

November 19, 1999

RECOGNIZING ALZHEIMER'S
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, November is Alzheimer's Awareness Month—This month we recognize the 4 million Americans victimized by this devastating disease and the family members who are most often their primary caregivers.

Alzheimer's Disease is debilitating, indiscriminate and cruel—it creeps into the brain, captures the mind and renders its victims with impaired judgment, personality change and loss of language and communication skills.

Today, Alzheimer's is on track to wreak havoc as the epidemic of the next century burdening our nation's health care system and leaving millions of American families in emotional and financial ruin. It is predicted that by 2050, 14 million Americans will be afflicted. We need a strategy today.

As part of this strategy, we must recognize that there are thousands of spouses and other family members struggling to provide care for their loved ones in their homes each year. Seven in ten people with Alzheimer's disease live at home. Almost 75% of home care is provided by family and friends placing a tremendous emotional burden on these caregivers and a financial burden averaging \$12,500 per at home patient.

Each year, Alzheimer's costs our nation at least \$100 billion and American business \$33 billion, most of that in the lost work of employees who are caregivers.

It is imperative that we increase the federal commitment to this disease. We must create new programs to relieve caregivers and we must continue our work toward treatment and a cure. Last year the federal government dedicated \$400 million to Alzheimer's research, but that's still not enough—the federal commitment to heart, cancer and AIDS research—diseases of comparable cost to our country—is 3 to 5 times higher. Next fiscal year we must increase research dollars for Alzheimer's by \$100 million.

Last June—in an effort to encourage legislative solutions to deal with Alzheimer's—I along with my colleague from across the aisle CHRIS SMITH—kicked off the first bipartisan Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease. To date we have 82 members with a goal of reaching 100 by 2000.

The time has come to wage a serious war against Alzheimer's disease. The time has come to fight for solutions to improve the lives of those affected today and to fight for a cure to save the lives of those who will be affected tomorrow.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CHRISTIAN FAMILY HACKED TO
DEATH—RELIGIOUS PERSECU-
TION CONTINUES IN INDIA—
AMERICA MUST SUPPORT FREE-
DOM FOR KHALISTAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the Indian Express reported on November 12, 1999 that a Christian family was hacked to death in Jamshedpur. The attackers stormed the house of 35 year-old Santan Kerai, dragging Mr. Kerai, his wife, their two-year-old child, and a relative out of the house to murder them. Finally, the mutilated bodies of the Kerai family "were found on a football field about 100 yards from their house," according to the article. The newspaper does not identify the assailants, but the attack is part of the ongoing pattern of repression of Christians in India today.

I have been deeply concerned about recent reports of Hindu activists raping and terrorizing nuns. A nun named Sister Ruby was abducted by Hindu fundamentalists, who stripped her naked and forced her to drink their bodily fluids. They threatened to rape her if she refused.

Earlier this year, Australian missionary Graham Staines and his two young sons were burned alive by members of the Bajrang Dal, which is the youth arm of the openly Fascist organization called Rashteria Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS). The ruling BJP, which leads India's 24-party governing coalition, is the political arm of the RSS.

Since Christmas Day of 1998, Hindu fundamentalists have burned down Christian churches, prayer halls, and schools. Four priests have been murdered, some of them beheaded.

Christians have not been the only target of persecution in India. Sikhs and Muslims are routinely beaten, tortured, and murdered by these radical groups or even Indian security forces.

Mr. Speaker, India is neither secular, nor is it democratic. It is clear that there is no place for religious, linguistic, or ethnic minorities in India. So, it is no wonder that there are seventeen freedom movements in India.

I call on the President to press the Government of India on the issues of human rights and self-determination when he visits the subcontinent next year. If the United States will not speak out for freedom in the world, who will? If we don't press these issues today, when will we? We must do whatever we can to bring freedom to all the people of India.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the Indian Express article into the RECORD

[From the Indian Express, Nov. 12, 1999]

CHRISTIAN FAMILY HACKED TO DEATH

JAMSHEDPUR—Four members of a tribal Christian family have been hacked to death by some unidentified people at Peteripa village of west Singhbhum district.

Police said some people had stormed the house of one Santan Kerai (35) at midnight on Wednesday.

The assailant pulled him, his wife and their two-year old child besides one female

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relative out of the house and killed them with sharp weapons.

The mutilated bodies of Santan, his wife and the child were found on a football ground, about 100 meter away from their house. PTI report.

NONDISCRIMINATORY RETRANS-
MISSION CONSENT IN H.R. 1554

HON. W.J. (BILLY) TAUZIN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, as a conferee appointed to H.R. 1554, and as a proponent of competition, I deliberated long and hard to promote increased consumer choice in the video marketplace by strengthening the competitive position of satellite carriers as they go head to head with incumbent cable operators; however, they are not the only competitors in the evolving video marketplace.

Since enactment of the 1996 Telecommunications Act, cable over-builders have acquired franchises all across the country and have begun to operate traditional wireline systems. In addition to these familiar distribution systems, several new digital wireless cable systems, which use microwave frequencies to transmit programming, also offer consumers a competitive alternative.

Although incumbent cable systems still dominate the video distribution market, satellite carriers continue to gain market share and, with the advent of local into local, will see even greater consumer interest in their product.

Unfortunately, the newer entrants—the over builders and the digital wireless providers—still face some pretty stiff obstacles in their efforts to penetrate this market. The single most significant hurdle they face is access to popular programming at fair prices. This issue has long-term significance for video competition and my subcommittee will continue to study this important problem. However, in the short-term, these new competitors are running into serious retransmission consent problems that prevent them from expanding as fast as they would like and that unnecessarily deprive consumers of an alternative choice.

When attempting to renegotiate retransmission consent contracts, these new competitors are told they must take other programming services they do not want. Too frequently, they are told they must purchase a "bundle" of programming that includes the broadcast signal they want, but also includes programming in which the broadcaster or his affiliated network has a financial interest. As you might expect, "bundles" of programming cost a lot more than a single broadcast signal, and they take up valuable channel space that the new entrants would prefer to use for other programming—programming they choose to carry, not programming they are forced to carry.

The bottom line is that these "tying" arrangements are not optional, they are forced on these new entrants as the quid pro quo for obtaining retransmission consent; impose higher programming costs on new entrants that put them at a competitive disadvantage

vis a vis established players in the market; and take up valuable channel space which, in the case of wireless operators, is limited to the spectrum space available.

If our efforts to increase consumer choice are to succeed, we must go beyond what we have been able to accomplish in H.R. 1554.

I ask my colleagues to join me in a pledge to reopen the debate about nondiscriminatory retransmission consent and agree to study this matter further to see what additional steps we can take to strengthen the competitive position of all new entrants into the video marketplace. If we succeed, consumers will enjoy lower prices, better service quality and more choice.

HONORING OF MAYOR-ELECT
JENNIE STULTZ

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Mayor-elect Jennie Stultz as she prepares to become the first female mayor of Gastonia, North Carolina, in its 122-year history. Her candidacy galvanized middle-aged women and young moms who, local studies indicated, felt disenfranchised in the last municipal elections.

Her campaign to improve the image of the city, which once was chosen as an All American City, resonated with her fellow citizens. I applaud her efforts to promote the City of Gastonia as the friendly, progressive and All American City that she and I know it to be.

Jennie Stultz has dedicated 20 years of her life as a community activist and volunteer. She served as Administrator of Gastonia Clean City, then as Community Relations Director from 1982 to 1997.

She gave of her time and services on numerous civic boards, including the House of Mercy, which assists those with terminal illnesses; the Governor's Council for Children and Youth; and has just completed a term as Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Gaston Literacy Council, Inc.

Her father, Elmore Thomas, who was stationed overseas during World War II, wrote in a letter dated July 23, 1944: "When I get back, I might run for mayor of Gastonia. At least, all the boys in the unit say I should."

I commend Jennie Stultz for carrying on that tradition of service to community and nation for which her father fought and for realizing a long, unfulfilled family dream.

My fellow colleagues, I ask that you join me in saluting a woman who exemplifies the spirit of optimism for the future and the pride of community that prevails in this land. May her tenure bring continued prosperity and pride to the people of Gastonia, North Carolina.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JOHN
H. HARLAND COMPANY DALLAS-
AREA FACILITY

HON. RICHARD K. ARMEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the John H. Harland Company's Dallas-area Facility on its 25th Anniversary.

The John H. Harland Company is the second largest check printer in the United States and the leading provider of database marketing to financial institutions. Founded in 1923, the John H. Harland Company opened its Dallas facility in 1974. Today, this facility employs 320 people and processes 112,000 orders per week. In April 1997, John H. Harland Company moved into the 26th Congressional District, opening a 83,000 square foot facility in Grapevine, Texas.

Harland's recent move to a regional network of nine production facilities has brought additional work into the Grapevine facility and has contributed to the local economy. It also improves the quality of the company's services and offers greater economic security for its employees and their families.

I offer my sincere congratulations to the employees of this facility and to the John H. Harland Company on this momentous occasion.

HONORING THE SALVATION ARMY OF
TORRANCE

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important organization in my district, the Salvation Army of Torrance. This year the Salvation Army of Torrance is celebrating twenty years of service to the South Bay community.

The Salvation Army was established in 1865 by an ordained minister. The organization was founded upon strong religious beliefs, recognizing the interdependence of material, emotional, and spiritual needs. The basic social services have remained an expression of the Army's strong religious principles. Throughout the years, new programs have been established to address contemporary needs.

The Salvation Army provides assistance to millions of people throughout the world. Services range from providing disaster relief to drug and alcohol counseling. They provide an invaluable service to those in need.

During the last twenty years, the Salvation Army of Torrance has expanded its program to include preschool, adult day care, summer day camp, after school programs, outreach ministries, and a family service department. This organization has left a positive impact upon the South Bay, providing assistance to thousands.

I commend the volunteers and staff of the Salvation Army of Torrance for their commitment and dedication of this charitable cause. Congratulations on this milestone.

November 19, 1999

HONORING PLANNED PARENTHOOD
ASSOCIATION OF BUCKS COUNTY,
PA

HON. JAMES C. GREENWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Planned Parenthood Association of Bucks County (PPABC) on its 35th anniversary, and the fine people who work to ensure the men and women in our area have access to the highest quality health services available. I especially want to thank the leadership of Linda Hahn, CEO, and Sandra Trainer, Chair of the Board, for guiding PPABC in its efforts.

PPABC has served Bucks County well. It is dedicated to the principles that every individual has a fundamental right to decide when or whether to have a child, and that every child should be wanted and loved.

Each year, Planned Parenthood health centers like the five in Bucks County provide high quality, affordable reproductive health care and sexual health information. PPABC is made up of highly trained, dedicated and thoughtful people. While they come from different walks of life, they are uniformly committed to ensuring that men and women have access to the care they need.

Each Planned Parenthood affiliate is a unique, locally governed health service organization that reflects the diverse needs of its community. PPABC health centers offer a wide range of services to its 13,000 patients each year, including providing comprehensive, confidential, reproductive health services; providing education and counseling services which promote healthy human sexuality; and protecting and advocating for reproductive rights and services. They encourage communication between adolescents and parents to help nourish the bonds that hold families together. In our day and age, children and teens must be armed with the knowledge to deal with serious issues such as sexuality, drugs, communicable diseases, and, in unfortunate circumstances, abortion. The men and women at PPABC help guide these difficult decisions, and the people of Bucks County are better off for their assistance.

Planned Parenthood Association of Bucks County is committed to helping people become active supporters and advocates for reproductive health. Quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, they help me understand the needs and concerns of the men and women in my district, and I am better able to use that information to effectuate change and prevent back peddling in this Congress. They are a critical resource for me, and I am truly thankful for their valued input.

I congratulate the Planned Parenthood Association of Bucks County for 35 years of dedicated, tireless service, and wish them continued success in their next 35 years.