Sidney's volunteer service, in his adult life, has been unparalleled. He was a volunteer for the Pioneer Valley Red Cross through which he recruited countless blood donors. He has also practiced what he has preached, being a 10 gallon donor himself. Sidney is a 32d degree mason and has been Master of the Chicopee Lodge and District Deputy Grand Master of the Chicopee 16th Masonic District. Since joining the Melha Temple Shrine in 1959, Sidney has chaired their blood program. He has also brought smiles to countless children through his membership and participation in the Melha Clown Unit.

Sidney has been a volunteer at Baystate Medical Center for nearly 20 years. In 1990, he was elected the first male president of the Baystate Medical Center Auxiliary. Sidney has also been involved with the Ronald McDonald House. In fact, his involvement began even before the house was built almost 10 years ago. He has held many various titles there, and is currently the president of the board of directors. For the past 3 years, Sidney has been chairman of Parking for the Rays of Hope Walk, which raises funds each fall for breast cancer research. He and his wife, Gert, also spend every Sunday in July and August volunteering at Tanglewood. Sidney is a long-time member of Kedimoh and its Brotherhood, and is a regular minyanaire. He has also been a regular volunteer on various projects and committees with Kedimoh. Sidney and Gert's daughter, Nancy Squires, and her husband, Bill, and their three daughters, Maxine, Sarah, and Michelle, are also active members of Kedimoh.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to pay tribute to the service, commitment, and character of Sidney Weiner. He has proven himself to be an indispensible member of his community through his service and leadership. Sidney Weiner is truly a role model for community involvement and pride in his faith. Kedimoh, and the entire Western Massachusetts community, has been blessed to have been touched by Sidney Weiner’s involvement and service.

ZONTA CLUB OF OAK PARK CELEBRATES ITS 65TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Russ Morgan Orchestra as it celebrates more than sixty years in the entertainment business. I am pleased and proud to bring this worthy milestone to the attention of my colleagues.

Born in Scranton, Russ Morgan grew up in my hometown of Nanticoke. After working in the coal mines to earn money for his music education, he began playing the piano at a Scranton theater for extra money at the age of 14. Morgan went on to play trombone with a local band called the “Scranton Sirens,” with notable colleagues like Tommy Dorsey, Jimmy Dorsey, and Billy Lustig. When he was 18, Russ left Pennsylvania for New York City to find his fortune in the music business. By the time he was 25, he was arranging music for John Phillip Sousa and Victor Herbert. After playing for Paul Specht and touring Europe with Specht’s orchestra, Morgan went to Detroit to work with Jean Goldkette on forming a new band. There, he was reunited with the Dorsey brothers and some of his other associates from his early career. Eventually, Morgan became Musical Director of WXYZ in Detroit with his own very popular show. He also showcased his classical talent by arranging for the Detroit Symphony.

At the age of 36, Morgan was sidelined by a serious automobile accident that forced him to spend months in the hospital. Upon his recovery, he returned to New York City to restart his career by arranging music for all the famous night clubs of the time and many Broadway shows. In 1934, he was asked to arrange a new vocal group called the Brunswick Revue. While there, he met his wife and became friends with the famous Rudy Vallee. Morgan was encouraged to form his own orchestra and Vallee got him his first engagement at the famous Biltmore Hotel. Following an impressive 4 years at the Biltmore, Morgan played on television and at most of the famous hotels and resorts of the era. On one recording he made during that period, he used a quartet that would later become the famous Ames Brothers. In 1965, with sons Jack and David in the ensemble, Russ Morgan began a long engagement in Las Vegas that was cut short only by his death in 1969.

Mr. Speaker, the Russ Morgan Orchestra, now in the able hands of his son Jack, has been bringing us wonderful music for over six decades. The ensemble’s founder never forgot his roots as a young coal miner in North-eastern Pennsylvania. I extend my best wishes for continued success to Jack and the Morgan family as they carry on the legacy of the great Russ Morgan on this milestone anniversary. What greater tribute could his beloved son pay him, than to carry on his music to new generations.

RUSS MORGAN HONORED
HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 25, 1999

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MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL AIR AND TRADE SHOWS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to stop the use of taxpayer funds from subsidizing the U.S. defense industry at international air and trade shows.

Prior to 1991 the federal government avoided any direct military involvement in air and trade shows and arms bazaars. For the first time, during the Bush administration, military personnel and equipment were permitted in foreign air shows and weapons exhibitions. The aircraft used during these air shows and shows exhibitions, is paid for with American taxpayer dollars. The fees involved include the cost of insurance, ramp fees, transportation to and from the show and payment for government personnel needed to attend and monitor the show. In June of 1991 the secretaries of defense and commerce changed the practice that the pentagon had previously followed of leasing U.S. aircraft to industry at air shows. The practice adopted allows for the loan of the department of defense aircraft to defense contractors free of charge. This means that taxpayers pay for the cost of industry participation at air shows and arms bazaars. If taxpayers are not sharing in the profits made during the air and arms exhibitions, why should they share in the cost?
May 25, 1999

ability to participate in air shows. The amendment requires the President to notify Congress 45 days prior to any participation in further air shows. It also requires that participation be in the interest of national security. In addition, the amendment requires a cost estimate to be submitted to Congress as well.

In order to side step the Berman amendment, DoD sends aircraft and personnel to air shows on so called “training missions.” This fulfills the requirement that the air show be in the interest of national security.

It is important to look at the total cost of foreign air shows in order to realize the abuse by the federal government on the American taxpayer. A conservative calculation of the total cost of taxpayer subsidies for 1996 and 1997 was at least $68.4 million. That is an average of $34.2 million per year wasted at foreign airshows and arms bazaars. This figure is up over 31 percent over the period from 1994 to 1995.

The Clinton administration has been underreporting cost and involvement to the U.S. by excluding transportation costs to and from the foreign shows. The costs reported by the Pentagon to Congress are 15 to 20 times less than the actual costs, leaving the U.S. taxpayer to pick up the tab. An example of this practice is the transfer of a B-2 bomber from the United States to France for a demonstration at an air show in Paris in 1995. This flight to Paris involved at least a 24-hour round trip ticket. The cost to operate the plane for one hour is $14,166, for a cost of over $330,000. The total cost submitted to Congress by the Pentagon to cover the entire show was underestimated at $342,916.

The bill I am introducing today, the “Restrictions on Foreign Air Shows Act” bans any further direct participation of Defense personnel and equipment at air shows unless the defense industry pays for the advertising and use of the DoD wares. The bill prohibits sending planes, equipment, weapons, or any other related material to any overseas air show unless the contractor has paid for the expenses incurred by DoD. If a contractor decides to participate in the air show, he or she must lease the equipment, cover insurance costs, ramp fees, transportation fees, and any other costs associated with the air show. If a contractor is making a profit by showing the aircraft, they will also be required to pay for the advertisement and use of the aircraft. In addition, military and government personnel will not be allowed at the show unless the contractor pays for their services during the air show.

This bill in no way outlaws the use of U.S. Aircraft or other equipment in foreign air shows or other trade exhibitions. The bill simply takes the financial burden off of the American taxpayer and puts it on the defense contractor. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE CRUISE LINE INDUSTRY IN ALASKA AND THE UNITED STATES

HON. DON YOUNG
OF ALASKA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to address an issue that is very critical to the constituents of my home State of Alaska. The issue I wish to speak about is the significant contribution which the cruise line industry has made to the great State of Alaska and this country.

Alaska is a State where the land mass is larger than all of the Northeastern and Great Lakes States put together. Approximately 600,000 Americans live there. Many Americans have heard of its image of its wildness but fewer than 10 percent of Americans have ever visited. Nonetheless, the opportunity for Americans to visit this great State has increased tenfold with the presence of the cruise industry. Furthermore, the economic benefit that the cruise lines bring have greatly impacted Alaska.

Recently, Price Waterhouse Coopers (PwC) and Wharton Econometric Forecasting Associates concluded a Study on the Economic Impact of the Cruise Industry on the U.S. economy. This study reveals that the cruise industry spent $6.6 billion in the United States in 1997, and generated an additional $5 billion of impact on the economy. In the United States alone, the cruise lines purchased $1.8 billion in transportation from airlines, $794 million in fuel and lubricants, $626 million in business services, $1 billion in financial services, and $600 million in food and beverage supplies. In the State of Alaska in 1998, the cruise industry spent with Alaskan business and service providers $363,274,000. These statistics are significant and make clear that the cruise industry has benefited both the state of Alaska and our Nation.

This study also reveals that the cruise industry created 176,433 jobs for U.S. citizens in 1997. These jobs included direct employment by the industry and jobs attributable to the U.S. based cruise line suppliers and industry partners. Through its annual growth of 6–10 percent, the industry is responsible for thousands of new jobs every year for Americans. The cruise industry is the single largest direct employer in the maritime sector of the United States. In my State of Alaska in 1998, the cruise industry was responsible for the employment of 17,189 Alaskans. That is 3 percent of the population of our State.

Another issue that I wish to address is the matter regarding Federal and State taxation of the cruise industry. Some critics state that the cruise industry does not pay federal and state taxes in the United States. This statement is false. In fact the recently completed study revealed that the industry pays millions of dollars in taxes each year. In 1997, the cruise industry paid over $1 billion in Federal, State, and local taxes in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak to the contributions made by the cruise industry to our great Nation. The benefits have been abundant, both throughout this nation and in my home State, Alaska. In view of the many contributions, I wish to acknowledge the vital role which the cruise industry plays in sustaining the economy and the maritime sector of this country.

TRIBUTE TO FRANKYE SCHNEIDER

HON. HOWARD L. BERNAN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my dear friend, Frankye Schneider, who this year is being honored by the 40th Assembly District of the Democratic party. For more than two decades, Frankye held the position of senior deputy to Los Angeles County Supervisor Ed Edelman. Frankye has always considered it an honor to work in politics. She cherished the opportunity to use the resources and power of government to help individual citizens.

Frankye was the perfect model of a professional and compassionate staff person. She was never too busy to listen to the concerns of another resident, and to speak out on behalf of a homeowners’ association, chamber of commerce or non-profit agency. Although districts in Los Angeles County contain more people than many states, it somehow seemed as if everyone was on a first-name basis with Frankye.

It would be impossible in such a short space to mention each and every contribution Frankye made to our community during the time she worked for Supervisor Edelman. The list of people and organizations that benefited from her efforts is truly myriad. Frankye had an extremely wide range of interests, including the arts, the environment, education, mental health and juvenile justice.

She is a lifetime member of the PTA, immediate past president of the San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center, and a former Board Member of New Directions for Youth and the United Way. After she left the staff of Supervisor Edelman, Frankye worked for the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History.

Frankye has a deep and abiding interest in the fortunes of the Democratic Party. She was a founding member and the first chair of the Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley, and she has represented the 40th Assembly District at California Democratic party conventions for many years. Frankye also did extensive volunteer work for George McGovern’s 1972 presidential campaign and Tom Bradley’s 1973 campaign for mayor of Los Angeles.

Frankye doesn’t know the meaning of the word “retirement.” She continues to stay active in the community and with a variety of organizations. She also spends as much time as she can with her three children and four grandchildren.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Frankye Schneider, who has devoted much of her life to bettering the lives of others. Her dedication and selflessness inspire us all.