

We can still consider other reforms to Social Security, but first things first. Let's finally make a bond that we cannot break, and use the Social Security dollars only for Social Security.

It's the only right and honorable thing to do. To cosponsor this version of the Balanced Budget Amendment that protects the Social Security Trust Fund, call Dr. Bill Duncan on Mr. Istook's staff at 5-2132, or Charlie DeWitt on Mr. Campbell's staff at 5-2631.

HONORING IDUS "BABE" CONNER

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 1999

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, just a few weeks ago, a good friend of mine, Idus "Babe" Conner, was honored for his service to the citizens of Lenoir City and Loudon County, Tennessee.

For the last 21 years, Babe Conner has been an active member of the Lenoir City Council. Babe is, no doubt, one of the most respected leaders in Loudon County and indeed throughout East Tennessee.

Before Mr. Conner was elected to the City Council, he served as a Loudon County Commissioner for 20 years. He even spent time as a Justice of the Peace, marrying many couples without charging a fee for his services.

Mr. Speaker, above all of this, Babe Conner is a family man. In 1946, he married Juanita Jennings and enjoyed 51 years of marriage until her death in 1997. That marriage produced a beautiful family. Babe and Juanita have one son and one daughter and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Babe Conner is also a God-fearing man who has served in many leadership positions in the First Presbyterian Church since its formation on October 13, 1957. He has even served as an Elder longer than any other church member. Mr. Conner is truly an outstanding role model for our children today.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I join with the citizens of Loudon County and Lenoir City in congratulating Idus "Babe" Conner for his service and devotion to the citizens of East Tennessee. I am proud to call him a friend, and I wish him well in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Idus "Babe" Conner for his service to the citizens of East Tennessee and the rest of our thankful Nation. I have included a copy of a Lenoir City Resolution honoring Babe Conner that I would like to call to the attention of my fellow members and other readers of the RECORD.

Whereas, the governing body of the City of Lenoir City has adopted a policy of recognizing and honoring outstanding individuals living in Lenoir City, Tennessee, and

Whereas, Idus "Babe" Conner will celebrate his 80th birthday on April 1999, being born in the year of our Lord 1919; and

Whereas, Idus "Babe" Conner was married in 1946 to Juanita Jennings and was devoted husband to her for 51 years until she went to be with our Lord in 1997; and

Whereas, Idus "Babe" is the proud father of one son, Gary, and one daughter, Susan, and the grandfather of two grandsons, Richard and Cory, and two granddaughters, Angela, and Hannah, whom he loves dearly; and

Whereas, Idus "Babe" was born upstairs in a house on Kingston Street and has lived in Lenoir City all of his life. He was educated in the school of Lenoir City, where he participated in all sports activities. Upon graduating from high school, he enlisted in the Air Force, where he served four and a half years in Ground Forces; and

Whereas, Idus "Babe" Connor became a Justice of the Peace in 1960. He married between 75 and 100 couples during his tenure without charging for the service. If a donation was given, he gave it back to the bride. He loves to tell humorous stories about the couples he encountered who were seeking his services to get married. In 1978 Conner was elected to the City Council, from which he will retire this month. He has been a strong supporter of our school system, both supporting the Lenoir City School system as well as sponsoring the motion to construct the present Loudon High School during his tenure as County Commissioner. We shall always be grateful for his sincere dedication and service to the citizens of Lenoir City; and

Whereas, Idus "Babe" Conner retired from Martin Marietta in 1983 after over 33 years of continuous service; and

Whereas, Idus "Babe" Conner has been a Presbyterian all of his life and has been a pillar in the First Presbyterian Church since its formation October 13, 1957. He was the church's first choir director and song leader and has served as Sunday school teacher and Deacon. He has served as Elder longer than any other church member.

Now, therefore, I Charles T. Eblen, Mayor of the City of Lenoir City, Tennessee, do hereby PROCLAIM that Idus "Babe" Conner be recognized and singularly honored April 19, 1999 on Idus "Babe" Conner Day in Lenoir City, Tennessee.

Be it further proclaimed that a copy of this proclamation, signed by the Mayor, attested by the City Recorder, and bearing the great seal of the City be presented to Idus "Babe" Conner.

TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICAN
FUJIAN ASSOCIATION OF COM-
MERCE AND INDUSTRY

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 1999

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to pay tribute to the American Fujian Association of Commerce and Industry on the occasion of its 7th Anniversary Annual Banquet.

The members of the American Fujian Association of Commerce and Industry have long been known for their commitment to community service and to enhancing the quality of life for all New York City residents.

This banquet is not only a festive happening, it is a chance for all of us to celebrate and pay tribute to a group of individuals who have dedicated their lives to helping others.

The American Fujian Association of Commerce and Industry is a not for profit corporation whose membership is entirely composed of business owners who have immigrated to the United States from the Fujian Province of China. The Association, which was established in 1992, enjoys a membership of ap-

proximately 1,000 business leaders throughout the city of New York.

The Association's membership, ever mindful of the rigors of immigration, have devoted their efforts to the integration of new immigrants from China into American society as productive citizens. The American Fujian Association of Commerce and Industry fosters programs that are designed to introduce immigrants to the American way of life and our country's economic and political system so that they may become productive citizens. Members of the Association have also devoted themselves to the development of the trade and commerce between the state of New York and the provinces of Fujian, Shandong, Jiangsu, Guangdong, Hepei, Liaoling, and Anhui Sichuan China.

Under the dedicated leadership of its Chairman, William P. Chiu, the American Fujian Association of Commerce and Industry have embraced the belief that trade breeds mutual understanding and respect which in turn promotes peace between the United States and China.

The members of the American Fujian Association of Commerce and Industry have long been known as innovators and beacons of good will to all those with whom they come into contact. Through their dedicated efforts, they have each helped to improve my constituents' quality of life. In recognition of their many accomplishments on behalf of my constituents, I offer my congratulations to the American Fujian Association of Commerce and Industry on the occasion of its 7th Anniversary Annual Banquet.

STATEMENT ON NATIONAL TEEN
PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 1999

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, as Co-Chair of the House Advisory Panel to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, I would like to recognize May as National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. According to new data recently released by the U.S. Department of Health and Social Services, both the teen birth rate and the teen pregnancy rate in the United States have shown another decline. And while this is good news, the United States still has the highest rates of teen pregnancy and births in the western industrialized world—53 births out of every 1,000 births is to a teenage girl. More than 4 out of 10 young women become pregnant at least once before they reach the age of 20—resulting in nearly 1 million births per year. While many government officials would take the fact that the numbers are dropping as good news, I think this is only a small step in the right direction.

We need to continue to work toward lowering these numbers. Representative LOWEY and I have introduced the Teenage Pregnancy Reduction Act of 1999, legislation to authorize Federal dollars to be used to conduct a study of effective teen pregnancy prevention programs. The study emphasizes determining the

factors contributing to the effectiveness of the programs and methods for replicating successful programs in other locations. It also would call for the creation of a clearinghouse to collect, maintain and disseminate information on prevention programs which would develop an effective network of prevention programs.

Far too many of our children spend the hours following school unsupervised and engaging in delinquent or unproductive behavior. Studies tell us that unsupervised children are at a significantly higher risk of truancy, stress, receiving poor grades, substance abuse and risk taking behaviors, including engaging in sexual activity. That is why I have introduced my ACE Act—After School Children's Education Act—it is another initiative that will go far in preventing teen pregnancy. This legislation aims to study how after school programs can be expanded and improved to keep our children safe and help them learn between the hours of 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Helping our communities prevent teen pregnancy is an important mission. Unmarried teenagers who become pregnant face severe emotional, physical, and financial difficulties. The children born to unmarried teenagers will struggle to fulfill the promise given to all human life, and many of them simply will not succeed. Many of them will remain trapped in a cycle of poverty, and unfortunately may become part of our criminal justice system.

However, sometimes no matter what we do here in Washington and what parents do at home, kids have the most impact on each other. Young people can be and are positive influences on each other. Parents and other adults can encourage positive peer influence and mitigate negative peer influence. We must do all we can to encourage teens to take advantage of the potential positive influence of peers.

Our goal to reduce teen pregnancy is challenging and difficult. But if we work together, we can make a difference.

EXPOSING RACISM

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, in my continuing efforts to document and expose racism in America, I submit the following articles into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PLAN TO CHANGE CONFEDERATE PARK TO CANCER MEMORIAL DRAWS COMPLAINTS

MEMPHIS, TENN.—The Civil War battle that surrendered Memphis to Northern hands took place just below bluffs on the Mississippi River.

For 90 years, a 2½-acre city park atop the bluffs has served as a memorial to the Confederacy. But now, a squabble is brewing over a plan to rename the park in honor of cancer survivors.

The R.A. Bloch Cancer Foundation of Kansas City, MO, which finances parks to honor cancer survivors and encourage cancer sufferers, has offered the city \$1 million to fund such a memorial, plus \$100,000 for maintenance.

John Malmo, Park Commission chairman, said the city needs the money to improve and maintain the park, which is in the right location for what the Bloch Foundation wants.

Civil War and Southern heritage buffs are less than pleased. "I don't think we're just going to take it lying down," said John T. Wilkinson III, a Memphis lawyer and member of the Tennessee Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

The General Nathan Bedford Forrest Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy, have announced a rally at the park on May 19.

The Park Commission has a meeting the following day but is not expected to make a final decision on the proposal until next month.

The park has been part of the Memphis parks system for 170 years. It originally was part of the Public Promenade, 36 acres along the riverfront dedicated in March 1829 as open space for public use.

It was named Confederate Park in 1907 and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

The park sits close to where a Northern armada launched a spirited, but brief, battle on June 6, 1862 that ended with Memphis' surrender.

Ed Williams, Shelby County historian, said the park offered a good vantage point for citizens to watch the Battle of Memphis, and a Union contingent reportedly docked below the bluffs on the way to accept the city's surrender.

In the early 1900s, reunions of Confederate veterans were held on the site, Williams said.

The park includes several plaques honoring Civil War heroes and a statute of Confederate president Jefferson Davis. It also has memorials unrelated to the Confederacy, including a Ten Commandments tablet.

Still, Judith Johnson, executive director of Memphis Heritage Inc., said the park holds an important place in the city's past and changing it should be approached with care.

"I know a lot of people at the end of the 20th Century feel the Confederacy is not something we can hold up as a value we can embrace, but we can't erase our history," Johnson said.

AUTO-PARTS MAKER MAKING PROGRESS AS SPINOFF FROM GM NEARS

(By Brian S. Akre)

TROY, MICH.—Delphi Automotive Systems Corp., the auto-parts manufacturer with locations in Mississippi and soon to be independent from General Motors Corp., has no more money-losing plants, is getting cooperation from its unions to cut costs and is winning more non-GM business, its chairman said Monday.

As the world's largest parts-maker, Delphi also plans to be a major player in the industry's consolidation through an aggressive acquisition drive. J.T. Battenberg III told reporters before departing on a worldwide roadshow to raise his company's profile among investors.

Delphi was once a disparate collection of parts operations that, with parent GM, was near bankruptcy in the early 1990s. Though it lost \$93 million last year because of several one-time costs, Delphi earned \$284 million in the first quarter this year.

GM is cutting Delphi loose to focus on its core business: building cars and trucks. Delphi executives say they expect their business to grow as other automakers no longer have to fear working with a supplier owned by their biggest competitor.

There's evidence that's already happening, even though the spinoff won't be completed until May 28. In the first quarter, Delphi won \$4 billion in new contracts with GM and a surprising \$2 billion worth of non-GM contracts. Delphi stock price increased 18 percent in its first three months.

"The stock has performed well," said analyst Jonathan Lawrence of Bear, Stearns & Co. "They're certainly winning business, and that's picked up since their announcement of the spinoff."

Delphi, based in Troy, Mich., and Battenberg will face their first big test come summer when they will work out details of a new contract with the company's largest union, the United Auto Workers. Talks already are under way with some UAW locals and Battenberg said there has been progress.

UAW it Delphi with two strikes last summer that shut down GM's North American assembly plants and cost Delphi \$450 million. Both companies are trying to repair their long-contentious relationship with the union.

Battenberg declined to comment in detail on that relationship but said he was in "personal touch" with UAW leaders. Though company insiders say UAW president Stephen P. Yokich has been cooperative, publicly he has criticized the spinoff and urged GM to retain 51 percent of the company.

The Delphi-UAW talks will coincide with the union's triennial contract negotiations with GM, Ford Motor Co. and the Chrysler unit of DaimlerChrysler AG. The UAW is expected to demand that Delphi's hourly workers get virtually the same deal as GM's hourly workers.

Delphi no longer has any plants that are unprofitable, in some cases because its unions agreed to relax restrictive work rules, Battenberg said. In Kokomo, Ind., for example, the UAW agreed to work rule changes to allow the electronics plant to operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Battenberg said Delphi plans to focus on acquiring companies that can supply future technology, especially in the area of high-tech electronics as computers and satellite telecommunications become more integrated into the design of car and truck interiors.

"I look at Delphi becoming an electronics company that makes products for vehicles, which is a lot more attractive than a traditional auto-parts company," Lawrence said.

Though Delphi has been trimming its work force through attrition, the company may end up adding workers if it meets its goals to increase new business, Battenberg said.

Later this month, Delphi will debut a \$1 million TV-and-print advertising campaign to coincide with the Indianapolis 500 auto race. The campaign and 20-city roadshow are intended to make Delphi a brand known outside the auto industry.

BILOXI NOT SURE WHAT TO DO WITH HISTORIC HOUSE

(By Tom Wilemon)

BILOXI, MS.—The home of Glenn and June Swetman is like a time capsule with a paradox.

Inside the home, uranium glassware glows magically form display cases. Underneath the home, the stark cement walls of a fallout shelter stand dark and dank.

The Swetmans were living the American dream during the early 1960s, but they knew that a nuclear nightmare could destroy everything.

Coping with the Cold War is only one chapter in the history of this house, which is a virtual treasure chest of fascinating objects.