

Let's support our farmers because they support us everyday.

TRIBUTE TO STOCKTON MORRIS,
PENNSYLVANIA DELEGATE TO
THE FIRST JUVENILE DIABETES
CONGRESS IN WASHINGTON, DC

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Stockton Morris, a 9 year old student at the Coopertown Elementary School who has just completed the third grade. On Sunday, June 20, Stockton will be traveling to Washington, DC as a Pennsylvania delegate to the First Juvenile Diabetes Congress to raise the awareness of the Congress and the country about diabetes.

Diabetes is a devastating disease which affects over 16 million Americans. Even though 1,700 people are diagnosed with diabetes each day, half of those who have this disease do not even know it. Unlike many other chronic and potentially deadly diseases, there is so much more that we can do to tackle diabetes—much of it simply through education and awareness. Most important, however, is the need for increased funding for diabetes research at NIH and CDC so that we may someday discover a cure to eradicate this disease.

I have heard from many of Stockton's friends and teachers. All of them applaud him for his character and courage. Susan Mingey, a teacher in Stockton's school, wrote to me saying, "As a teacher in Stockton's school, I have watched him for almost four years carry himself with dignity and honor as he accepts the day to day routine of 'highs and lows' with needles. I have listened to him explain his disease to peers, teachers, and Coopertown's youngest students with the knowledge and authority of one who is in control of his disease." Karen Brimer, Stockton's Learning Support Teacher, wrote to say, "I have seen Stockton grow into such a wonderful young person. He is full of knowledge, wisdom, and zest for life. I often look at him as my teacher when it comes to learning about diabetes."

Stockton has worked patiently, quietly, and courageously to raise the awareness of his schoolmates regarding this disease. He has even raised money for research to find a cure. On Sunday, Stockton will be taking his efforts to a new level, traveling to Washington, DC to raise the awareness of the country and the Congress about the need for increased research dollars.

Three years ago, I myself was diagnosed with adult-onset diabetes, a disease in which the body does not produce or properly use insulin—a hormone which breaks down sugar and converts it to energy. I was diagnosed after I underwent a diabetes screening test after former Speaker Newt Gingrich urged me and my colleagues to become more involved with fighting diabetes. I have type II diabetes, the most common form, and can easily treat and control my condition through medication, exercise, and diet. Since then I have worked

as a leading Member of the House diabetes caucus to do what Stockton has been so successful at—teach others about the disease, and raise awareness about the need for increased research dollars.

In April of this year, I introduced legislation that will help us to fight this deadly disease by raising public awareness and provide increased funding for research. This innovative legislation, called the Stamp Out Diabetes Act, would create a new first-class postage stamp to raise funds for diabetes research. Under my legislation, supporters of diabetes research would voluntarily pay between 34 cents and 41 cents for the special stamp. The additional penny to eight cents would be earmarked for diabetes research at the National Institutes of Health, after the administrative costs incurred by the postal service are subtracted.

My hope is that Americans will realize the importance of funding this type of research and will show their support by paying a few extra pennies to mail a letter. With millions of Americans taking part in this program, it is my hope that we can raise as much as \$10 million in additional funding for diabetes research. As we struggle to balance the budget and reduce the national debt, we have to come up with new and innovative ways to fund research in critical areas like diabetes. By allowing individuals to voluntarily help the cause of diabetes research, my legislation will help to fund this life-saving research.

Not only will the stamp help to raise much-needed funding for diabetes research—at no expense to taxpayers—but it will also help to raise the public's awareness about the disease. Perhaps it will even prompt some individuals to undergo diabetes screenings and catch the disease in its early stages. With innovative projects such as the diabetes stamp, combined with the work and support of young leaders like Stockton Morris, we will indeed be able to find a cure for diabetes as we enter the new Millennium.

And so I rise today to applaud this extraordinary young man. He is a tribute to his family, his school, and his community. His continuing advocacy on behalf of the diabetes community is an immeasurable benefit to our common cause—finding a cure for diabetes. In conclusion, I would like to thank Stockton for all of his work on behalf of the diabetes community. I would also like to thank the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation for holding this important event. The work that they have done has indeed made a difference.

IN MEMORY OF ROD AND BRAD
BURNSIDE, JIM AYRE, AND HOWARD SWIFT

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor and remember three men and one young boy who lost their lives in a tragic accident.

On November 11, 1995, after setting out for a duck hunt, Rod Burnside, his son Brad, Jim Ayre and Howard Swift were swept up by in-

clement weather. I know them well. Their presence is missed not only by their families and friends, but by the whole Midland County community as well.

While no one could have foreseen the tragedy that took these gentle souls from their loved ones, the community came together in the spirit of fellowship to help the family and friends through these difficult times.

The community has united to build a tribute to their departed friends. On June 24, 1999, a ceremony will be held to dedicate the memorial. It will stand near the Pere Marquette Rail Trail and will serve as a testament to the honor in which each man lived his life and it will be a solemn monument for their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I know you will join me and my colleagues in a moment of silence to honor those for whom this memorial is being dedicated.

MANDATORY GUN SHOW
BACKGROUND CHECK ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration this bill (H.R. 2122) to require background checks at gun shows, and for other purposes;

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Chairman, it is a travesty that our society tolerates the death of 13 children every single day by guns.

I just don't understand why we aren't outraged and ashamed.

The gun violence provisions purposed by the Republican leadership prove they don't "gets it."

One of my local communities 3,000 miles away "gets it." They recognizes that "a mere reduction in the availability of guns and ammunition would decrease the lethality and injury associated with violence."

The Senate "gets it." They passed some modest gun safety measures: to require mandatory background checks of buyers at gun shows to prohibit juveniles from privately purchasing assault weapons banning the importation of large ammunition clips requiring the sale of a gun lock or storage box with each gun restricting unlicensed sales at gun shows.

One of my local sheriffs "gets it." He said yesterday, "There needs to be tangible change around the issues of gun use and ownership. In my opinion the Senate language is not unreasonable."

But instead of encouraging responsible gun safety measures, the House leadership has proposed weakening the Senate provisions by watering down the background checks at gun shows.

In 1997 an ATF study traced firearms used in youth crimes in one of my communities and found that most of the weapons were bought from gun traffickers and small dealers.

Without adequate background checks, we can't prevent guns from getting into the hands of gun traffickers and being sold to juvenile offenders.

June 18, 1999

While I recognize the rights of law abiding citizens to purchase guns for hunting and collecting, as a parent I have to ask myself "how many more children have to die because of gun violence before "enough is enough."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 216, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I was granted a leave of absence for today, Friday, June 18, 1999 after 12 noon. At that time, I received word of a family emergency at home in New Jersey and immediately left Washington D.C. Following are the votes I missed and how I would have voted:

Representatives Sessions and Frost amendment (No. 8) to H.R. 2122, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Check Act: On rollcall No. 239, I would have voted "nay".

Representative Goode Amendment (No. 9) to H.R. 2122, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Check Act: On rollcall No. 240, I would have voted "nay".

Representative Hunter Amendment (No. 10) to H.R. 2111, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Check Act: On rollcall No. 241, I would have voted "nay".

Representative Rogan Amendment (No. 11) to H.R. 2122, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Check Act: On rollcall No. 242, I would have voted "yea".

Representatives Conyers and Campbell Amendment (No. 12) to H.R. 2122, the Mandatory Gun Show Background Act: On rollcall No. 243, I would have voted "yea".

On Passage of H.R. 2122: On rollcall vote No. 234, I would have voted "nay".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on Thursday, June 17, 1999, missing rollcall votes 220 through 235. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall 220, "no" on rollcall 221, "yes" on rollcall 222, "no" on rollcall 223, "no" on rollcall 224, "yes" on rollcall 225, "yes" on rollcall 226, "no" on rollcall 227, "yes" on rollcall 228, "yes" on rollcall 229, "yes" on rollcall 230, "no" on rollcall 231, "yes" on rollcall 232, "no" on rollcall 233, "no" on rollcall 234, and "yes" on rollcall 235.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO AKA's BETA ALPHA OMEGA CHAPTER

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring your attention to an organization that has made quite an impact on its surrounding community. I speak of the Beta Alpha Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is the oldest Greek-letter organization for African American women. Founded on the Howard University campus in Washington, DC on January 15, 1908, it has grown from a membership of 9 to over 150,000.

New Jersey's oldest chapter is Beta Alpha Omega. It was chartered on January 30, 1934 in Newark. For the past 65 years this chapter has continuously provided invaluable community services in the City of Newark and surrounding area. As a result of their unwavering dedication to the improvement of their community, the Beta Alpha Omega Chapter will be honored by the Kappa Alpha Sorority on Saturday, June 19, 1999.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we too join in honoring this fine organization; an organization rich in both history and service. Once again, I extend my praises to the Beta Alpha Omega, and wish them another 65 years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 217, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

FIGHTING HUNGER FOR A QUARTER OF A CENTURY: COMMEMORATING BREAD FOR THE WORLD'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute and congratulate Bread for the World on their 25th anniversary, and welcome Bread for the World members from across the country as they convene in Washington, D.C. for their National Gathering, Silver Anniversary Celebration, and Annual Lobby Day.

For 25 years, Bread for the World has worked to end hunger and seek justice for the poor, the hurting, and the oppressed. When people of faith come together around the common conviction that hunger can be defeated, great things happen. And great things have happened over the years, as Bread for the World has won many victories, large and small, on behalf of the hungry and voiceless.

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It has been my privilege to work with Bread for the World on many issues over the years, and I've often drawn inspiration from the energy, dedication, and tenacity of Bread for the World Members and staff. This organization represents our finest traditions of living faith and civic duty, and its efforts have never been more important.

Despite a booming economy, hunger is on the rise, and millions of low-income Americans are having trouble putting food on the table. Rosy economic statistics are masking real hardship and a deepening of poverty for many working people and others. Across the nation, the number of people turning to food banks and soup kitchens for help is up substantially. And here in the richest nation on earth, we still have a disgracefully high child poverty rate, with one in five of our children living in poverty.

And despite tremendous progress in this fight over the past 25 years, hunger still threatens 800 million of the world's people. Large populations in Africa's Great Lakes Region, Angola, Liberia, Somalia, Sudan, the former Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Iraq, and North Korea require assistance to survive. World estimates of people requiring emergency food aid to escape hunger now exceed 26 million.

We know that debt relief is hunger relief, and that is why Bread for the World's Debt Relief for Poverty Reduction initiative is so timely. This year, Bread for the World joined together with hundreds of other organizations working internationally to ease crippling debt burdens that keep poor nations from investing in the well-being of their citizens. Payments on past debt are, on average, twice the amount that many poor countries receive in aid. In sub-Saharan Africa, nations are making payments of \$12 billion each year on old debt—six times the amount it would take to school all African children. That is wrong, and I am pleased to join with Bread for the World in seeking to change it.

I give thanks for Bread for the World and its members and staff for their contributions to fighting hunger in the United States and overseas, and wish them continued blessings in the years ahead, as they seek justice and an end to hunger.

TRIBUTE TO DISCOVER CARD SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the recipients of the Discover Card Tribute Award scholarships. The winners were selected from over 10,000 applications nationwide.

The Discover Card Tribute Award program honors outstanding high school juniors across the United States and overseas. The Tribute Award program not only recognizes the students scholastic achievement, but also their community service, leadership skills, unique talents, and goal attainment. The winners may