

can predict with certainty when the hour of maximum danger will come, but it is entirely possible—if present trends are permitted to continue much longer—that the candidate we elect as President next month will be the man who will eventually be confronted with a choice between defending Taiwan and its democracy or appeasing Beijing and thereby sacrificing U.S. strategic interests in Asia for generations to come.

So during this year's observance of "Double 10," let us celebrate what has been achieved in Taiwan—the victory of democracy and the blessings of a free society. Let us also be resolved to do whatever is necessary to protect Taiwan and to preserve its way of life. In standing by Taiwan, we are also standing up for ourselves.

HONORING DR. MURRAY PRITCHARD OF WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 12, 2000*

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate a very special man, Dr. Murray Pritchard of West Plains, Missouri. Dr. Pritchard was recently named Outstanding VA Health Care Provider of the Year at the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Convention held in Las Vegas, Nevada. I am very pleased to honor the distinguished career of Dr. Pritchard and all the contributions he has made to veterans in Southeast Missouri.

Dr. Pritchard served this country in the Army during World War II. He was captured in North Africa in February 1943, and spent two years in a prisoner of war camp in Germany. When Dr. Pritchard returned from the war, he went to medical school and became a doctor of osteopathy while also completing a masters degree in public health administration. After several years in private practice, our community was lucky to have him join the staff of the John J. Pershing VA Medical Center in Poplar Bluff in 1973. Dr. Pritchard worked in the outpatient department until he retired in 1985.

But retirement didn't last very long. Soon Dr. Pritchard helped lead the innovative process of starting the VA Mobile Clinic program. Many veterans in rural America live 100 miles or more from the closest VA medical center. Traveling to see a doctor, to get a check up, or even to get necessary prescription drugs is a hardship to these men and women. But Dr. Pritchard and the folks at the Poplar Bluff VA wouldn't let distance stop them from giving top-notch care to veterans. If the vets couldn't go to the clinic, Dr. Pritchard made sure the hospital would come to them. On the road about 4 days a week, Dr. Pritchard and his wife make sure that no veteran is left without the necessary, quality health care they deserve and were promised.

Dr. Pritchard not only serves the veterans of Southeast Missouri, but he also is concerned with the well being and health of all Americans. When Hurricane Andrew hit southern Florida, Dr. Pritchard headed up a team of health care professionals who took their mobile clinic to help treat the victims of the hurri-

cane. His team helped ease the suffering of about 150 hurricane victims a day in Florida. And if that isn't enough, Dr. Pritchard has many other notable accomplishments such as: holding the post of past commander of the Missouri Association of Former POW's, serving as president of the Missouri Society of American College of General Practitioners in Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, and as past president of the Association of Military Osteopathic Surgeons.

Dr. Pritchard is a dedicated doctor, and a kind and generous human being who answers the call of service to his fellow man.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Murray Pritchard is more than worthy of receiving the honor of Outstanding VA Health Care Provider, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me today in recognizing this truly remarkable man.

HONORING ORLYN BELL

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 12, 2000*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor a remarkable human being, Orlyn Bell. For over three decades Orlyn has fought hard to ensure that the water of western Colorado is being distributed correctly and fairly. Orlyn is retiring as the Division 5 water engineer, a position he has held in Glenwood Springs for just over 17 years. As Orlyn moves on to bigger and better things, I would like to take this opportunity to commend him on his service to the western slope of Colorado.

Orlyn began his career in engineering as far back as 1965 where his summer job had him measuring the flow of a major flood of the South Platte River after it hit Denver. His work during this traumatic time earned him not only a citation from the Governor, but also sparked an interest that would soon become the focus of his professional career. In 1968 he graduated from the University of Denver, with a degree in civil engineering. After spending a few years working for the Washington Highway Department he moved back to Colorado where he began his legendary career in the state engineer's office.

For almost two decades now, Orlyn has been one of seven engineers in charge of the seven different major river basins. The area in which he has represented is vast in size and the demand for water is much larger than the actual supply. This large area spans from the Continental Divide in central Colorado all the way through the Grand Valley on to the Utah border.

The battle for water in Colorado is one that has sparked a great deal of controversy over the years, but Orlyn was able to manage these issues fairly and earn the respect of both eastern and western Colorado. Orlyn's contribution to the citizens and farmers of western Colorado is immeasurable. Orlyn you have served your community, State and Nation proudly and I wish you the best in your future endeavors.

TEACHERS' APPRECIATION DAY

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 12, 2000*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, a proclamation signed by Acting-Governor Madeleine Bordallo on September 1, 2000, designated the month of September as "Teacher's Recognition Month." Three years ago, the Guam Legislature designated September 28th as "Teachers' Appreciation Day" in order to pay tribute and acknowledge the important role played by teachers on the island of Guam.

Intended to coincide with the birthday of the Chinese philosopher, Confucius, the month-long celebration was set aside to honor those who have dedicated themselves to the teaching profession. Regarded as one of the world's greatest philosophers and teachers, Confucius has been given credit for the development of public education. Hence, for the past three years, the Confucius Society of Guam, under the leadership of its president, Robert Kao, has worked towards raising the community's awareness regarding the importance of teachers to every community.

In this year's events, the island of Guam chose to celebrate the legacy of its teachers by honoring current teachers whose families include generations of classroom teachers among its members. Among those honored are Phyliss L. Leon Guerrero, Debra R. Mariano, and my very own daughter, Sophia R. Underwood.

Phyliss, who is from George Washington High School in Mangilao, has been a teacher for eight years who has four generations of teachers in her family. Her great-grandmother, Asuncion Martinez Cruz, taught at a school run by the Spaniards in the 1890's. Her grandmother, Vicenta S.A. Leon Guerrero, taught in schools established by the Americans from 1922 until 1962. She is the daughter of Virginia Artero Leon Guerrero, an elementary school teacher who taught for 14 years, and Wilfred Leon Guerrero, the former president of the University of Guam.

Debra, a four-year veteran, teaches at Agueda Johnston Middle School. Her grandfather, Cayetano A. Quinata, served as a teacher and principal at several elementary schools for a period of 39 years. Her grandfather, Alejo L.G. Quinata, taught under the Japanese during the occupation of Guam during World War II. Her mother, Mary Q. Mariano, taught at P.C. Lujan Elementary, Price Elementary and the Guam Community College.

My daughter, Sophia, has been teaching for more than five years. She also comes from a long and solid line of teachers. My grandfather, James H. Underwood, taught English at night school soon after the Americans took possession of Guam in 1898. He taught until 1905. My parents, John and Esther, as well as my wife, Lorraine, and I have been teachers.

Mr. Speaker, public officials, such as ourselves, do not officially gain the title "Honorable" until the constituents we serve grant us their mandate through our election. It was not until 1992 that the title was granted to me. However, I firmly believe that I, together with

my colleagues in the field of education, have earned the title long before—by having been a teacher, a member of a most honorable profession.

Over the years, teachers have insured a bright future through the education of our youth. Teachers have been willing to share their knowledge and adjust to meet the needs of students. In our present society where the family unit is under constant exposure to external and internal conflicts and pressures, we look toward our teachers to be role models who play a vital role in the development of every child placed under their supervision. On Teachers' Recognition Month and, especially, on Teachers' Appreciation Day, I commend and congratulate my esteemed colleagues in the field of education, the teachers of Guam.

PIPELINE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT  
ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOE SKEEN**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2000*

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to support S. 2438, the Pipeline Safety legislation, and also to implore the House of Representatives to pass it quickly and send it to the President for his signature.

In August, in my Congressional District in New Mexico, a pipeline explosion took the lives of eleven family members who were camping in an area located south of Carlsbad along the Pecos River. This terrible tragedy shook our state to the core. I visited the site of this disaster and I cannot begin to describe what I saw and the impact it has had on the lives of countless citizens in New Mexico.

This legislation is bipartisan and it passed the U.S. Senate with no opposition. This bill will help us avoid these terrible accidents in the future. Congress does not have time to play politics with this legislation. We don't have time for extended conferences on this legislation. Those who feel more is needed in this bill can introduce those changes next year. If we don't pass this bill we will have no legislation for at least another two years. It is unconscionable for this Congress not to pass legislation this year. To those who would vote against this legislation I say shame on you. This bill imposes new pipeline testing requirements on pipeline operators. It imposes higher penalties for safety violations and invests in new technology to improve pipeline safety. This bill increases the funding for pipeline safety as well as increasing state oversight and local government input. President Clinton supports this bill, Senate Democratic Senators support this bill.

I want to thank Chairman SHUSTER and the leadership of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for all of the hard work they have done in bringing this important legislation before us. We need to pass S. 2438.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING CLAIRE  
HOWARD

**HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 12, 2000*

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Claire Howard, one of my constituents, on her appointment as the President-Elect of the United States Serra Club. In 2001, Mrs. Howard will become the first woman President of the USA Council and also the first in the history of Serra International.

Mrs. Howard is a charter member of the Bethlehem Serra Club and over the years has served as an active member on almost all of the standing committees. Of particular note is Mrs. Howard's service as the Coordinator of the Serra Clubs of Allentown Diocese's "Life/Vocation Awareness Weekend." The weekend offers any adult who would like to explore the possibilities of entering the priesthood or a religious order a time to reflect, pray and interact with priests. In addition to her work with the Serra Club, Mrs. Howard is an active member of the Morning Star Rotary Club, Junior League of the Lehigh Valley, Bethlehem Palette Club, and the Bethlehem Quota Club.

I applaud Mrs. Claire Howard on her new appointment and wish her the best of luck in this new assignment.

HONORING CECIL WALT

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 12, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I take this moment to honor the life of Cecil Walt. Cecil recently passed away at age 98. Cecil spent nearly half of his life serving the Grand Valley in a number of different capacities. As family and friends mourn this great loss, I would like to pay tribute to this remarkable human being.

Cecil moved to the Grand Valley in 1944, settling in Grand Junction, Colorado. During his time on the western slope he owned and operated five different automotive stores, but was best known for his work for the community. It was not long after residing in Grand Junction that he decided to run for mayor and was elected. His work for the city will forever be enshrined along the Main Street Shopping Park, which he was instrumental in constructing.

Cecil's work to improve the city of Grand Junction earned national attention in 1963 when Look Magazine named it an "All-American City." Cecil was also very active in crusades to protect western slope water rights and to ensure that the Eisenhower Tunnel was built where it stands today, to ensure motorists safe passage from the western slope on into Denver.

Former Colorado State Senator Tilman Bishop, in recent article by Zack Barnett in The Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, had this to say about former Mayor Cecil Walt, "He was a visionary, he was always putting things together for the future."

Cecil worked very hard to ensure that the Grand Junction community was a better place for all to live. He served his community, State, and Nation admirably and he will be greatly missed.

TRANSPORTATION RECALL ENHANCEMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND DOCUMENTATION (TREAD) ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2000*

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the so-called "TREAD Act" and I want to commend Chairman BLILEY, Chairman TAUZIN, Chairman UPTON, Ranking Member Mr. DINGELL, Mr. LUTHER, and the many Commerce Committee colleagues who have worked very hard on this bill for bringing this legislation to the floor at this time. Hopefully, with time running out we can convince the Senate to similarly take up legislation on this issue and we can get a bill to the President's desk before Congress adjourns.

This legislation was initially prompted by the Firestone recall of some of the over 6 million tires used primarily on the Ford Explorer. As has become readily apparent during the course of our congressional investigation, both Firestone and Ford knew that there were problems years before they told the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) or the American public.

This legislation has many provisions designed to enable NHTSA to perform its job better and new measures to increase the safety of American motorists and give consumers needed information. The bill includes an increase in civil penalties, consumer protections against the resale of defective or recalled tires, and a mandate to NHTSA to update the tire safety standards, which haven't been updated since 1968.

In addition, I successfully amended the bill in Committee to require NHTSA to conduct dynamic testing for rollovers. The fact is that these SUVs, minivans, light trucks represented in 1997 some 46 percent of all new vehicle sales in the United States and they are obviously very popular vehicles.

Mr. Speaker, according to NHTSA, rollovers are the second most common type of fatal crash after head-on crashes for all cars—but it is the most common type of fatal crash for light trucks, which includes SUVs, pickup trucks and minivans.

And we know today that sport utility vehicles have a 3 times higher probability of rolling over than passenger cars due to their higher center of gravity. And we also know that although traffic deaths reached an all time record low last year, rollover deaths continued to climb—to over 10,000 fatalities last year. In addition to fatalities, rollovers cause 55,000–60,000 serious injuries each year.

In my view, given the nature of the types of vehicles on our roadways and auto showrooms today, this dynamic rollover testing is overdue and I believe it will enhance information available to consumers purchasing vehicles for the families.