

benefits. That's the president's apparent view as well. He thus berates the Republicans for failing to put forth a plan of which he disapproves. But they like the idea, and some in positions of leadership have at least been tinkering with alternatives. One version already has been put forward with some Democratic support, and another may be unveiled on the House side this week, if only for discussion.

The president offers no counterpart on this or, thus far, on Medicare, either. "We need some leadership of the president," Senate majority Leader Trent Lott said on a Sunday talk show as he announced that he, too, intended to duck the issue this year. The year began with statements of determination by both parties to follow the president's slogan of "saving Social Security first." It's not happening. They'll spend the time blaming each other instead—and both will be right. To suggest as the president did the other day that only the Republicans are flinching is to give hypocrisy a bad name.

IN HONOR OF THE FRANKLIN CENTER FOR REHABILITATION AND NURSING ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 28, 1999*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to the Franklin Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing as it celebrates its 25th Anniversary.

The Franklin Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing is a 320-bed skilled nursing facility located in my Queens district. For over 25 years, this institution has served the Queens community with dedication and commitment. It has earned itself the high regard of the Queens community and is considered one of the finest nursing homes in the area.

The Franklin Center, which is Joint Commission accredited, receives annual perfect surveys and is renowned for the expert care provided by the Center's team of highly qualified, experienced professionals.

The Franklin Center is equipped to manage the needs of sub-acute patients requiring IV Therapy, trach vents and tube feeding. In addition, its vast rehabilitative services include: physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social work services, among others.

However, above and beyond the services the Franklin Center provides is the manner in which they treat their patients. Perhaps the Center's greatest asset is its concerned, caring and compassionate staff. Since the Franklin Center is committed to the well-being of those who reside in the home, the Center places a special emphasis on the comfort and security it provides.

For example, the Franklin Center takes into consideration the ethnic make-up of the community which it serves. The Center offers a special focus towards the Asian community and has a full-time Asian cook on staff as well as a multi-lingual staff.

The dietary constraints of the community's Jewish residents are also considered; the Center provides Glatt Kosher catering and religious services.

It is this attention to the individual concerns of its residents and patients that has earned the Franklin Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing its outstanding reputation.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring to your attention the fine work of the Franklin Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing as it celebrates its 25th Anniversary. It is truly an honor to have such a remarkable institution in my district assisting my constituents.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER RUSSELL STALNAKER

**HON. MAC COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 28, 1999*

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Atlanta Police Officer Russell Stalnakar who was killed in the line of duty earlier this month. Known to his family and friends as Rusty, the 24 year old officer was a graduate of Stockbridge High School in Henry County. He followed in the footsteps of his uncle and joined the Atlanta Police Department three years ago. Rusty was an asset to his community, not only as a law enforcement officer, but in his work with the Special Olympics and other community organizations.

In 1997, Rusty married Dana Bertholf. The couple made their home in McDonough, Georgia.

I offer my heartfelt condolences to Rusty's wife and parents, Linda and Larry Stalnakar of Rex, Georgia. Our nation is fortunate to have guardians who put their lives at risk every single day to protect us from violence. Rusty Stalnakar was one of those guardians who watched over his family and community. Rusty's life was cut tragically short, but his bravery and heroism will long be remembered.

TRIBUTE TO THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JAPANESE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 28, 1999*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the San Fernando Valley Japanese Language Institute, which this year is marking its 75th anniversary. Throughout its history, this non-profit, tax-exempt school has done a remarkable job of introducing successive generations of children to the art, culture and language of Japan.

Of course, the Institute holds a special place in the hearts of students of Japanese ancestry. But all students, regardless of heritage, have benefitted from the education and special attention that are so much a part of the Institute's tradition.

The Institute, which is located in Pacoima, was started in 1924 under the auspices of 13 original members of the Shikishima Club. The intent from the beginning was for the Institute to promote the language and culture of Japan, and to serve as a central meeting place for

members of the San Fernando Valley's substantial Japanese-American community. It has succeeded on all counts.

By 1941, the Institute had increased its annual enrollment to 180 students. However, the school closed following America's entry into World War II. Cabinet officers were accompanied by FBI agents to the various relocation camps set up to intern Japanese-Americans. The Institute did not reopen until 1949, four years after Japan had surrendered to the United States. The initial class had 35 students.

In 1966, the original property was sold due to the deterioration of the building. With the cooperation of 220 past and current parents, a new school building was completed at the present site.

Today the Institute offers classes to students from Nyumon (kindergarten) through high school in the Japanese language, as well as teaching the ancient ceremonies and traditions associated with Japan. A dedicated staff and involved group of parents work hard so that the Institute can meet its financial and educational goals.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the San Fernando Valley Japanese Language Institute, which for 75 years has provided a unique and quality education to hundreds of students.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE J.P. "JAKE" MILLS

**HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 28, 1999*

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to an extraordinary Mississippian, Mr. J.P. "Jake" Mills. I am sad to say that he passed away on Saturday, April 17, 1999. I am proud to say that Jake Mills was a friend of mine and I am thankful for the time I spent with him.

Jake Mills was truly a remarkable person. He touched countless lives, traveling extensively across the country where he formed friendships and ties that made him such a special person. He had a quick wit and a broad knowledge of Biblical scriptures—sometimes combining the two to make a serious point in a humorous way.

He was very active in a wide variety of religious, business, and community organizations. Jake was a devout Christian and he lived his life in a way that reflected his beliefs and values. He served on the board of "Ministry to Men," an organization dedicated to strengthening families through personal responsibility. He also worked to found the Mississippi Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

As an advocate for improving education, he served as an outspoken member of the State College Board in Mississippi. He always stood up for his beliefs and was never shy about expressing his views on what needed to be done to improve higher education for our state.

In 1973, Jake founded J.P. Mills, Inc., a successful business in Tupelo, Mississippi. He served on numerous boards including the

Community Development Foundation, Mississippi Economic Council, Petroleum Marketers Association, Business Industry Political Education Committee.

My heartfelt sympathy goes out to his wife, Jane, and their entire family. Mississippi has lost one of our finest leaders in Jake Mills. He set an example for all of us to follow and our country is a better place because of his life.

WHY AM I A REPUBLICAN

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit Mr. Steve Remington's answer to a question I recently posed to him, "Why are you a Republican?" Today, I would like to share with you his answer.

This morning, at the republican breakfast, you asked me a question; "Why am I a Republican?" At the time, I did not realize that you were indeed looking for me to speak on the subject. I truly appreciate your sense of humor, and I apologize for not realizing that you were serious. However, since you asked me a direct question, I owe you a direct answer. I am a Republican for three reasons; my values, my beliefs in fiscal responsibility, and my beliefs in the role of government.

I know that I will not have access to all of the information that an informed legislator and their staff will have. While the political banter happens during the election, I realize that there is always more to the story than the press will reveal. Therefore, I pick candidates with integrity and values similar to mine. My belief is that these candidates will vote, when all of the facts are available, for the best possible decision. My father, my son, and I have all received the Eagle Scout award. For three generations, we have believed in honesty, truth, reverence, and dedicating one's self to making the world a better place to live. I find that the Republican candidates tend to line up with these values more often than not.

Secondly, I believe that we can continue to do better as a society. We can do more for the environment. We can make education stronger. We can continue to promote positive business growth. Social Security can be solid, and we can lead the world to peace. Yet, I believe that it is possible to accomplish all of this and maintain fiscal responsibility. We do not have to mortgage our children's future to satisfy a short-term greed. I find that these tend to be the values of the Republican Party.

Finally, people do not exist to serve the will of the government. The government exists to serve the will of the people. We should not have government for government's sake. There should never be any more government than is necessary to meet the needs of our society. In order to survive in a competitive world, the private sector is always looking for ways to be more efficient. So it should be with government. These beliefs find a home in the Republican Party.

Again I apologize for not realizing that you were asking me a question in earnest. I trust you will accept my response to your inquiry.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a friend of Steve Remington.

A THIRTY YEAR ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE TO THE NEW JERSEY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FUND

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 1999

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join the New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund Professional Association (NJEOFPA) in honoring the 30th anniversary of the New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) program. This special anniversary is being highlighted during the NJEOFPA Student Leadership Conference and Awards Luncheon in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

In July of 1968, the New Jersey State Legislature signed the EOF program into law. The legislation, sponsored by the then-freshman Assemblyman Thomas H. Kean, was aimed at opening the doors of higher education to economically and educationally disadvantaged students. During the fall of 1968, thirty-four colleges took initial steps to instituting the program and 1,500 students enrolled.

Through the years, the EOF has provided valuable financial resources, counseling, basic skills and academic enrichment to many young men and women. Today, there are fifty-six EOF programs in New Jersey' diverse educational institutions. Over 30,000 students have received post-secondary degrees through EOF programs, including our current Assistant Secretary at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and former East Orange, New Jersey Mayor Cardell Cooper. The Educational Opportunity Fund sponsors more than one-third of the African-American and Latino students at New Jersey's state and independent institutions for higher learning. Furthermore, approximately 11% of the first-time, full-time freshman entering New Jersey's colleges and universities are enrolled through EOF.

Mr. Speaker, for thirty years the Educational Opportunity Fund has helped disadvantaged students access higher education. I am proud to join members of the New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund Professional Association in paying tribute to the 30th Anniversary of the program.

THE GOTHIC WILDERNESS

**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues an excellent editorial questioning some of the values reflected by parts of the entertainment industry which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald, on April 23, 1999.

THE GOTHIC WILDERNESS

One of the television networks, at some point during the seemingly endless picking over of the tragedy in Littleton, Colo., brought to the screen a young woman who had some connection or other with the gothic subculture.

She was asked about the awful events at Columbine High School. Was it not possible that the killers, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, were acting out the themes of popular lyrics or video games?

The goth girl, as might be expected, came off as disbelieving, almost contemptuous of the idea that anyone would be so stupid as to kill because of a song. Her comments echoed the responses of others, including people in the entertainment industry, who scoffed at the idea that there could be any connection between their art and the orgy of violence that Harris and Klebold unleashed at the Denver-area high school. People, like, have a right to their music. Artists, like, have a right to be controversial.

Certainly it would be difficult to prove that any particular set of lyrics or any particular video game was directly responsible. Harris and Klebold are dead. Even a society that has convinced itself that a goofy cartoon camel creates an irresistible desire in teen-agers to smoke cigarettes doesn't have the ability to read the mind of a killer beyond the grave.

Nonetheless, isn't it about time that someone had the courage to speak up, like the lad who saw the emperor's nakedness for what it was, and say that the saturation of young minds with symbols of violence, Santanism and death is manifestly unhealthy? Won't someone, anyone, give parents permission to pull the plug on video games that involve slaughtering hordes of electronic adversaries like mowing down so many high school students in the cafeteria?

A newspaper columnist found these lyrics in the work of a group admired by Harris and Klebold: "Kill everything, kill everything—bomb the living bejeepers out of those forces—kill everything, kill everything—bomb the living bejeepers out of those forces."

Maybe such ravings—and some are much worse—don't cause anyone to become a mass murderer. But can it possibly be healthy to entertain oneself by fantasizing about slaughter as a remedy for the petty annoyances of life?

And what of the people who profit from such art, defend it and produce it? Words have meaning. Even if it can't be proved that Harris and Klebold weren't motivated by the bloody images that seemed to so entice them, can the producers and disseminators of those images be admired as just more artists pushing the edge?

The industry claims to occupy the moral high ground, wearing the mantle of artistic freedom, failing to distinguish political satire and social alienation from pathological homicide.

Its spokespeople, like the goth girl on the television screen, demand to be tolerated, or at least left alone. But surely there is at least some moral culpability when the entertainment industry saturates the culture with images of mass murder and some misguided slobs in Colorado try to act them out.

HONORING OUTSTANDING STUDENT GABRIELLA CONTRERAS

**HON. ED PASTOR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 1999

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Gabriella Contreras, a pupil at Roskrige Middle School in Tucson, Arizona, who has