

tragedy that has stricken the citizens of Taiwan. I extend condolences to the Ambassador and the numerous families that have been devastated by this earthquake. The people of this country have been great allies to the United States and their ongoing struggle for independence parallels the many perils experienced by my people here in this country.

I have visited Taiwan on numerous occasions and have always been warmly received by both its government officials and private citizens, and believe that it is only right that I continue to carry the torch of friendship during their time of need. While the United States is currently recuperating from the aftermath of its own natural disaster, it is important that we share in Taiwan's grief. I have personally been in contact with the Ambassador and have pledged my full support toward helping them recover from this tragedy. I ask my colleagues in the House to follow my act of solidarity and pledge their support to our comrades in Taiwan.

THE HERMELIN BRAIN TUMOR CENTER—NEW HOPE FOR CANCER PATIENTS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, this year in the United States some 20,000 new cases of primary brain tumors will be diagnosed, and more than 100,000 cases of cancer migrating to the brain from a different site will be found. Traditional treatment regimens of surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation have not stopped the natural progression of the disease in far too many cases, and new therapies are desperately needed.

Finding new treatments often means years of laboratory investigation, followed by both clinical trials and the examination of results, before such therapies can be deemed successful and made available to patients. Speeding up this process is of vital importance to innumerable cancer patients. With this in mind, friends and family of David B. Hermelin have pledged \$10 million to launch a brain tumor research center at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

Mr. Speaker, David Hermelin is the United States Ambassador to Norway, and earlier this year he was successfully treated for a brain tumor. Currently, he is undergoing therapy at the Henry Ford Hospital. The funds donated in his name will launch the Hermelin Brain Tumor Center, housed within the Department of Neurosurgery. The center will be directed by Mark L. Rosenblum, M.D., Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery, and by Tom Mikkelsen, M.D., of the Departments of Neurology and Neurosurgery.

"The center at Henry Ford Hospital is now positioned to make a significant impact on this disease," said Dr. Rosenblum. "With state-of-the-art technology for diagnosis and surgery, with continual ability to provide the most advanced surgery and treatments available, and with new discoveries from our research team, we are confident we will be able to change

life-threatening brain tumors into a chronic, controllable disease like diabetes."

The Hermelin Brain Tumor Center will support three main areas of novel investigation to help control brain tumors: (1) antiinvasion therapy (which stops a tumor from invading healthy brain tissues), (2) gene therapy (which uses scientifically engineered viruses which recognize and kill cancer cells), and (3) antiangiogenesis (which stops a tumor from building its network of blood vessels, effectively starving it). In addition, the Center will sponsor annual brain tumor workshops focusing on each of these three areas of research. Brain tumor scientists from around the world will be invited to share their knowledge and compete for a research grant, thus providing new ways to share novel findings and to use these findings to fund research that will bring new treatments to patients in the most rapid possible manner.

Mr. Speaker, David Hermelin is an outstanding citizen of our Nation, and as United States Ambassador to Norway, he has made an important contribution to strengthening traditional good relations between our country and Norway. In addition, he is a leading philanthropist who has spearheaded major fundraising efforts which have garnered millions of dollars for academic, medical, civic, religious and charitable organizations. The Hermelin Brain Tumor Center is a fitting and unique recognition of his generous contributions. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Ambassador David Hermelin and recognizing the importance of the Hermelin Brain Tumor Center.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district on September 21, 1999.

If I had been present for rollcall No. 427, I would have voted "yes" if I had been present for rollcall No. 428, I would have voted "yes" if I had been present for rollcall No. 429, I would have voted "yes"

RECOGNIZING ED HARRIS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize the hard work and tireless dedication of Principal Ed Harris to Edwardsville High School. He was recently named Illinois Principal of the Year by MetLife and the National Association of Secondary School Principals. School District Superintendent, Ed Hightower, praised the principal's work. "[Harris] has made positive changes at the High School and has proven quality leadership in this position"

Ed Harris will continue his outstanding work this year at Edwardsville High School. His

goals for the year will include maintaining the safety of students and staff, and ensuring that the administrators are visible and available to students.

A principal like Mr. Harris shows us what a difference individual attention and caring can do for our schools and our children. I would like to thank him for his great contribution to the school and the community.

A TRIBUTE TO BOB REED

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to recognize Bob Reed, who over the past 25 years has become a local institution as the "chairman of the bar" at one of the most pleasant eating establishments on Capitol Hill, the Monocle.

Nearly a generation of Members of Congress and others who toil on the Hill have found refuge in Bob's company. He is that rarest of personalities in this town: strictly non-partisan and unopinionated, a sympathetic ear for anyone, regardless of their politics or philosophy. For 25 years, he has always met his guests on a positive note—even during those times when there wasn't much to be positive about.

Bob was raised in West Virginia and enlisted in the Navy during World War II. He has resided in Washington since 1951. Since joining the Monocle in September 1974, he has been a friend to me and many other Members of Congress from both parties.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure you and my colleagues will join me in congratulating Bob Reed on his career milestone, and thank him for providing a quiet harbor from turbulent political seas.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF ROSA VERRETT WILSON

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the retirement of Ms. Rosa Verrett Wilson from Southwest Administration of the County of Los Angeles. Ms. Wilson worked for the Southwest Administration for 18 years before her retirement on June 30, 1999. During her long tenure with Southwest Administration, she never received a complaint about her work. Prior to her work with Southwest, Ms. Wilson spent 15 years working with Blue Cross of Southern California and 12 years in fashion in Seattle, Washington.

Ms. Wilson's good works are an inspiration to us all. For 24 years, Rosa Wilson has been a member of Mount Moriah Church. She met her husband, Brother Jordan H. Wilson, at Mount Moriah and has served on many church auxiliaries and committees. She has been a Sunday School teacher for the Nursery and

Kindergarten Departments, a Vice-President of the Courtesy Committee, and a Program Chairperson for the California Baptist State Secretaries and Treasurers of the Los Angeles Area.

In 1987, Ms. Wilson, her husband, and their children, Carolyn Rence Wilson-Bowles and Keith Lamont Wilson, joined the Zoe Christian Fellowship of Los Angeles. Ms. Wilson is also a member of Alpha Christian Women Ministry. She has received several awards, including "Honored Mother of the Year" in 1983 and the "God's Woman Award" in 1994.

Rosa Wilson is also the founder of the Committed To Service Ministries at Southwest Administration. The group meets once a week to pray for the growth and success of the company and for healing. In addition, Ms. Wilson spends time visiting sick relative of co-workers and praying for their health.

I congratulate Ms. Wilson on her time with Southwest Administration and extend to her my best wishes as she begins an exciting new chapter in her life.

HONORING THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION OF CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the accomplishments of our men and women of the U.S. Forest Service Law Enforcement division in the Cleveland National Forest in San Diego county's back country.

During the year 1996, twenty-two illegal immigrants died from exposure in the Cleveland National Forest. In 1997 nineteen died. Since 1996, Mr. Tommy LaNier, the Special Agent-in-Charge, of law enforcement for the forest and his team of dedicated officers have apprehended over 20,000 illegal aliens in the Cleveland Forest, potentially saving many immigrant's lives who could well have perished in hostile conditions.

The apprehension of illegals in the forest is also serving to prevent further ecological degradation to the forest. In addition, the strong law enforcement in the forest precludes portions of public lands from having to be closed to U.S. taxpaying families who want to visit our natural areas.

Foot trails in once pristine natural habitat have now been pounded into the forest floor by as many as 300 illegal entrants in a given day passing through the Cleveland National Forest. These illegal trails grow deeper and deeper by the day causing erosion and irreparable damage to the forest. Contamination of streams is a major concern and in 1997 over eleven tons of trash left by illegal aliens passing through the forest had to be collected.

It is interesting to note that the U.S. Forest Service, nationwide, has more acreage and more visitors per year than the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service combined. The U.S. Forest Service has twice the number of violations to respond to with

less than than half the enforcement officers of the two previously mentioned agencies.

The Cleveland National Forest is unique in its locality; it lays contiguous to the Southwest U.S.A./Mexico border. The enhanced efforts of the U.S. Border Patrol in the San Diego area have pushed thousands of illegal aliens, heading North into the interior cities of the U.S., into this forest. Our defense against this invasion is a dedicated group of five U.S. Forest Service Law Enforcement Officers who are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The rate of incidence of illegal aliens campfires rose from 855 fires in 1996 to 1,044 in 1997. Law Enforcement officers have the dual burden of apprehending these illegal aliens so as to prevent their camp fires from breaking loose and endangering not only the forest, but also the illegals hiding in the forest. Fire damage is not the illegal's only threat to the forest. Degradation of the forest from the uncontrolled massive gathering of firewood for cooking and nighttime warming fires by thousands of trespassers in devastating and will take centuries to mend.

Mr. Speaker, Tommy LaNier and the Law Enforcement officers of the U.S. Forest Service have set a standard to which all law enforcement specifically, and public servants in general, can aspire. The efforts of these dedicated officers make it possible for taxpaying American citizens, from all walks of life, to safely enjoy some of the most beautiful forest area in our great nation. I invite all Members to stand with me in saluting the law enforcement efforts in the Cleveland National Forest by Tommy LaNier and his team.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 424, the DOD Authorization Conference Report, I was held up in a traffic accident. Had I been present I would have voted "yes".

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE W. "WILL" GAHAGAN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to note the passing of a prominent American citizen, George W. "Will" Gahagan, who died in Carmel, California on December 8, 1998 at the age of 86.

Will was a man of broad interests, and notable achievements. He was well-educated, graduating in 1949 from Dartmouth, and worked as a newspaper reporter, federal public relations officer and foreign press liaison officer at the 1945 inaugural United Nations conference in San Francisco. Will attended Harvard during his graduate years, and in 1957

received his master's degree from Stanford University. During his Dartmouth years he met the poet Robert Frost, who was on the faculty, and later founded the California Friends of Robert Frost, a non-profit organization that helped establish Frost Plaza in San Francisco, Mr. Frost's birthplace.

Will was an educator as much as he was a student. He taught English for 15 years at high schools, including Tularcitos, Junipero Serra High School and Santa Catalina School in Monterey. He also taught at an international school in Rome. His students benefited greatly from his tutelage and enthusiasm for learning.

Will's contributions to Monterey County were as far-reaching as his range of interests. He wrote a column "Word Wise" for the Monterey Herald, produced and hosted a foreign affairs television program in Salinas, and wrote a guidebook about the Monterey Peninsula. He worked with many local organizations including the Carmel Foundation, the World Affairs Council, the Carmel City Planning Commission and the Carmel Library. Will helped create the Dennis the Menace Playground in Monterey, and helped raise \$250,000 for the Robinson Jeffers Tor House in Carmel. He was a member of the senior and super-senior national tennis teams, successfully competing in tournaments in Canada and Europe. Will has been inducted into the Dartmouth College Athletic Hall of Fame.

No list of accomplishments can represent the generosity of spirit, the vitality, and the intelligence that Will demonstrated every day. Will is to be remembered as an exemplary human being. He is survived by his wife Lorna; his sons Michael and Mark; his daughters Tappy and Lissa; his brother John; and, seven grandchildren. He will be sorely missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

TRIBUTE TO EARL REEDER

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Earl Reeder who is celebrating his 90th birthday this week. Earl was born on September 20, 1909, in Edgewood, IL., the son of Merrill and Myrtle (Hackney) Reeder. Earl is a lifelong Democrat and has dedicated over forty years of his life to public service. In celebration of his 90th birthday, a card shower was thrown for Earl and he has received well over a hundred birthday greetings; a testament to his popularity among his friends and neighbors.

Earl's career in public service has spanned over forty years and is a "public servant" in the true meaning of the term. He was made County Assessor in 1941 and resigned as Supervisor effective September 9, 1982. Earl was on the Board of Review in 1961 and again in 1972. Earl also served as a precinct committeeman from around 1963 till his retirement in 1982. Throughout his career, Earl was always committed to the people he served and the Democratic Party he supported.

Mr. Speaker, Earl's dedication to public service is evident and I am commending him