education. Various classes, such as English, will be provided for members so that they may better become part of society.

Showcasing and promoting Indian culture to the Houston community makes up much of the buildings second phase. The Cultural Arts Center is designed to house performances, relevant retail and craft shows, as well as food related events. By educating neighbors in Indian-American culture, this group takes positive strides towards becoming part of our Nation’s future. While the initial construction concentrates on assisting members, this later development is particularly involved with celebrating tradition.

India House recognizes the need to work together as a community, and to discern how to meet the needs of their population. Contemporarily, they are one of the largest legal Asian immigrant groups, with the highest level of educational qualifications surpassing any other ethnic group in America. Their impact on the future of our society is thus undeniable. However, the strides to become a working part of our Nation’s economy and society through groups like India House, is unquestionably commendable.

And that’s just the way it is.

HONORING FRED KELLEY FOR HIS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE HEALTHY LIVING THROUGH “PEDDLIN’ FOR A CURE”

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, there are many unsung heroes throughout our great nation who give selflessly of their time in order to help others. Mr. Fred Kelley, of Monroeville, Alabama, is one of these individuals.

Fred has dedicated his life to helping others by encouraging families to take up bicycling. His tireless efforts to promote healthy living have raised over \$330,000 for the American Cancer Society. Founder of Monroe County’s “Peddlin’ for a Cure,” the largest fundraising event in the American Cancer Society’s southeast division, Fred and his team raised an in-

credible \$140,000 at this year’s ride for cancer research.

“Peddlin’ for a Cure” began almost by accident. In 2004, Fred Kelley and Phill Allen, co-hosts of the Morning Show on Monroeville’s WMCF 99.3, made a plea to their listeners to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. Fred challenged his listeners saying, “If we can raise \$1,000 this morning, I’ll ride my bicycle from the Monroeville Square to the Battleship Alabama.” Within 20 minutes, \$5,000 had been raised and numerous callers had volunteered to ride with Fred, and that morning, “Peddlin’ for a Cure” was born. The first ride to the battleship exceeded everyone’s expectations raising \$36,000, and in just four years, “Peddlin’ for a Cure” has raised \$334,000 for the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life, in addition to other cancer fundraising events throughout the country.

Fred’s commitment to his community doesn’t end there. He is also a volunteer with the Alabama Obesity Task Force in Montgomery and uses his skills as a commercial pilot to volunteer with Pilot’s for Christ, an international organization that uses airplanes for missionary work. With Pilot’s for Christ, Fred has flown numerous cancer patients for specialized treatments all of the United States.

Earlier this week, President George W. Bush invited Fred Kelley to the White House to personally thank him for his selfless service to others.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you and my colleagues to join me in honoring Fred Kelley for his selfless commitment to helping his community and for inspiring others to do the same. Fred’s story serves as an inspiration not only to those of us in southwest Alabama but also to people across the country. Without a doubt, we need more people like Fred Kelley in this world—a true hero.

MRS. BEVERLY HATCHER, PRESIDENT OF THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE MINORITY BUSINESS COUNCIL

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to recognize a community leader in southeast Texas. Mrs. Beverly Hatcher has worn many distinguished hats, including mother, wife, member of the Junior League of Beaumont; Honorary Member of Delta Sigma Pi Fraternity of Delta Eta Chapter; Beaumont Rotary Club Member; Beaumont M.L. King, Jr. Parkway Commission; Texas PTA Honorary Life Member; Member of the National Association of Parliamentarians; Board Member of the 100 Club of Jefferson and Hardin Counties; Member of Leadership Texas, Leadership America and Leadership Southeast Texas; Vice President of Membership of the Three Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America; U.S. Small Business Administration District VI Minority Small Business Advocate of the Year; Port Arthur Weed and Seed Advisory Board; and ’04–’06 Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison’s Business Leadership Summit.

Since 1990, Mrs. Hatcher has led the Golden Triangle Minority Business Council. As president of the GTMBC, Mrs. Hatcher helps

educate, promote, and develop minority and women owned businesses by providing a variety of programs, services and business opportunities.

Mrs. Hatcher and the GTMBC routinely bring corporate and public interests together for the benefit of southeast Texas by providing a unique partnership in economic and community development. By consolidating the interests and resources of industries through advertisers and mentors and making them available to minority owned businesses, the GTMBC enlightens and strengthens local communities by preparing business leaders for competition in a global market. Through Mrs. Hatcher's leadership, the GTMBC was one of only 29 applicants in 1999 to receive an award from the U.S. Small Business Administration as Small Disadvantaged Business Private Certifier.

I applaud Mrs. Hatcher and the Golden Triangle Minority Business Council for working tirelessly on behalf of minority and women owned businesses. The knowledge and support that she provides to local businesses ensures that the entrepreneurial spirit will be nurtured, and tomorrow's business leaders will be prepared for global economic growth.

I applaud Mrs. Beverly Hatcher on her outstanding achievements. She has helped make our world a better place to live, and I applaud her unwavering service and dedication to the community.

That's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO BILL OVERMAN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Bill Overman, City Clerk of Rhodes, Iowa, for his distinguished public service and dedication to the Rhodes community on the occasion of his retirement from that position.

For the past 28 years, Bill has served as city clerk. A life-long resident of Rhodes, Bill previously served as mayor from 1970 until 1979 before taking over the clerk position. He also retired from Lennox in Marshalltown in 2005 as a lean materials analyst after working for 37 years. As city clerk, Bill has been the chief administrator of services with a strong understanding of the needs and desires of the community.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress will join me to commend Bill Overman for his leadership and service to Rhodes, Iowa. I consider it an honor to serve Bill in Congress and I wish him the best in the future.

QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise, reluctantly, in favor of the motion to table House Resolution 799, Impeaching Richard B. Cheney, Vice

President of the United States, of high crimes and misdemeanors, and in favor of referring that resolution to the House Judiciary Committee for full consideration. I voted to table this resolution not because I do not share the gentleman from Ohio's desire to hold those responsible for the Iraqi debacle accountable; but rather, because I strongly believe that we must follow established protocol in matters of such importance. During my entire time in Congress, I have been outspoken in my opposition to war with Iraq and Iran. I have warned my colleagues and the administration against marching toward war in numerous speeches over the years, and I have voted against every appropriation to continue the war on Iraq.

I have always been strongly in favor of vigorous congressional oversight of the executive branch, and I have lamented our abrogation of these Constitutional obligations in recent times. I do believe, however, that this legislation should proceed through the House of Representatives following regular order, which would require investigation and hearings in the House Judiciary Committee before the resolution proceeds to the floor for a vote. This time-tested manner of moving impeachment legislation may slow the process, but in the long run it preserves liberty by ensuring that the House thoroughly deliberates on such weighty matters. In past impeachments of high officials, including those of Presidents Nixon and Clinton, the legislation had always gone through the proper committee with full investigation and accompanying committee report.

I noted with some dismay that many of my colleagues who have long supported the war changed their vote to oppose tabling the motion for purely political reasons. That move was a disrespectful to the Constitutional function of this body and I could not support such actions with my vote.

I was pleased that the House did vote in favor of sending this legislation to the Judiciary Committee, which essentially directs the committee to examine the issue more closely than it has done to this point.

H.R. 3355, THE HOMEOWNERS' DEFENSE ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I voted against H.R. 2255, which would create a Federally-backed national catastrophe risk consortium and provide below-market catastrophic loans to State reinsurance and insurance plans.

I appreciate the efforts of my colleagues from Florida to raise awareness about the increasing costs of natural disasters on their constituents and the insurance industry. This is made worse because the number of people who live in harm's way is expanding dramatically; some estimates say that 75 percent of Americans are at risk for some type of disaster. Climate change will only compound the problem with predictions of increased frequency of extreme weather events and rising sea levels.

However, at its core, this legislation continues the trend of disguising the risks associated with living in hazardous areas. The Fed-

eral Government is already facing a huge financial liability associated with the impacts of Hurricane Katrina on the National Flood Insurance Program. Yet we have refused to take steps to address the root causes of the problem: more development and more expensive development in harm's way. I am concerned that this bill will increase our liability, without requiring communities to take meaningful steps to reduce their own vulnerability to natural hazards. This bill could potentially dramatically expand Federal liability before we come to grips with the problems of the National Flood Insurance Program and our natural disaster policies. We can't afford to take this leap.

The Federal Government has a special opportunity and responsibility to help communities prepare for and prevent damages from natural disasters. Instead of making it easier to develop in these areas, we should be taking steps to reduce property damage and loss of life, save taxpayer dollars, and protect the environment. Mitigation works: recent studies have shown that 1 dollar spent by FEMA on hazard mitigation saves 4 dollars in future disaster spending.

Until we deal meaningfully with prevention and mitigation, I must oppose this legislation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "CIVIL WAR ARTIFACT AUTHENTICITY ACT"

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, today I, along with my colleague JOHN CULBERSON, are introducing the "Civil War Artifact Authenticity Act" that will curb the proliferation of fraudulent Civil War artifacts and memorabilia entering the legitimate market place.

Since the last shot fired in America's Civil War, countless numbers of people across the Nation have become fascinated with this monumental conflict. From the battlefields of Virginia and Louisiana's Red River to the hallowed ground of Antietam, Gettysburg, and thousands of other places that saw brother fighting brother, this war touched virtually every part of this country and every home and hearth. More than 600,000 combatants died from battle, disease, and imprisonment.

With the war's end, soldiers who fought in that conflict returned frequently, often with families in tow, to the places of the most stirring moments of their lives. They revered the fields on which they fought and established numerous associations, North and South, commemorating those who served. These veterans created strong links to their service and sacrifice, through their memoirs and other writings and the personal items and artifacts they carried on the battlefield and brought home to rest in conspicuous places on the mantles of their homes in recognition of the soldiers' service and sacrifice.

Over the ensuing decades, as the soldiers and families who owned and cared for these artifacts died away, many of these heirlooms began to scatter, particularly as later generations forgot the importance of these historic belongings, failed to care for them, or sold the items to augment their incomes.

With the arrival of the 100th anniversary of the Civil War, and the deaths of the last Union and Confederate soldier, respectively, in 1956 and 1961, people began to consider the importance of these relics, personal items, letters, diaries, and other memorabilia that the soldiers took home. Scholars and researchers, collectors, museum curators, and others who knew the historic importance of these artifacts have renewed the connections to the conflict and have sought to protect and preserve the Civil War's tangible heritage that the soldiers cherished. From the day the guns fell silent up until this moment, these artifacts and other memorabilia have helped us define and understand our Civil War.

The personal artifacts of the Civil War have spawned a large and growing interest in the Civil War. Probably more books and articles have been written about the war than any other era in our history. Researchers, writers, curators, and many average Americans have felt the need to own, study and preserve what that long-gone generation once owned. These artifacts which now populate the homes, shops, museums, schools and any number of other venues have great meaning for many of us today. As a result, entrepreneurs have opened commercial establishments to trade these relics in honest commercial enterprise.

The fascination with the Civil War has grown a new generation of sellers and collectors. Original artifacts and memorabilia have skyrocketed in value among collectors and skyrockets. A "belt plate," which most people know as a buckle, sold for \$5 in 1960, and now cost as much as \$200 to a \$1000 depending on the particular item. Sadly, unscrupulous people have opened new markets in fraudulent items that never saw the Civil War.

As a result, the entry of fake items into the market for relics and artifacts not only cheats people financially, but also disrupts historical scholarship and the legitimate display in museums and other venues. Internet trade makes it easier for people to sell fake items to unschooled and unwary buyers because the con artists are unknown, many working overseas to flood the market with costly junk. To protect the true artifacts of the Civil War era, I propose new legislation designed to interfere with the manufacture and sale of fraudulent items, and increasing the awareness among sellers and buyers of the large trade in these fake items.

Our bill would add a second title to existing Federal law, the "Hobby Protection Act," which requires that fake political items and memorabilia, and numismatic items must have the words "copy" or "facsimile" clearly stamped on them to ensure that they are recognized as replicas or non-authentic items. Because original Civil War artifacts and memorabilia are highly prized and can reach into the thousands of dollars depending on the particular item, those determined to make a dishonest dollar, can easily replicate an original item, or worse, produce an item that is a pure fantasy piece—an artifact that never existed during the Civil War.

While this legislation will not end the trafficking in fake Civil War items, it will provide sanctions through the Federal Trade Commission for manufacturers who purport to offer authentic Civil War relics and artifacts, when they are in fact fake junk.

This legislation is essential if we want to ensure these artifacts and memorabilia of the

Civil War era retain their historic importance for generations to come. I urge my colleagues to support the "Civil War Artifact Authenticity Act."

CONGRATULATING EUGENE FELIX
CERVANTES 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. McKEON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and extend my congratulations to Eugene Felix Cervantes and his family on the occasion of his 100th birthday, which will be celebrated on November 10, 2007 at the California Mission Inn in Rosemead, California.

Mr. Cervantes is an example of one of the many Americans that have brought about the profound change that make this country what it is today. Starting a successful business, serving as a private civilian employee of the U.S. Navy, membership in community and business organizations, and a sincere appreciation for the natural wonders of our State are all parts of a life that serves as a definitive example of the American dream.

Born on November 15, 1907 in San Gabriel, California, Mr. Cervantes has many grand achievements to look back upon. In the early 1930s, Mr. Cervantes received his pilot's license. He went on to own two aircrafts and part of an airport. When the depression of the 1930s hit hard, he kept his head up and enrolled in night classes, teaching himself engineering. Though he never received an official degree in engineering, he was truly a self-taught engineer.

In 1934, Mr. Cervantes married Mary Loya and had two sons, Richard and Donald. The young family moved to Mare Island in Vallejo, California, where Mr. Cervantes worked for the U.S. Navy at the naval submarine base. There, he did a great deal of work with ship board ventilation. His engineering background soon made him stand out, and he rose to the head of the department.

The early 1930s were a peaceful time for the family, with plenty of recreation opportunities on the base. However, war clouds were looming on the horizon in Europe, and chaos broke loose with the December 7, 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Mr. Cervantes moved his family back to Alhambra, California to take a job with Bethlehem Steel's Ship Building Division as an engineer in charge of on-board ventilation at the company's design facility at the Port of San Pedro. He was divorced and married his second wife, his beloved of 62 years, Betty Helgeson from Brainerd, Minnesota.

At the end of World War II, Mr. Cervantes put everything on the line to pursue the American dream of owning a business. The sheet metal company that he started in Compton, California in 1945 grew to handle some of the largest mechanical projects in the State. It was incorporated in 1962 and moved to Orange County, where it became known as Air Conditioning Systems, Inc. In 1985, the company was awarded a contract to design and build a portable ground support air conditioning unit for the Space Shuttle. The company went on to design and fabricate many highly specialized air conditioning systems, including B1

ground support, NAVSTAR Tracking Van, and Space Shuttle Assembly Building. In national recognition, the company was presented the Administrators Award for Excellence by the Small Business Administration.

Throughout his life, Mr. Cervantes remained an avid golfer and a dedicated member of the Rio Honda Country Club. He played into his 92nd Birthday and shot his age on several occasions. He held membership in many clubs and community and business organizations. When he fully retired in 1987, he moved to his new home at Canyon Crest Country Club in Riverside, California.

Mr. Cervantes' love for the beautiful Sierra Nevada Mountains, involvement in the community, and passion for helping people who were "down on their luck" are just a few of the things that have made his life so special. In 100 years, he has gone from horse and buggy to space exploration. Few people are blessed with such an exciting and extraordinary life. Mr. Cervantes is truly a great American, Californian, father, grandfather, and great grandfather.

Madam Speaker and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring Eugene Felix Cervantes today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live such a full life as he has. He is a great man and his family and friends are very proud of all of these achievements.

TRIBUTE TO LUTHER HOLLAND

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Luther Holland of the McCallsburg Lions Club for his longtime service to the International Lions Club.

Luther has been named a Melvin Jones Fellow, which is one of the highest forms of recognition conferred by the Lions Clubs International Federation. The International Lions Club is a volunteer organization which works together to answer the needs that challenge communities around the world, including an end to preventable blindness, cleaning local parks and providing essential supplies to victims of natural disasters.

Luther was nominated because of his tireless dedication to improving his community. He has always attended and volunteered for community dinners and given his time for many fundraisers. He is a great example for this community, and I commend him on his enduring commitment.

I consider it an honor to represent Luther Holland in Congress, and I wish him the very best in his continued voluntary service.

INTRODUCTION OF HOKIE SPIRIT
MEMORIAL FUND TAX EXEMPTION ACT

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, on April 16, 2007, the tranquil campus of Virginia Tech, and the Town of Blacksburg, was shattered by the actions of a lone gunman. The

horror that the Virginia Tech community has experienced is something that every parent, every American, hopes they never have to learn has affected their families and friends.

Although this horrendous and unspeakable violence showed the worst of mankind, it also showed what those of us who have been a part of the Virginia Tech community for years have always known . . . the students, the instructors, the administrators, and the citizens of Blacksburg care deeply for one another and take great pride in their community. Even in the worst circumstances, the Virginia Tech community showed great compassion for their fellow man and did what they could to help each other. Liviu Librescu, a survivor of the Holocaust, blocked the doorway of his classroom so that his students could climb out the windows to safety. Ryan Clark, a Resident Advisor in the West Ambler Johnston Hall, rushed into the hallway to help his fellow students when the first attack came, and became the second victim. And I was deeply saddened to learn that one of my constituents, Henry Lee—a graduate of William Fleming High School in Roanoke—was among those who died in the attack on Norris Hall.

In the days and months following this tragedy, the Virginia Tech Community and Hokie Nation saw an outpouring of love and support from people around the country. The university saw donations come in excess of \$7 million as people sought to give aid to those affected. As time went on, the university had to decide how to use the money donated as a result of this horrific act, and the university made a wise and selfless choice. They decided that the best way to disburse this money was to put it in the hands of those who experienced and lost the most as a result of this unspeakable violence. So, last month Virginia Tech distributed the money to 79 families or individuals. These are the families that have lost the most, and have experienced emotional trauma that no one should ever have to experience. This money, given by people across the Nation, is a small way to help those directly affected by this horrendous act. The families can determine the best uses for these contributions. Some already have decided to endow memorial scholarships at Virginia Tech or elsewhere. Some simply have bills to pay.

While the university has acted graciously to help the families, we have discovered that there is a new problem the families are facing, this time by the Federal Government. It has become apparent that the funds these families received will become significantly reduced because of taxes. Funds some families desperately need to pay medical bills, funeral costs, and to simply rebuild their lives. The last thing these families need to worry about is an additional tax burden. And I guarantee that those who gave so generously want their money going to help those directly affected, not paying taxes. I do not believe that these funds should be taxed or that it is Congress's intent that they should be taxed.

In 2001, Congress passed P.L. 107-143. In this bill there is a provision that makes qualified disaster payments exempt from taxes. There is no doubt that this was in fact a disaster—ask any member of the Virginia Tech Community, Hokie Nation, or a citizen of the Commonwealth of Virginia and to them it unequivocally was. In fact, the Governor of Virginia declared so that day. Despite this well-intentioned law, that Congress passed to make

tax-exempt payments from qualified disasters, the families and the university have all been told it is likely these funds will be taxed. It was not the intention of the Congress that disaster payments should be taxed, and I am proud to join Mr. Boucher in introducing legislation that will seek to have these funds, like those resulting from any other disaster, tax-exempt.

The tragedy at Virginia Tech will never leave our minds, but we in Congress have an opportunity to help rebuild this community. I ask all Members of Congress to join us in supporting this legislation. Let us help the families and those so personally affected as they seek to rebuild their lives.

HONORING THE SOVIET JEWISH
FREEDOM MOVEMENT H. RES. 759

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, December 7th marks the 40th anniversary of the mass movement for Soviet Jewish freedom, and the 20th anniversary of the Freedom Sunday Rally for Soviet Jews on the National Mall in Washington, DC. To honor the movement, I am proud to co-sponsor H. Res. 759, a resolution celebrating both of these milestones. We remember these moments to commemorate all of those who struggled and died for their freedom and to celebrate the efforts of advocacy groups that tirelessly campaigned for Soviet Jewry.

Twenty years ago, on December 7, 1987, more than 250,000 people rallied in Washington, DC to support freedom and amnesty for Jews living in the Soviet Union. The human rights campaign resulted from more than two decades of human rights violations and utter lack of freedom for Jews in the Soviet Union. The governmental policy on Soviet Jews violated even the most basic of human rights, including freedom of religion, freedom of movement, and the freedom to study ones culture, language and heritage. Soviet Jews were at risk of arrest, exile to Siberia and harassment for exercising their right to practice their religion or celebrate the Zionist movement. However despite the odds and risks there were many brave Soviet Jews, who worked clandestinely and tirelessly to spread Zionism, and raise Jewish consciousness among Soviet Jewry.

The movement to raise awareness of the Soviet Jewish plight became a global effort in the 1980s due to the work of many American advocacy groups. My heart is warmed by the work of groups that organized protests, petitions, demonstrations, and rallies in United States and all over the world. Through these united efforts, we have witnessed historic progress over the past 20 years, successfully opening the doors for millions of Soviet Jews who had been held as virtual prisoners within their own country. The movement also helped to cement Jewish solidarity, raise charity and unite Jews from all over the world.

However, the struggle for religious freedom continues today in many other countries. Activists labor tirelessly in the United States and abroad to fight anti-Semitism and religious discrimination wherever it exists. It is incumbent upon us to remember the lessons from the

movement for tolerance and religious freedom in the Soviet Union as we continue the fight for religious rights around the world. I commend Congressman WAXMAN for this timely and important resolution recognizing this milestone, and I support the ongoing efforts of those promoting religious freedom worldwide.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following vote. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

On November 7, 2007, rollcall vote 1059, On Agreeing to the Resolution—H. Res. 801, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3688) to implement the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement—I would have voted “aye.”

INTRODUCTION OF THE MAKE NO
CENTS UNTIL IT MAKES SENSE
ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I am introducing this bill in response to H.R. 3956, which would unconstitutionally delegate the authority to determine the metal content of coins to the Secretary of the Treasury. While I am concerned at the high cost of minting pennies, I am not entirely convinced that the Mint needs to mint as many pennies as it does. Over the past 30 years, over 300 billion pennies have been minted, more than twice as many coins as all other denominations combined. This is over 1,000 pennies for each man, woman, and child in this country.

I find it hard to believe that with this many pennies having been minted, we still have a shortage of pennies. My bill would prohibit the minting of pennies until the Treasury and Federal Reserve certify that there is no surplus of pennies. If there is a surplus of pennies, it makes no sense for the Mint to continue to coin them if each penny costs more than one cent to produce. If there really were a shortage, the onus would be on the Treasury and Federal Reserve to conduct their survey in a timely fashion in order to facilitate further penny production.

In the event of a shortage I would urge my colleagues to consider Mr. ROSKAM's H.R. 4036, which addresses the cost issue by changing the composition of pennies while maintaining the Congressional control and oversight mandated by the Constitution.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM “BERT”
LUCAS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize William “Bert” Lucas for his

thoughtful and compassionate actions which resulted in the saving of two peoples' lives in two separate incidents.

Bert, a postman from Cresco, Iowa, has been employed with the postal service for 13 years. In August 2007, during his regular route in Decorah, Iowa, Bert noticed Edna Prestsater was not out waiting for him like she regularly did. The following day Edna had not picked up her mail, so Bert contacted Edna's granddaughter with his concerns. Edna had fallen the day before and was unable to get up due to several cracked vertebrae. Bert's concern for Edna no doubt saved her life.

Just 3 weeks later, Bert also noticed Orval Tillerias did not pick up his previous day's mail. Bert swiftly contacted Orval's landlord, who came to check on Orval. Orval was stricken with an illness which caused his kidneys to stop functioning. Doctors said Orval only had a few hours to live had he not received the medical attention he needed.

Bert's alertness and caring demeanor go above and beyond the normal line of duty in this great country of ours. I commend William "Bert" Lucas for his Good Samaritan deeds. I am honored to represent Bert in Congress, and I wish him the best in the future.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN CLAUDE
ALEXANDER

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, many of us on Capitol Hill have had the joy of knowing Captain Claude Alexander, but I would argue not enough of us. Too few have come to know this inspiring man, whose life was lived to the fullest, serving others. He lived for his family, his friends, and his country. In his death I hope people will hear his story and feel compelled to sacrifice for others as he did in his life.

A story that starts in my home state of Kansas stretches across the country and across the globe. After graduating from high school in Ulysses, KS, Claude enlisted in the U.S. Army. His training had only begun when after completing basic training, he found out he had been accepted into the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Upon graduation, he completed Army Ranger training that proved indispensable during his time in Vietnam.

For his service in the harsh Vietnamese jungle, Captain Alexander was awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star for heroic actions. After his radio man was killed in an ambush, Captain Alexander pressed on to establish a forward communications position. This allowed for an attack helicopter to zero in on the attacking Viet Cong. His actions saved his troops' lives, but he sustained significant injuries, losing his leg and hearing in his left ear.

After sustaining such serious injuries some would give up. Some would say, "I gave my all and that's all I have to give." Not Claude Alexander. He recovered and—despite an artificial leg—he lived an authentic life. After earning a master's degree in international relations from Columbia University, he came to Capitol Hill to work for another great Kansas veteran—Senator Bob Dole. Many issues in Congress are divisive, but it was agricultural

issues that brought together Claude and his future wife Denise, who was working on the Senate Committee on Agriculture.

Following his time on Capitol Hill, Captain Alexander went on to a distinguished career representing Ralston Purina Corporation for almost 20 years. In retirement, he volunteered his time with wounded soldiers at Walter Reed, helping them realize they have a promising future even if it means living with a prosthetic. His life was a testament to this truth. He also worked as a consultant and was a member of the Missouri Kansas Forum and the Missouri and Kansas state societies. At state society banquets, Captain Alexander would often invite these wounded heroes to attend and be honored for their sacrifice.

Perhaps it was his prairie roots or growing up in the Wild West, but something lit a fire of passion for life and service in Captain Alexander that burned bright his entire life. This flame has been passed on to many people. He will be greatly missed by those he knew, and his legacy and spirit will be carried on to those who did not. My thoughts and prayers go out to Denise and their children Meg, Philip and Kevin during this time of loss.

TRIBUTE TO FOUR BRAVE POLICE
OFFICERS FROM COLUMBUS, INDIANA

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor four brave police officers from Columbus, Indiana: Sgt. Matt Harris, Patrolman J.T. Wright, Patrolman Ben Quesenbery, and a fourth officer who works undercover and must remain unnamed.

On October 11, 2007, these four officers responded to an automobile accident on Indiana 11 between a pickup truck and a sport utility vehicle. They showed extreme valor by rushing to the scene of the accident and, without regard for their own personal safety, freeing the crash victims from the burning vehicles.

The four officers are heroes who should be commended for their acts of courage. They risked their lives in an effort to save the lives of others. While they might say it is simply part of doing their jobs, I would say that they nobly went above and beyond the call of duty in putting the lives of others above their own.

These men have been honored by Governor Mitch Daniels with the Governor's Award for Valor and by Columbus Mayor Fred Armstrong with the City of Columbus Lifesaving Award.

Madam Speaker, through the grace of God, America is blessed to have heroes such as these police officers, and I am privileged today to pay tribute to them for their courage, bravery, and selflessness, which should serve as an example to all Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE ALABAMA GOVERNOR'S MANSION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition to the 100th anniversary celebration of the Alabama Governor's Mansion.

In 1950, a commission formed by the Alabama State Legislature acquired the home of the late Lt. Gov. Robert Fulwood Ligon from his heirs. The home at 1108 South Perry Street in Montgomery was completed in 1907, and cost the state \$100,000 at the time of its purchase. Since January of 1951, this historic Neo-Classical Revival home has housed Alabama's governor after then-Governor Gordon Person and his family moved in on his inauguration day.

On November 12th of this year, Alabama Governor Riley will pay tribute to this historic structure, and host the festivities for this important occasion. Events will include historical lectures, public tours of the grounds, and an open reception.

I am pleased to help recognize this important occasion at the Governor's Mansion, and congratulate its staff on this historic occasion.

TRIBUTE TO NAVY CHIEF SONAR
TECHNICIAN OF SUBMARINES
DALE ALAN BARUTH

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the service of the United States Navy Chief Sonar Technician of Submarines, Dale Alan Baruth, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to his country on the occasion of his retirement.

For the past 24 years, Chief Baruth has served faithfully and honorably. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served on board the Pre-commissioning Unit Alaska and the USS *Alaska* SSBN 732 Blue Crew from July 1985 to June 1990. Later he served at the Naval Oceanography Command Detachment in Bangor, WA, from June 1990 to October 1993 when he was honorably discharged from active service.

In March 1995, Chief Baruth joined the Navy Reserve where he served honorably until his retirement. He primarily served at the Navy Operational Support Center in Sioux Falls, SD, attached to COMDESRON 24 Det A. In November 2001 he was recalled to active duty in support of Operation Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom and was assigned to the Navy Security Force, National Imagery and Mapping Agency, St. Louis, MO, until December 2002.

I commend Chief Dale Alan Baruth for his many years of loyalty and service to our great Nation. It is an immense honor to represent Chief Baruth in Congress, and I wish him and his family in Estherville, IA, a long, happy and healthy retirement.

LONG-TERM CARE AWARENESS
WEEK

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize November 4–10 as “Long-Term Care Awareness Week.” As the baby boomer generation begins to reach retirement age, understanding the realities and benefits of long-term care has never been more important.

Preparing for future costs of health care is something that every American should be doing. Long-term care insurance is one way for Americans to plan for periods of extended disability without burdening their families, going bankrupt, or relying on government assistance.

At least 60 percent of people over age 65 will require some long-term care services at some point in their lives—the personal assistance that enables impaired people to perform daily routines such as eating, bathing, and dressing. This care is expensive, averaging almost \$200 per day for nursing home care, nearly \$80 per day for assisted living and about \$20 per day for home care.

While these costs are astronomical, it is even more stunning how few people realize the true financial impact of requiring long-term care. A 2006 AARP study found that 59 percent of adults who are over 45 overestimate Medicare coverage for long-term care. It is important for people to understand that Medicare does not generally pay for most long-term care services. Therefore, it is important for individuals to start early and plan ahead for long-term care costs as a critical component of their retirement plans.

Various pieces of legislation have been introduced in Congress to encourage the purchase of long-term care insurance, including my own legislation, The Long-Term Care Act (H.R. 3088), which allows individuals to use funds from their IRAs or 401(k) plans tax-free and without penalty to purchase long-term care insurance. The government does have an important role to play in encouraging higher utilization of long-term care insurance.

During Long-Term Care Awareness Week, I would encourage all citizens interested in retirement planning to visit www.longtermcare.gov, where the government hosts a national clearinghouse for long-term care information.

HONORING MAJ WILLIAM C. WATSON FOR HIS TIRELESS PATRIOTISM AND UNRELENTING HEROISM

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the valiant services of all peacetime and wartime veterans now residing in the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri which I proudly represent. We find in these bravest of men and women the best of what we all wish to be—generous, compassionate, and dedicated. Yet, too often we for-

get that in many of our veterans burn the experiences of the worst our world has to offer, the memory of enduring the atrocities of war for our country. These are America’s patriots—our true heroes. While each of their stories is uniquely American, it is my privilege to share the story of one Missouri veteran who has the distinction of serving in three of our country’s most brutal conflicts.

Twenty-five-year Army veteran MAJ William C. Watson grew up in Marceline, MO. He was recruited by the University of Missouri Football Coach Don Faurot and played in the 1942 Sugar Bowl. While at the University of Missouri, he joined the Army Reserve. Through his ROTC training at the University of Missouri, Major Watson earned the rank of second lieutenant in his infantry unit. Two weeks after the Sugar Bowl, Major Watson found himself in the Army, near the end of World War II. He was stationed in Korea, and upon returning from his tour of duty, Major Watson chose to stay in the Army Reserves. He married Fran, a widow whose first husband was killed in the Philippines during World War II, and settled down as a family man, making a living as a carpenter.

In October 1950, Major Watson received a letter from the United States Army ordering him to report for a physical. He was assigned to Fort Riley, KS, on October 20, 1950, the day Fran and his third child were born. Within 7 short months, on May 15, 1951, he was taken prisoner. He had been engaged in an intense battle against the Chinese. It is reported that the Chinese sent 64,000 troops to attack 3,000 Allied soldiers. For the Chinese, it was a costly battle and has been dubbed the “May Massacre,” as the Chinese lost over 48,000 troops. The Chinese turned over their prisoners to the North Koreans, including Major Watson, and for the next 120 days, the once 300 pound soldier was reduced to a mere 180 pounds. The prisoners were forced into starvation and a devastating 900-mile march through the bitter, piercing cold of winter. Major Watson was stronger than most and, when necessary, carried his fellow prisoners on his back to keep them from being summarily executed. While at “Camp 2,” our man from Missouri fixed a sawmill for his North Korean captors with the ultimate plan to make bunk beds for his fellow POWs in order that they no longer had to sleep on the cold, dirt floor. He succeeded in making 300-bunk beds and saved many lives in the process. Ultimately, the prisoners were returned to the Chinese, under whose control Major Watson spent the remainder of his 837 days in captivity.

Forever dedicated to our Nation, Major Watson chose to remain in the military after the end of the Korean conflict and was once again deployed, this time to Vietnam. After a year in Vietnam, he returned home and retired from the U.S. Army, only to continue his public service as Mayor of Peculiar, MO, for 8 years. Of the 7,190 U.S. prisoners-of-war, 2,730, or 38 percent died, mostly at the hands of the North Koreans.

So traumatic an experience won Major Watson neither a hero’s welcome, nor the respect he deserved upon returning to his station at Ft. Riley, KS. Instead, he was greeted with charges against him of providing comfort to the enemy while a prisoner-of-war, his fate left to a board of inquiry. This insult stemmed from Wisconsin Senator Joseph McCarthy’s accu-

sations that the Army was soft on communists. The board of inquiry gave only vague charges of misconduct, claiming that his actions were treasonous because he did not actively resist the enemy, when it was irrational and futile to do so. Major Watson contacted fellow prisoners, who came to his defense. The board of inquiry never gave Major Watson a verdict, leaving him waiting for 6 months to finally let him know that, while there was no ruling as to his case, he was no longer under the restraints of an inquiry.

Of war, World War II GEN Omar Bradley once said, “the world has achieved brilliance without wisdom, power without conscience. Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants. We know more about war than we know about peace, more about killing than we know about living.” Madam Speaker, to grow as a Nation, we must learn the stories of our veterans, such as that of Major Watson. I honor him and all veterans today for their patriotism and heroism. Their sacrifices are the heritages that add to the rich tapestry that is our Nation’s history. Please join me in encouraging our Nation to never forget and learn from our veterans’ stories. While we continue to fight, our prayers and deepest gratitude are with those who endeavor for the strength and longevity of our American way of life. Our land of freedom and opportunity, democracy and justice, remains just that because of the service men and women like those in Missouri’s Fifth District who tirelessly engage in the struggles to end that which threatens our stability. Let us honor the selfless sacrifices of our veterans by striving for peace and diplomacy in all that we do. May God continue to bless MAJ William C. Watson and all of our veterans as they remind us of the price we pay for our liberty and the debt owed to those who gave so much of themselves to protect and ensure the prosperity of our great Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO PROVIDE FEDERAL TAX RELIEF TO RECIPIENTS OF DISBURSEMENTS FROM THE HOKIE SPIRIT MEMORIAL FUND

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. BOUCHER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to join with my colleagues from Virginia, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. SCOTT, and Ms. DRAKE in introducing legislation to exclude from Federal income taxes disbursements from the Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund received by the victims of the tragedy at Virginia Tech. Virginia’s Senators are introducing identical legislation in the Senate.

The tragedy at Virginia Tech was of a scale and senselessness which defies explanation. In the days following April 16, 2007, this great tragedy was followed by an even greater outpouring of support for the Virginia Tech community from across the nation. Thousands of individuals and organizations generously contributed sizable donations to assist the victims and their families in their time of need.

The university established the Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund as the vehicle to accept and distribute these donations, and last month Virginia Tech disbursed nearly \$7 million from

the fund to the families of the deceased victims and to the injured students. It is the families' and university's desire that these funds be exempted from Federal income tax, and this measure takes the entirely appropriate step of providing this exemption.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House of Representatives to obtain approval of this measure.

TRIBUTE TO DR. OTTO VON
HABSBURG ON HIS 95TH BIRTHDAY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, on November 20, Dr. Otto von Habsburg—a man of courage and intellect and a great friend of the United States—will celebrate his 95th birthday. I extend to him on this occasion my very warmest greetings. Although he and I come from the most different Central European backgrounds imaginable, we have become friends over the years and I hold him in the highest regard.

Dr. von Habsburg, who is in every way an extraordinary human being, was born in 1912 into one of Europe's oldest and most distinguished royal families. He is the eldest son of Emperor Charles, the last Emperor of Austria and the last King of Hungary and Bohemia, and his wife, Princess Zita of Bourbon-Parma. Although he has renounced all claims to the Austrian throne, Dr. von Habsburg retains the hereditary titles of Archduke and Crown Prince of Austria and Crown Prince of Hungary and Bohemia.

Madam Speaker, I met Otto von Habsburg shortly after I was elected a Member of the Congress a quarter century ago. At that time, I was the chairman of the U.S. delegation which met twice a year with a delegation of the European Parliament. At the time Otto was a representative of Germany to the European Parliament, and the Ambassador of Austria brought him to meet me in my office in the Longworth Building. We both felt an immediate bond, and have maintained a cordial relationship ever since.

We have met on numerous occasions in Brussels and Strasbourg, and we have met frequently here in the United States when he has visited our country. His son Gyorgy was married in Budapest in 1997, and my wife Annette and I attended their wedding in the Basilica of St. Stephen. Just a few years ago on his last visit to the United States, I was pleased to welcome and pay tribute to Dr. von Habsburg at a special meeting here in the United States Capitol.

Madam Speaker, although he became Crown Prince of Austria, Hungary and Bohemia when he was just 4 years old when his father became Emperor, and he continues to hold a number of impressive noble titles, what truly distinguishes Otto von Habsburg is not who he was at birth, but who he became in the course of his long and distinguished life.

After growing up as an exile in Switzerland and Spain, the young Otto studied for his Ph.D. in political science at Belgium's famous Catholic University of Louvain. As an astute and principled conservative, he understood early on the true nature of the Nazi movement and became its staunch opponent.

While doing research in Berlin in the early 1930s for his Ph.D. dissertation, Dr. von Habsburg was invited on two separate occasions to meet with Adolf Hitler, who for political reasons, sought to create the appearance of an association between himself and the heir to the Austrian and Hungarian thrones.

"I had the great advantage of having already read Mein Kampf from start to finish and knew what his plans were," Dr. von Habsburg later recalled. "All of this only reinforced my refusal to meet him. On the other hand, it would have been an interesting experience. In fact, this was the only interesting conversation I ever avoided in my life."

In the immediate aftermath of the fall of France to the Nazi armies, Dr. von Habsburg worked with Aristide de Sousa Mendes, the Portuguese consul in Bordeaux, to secure travel papers for an estimated 20,000 Jews and others liable to be persecuted by the Nazis. For his trouble, he was sentenced to death by the Nazis. Fortunately, it was in absentia—Dr. von Habsburg had escaped from Europe in the nick of time and spent the war years here in the United States.

After the war, he returned to Europe, where he became a leader of the Paneuropean Union, served for 20 years as a member of the European Parliament and emerged as a champion of human rights. He was famous for, among many other things, ensuring that there was always an empty chair inside the Parliament building as a symbol of the European nations that were dominated at that time by totalitarian and illiberal ideologies.

Dr. von Habsburg, who is the author of 27 books in 7 languages, is a passionate supporter of freedom and liberty and an unblinking opponent of racism and totalitarianism. I salute him as he celebrates his 95th birthday, and I thank him for all the good that he has done in this world.

TRIBUTE TO BHAVANI K.D.
KAKANI FOR RECEIVING THE 2007
ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION AWARD

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. CRAMER. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to congratulate my friend, Mrs. Bhavani Kakani of Huntsville, Alabama, for receiving the 2007 Arthritis Foundation Humanitarian Award. This award is given annually to a person in the Huntsville community who has displayed exemplary community leadership.

Mrs. Kakani is a distinguished community advocate and civic volunteer who has given countless hours to numerous community and state-wide organizations and boards. In these roles, she has led efforts to raise funds and awareness for health programs across our State, including ending child abuse and neglect, and inspiring self-worth and confidence in young women. In addition, I have worked directly with Mrs. Kakani through her many years of service on the National Children's Advocacy Center's board of directors.

Mrs. Kakani is the cofounder and president of the AshaKiran, a non-profit organization dedicated to educating, empathizing, and empowering foreign born immigrants. Since its

founding, AshaKiran has provided multilingual, multicultural, and crisis referral services to numerous individuals in North Alabama.

Madam Speaker, in addition to her remarkable advocacy across the community, she has worked with the Intergraph Corporation, as a registered cytologist technician, and office manager for her husband's medical practice. Mrs. Kakani and her husband, Dr. Rao Kakani, have also raised three children.

Madam Speaker, Bhavani Kakani's leadership and her strong dedication to the community should serve as a model for others to follow. On behalf of the people of North Alabama, I congratulate Mrs. Kakani for being named the 2007 Arthritis Foundation Humanitarian Award Winner.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES
KLURFELD

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James Klurfeld, vice president and editorial page editor of Newsday, who last week retired after nearly 40 years of outstanding and tireless work at the paper.

James Klurfeld was born in 1945 in New York City and is a 1963 graduate of Syosset High School. His illustrious career at Newsday began in 1968, just one year after he graduated from Syracuse University.

Klurfeld's first job at Newsday was as a local reporter, where he covered various news stories on Long Island. But he quickly rose through the ranks at the paper, where his extraordinary reporting propelled him into several key positions. He led Newsday's Albany bureau, and he served as the newspaper's Washington bureau chief between 1980 and 1986. After his exceptional leadership during these stints, Klurfeld was appointed editor of the editorial pages in December 1987.

James Klurfeld's constant pursuit of journalistic excellence has earned him numerous honors and recognitions. He was a member of the Newsday investigative team that won the 1970 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service, as well as the New York State Publisher's Association and Deadline Club award in the same category. The awards were for a 3-year effort that disclosed political corruption in several townships on Long Island. He also won the Sigma Delta Chi National Reporting Award with other members of the Washington bureau in 1982, and he was the recipient of the 1988 American Society of Newspaper Editors Distinguished Writing Award for editorials on the Iran-Contra hearings. In addition, the staff of Newsday's editorial and viewpoints pages won several major awards under his leadership. These included everything from brilliantly written editorials to exceptionally creative cartoons.

Over the years, Klurfeld has become incredibly knowledgeable about local and national issues and is an expert on foreign affairs matters, most notably through his extensive travels around the globe and from his work with the Council on Foreign Relations. To this extent, he has provided Newsday readers with

extraordinary insights into politics, national security and international policy through the informative and lively column he has written in the paper each week.

Klurfeld's achievements in the news business have also extended beyond print journalism. For the past 12 years, he has asked the tough questions on *The Cutting Edge*, a weekly television program on WLNY/TV55 that focuses on Newsday's Sunday editorials, a show in which I have been honored to appear. I was also privileged to be part of some of his many appearances on Long Island's public broadcasting station, WLIW/Channel 21. In addition, he has provided exceptional analysis and commentary on other broadcast outlets including the CW11 in New York City.

James Klurfeld's exit from Newsday is the end of an era for journalism on Long Island, in New York City and across the Nation. We will miss his leadership, his quest for the truth and his shaping of local and national policy debates.

But fortunately, Klurfeld will not be going far. He will remain on Long Island, where he will pass on the craft he has mastered to the next generation of journalists as the interim director of the Center for News Literacy at Stony Brook University's School of Journalism. He will also continue to write his weekly column.

Although we are sad to see him retire as Newsday's editorial page editor, we are comforted to know that many students of journalism will learn the press trade from one of the best to have ever worked in the news business.

I know that Newsday's staff and readers will be forever grateful for all of James Klurfeld's exceptional and memorable contributions, which have made Newsday a stronger newspaper and have helped the Long Island-New York City area become a better place to live and work.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me now in congratulating James Klurfeld for nearly 40 years of outstanding service to Newsday. I am confident that he will prevail in his new endeavor and continue to enjoy success for many more years to come.

THE LOSS OF NATHAN J.
SCHULDHEISS

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, it is with profound sorrow that I rise to recognize the loss of a brave civilian in Iraq, Nathan J. Schuldheiss, a resident of Newport who served his country with dignity and honor. I join his family and the people of Rhode Island in mourning this great loss.

With a father in the Air Force, Special Agent Schuldheiss grew up traveling across the country. He graduated from La Cueva High School in Albuquerque, NM, received a political science degree from Gonzaga University, and received a law degree from the University of Rhode Island. Schuldheiss, 27, had dreams of one day working for the CIA or FBI and continuing his extensive traveling.

Schuldheiss volunteered his services to become a civilian counterintelligence specialist

with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, assigned to Detachment 204 at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska. He had spent 5 months in Iraq with his team seeking out insurgents that might pose a threat to servicemembers in the region. On November 1, Schuldheiss was on his way to interview a group of informants when an improvised explosive device was detonated. Schuldheiss and two other members of his team died of wounds suffered from the blast.

Those that knew Special Agent Schuldheiss remember his sense of humor, his leadership, his loyalty, and his sense of adventure. Most importantly, he had a positive impact on those around him. His loss certainly causes us all to reflect on the bravery demonstrated by our men and women who carry out their obligations in the face of danger. When Special Agent Schuldheiss's Nation called him to duty to preserve freedom, liberty and security, he answered without hesitation. We will remember him as a patriot who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

May we keep Special Agent Schuldheiss's loved ones in our thoughts and prayers as they endure this difficult period, especially his father, Jeff; his mother, Sarah Conlon; and his sister, Erin. May his memory live on forever.

We will also continue to hope for the safe and speedy return of all of our troops serving throughout the world.

FOUR DOMES FOR JIM KLURFELD

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give James Klurfeld four domes as he departs as the editorial page editor of Newsday and becomes a journalism professor at Stony Brook University. As a Member of this House for 7 years, Madam Speaker, I have often found myself in frightening circumstances. I have participated in corkscrew landings in Baghdad; I have been whisked in high-security motorcades through Islamabad; I have discussed energy policy with President Bush. But nothing, Madam Speaker, is more jarring, more intimidating, more perilous than an interview with Jim Klurfeld or waking up on the morning that Newsday publishes its infamous "Dome Ratings" of the Long Island Congressional Delegation.

Let me share with my colleagues an example of Jim Klurfeld's high standards. When I originally ran for this House in 2000, I coveted Newsday's endorsement. For days I prepared for the endorsement interview. In fact, I hadn't had as much "fun" since preparing for my SAT exams in eleventh grade. Finally, I sat down with Jim and his editorial board. One hour and the loss of three pounds of perspiration later, I left. As my campaign manager and I walked through the Newsday parking lot, I asked him: "How do you think it went?" His response: "We should have told Mr. Klurfeld that you're running for Congress, not President."

In fact, Madam Speaker, Jim Klurfeld's expectations were always high, his questions always probing, his depth great. He is a politician's worst nightmare: unspinnable and always a step ahead.

His departure from Newsday won't exactly let the Members of the Long Island Delegation sleep better at night. We will still stay awake in fear of those notorious domes and dreading those endorsements.

Nor will his departure change the basic premise of the relationship I have with him. I never mind disagreeing with Jim Klurfeld. I just hope never to disappoint him.

I know many of my colleagues in Congress who have known and read Jim Klurfeld wish him well as a journalism professor. He will indeed forge a new generation of excellence in journalism, just as his father set a standard of excellence that Jim put on the pages of Newsday for so many years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, on November 6, 2007, I inadvertently failed to vote on rollcall No. 1043. Had I voted, I would have voted "aye."

STATEMENT SUPPORTING H.R.
3685, THE EMPLOYMENT NON-DIS-
CRIMINATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Chairman, throughout my career, I have fought for equal opportunity and rights for all of our fellow citizens. Today, I rise in support of H.R. 3685, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act because I believe that discrimination in the workplace on the basis of sexual orientation, race and religion has no place in the United States. Yet, the fact remains discrimination exists. Throughout our Nation, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Americans face discrimination without the protection of Federal law and as a result, hard working, skilled employees can be fired simply because of their sexual orientation.

I believe with every fiber of my being that this is wrong, that it is un-American. Performance at work should determine employment—not a person's sexual orientation which has no bearing on one's ability to do the job.

I applaud my good friends and colleagues, Representative BARNEY FRANK and TAMMY BALDWIN, for their tremendous leadership on this issue. While I support the bill before us today, I would like to take a moment to extend my sincerest regret that language from the original bill, which extended civil rights protections to transgender Americans, was excluded from the version we will vote on today.

When I came to Congress in 1999, I implemented an office employment policy that went beyond current Federal law to add sexual orientation and gender identity to existing protections. Many employers—private and public—have already taken this long overdue step. In my home town of Chicago and in the State of Illinois, we gave already have in place laws

that protect gender identity as well as sexual orientation.

We must work for a Federal law that ensures every American is guaranteed the ability to get a job or promotion based on his or her

ability. It has taken 33 years to pass legislation that bans discrimination in the workplace against individuals based on their sexual orientation. Today's vote is significant victory.

But we must not let years pass before we make more improvements to Federal law to give transgender individuals the employment protections they deserve.