

field. It is hoped that with the continued support of the Congress, forward progress can be made in mental health treatment.

ADLER PLANETARIUM
CELEBRATES SPACE DAY

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to recognize one of Chicago's premier institutions, the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum and to celebrate Space Day 1999. Located on Chicago's beautiful lakefront, the Adler was founded in 1930 by Max Adler "to be the foremost institution for the interpretation of the exploration of the Universe to the broadest possible audience."

Nearly 70 years later, the Adler has fulfilled Max Adler's mission by becoming one of the world's premier planetaria and astronomy museums. One of the first exhibits at the Adler featured a collection of historical scientific artifacts and rare books from around the world. This collection has grown dramatically, gained world-wide recognition and continues to be a mainstay of the Museum's exhibits.

Today, the Adler continues to grow and remain on the cutting edge of technology. On January 8th, 1999, the Adler celebrated the completion of its new Sky Pavilion, the first phase of a comprehensive expansion project which will ultimately double the Adler's current exhibit space. The architecturally striking Sky Pavilion is a two-story, 60,000-square-foot addition on the east side of the Adler's existing 1930 landmark structure. This facility comprises four major exhibition galleries, including the world's first "StarRider" Theater, a 3-D interactive virtual reality experience which transports audiences to other planets, stars and distant galaxies.

To fulfill its mission to reach the broadest audience, the Adler has become a key line between the astronomy research community and the education community. As a lead science museum, the Adler develops innovative education programs and exhibits and provides teacher training and support, as well as a field site for student experiences. Astronomers also work extensively with schools, complementing elementary and secondary school curricula, and have received enthusiastic support from teachers, principals, school councils and parents.

Today, the Adler is celebrating Space Day '99 with a full slate of gallery programming. The local Chicago chapter of the Mars Society will sponsor an information booth on how we have viewed Mars in the past, how and why we are no traveling to Mars, and how we can transform Mars so it is suitable for humans. The Planetarium will also host video-conferencing sessions between astronomers and suburban Maine West High School students. Finally, Jim Plaxco of the Planetary Studies Foundation will give a luncheon lecture on "The Intelligent Traveler's Guide to Mars." These events demonstrate the wide variety of activities and experiences the Adler has to offer.

Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 21st Century, it is clear that exploration of the cosmos is proceeding at a faster pace than ever before and the world is entering an exciting new era of discovery. It is with an eye to the future that I invite all Members to join me in celebrating Space Day with the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum.

IN HONOR OF BETTY FRANKLIN-HAMMONDS

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay solemn tribute to a longtime civil rights advocate, Betty Franklin-Hammonds, of Madison, Wisconsin. Ms. Franklin-Hammonds has been known in the Madison community for her long-time advocacy on behalf of human equality and mutual understanding. She has ranked among the region's noted civil rights leaders, and has been widely recognized as effective, tenacious, low-key, and out front in nearly every civil rights campaign of the past 20 years. It is with great sadness that I note her passing on April 28, 1999.

Betty Franklin-Hammonds' commitment to organizations such as the NAACP and the Urban League was critical in ensuring equal rights for all of our citizens. Her unshakable belief in equality of education for all was likely the force behind her strong leadership of the Madison Committee on the Achievement of Black Students, leadership which positively affected the educational possibilities for countless African American children in Madison. For nearly a decade, Betty Franklin-Hammonds served as the publisher of the Madison Times, today one of the most widely-read publications in Dane County. In her weekly column, Betty Franklin-Hammonds remained an outspoken advocate, sometimes voicing the concerns of thousands of others, other times advising, educating, or comforting.

Her unselfish contributions to the community brought numerous awards and recognition and she graciously accepted it all in stride, never slowing for even a minute from the enduring struggle for human equality and understanding. In the past few years, she has been recognized for her leadership at the helm of the Madison Urban League, and in 1993, Betty received the City of Madison's prestigious Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award. Earlier this year, she received the City of Madison Martin Luther King Heritage Award, and this month was due to receive the YWCA's Women of Distinction Award.

In recognition of the lifelong leadership provided by Ms. Betty Franklin-Hammonds, I ask the Congress today to recognize the life of this great Civil Rights leader. She will be greatly missed by many, but her legacy lives on, as together we strive to achieve the goals of equality, education, and understanding that were so central to her life's work.

MOTHER'S DAY

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, this weekend, on May 9, America will celebrate Mother's Day. This second Sunday in May was set aside for us to thank our mothers for raising us, for giving us a sense of security and independence, and for offering us their unconditional love. I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to all mothers, who know that there is perhaps no more important, more difficult, and ultimately more rewarding undertaking than raising a child.

I was very fortunate to have been raised by a loving mother in a stable and caring home. As we approach Mother's Day, however, I can't help but be reminded of the over 500,000 children in the foster care system in this country who await permanent homes. Although in recent years we have made great strides in improving the child welfare system, through legislation such as the Adoption and Safe Families Act, there is no substitute for loving parents and a permanent home. For thousands of children who are still waiting, adoption offers the hope to finally find a "forever family". I would like to remember the children who still wait to celebrate Mother's Day in a permanent home, as well as those families whom adoption has brought together.

Mr. Speaker, children are awaiting adoptive parents not only in this country, but in nations all over the world. For years, American families have reached across cultural and national boundaries to embrace children through international adoption. My own family was forever changed and enriched by the adoption of our two children from Korea. It is difficult for me to express how deeply grateful I am to have Kathryn and Scott in my life. This Mother's Day, it is my greatest hope that every family and every child still waiting will also have the opportunity to experience the joy of adoption.

FUNDING FOR THE AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our nation's farmers and therefore, in support of Mr. LATHAM's amendment. On March 24th, over a full month ago, we passed a supplemental appropriations bill which included \$110 million to support \$1.1 billion for loans that farmers and ranchers need to finance this season's work in the fields and pastures. These farmers needed that money a month ago; they are now nearing desperation.

In my district alone, the eighth district of North Carolina, there are several million dollars worth of loan applications that have been turned in to the local FSA offices. These farmers are struggling to get their finances in order because they are relying on what appears to