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 32nd degree mason and has been Master of the Chicopee Lodge and District Deputy Grand Master of the Chicopee 18th 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 Kodimoh and its Brotherhood, and is a regular minyanaire. He has also been a regular volunteer on various projects and committees with Kodimoh. Sidney and Gert’s daughter, Nancy Squires, and her husband, Bill, and their three daughters, Maxine, Sarah, and Michelle, are also active members of Kodimoh.

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. Kodimoh, 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 IT’S 65TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUÍS V. GUTIERREZ
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Zonta Club of Oak Park, Illinois. The Zonta Club of Oak Park was organized in February 1934 and was charted on May 26 that same year. It is the 127th chapter of Zonta International, a worldwide service organization of executives in business and the workforce that began in 1919 to advance the status of American women. The Zonta Club of Oak Park will be celebrating its 65th anniversary on May 26, 1999.

The Zonta Club of Oak Park has contributed time and money and has worked tirelessly for women’s rights since it was organized. Throughout its history, the Zonta Club of Oak Park has supported many local organizations, such as the alliance for the Mentally Ill, Cook County Hospital, Literacy Volunteers of Western Cook County and the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. The Club also gives financial support to international service projects selected by Zonta International through the United Nations and has directly affected the fate of more than 700,000 women and girls through projects in countries such as Argentina, Bangladesh, Ghana, India, Jordan and Zimbabwe.

The Zonta Club of Oak Park has a strong dedication to women’s higher education and has supported literacy projects. The Club supports the Young Women in Public Affairs scholarship program by recognizing and awarding scholarships to local high school seniors to encourage young women to enter careers or seek leadership positions in social policymaking, government and volunteer organizations. The Club also gives financial support to the Amelia Earhart fellowship award program, which was founded in 1938 to support women pursuing degrees in aerospace-related sciences and engineering. The program has supported more than 500 women from forty-eight countries in more than 800 fellowships.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the work of the Zonta Club of Oak Park and their efforts to promote literacy, fight domestic violence and encourage students to participate in international service projects. I am pleased to congratulate them on their 65th anniversary.

RUSS MORGAN HONORED
HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI
OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. 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 young age of 30, Morgan died in a plane crash. After his death in 1969, 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.

MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL AIR AND TRADE SHOWS

HON. FORTNEY P. 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 international air shows and exhibitions. The aircraft used during these air shows and weapons 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 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 (DoD) 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 shows and exhibitions, why should they share in the costs?