

unbeaten girls volleyball team, and the Maryland State 4A Champion baseball team.

This weekend, the Watkins Mill Booster Club is sponsoring a fundraiser which features the hilarious entertainment of The Capitol Steps, the nationally recognized musical political satire troupe. As the performers say, they are the "only group in America that attempts to be funnier than Congress." This Watkins Mill High School fundraising performance will be the only appearance by the Capitol Steps in Montgomery County, Maryland this year. I congratulate Booster Club member Heath Suddleson for arranging this event.

As a former educator, I am proud to recognize Watkins Mill High School for its extraordinary educational and extracurricular programs. I congratulate the school's students, faculty, supportive parents, dedicated administrators, and the Booster Club. In addition, I thank Principal MaryAnn Jobe, Booster Club President Paul Chewning, and Vice President Marge Goergen for their commitment. I wish Watkins Mill High School continued success in achieving excellence in education.

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON
THEIR NATIONAL DAY, OCTOBER
10, 2000

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, as we may recall, the island of Taiwan was hit by a devastating earthquake last year on September 21. Thousands lost their lives and damage costs ran into the hundreds of millions. In what was already becoming troubling economic times, that prospering island nation was nearly brought to its knees. We who are Taiwan's regional neighbors know that, prior to the earthquake, the people of Taiwan were getting ready to celebrate their most important public holiday on October 10th affectionately known as "10-10," Taiwan's National Day is celebrated with the same sense of loyalty and patriotism, the same sense of pride, and with the same gusto as we celebrate our most important public holiday, the Fourth of July. Imagine then how pained, how joyless and how sad the people of Taiwan must have been to find themselves in the midst of overwhelming tragedy instead of joyous celebration.

A year has passed, and like the rest of the world, the Republic of China has stepped into the 21st century. Their recovery from the earthquake has been slow and steady, and some signs of the devastation still remain. Reconstruction and rebuilding of their economy is progressing so that now they can mark the anniversary of earthquake with solemnity and yet prepare to celebrate "10-10" with renewed hope and with renewed confidence in themselves.

We in Guam know all too well how important "10-10" is to the people of Taiwan, because the Taiwan Chinese community of Guam has always been generous in their celebrations, inviting our participation and sharing

all the good things that make us brothers, sisters and cousins of the Pacific. Their contributions to Guam are immense, yet they remain humble and hardworking, and they go about their lives quietly helping to build our economy, enhancing our pool of professional skill and talent, and enriching our island community. We, who are no strangers to natural disasters, mourned with the people of Taiwan last year. This year, we, who know what it is like to reject defeat and to work hard toward full recovery, look forward with them to a joyful celebration.

Mr. Speaker, this October 10th the Republic of China will celebrate its 89th anniversary as a free and prosperous democracy. I think the earthquake in Taiwan pointed out the real success story that is Taiwan—that their relationships with people throughout the world are so good that so many came to their aid. Nothing is as serious a sign of our common humanity than when we are most vulnerable, and certainly times of natural disaster point that out. And I think it is very important that we continue to express our support for Taiwan.

At its essence, "10-10" is a celebration of the amazing successes people can achieve when they are free to exercise their rights, when they can aspire to greater things, when they can pursue what they desire for themselves, their families and their nation, when they refuse to be defeated. The Republic of China's continuing triumph is an inspiration to all freedom-loving people around the world. For this, we thank them. On this year's commemoration of "10-10," we congratulate them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, during the week of July 24th, due to hospitalization, I was unable to vote on Roll Call Number 429 through and including Roll Call number 450. If I had been present I would have voted AYE on all, except on Roll Call Number 449, on which I would have voted NAY. Accordingly, I ask unanimous consent to have my statement placed in the RECORD at the appropriate point.

RECOGNIZING EDWARD J. BRISCOE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and commend Edward J. Briscoe Elementary School of Fort Worth, Texas, for being designated by the Texas Education Agency as a State of Texas Recognized School. This tremendous achievement is a testament to the leadership of Briscoe Elementary's principal, Dr. Jennifer Giddings Brooks, and to the hard work of the school's teachers, staff, and students.

The students attending Briscoe Elementary come from diverse ethnic backgrounds. The

school is located in a neighborhood with challenging social conditions, where 97% students are on free and reduced lunch programs. With the guidance of dedicated teachers, students at Briscoe have overcome these disadvantages and become an example of academic achievement for all of America's schools.

Over the last several years, test scores have drastically risen at Briscoe Elementary. More than 80% of the school's 410 students passed each section of the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) test. What is even more impressive is Briscoe's attendance rate of 96.5%. This success is a result of the incredible devotion to students by the school's teachers and staff. They set high standards for their students, but they also invest real time in their students' lives. Fourthgrade teacher Shaneeka Shannon says that her work at Briscoe Elementary is "Not just a job. It's a calling." Shaneeka's attitude is at the core of the school's success. By believing in and setting high expectations for its students, Briscoe has beaten the odds and become a place where academic excellence is the rule not the exception.

As a former public school teacher, I am very concerned about the condition of America's classrooms; however, the success of schools like Briscoe Elementary give me hope and should give our nation hope. Together we can reach our vision of an America where our children are not only well-educated; but, more importantly, an America where our children believe in themselves and their country.

We can reach this goal one school and one child at a time. Briscoe Elementary School's success will serve as an excellent example of what can be accomplished.

VETERINARY HEALTH ENHANCEMENT ACT FOR UNDER-SERVED AREAS

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, many rural and inner city areas of the United States lack proper veterinary care in their communities. As a result, the health of both animals and humans in these areas is at risk. In many cases, veterinarians, upon graduating from a school of veterinary medicine, opt to practice in a prosperous urban setting which provides the highest opportunity for income. This leaves many rural and inner-city regions lacking proper veterinary care.

Rural areas in the United States are going through a unique transformation. These smalltown, agrarian communities are literally drying up. These areas can't afford to provide veterinarians the same levels of income as a more prosperous urban area. Therefore, these areas are forced to go without a practicing veterinarian in the area. Not only do families need pet health care in these areas, but farmers and ranchers are forced to conduct their operations without an agricultural veterinarian in the area resulting in the poor health of livestock and humans as well as loss of income to the farmer or rancher. In the same respect,

poor, inner-city areas need additional veterinarians as well. These areas are hotbeds for dangerous diseases carried by animals which can then be spread to susceptible children.

In response to this disparity, I am introducing the Veterinary Health Enhancement Act for Under-served Areas. Under this proposal, veterinary students will be provided debt relief for their veterinary school loans which often run higher than \$120,000. This is a voluntary federal program in which the state school of veterinary medicine may choose to participate. Students may receive this assistance only if they agree to practice in an under-served area as mentioned above. The result of having veterinarians practicing in under-served rural and inner-city areas will help improve animal health, will ensure that the risk of disease transfer from animals to humans is minimal, and will lower the health risks especially to children who are more susceptible to these animal health risks.

This is a non-controversial bill which will provide welcome veterinary care to inner city and rural areas. I urge all my colleagues to support this bill on behalf of their communities.

OLYMPIC AMBUSH ADVERTISING

HON. JOEL HEFLEY

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a problem that impacts not only the United States Olympic Committee, which is located in my district of Colorado Springs, but also millions of Americans who are involved in the Olympic movement.

The problem is known as "ambush marketing," a deceptive practice in which companies deliberately and falsely suggest that they support or are affiliated with an event or organization. This enables companies to steal the benefits of sponsorship of events such as the Olympics without paying the associated sponsorship fee.

Numerous American companies such as Coca-Cola, McDonald's and Visa have spent millions of dollars for the privilege of being official sponsors of the Olympic Games. Competing companies, through deceptive advertising, have attempted to capitalize on the goodwill and favorable publicity of an Olympic sponsorship without paying the appropriate licensing fee. You may ask, "So what?". The "so what" is that official sponsors have invested time, creativity and money into helping our nation's Olympic effort, while the ambush advertisers have invested nothing in the Olympic movement, yet hope to profit from an association.

Ambush marketing has the direct and immediate result of depriving officially licensed sponsors of the Olympic Games of the exclusive rights in their product category to advertise their financial support for the Olympic Movement and associate with the Olympic Games. What will happen in the future if Congress does not put an end to ambush marketing in the context of the Olympic Movement? Advertisers and marketers will, quite likely, be less inclined to buy the requisite

sponsorship packages for the privilege of being an "official Olympic sponsor." Indeed, some may think about becoming ambush marketers themselves and enjoy the fruits of an Olympic sponsorship without any of the corresponding obligations.

Such a result will most certainly have a devastating effect on the United States Olympic Committee which receives no federal funding. The current system of private funding has worked marvelously in providing the money and support that pays for the training, transportation and facilities of our great Olympic athletes. However, the system is being threatened. Ambush marketers are diluting the value and prestige an Olympic sponsorship. The more they erode the value of sponsorship, the less incentive others will have to contribute the millions of dollars required to enjoy the distinction of being an official Olympic sponsor and support our Olympic athletes.

I first addressed this issue in a floor statement in 1993, but in the ensuing years the practice has become more widespread. While the USOC has worked tirelessly to combat ambush marketing, it apparently needs better tools to put an end to the practice. Only Congress can provide these tools, and it is becoming apparent that it is time for us to step in. I look forward to working with my colleagues next year to craft targeted legislation to give the USOC the proper tools necessary to combat ambush marketing.

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2000

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of the Social Security Tax Relief Act (H.R. 4865). By repealing the 1993 tax increase on Social Security benefits, Congress will take a good first step toward eliminating one of the most unfair taxes imposed on seniors: the tax on Social Security benefits.

Eliminating the 1993 tax on Social Security benefits has long been one of my goals in Congress. In fact, I introduced legislation to repeal this tax increase in 1997, and I am pleased to see Congress acting on this issue. I would remind my colleagues that the justification for increasing this tax in 1993 was to reduce the budget deficit. Now, President Clinton, who first proposed the tax increase, and most members of Congress say the deficit is gone. So, by the President's own reasoning, there is no need to keep this tax hike in place.

Because Social Security benefits are financed with tax dollars, taxing these benefits is yet another incidence of "double taxation." Furthermore, "taxing" benefits paid by the government is merely an accounting trick, a "shell game" which allows members of Congress to reduce benefits by subterfuge. This allows Congress to continue using the Social Security trust fund as a means of financing other government programs and mask the true size of the federal deficit.

Mr. Speaker, the Social Security Tax Relief Act, combined with our action earlier this year

to repeal the earnings limitation, goes a long way toward reducing the burden imposed by the Federal Government on senior citizens. However, I hope my colleagues will not stop at repealing the 1993 tax increase, but will work to repeal all taxes on Social Security benefits. I am cosponsoring legislation to achieve this goal, H.R. 761.

Congress should also act on my Social Security Preservation Act (H.R. 219), which ensures that all money in the Social Security Trust Fund is spent solely on Social Security. When the government takes money for the Social Security Trust Fund, it promises the American people that the money will be there for them when they retire. Congress has a moral obligation to keep that promise.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to help free senior citizens from oppressive taxation by supporting the Social Security Benefits Tax Relief Act (H.R. 4865). I also urge my colleagues to join me in working to repeal all taxes on Social Security benefits and ensuring that moneys from the Social Security trust fund are used solely for Social Security and not wasted on frivolous government programs.

SAN BERNARDINO'S ROUTE 66 RENDEZVOUS CELEBRATES THE OPEN ROAD

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2000

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it is accurate to say that for Americans headed West to Southern California, all roads pass through San Bernardino County. And for one weekend this month, a half-million people from across the United States will head straight to San Bernardino to celebrate the most storied road of all: Route 66.

In its 11th year, the Route 66 Rendezvous in downtown San Bernardino has grown from 300 cars and 4,000 people to 2,448 vehicles viewed by 600,000 visitors last year, making it one of the nation's largest free-admission events. Through the strong support of local businesses—led by chief sponsor Stater Bros. Markets—and thousands of volunteers, the city of San Bernardino has created one of the top family-oriented events in California, according to the state's Division of Tourism.

Celebrating the car culture that has been such a part of modern American history, the Rendezvous invites the thousands of visitors to watch the classic vehicles parade, race their engines in a decibel-measured contest and burn out their tires at an abandoned raceway. Kids are given a chance to build and keep their own toys.

It is no surprise that renewed interest in the fabled Route 66 has led America to San Bernardino County. Over 200 miles of the Mother Road carry travelers from the forbidding Mojave Desert to the doorstep of Southern California's cities. Those who are rediscovering the first cross-country highway have a tremendous resource in Barstow, where the newest and most exciting Route 66 museum has opened in the historic Harvey House railroad depot. Further along the highway West is another fine museum in Victorville.