

Caroline has completed all seven requirements that promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values and leadership skills.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Caroline Wright her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Girl Scouts Gold Award.

RECOGNIZING 21 YEARS OF SERVICE BY STEVE MATHIS TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement in March of 2008, I rise to thank Mr. Steve Mathis for 21 years of outstanding service to the United States Government, working at the House recording studio here in the U.S. House of Representatives.

A native Californian, Steve graduated from San Diego State University in 1978. He then worked 5 years as a shift supervisor for KPBS-TV. Steve began his House career in the House recording studio's production department in 1980 when "live" House television coverage was only a year old. For the next 15 years, Steve was an indispensable member of the House's television floor coverage, recording studio, and radio production crew serving around the clock whenever House sessions required.

After a detour as a production operator at CNN for 6 years, Steve returned to the House in 2002, becoming a television director for both studio shows and House floor coverage. Highlights have included directing the 2008 State of the Union broadcast along with working on numerous other joint sessions with world leaders.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend congratulations to Mr. Mathis for his many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish him and his wife Paula many wonderful years fulfilling his retirement dreams of visiting every Major League ballpark in the country and taking bicycle trips throughout the world.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res 312) revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2008, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2010 through 2013:

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Chairman, the Democrats proposed budget is tax and spend all over again.

Instead of preserving tax relief for Americans, the Democrat budget includes a \$683 billion tax increase. This is \$683 billion dollars the majority plans to take from everyday American, who are already feeling the pinch from rising gas prices, increasing food costs, and credit card debt. These horrendous tax increases are meant to pay for the tens of billions in wasteful, new Federal spending proposed in the Democrat budget.

And where is the entitlement reform that we so desperately need to ensure our children and grandchildren are not saddled with the price of our inaction? It is nowhere to be found in the Democrat budget.

For a majority leadership that sailed into power under the guise of change, it is terribly obvious that what this budget represents is merely more of the same—more of the same wasteful spending and tax increases to pay for it all. Washington does not have a revenue problem. It has a spending problem. The Democrat budget has got it backwards.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th.

THANK YOU TO THE KANSAS COYOTES

HON. NANCY E. BOYDA

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise to share the conclusion of a dramatic story that began in the early days of World War II. This testimony underscores the heart and commitment of our Kansas Airmen. In 1944, the crew of a B-24 Liberator bomber was brought down by anti-aircraft fire in the Pacific near Palau. That crew was not found until March of this year. Sixty-four years after the crew of the U.S. Army Air Forces gave their lives for America—the Joint P-O-W/M-I-A Accounting Command recovered the men from their watery graves. Volunteer Kansas Air National Guardsmen from the 190th Air Refueling Wing returned them home to the United States. The fallen men will, finally, be able to rest in peace in the soil of the country they fought to protect. I'd like to give a profound "thank you" to the Kansas Coyotes for their role in helping to provide the long overdue closure for the families of the Babes in Arms crew. I commend you for your spirit and dedication to your fellow soldier.

INTRODUCTION OF THE POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE DISCLOSURE ACT

HON. LOUIS E. McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, today, I am proud to join my friend and colleague, BRIAN BAIRD, in introducing the Political Intelligence Disclosure Act. By requiring political intelligence firms to make their activities known in the same way lobbying is reported, this bill will help to bring transparency to the growing world of political intelligence.

Political intelligence firms were first established in the 1970s and have been operating

since then without regulation. This industry focuses not on influencing Congress, but on gathering information for forthcoming legislative action in order to give their clients an advantage over other investors. This information is then used to influence decisions on stocks, securities and commodities. Currently, firms conducting political intelligence are not required to disclose their clients or earnings. But the bill we are introducing today would change that and require the same disclosure from political intelligence firms as from lobbying firms.

With leading experts noting that political intelligence businesses have quadrupled in size since 2003, these businesses are now emerging as a key factor in the lobby industry, and should be regulated accordingly. Such an important and increasingly relevant business should certainly be required to make its activities known to the public.

Additionally, there have been reports that employees of political intelligence firms have been attending meetings related to legislation, essentially posing as lobbyists. By requiring disclosure of these firms, this bill will ensure that people attending meetings where legislation is discussed make their intentions known and their goals clear.

The Political Intelligence Disclosure Act will bring necessary accountability to this growing field, and I am proud to be an original cosponsor. We must make political intelligence firms accountable and transparent. This important bill will do just that. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill today.

HONORING STEPHEN FEINSTEIN

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise in memory of Stephen Feinstein, the director of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies and adjunct professor of history at the University of Minnesota, who died unexpectedly on March 4, 2008. He was 64.

Born in Philadelphia and educated at Villanova and New York Universities, Prof. Feinstein taught for 30 years at the University of Wisconsin at River Falls before joining the faculty at the University of Minnesota. From its founding in 1997, he built the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies into an internationally renowned educational, research, and outreach institution that was engaged with a broad range of human rights issues, including the Armenian Genocide, the treatment of Native Americans, and the humanitarian crises in East Africa. To end genocide, he once said, "we must study it and understand how it works against what we call 'civilization,'" if possible to develop an "early warning system" to prevent future genocides.

Feinstein was known around the world as an advocate for Holocaust survivors and genocide education, and in particular, for his expertise on artistic expression and genocide. In addition to his CHGS responsibilities and activities, he served as an art consultant and guest curator for numerous museums, universities and art galleries in Minnesota, Florida, New York and Washington, D.C.

"Above all else," said his colleague Eric Weitz, "Stephen Feinstein was a great humanitarian, someone with a profound belief in the

value of research and education, a person who truly believed that if we had just one more lecture about Darfur, ran one more outreach session with teachers on the Armenian Genocide, taught one more course on the Holocaust and genocides, it really could make a difference and the world would be a better place for all of us.”

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. CECIL
C. CUTTING

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, Dr. Cecil C. Cutting, the pioneering physician who served as the first Executive Director of The Permanente Medical Group (TPMG) died Sunday, March 2 at the age of 97. His death came one day after the physicians of TPMG came together to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the founding of the group, and to honor his contributions and the Medical Group's achievements.

Dr. Cutting was the first physician hired by Dr. Sidney R Garfield when Dr. Garfield joined forces with Henry J. Kaiser to provide prevention-oriented, prepaid care for the workers building the Grand Coulee Dam in 1938. When the U.S. entered World War II, and Henry Kaiser was awarded the contract to build Liberty ships in the shipyards in Oakland and Richmond, Drs. Garfield and Cutting moved the innovative health care program to Richmond, California. They provided medical care for Kaiser's 200,000 workers at wartime shipyards in Richmond, California; Vancouver, Washington; and Portland, Oregon, as well as at Kaiser's Steel Mill in Fontana, California. Based on the quality of care they were able to provide to the shipyard workers, Henry Kaiser's shipyards set records for the speed with which seaworthy Liberty ships were completed in support of the war effort. The program was so successful, and the care delivered of such high quality, that the unions representing the workers convinced Drs. Garfield and Cutting and Mr. Kaiser to open the program to the public when the war ended in 1945.

On February 21, 1948, Dr. Cutting, Dr. Garfield and five physician colleagues founded The Permanente Medical Group, and selected Dr. Cutting as the first Executive Director, a role he held for 20 years. Under his extraordinary leadership, and in the face of serious opposition from organized medicine at the county, state, and national levels, a firm foundation was laid that set TPMG on course to become the largest and most successful medical group in the country, and Kaiser Permanente the largest non-profit private health care program in America.

Dr. Cutting was born in 1910 in Campbell, California. He received his A.B. and MD degrees from Stanford University, and completed his residency at Stanford Lane Hospital and San Francisco County Hospital in surgery and orthopedics in 1938, just as Dr. Garfield began recruiting physicians to provide care for the workers at the Grand Coulee Dam site. Despite a warning from then Stanford Medical School Dean Loren Chandler, who felt that he "could never permit Cecil to get mixed up in such an operation," and opposition from physi-

cian colleagues in the Bay Area who argued that prepaid group practice was "unethical," Dr. Cutting was attracted by the idea of combining prepayment, prevention, and group practice, and envisioned an opportunity to redefine health care delivery based on those precepts. He joined Dr. Garfield at Grand Coulee, and formed a collegial and professional partnership that would span more than 40 years, and have a profound impact on care delivery in the United States. Together they built an ethical care delivery system founded on the precepts of integration, prepayment, prevention, and multispecialty group practice, and committed to quality care, stewardship of member resources, and community benefit.

Dr. Cutting ensured that the physicians of The Permanente Medical Group would be responsible for the organization of medical services, and would have the freedom and independence collectively to manage and take responsibility for both the quality and value of the care and service provided. He established robust investments in health education and health promotion, began a research program which led to the establishment of the Division of Research, and established the first medicine and surgery residency programs in Kaiser Permanente. Throughout his life, he was one of the country's leading advocates for the benefit to society, and to the profession, of prepaid group practice.

"We wanted to create a medical environment in which the doctors' work would be interesting and stimulating, where they would have reasonable income and security, and very importantly . . . fit into the accepted framework and code of ethics of American medicine, while at the same time develop an effective and efficient alternative to fee-for-service practice," he once said. Speaking at the White House Conference on Health in 1965 he challenged health care policy makers to shift the emphasis in public debate toward keeping people well: "We ought to promote an enthusiasm for taking care of ourselves."

That same year he addressed the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and forecast the arrival of the electronic medical record, encouraging his peers not to feel threatened by computers. In the dawn of the computer age, he predicted that "All [medical] histories and findings would be recorded by computers and made available to the physician," Dr. Cutting told AAAS. "This mechanization must not be construed as an impersonalization of the relationships between the physician and his patient. The challenge is to do quite the opposite. By increasing the physician's knowledge of the patient . . . his time with the patient should be much more constructively utilized to know the patient as a person and to guide him through sickness."

Above all else, Dr. Cutting is remembered for his loyalty to The Permanente Medical Group, and his commitment to the Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program.

Dr. Robert Pearl, the Executive Director and CEO of TPMG, noted that "the organizational DNA which Dr. Cutting helped to create 60 years ago can be seen today in our outstanding quality outcomes and our national leadership in disease prevention, cardiovascular care, genetic research, deployment of advanced IT systems and health care policy." In 2007 TPMG established the Cecil C. Cutting Leadership Award, to recognize outstanding physician leaders, and in recognition

of Dr. Cutting's extraordinary contributions as Executive Director of The Permanente Medical Group, and the contributions he made to improving health care in the United States.

A TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL CHASE
DINDO AND ALL OF LIMA COM-
PANY FOR HELPING TO SAVE
THE LIFE OF A LITTLE IRAQI
GIRL

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Corporal Chase Dindo of Mobile and his Alabama-based Marine Corps Reserve unit for helping save the life of a two-year old Iraqi girl, Amenah.

In December of last year, one of the Marines of the Montgomery-based unit, Lima Company of the 3rd Battalion, 23rd Marines discovered little Amenah was suffering from a rare life-threatening heart problem.

Lima Company stepped into action making arrangements with Children's Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee, for Amenah to have the life-saving surgery. The hospital and surgeons donated their facilities and surgical skills at no charge. The unit took Amenah and her mother to the Jordanian border where the two were flown to the United States.

Amenah's three-hour operation was a success, and she will spend six to eight weeks in the United States recovering before returning with her mother to their home in Haditha, Iraq.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Cpl. Chase Dindo and the entire Lima Company for their selfless actions to save the life of a little girl. I know I join their families and friends in extending our heartfelt thanks for their outstanding service to the United States of America—they are true American heroes.

HONORING KRISTY THOMPSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kristy Thompson of Cameron, Missouri. Kristy is a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, and earning the most prestigious award of Girl Scout Gold Award.

Kristy has been very active with her troop, participating in many scout activities. In order to receive the prestigious Gold Award, Kristy has completed all seven requirements that promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values and leadership skills.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kristy Thompson her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Girl Scouts Gold Award.