

all countries should agree to an international law on human genetic privacy.

The United States Patent and Trademark Office must strike a balance between its Constitutional mandate to promote science and the useful arts, and its role in protecting the general public good. Under the current system, it is possible to patent a gene without a knowledge of the gene's function. This may not be in the public good since it will tend to hinder private sector research to cure diseases.

There are great ethical concerns about the use of the technology to modify an individual's genetic code. We are familiar with the abuse of medical intervention, specifically injections of human growth hormone to alter a child's stature. Parents choose this intervention because they perceive that taller children would be at an advantage. Will some parents similarly choose to modify their genetic code in order that their prodigy will be similarly "advantaged." Will we modify the genetic code of parents to produce a new "master race"?

Another important public concern whether or not the public will have access to the data derived from a publicly funded project. It would be consistent with the promotion of the public good that everyone have access to the results of the human genome project.

Finally, we recognize that humankind is more than its genetic code. While science can inform us what is, and what can be, the humanities, religion, and ethics informs us how we shall be and what we shall be. Government oversight has an important responsibility to insure and safeguard the public good. While I applaud the human achievement, a truly international enterprise, in the "reading" of the human genome, I urge everyone to address with deep thought and human compassion the important societal consequences that I have enumerated.

TRIBUTE TO TEXAS BOYS RANCH OF LUBBOCK

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2000

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Texas Boys Ranch of Lubbock in celebration of their 25th Anniversary Telethon on August 26th, 2000. Texas Boys Ranch provides adolescent boys of the South Plains an opportunity to realize their dreams and reach their goals.

The Texas Boys Ranch began in 1975 as a way for community leaders to minister to the lives of troubled youth. For 25 years, Texas Boys Ranch has served over 400 boys and young men from all walks of life. Texas Boys Ranch is a working ranch with cattle, hogs, horses, and ponies. In addition to their full academic schedules, the boys live on the ranch and are required to preform chores in their cottages and on the ranch. Texas Boys Ranch also offers a unique program to young men age 17 or older. The Independent Living Program allows these men to live at the Ranch's Cottage III, where they are given the responsibility to make choices regarding their day to day lives.

For the past 25 years, the Texas Boys Ranch has provided boys and young men of the South Plains with a stable environment in which to grow and develop. Generous contributions from individuals, churches, businesses, and foundations, as well as reimbursement by the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services, provide the funding for Texas Boys Ranch. A recent capital campaign led to a much needed renovation project of cottages, Dinning facilities and infrastructure at the Ranch. The Silver Anniversary Telethon is yet another opportunity for the community to help the Texas Boys Ranch in influencing the lives of young men.

At a time in our nation when young people have more obstacles and challenges growing up, and fewer quality role models, Texas Boys Ranch serves as a positive and stabilizing force in the lives in many young men. The success story of Texas Boys Ranch demonstrates how communities can come together and reach out to the needs of our young boys.

SERVICE 1ST CREDIT UNION CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2000

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the members and employees of the Service 1st Federal Credit Union in Danville, Pennsylvania, on the occasion of the credit union's upcoming 25th anniversary.

Service 1st was originally known as Geisinger Federal Credit Union when it was founded in August, 1975, by several employees of Geisinger Medical Center who saw the need to provide a financial services alternative to their fellow workers. The name change was made to reflect the expanded field of membership and the credit union's commitment to all of its members.

Over the years, the credit union has grown into a full-service financial institution with membership expanded well beyond the employees of the Geisinger Health System. With branches in Wilkes-Barre, Lewisburg and Selinsgrove, Service 1st now provides service to more than 150 employee groups, including workers at Bucknell University, Susquehanna University, and Tri-County Farm and Home Supply.

Service 1st also has a unique program, headed by Kathy Linn, chair of the board, that allows students at Danville Area High School to join and work in a branch that is based right in the high school.

Service 1st has come a long way since its founding 25 years ago and is now a well-established credit union with more than 13,000 members and more than 450 million in assets. In June, Service 1st opened its new headquarters in Danville at 1027 Bloom St., complete with a drive-up ATM and drive-through teller service as well as expanded business hours inside the lobby.

Mr. Speaker, Service 1st and its strong commitment to its members serve as a good example of why I and others in the Congress worked to enact the Credit Union Membership

Access Act that President Clinton signed into law in 1998. Credit unions serve an important purpose as a non-profit provider of financial services to millions of Americans.

Pennsylvania in particular has the highest proportion of credit union membership of any state in the nation, with one out of every four Pennsylvanians belonging to a credit union.

I send my best wishes to the members and employees of the Service 1st Federal Credit Union on their 25th anniversary and my wishes for continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2000

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent yesterday, Monday, July 17, 2000, and as a result, missed rollcall votes 401 through 404. Had I been present, I would have voted Yes on rollcall vote 401, Yes on rollcall vote 402, Yes on rollcall vote 403, and No on rollcall vote 404.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2000

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, due to a travel delay in returning from my district, I was not present for rollcall votes last evening.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcalls 401, 402, 403, and 404.

TRIBUTE TO GOLDY S. LEWIS

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I celebrate the achievements of Goldy S. Lewis, of Rancho Cucamonga, California.

Mrs. Lewis has been active in the real estate and home building industry in Southern California for 45 years. She is the co-founder of Lewis Homes, a company distinguished for its commitment to quality housing. Since 1955, she has served as their Director and Executive Vice President, and she currently holds the position of Managing Partner. Mrs. Lewis has also been actively involved with Lewis Construction Company, Inc., Lewis Building Company, Inc. Las Vegas, Republic Sales Company, Inc., Kimmel Enterprises, Inc., Foot-hill Investment Company, and the Republic Management Company.

As a result of her leadership, insight, and vision, the Lewis Operating Corporation has built 56,773 homes, 7,000 apartments, 3,000,000 square feet of retail, office and industrial space, and developed 15,000 acres of land. Their quality work has netted numerous