

quickly spread to other southern states, such as Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and eventually the rest of the country. In addition to a festival, the celebration included the purchase of lands or "emancipation grounds" by freed slaves in honor of the celebration. On January 1, 1980, under the provisions of House Bill No. 1016, the 66th Congress of the United States declared June 19th "Emancipation Day in Texas," making Juneteenth a legal state holiday.

"Ring the Bell of Freedom" was the Juneteenth National Museum's festival theme for 1999. Juneteenth is an important event in Baltimore that celebrates American history and historical figures. The annual occurrence of Juneteenth attracts people from across the state to downtown Baltimore in observance of this event.

Among the various festivities, the celebration included lectures on important historical figures, spoken word readings, musical attractions, and food venues that satisfied every taste imaginable. There were shopping opportunities for antique buffs, and a vast array of arts and crafts available for purchase. In keeping with this year's theme, the celebration featured an emotionally stirring re-enactment of a slave auction. Still, along with the painful images that accompany an event like a slave auction, came the sweet and pleasant visions of liberation and freedom. There was also a walk through a historical exhibit on Paul Robeson, along with a lecture from Dr. Beryl Williams, Dean Emeritus of Morgan State University.

Further, the Juneteenth festival featured both a tap and step dance exhibition, along with a family tent with activity and game tables for children and adults. It concluded with a performance by the New Baltimore Hand Dancers at the dance pavilion. The Juneteenth Festival has grown to be a vitally important part of not only Baltimore, but African-American culture as well. True to tradition, this year's celebration proved to be as exciting as ever.

I congratulate Juneteenth National Museum on a successful Juneteenth celebration.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SUSAN
YOACHUM—POLITICS WITH PAS-
SION

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 1999

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, sadly I rise to remind my colleagues that today marks the first anniversary of the passing of Susan Yoachum, one of the most respected political writers in California.

Born on May 12, 1955 in Dallas, Texas, Susan Gail Yoachum graduated in 1975 from Southern Methodist University in Dallas with bachelors' degrees in journalism and political science. She was a reporter for the Dallas Morning News, the Independent Journal in Marin County and the San Jose Mercury-News, where she was part of the news team that won a 1990 Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the Loma Prieta earthquake.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

At the Mercury-News she exposed chemical contamination of drinking water in South San Jose, disclosed unsatisfactory medical care for the indigent, and wrote about industrial espionage. She joined the San Francisco Chronicle in 1990. She wrote some of the biggest political stories of the 80's and 90's. She covered national, state, and local politics for the Chronicle. Her assignments included the 1992 presidential campaign, the governor's race in 1990 and 1994, the 1991 San Francisco Mayoral race and the 1992 U.S. Senate race. She also wrote in-depth about issues, from affirmative action to abortion, from tobacco tax to the hazards of toxic chemicals. Susan was promoted to political editor in 1994.

Her love of language surfaced at an early age: She became the National Spelling Bee Champion in 1969, winning her title by correctly spelling the word, "interlocutory." Susan was renowned for her wonderful wit and sense of humor.

In 1992, she was the first to call Democratic Senate candidates Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer the "Thelma and Louise of American politics."

She had a passion for politics—the drama, the intrigue and, most important, the effect on the lives of ordinary citizens. She brought an unusual combination of idealism, pragmatism, and skepticism to her work.

Last year, when the candidates for California's governorship debated, Susan wrote one last memorable piece of political analysis.

"What I was hoping for, while I've been sidelined by illness, was a discussion of issues and what difference it would make who ends up being elected governor in a time of prosperity," she wrote. "I wanted to see the candidates discuss their plans for schools instead of acting like school bullies in their 30-second ads."

Susan brought to her fight against breast cancer the same indomitable spirit, tenacity, passion, and humor that served her so well as a political writer.

She was called a "real life Murphy Brown" for her courage in sharing her personal battle with cancer with hundreds of thousands of readers. But Susan was more than that. Her work has been a lighthouse beam through the fog of local and national politics," wrote the Wall Street Journal's Marilyn Chase. "She stands as a model of professionalism and courage in the workplace. The lesson for colleagues of cancer survivors: Professionalism doesn't disappear with a diagnosis."

Susan wrote movingly about the 180,000 women who get breast cancer each year. "I have metastatic breast cancer," she wrote last September. "It's a tough word to spell and an even harder one to say, but its meaning is rather simple. It means a runaway strain is careening through my body. I want there to be a face that goes with these statistics. It certainly doesn't have to be my face: it can be the face of someone you surely know and love who has had her life torn apart by this disease. This carnage has to stop. I wrote to plead for more and better research, for more and better treatment. Like too many women before me, I wrote to plead: Find something to save my life. To save all of our lives."

We can best remember Susan by working to ensure that America's families are spared the suffering she experienced.

MANDATORY GUN SHOW
BACKGROUND CHECK ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 18, 1999

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

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Chairman, during last week's consideration of the Gun Show Protection Act (H.R. 2122), my vote in support of the Rogan amendment to prohibit individuals who have committed "violent acts of juvenile delinquency" from possessing firearms as adults was not tallied by the electronic voting machine.

Although I opposed the underlying bill because the focus was on penalizing law-abiding citizens rather than criminals, I support the intent of the Rogan amendment to toughen penalties for violent criminals.

SPACE POLICY

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the important topic of America's space policy in the post-Cold War world. One of America's leading experts on this subject, Mr. James H. Hughes of Englewood, Colorado, has written many articles concerning this topic. I would like to submit Mr. Hughes' latest article entitled "Space Policy" for the RECORD.

The end of the Cold War brought with it the dissolution of the Soviet Union, and a euphoric victory, more completely realized after the 1991 Persian Gulf War. The U.S. sought to convert its "peace dividend" from winning the Cold War, into a new social order, rather than understanding the Cold War and seeking a responsible victory, much like the Marshall Plan after World War II.

Aided by a minor downturn in the economy and third party candidate Ross Perot who split the vote with George Bush, Bill Clinton won the 1992 presidential election, and utilized the "peace dividend" for an agenda of cutting spending for defense, and funding social programs. Accelerated spending of the "peace dividend" became a prominent theme in Bill Clinton's first term of office (1993-1997).

The Cold War victory of the U.S. was recognized by some as an incomplete victory. The Cold War—communism—had cost the Soviet Union dearly. The U.S. and Western Europe had won. The Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc were in transition, coming out of their socialist state economies and dictatorships. While time has shown that the Eastern Bloc is becoming westernized with the introduction of freedom, democracy, and private enterprise (for example, East and West Germany have become unified), Russia and many of the former members of the U.S.S.R. remain in transition, ten years later.

Today, Russia is vacillating between forces for democracy and economic reform, versus a