

appropriate we recognize the value of this under-appreciated database as Congress prepares to take steps to prevent database piracy. MICROMEDEX, of Englewood, Colorado and the producer of POISINDEX®, has grave concerns that unless we close a gap in the law its work could be stolen, an act of piracy that could endanger the safety of many people.

Some might argue that the more widely we distribute information about poisons and their antidotes, the better. Although this notion is well intended, it is also misguided and could have serious consequences. Scientific knowledge is constantly moving forward, and as a result, medical information can rapidly go out-of-date. The POISINDEX® team of 125 industry expert editors is dedicated—as a business and as corporate citizens—to providing unbiased information of unsurpassed breadth and depth. For 25 years they have invested a lot of time, money and effort doing precisely that. The problem is, a commitment to the integrity of the information is not necessarily shared by people who would pirate the contents of POISINDEX® and distribute or sell them on the Internet or elsewhere. This is the type of “sweat of the brow” databases that Congress needs to prevent from being pirated.

If POISINDEX® can be copied and distributed by pirates, it raises a truly frightening specter: the emergency team searching frantically for information, only to find it is incomplete, out-of-date or inaccurate. Imagine yourself as the parent in that nightmare.

Legislation pending before the House, H.R. 354, of which I am a cosponsor, will prevent database piracy and ensure that POISINDEX® will continue to help save lives. By preventing piracy, H.R. 354 maintains the incentives database publishers need to stay in business. It also encourages competition within this growing industry, which will lead to the creation of more high quality products.

Yes, POISINDEX® is an extreme example with potentially extreme consequences. But even in less dire cases, the principle is the same. Unless we do something about database piracy, we will undermine the commitment of producers to build and maintain the integrity and accuracy of the databases we depend on every day.

We can all be grateful to MICROMEDEX for creating and maintaining such a vital product, and for showing how accurate information can literally save lives. It is the most graphic example I can imagine of how poison prevention and database protection go hand-in-hand.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this year's National Poison Prevention Week and timely action on H.R. 354. We must prevent database piracy and maintain the integrity of databases that are critical to us all. We owe that to every child and every parent who picks up that phone in their moment of distress.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING NOTU ON ITS 50TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Naval Ordnance Test Unit (NOTU) in Florida's 15 Congressional District is celebrating its 50th birthday this year, and I want to extend my congratulations to the men and women who work at NOTU today, and to those who have supported its vital mission in the past.

In 1956, NOTU became the site for all test firings of the Fleet Ballistic Missile Program, launching first from land and then from submerged submarines a continuous series of Polaris, Poseidon, and, today, Trident missiles. Although NASA and Air Force space launches are the most publicized, the Navy is the largest user of the Eastern Range at Cape Canaveral, conducting over half of the missile firings on the Range.

NOTU's anniversary happens to fall in the same year as the 100th anniversary of the U.S. Submarine Force. On October 12, 1900, the U.S. Navy commissioned the first submarine, the U.S.S. *Holland*, so this year is even more special for the people of NOTU. I'm pleased that there is an effort underway in Congress to honor this important national achievement, and I am a proud cosponsor of House Resolution 397 that does just that.

But it gets even better—this year is also the 50th anniversary of the first launch from Florida's Space Coast. Bumper 8, a captured German V-2 rocket, was launched on July 24, 1950 at 9:28 a.m.

We'll be celebrating all three of these important anniversaries on April 1 in Florida, one of several events planned, and I want to thank everyone involved—including NOTU, the 45th Space Wing, NASA's Kennedy Space Center, the aerospace industry, and a very supportive community—for their hard work during this important trio of anniversaries.

NOTU continues to be a vital part of Florida's Space Coast. They have played a role in the rich heritage of Florida for half a century, and I know they will continue to serve this nation with honor for another half century and beyond.

GOLDEN APPLE SCHOLAR AWARDS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to commend the 2000 Golden Apple Scholar award winners from my district. The Golden Apple Scholars program is to recruit talented high school juniors who want to become teachers.

I would like to take the opportunity to recognize Ms. Shalonda Carr from Lanphier High School in Springfield, Illinois. Teachers, like parents, have a unique opportunity to touch the life of a child. I can't think of a more rewarding experience.

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As you know, Mr. Speaker, I was a former high school teacher. I want to wish Shalonda all the same joy and success that I shared in my teaching career.

TRIBUTE TO THE SIMI VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC DE-CATHLON TEAM

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the California State Champion Simi Valley High School Academic Decathlon Team.

The Simi Valley team's win this past weekend was impressive, beating last year's National Champions by a mere 21 points. Last year's National Champions also hail from my district—Moorpark High School. The two have been trading the Ventura County title for the past eight years, and now have the distinction of trading the California State title.

Next month, Simi Valley High School will travel to San Antonio, Texas, where they will compete against 37 other schools from across the United States in an attempt to capture the National Champion title for Ventura County for the second consecutive year.

The nine-student Simi Valley High School team is representative of the best and brightest our country has to offer. They have been accepted to such universities as Harvard and Stanford. Seniors David Bartlett, Steve Mihalovitz, Cary Opal, Jeff Robertson, Jennifer Tran, Michael Truex, Justin Underhill, Randy Xu and junior Kevin White are truly America's future leaders. Their coach, Ken Hibbitts, is a dedicated educator who deserves equal praise for a phenomenal job of preparing his students.

Whatever the outcome in San Antonio, Simi Valley High School has proven that Ventura County is an educational powerhouse. They have also proven that Ventura County students and teachers have the dedication and perseverance to be the best they can possibly be. It takes months of studying from early morning to late at night to prepare for these competitions. Jobs, friends and family are placed on the back burner.

Coach Hibbitts says his team has the dedication and determination to win a national award. They will be champions either way.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating the California State Champion Simi Valley High School Academic Decathlon Team for its impressive win this week, and in wishing the team great success in the national championships.

HONORING THE MARCH ON SELMA

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, it's truly an honor to join those distinguished colleagues

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who traveled to Alabama for the 35th anniversary of the March on Selma and to honor the people who struggled for so many years to bring equality and civil rights to all Americans.

This year, my daughter came with me to retrace the steps of the civil rights movement. Together, we walked arm in arm over the Edmund Pettus Bridge. This is the same bridge where my good friend and colleague, Congressman JOHN LEWIS, and others were met by brutal police and vicious dogs as they attempted to march from Selma to Montgomery. These brave souls prevented from Freedom of Movement by those charged to uphold the laws.

Together, my daughter and I sat in the 16th Street Baptist Church where four young innocent girls were killed by a bomb. A bomb thrown out of fear and hate, in a sad attempt to frighten and intimidate. These four young children doing nothing more than exercising their First Amendment right to Freedom of Religion.

Together, my daughter and I stood in front of a charred bus in which young men and women sat as it was set ablaze by people of Birmingham. Courageous people, known as the Freedom Riders, who were traveling throughout the South protesting segregation laws. Beaten for engaging in lawful civil disobedience.

Together, my daughter and I met so many men and women that fought so bravely and proudly and sacrificed themselves for something they believed in. We met Fred Shuttlesworth in front of a statue of himself, and heard him recount his personal experiences of the movement. We were inspired and humbled as he spoke of things he endured.

We sang spirituals with Bettie Mae Fikes at the Civil Rights Memorial—feeling the strength of her voice and emotion. The words touching our very souls.

We listened to the words of Coretta Scott King. We heard of her own struggles and those of her husband to ensure dignity and equality for all people.

As we traveled together throughout the South, I looked into my daughter's eyes. She is now in college—still though, my little girl. And, I knew why these men and women were fighting so hard, so bravely, for so long. They were fighting for not just for themselves—but for the future. The future of their children. The future of my children—of my daughter.

These men and women of all ages, creeds, and races sacrificed themselves in both mind and body. Some of them died merciful deaths at the hands of hatred. I pray that those who lost their lives are looking down on us today and know that they made the difference. They changed the direction of this country. They changed the future of this country.

Thirty-five years ago, black and white children did not go to school together. Black men and white men did not use the same water fountain or eat at the same restaurant counter.

Today, Americans are electing people of all races to political office, and these men and women are working together to represent everyone. But, so much more needs to be done.

We cannot rest. We cannot stop. We cannot give up until all people, of all races, of all faiths are equal.

To ensure that we do not forget. That we do not stop. We must educate our children and our children's children.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

One of the most memorable events during this trip was meeting Mrs. Mobley. Mrs. Mobley was the mother of Emmett Till, the young black man that was lynched after being accused of whistling at a white woman. Mrs. Mobley said, as she looked at myself and my colleagues, "I now know why God has kept me alive for so long."

We, as the generation that took part and remembers the civil right movement, have a duty. We must educate our children. Our children, black, white, Hispanic, Asian and Native American must know the sacrifice that our fellow men and women made to advance all of us. We must not allow their efforts to fade into history. Their struggle must not become just another paragraph in our history books. We must keep the memories alive.

So Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to say: I Remember and I will not stop.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2ND ANNUAL FINDING YOUR ROOTS CONFERENCE, AN AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH PROJECT IN OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 2nd Annual Finding Your Roots Conference, an African American Family History Research Project taking place on Saturday, March 25, 2000, in Oakland, California.

Genealogical research helps bridge the racial divide, brings understanding between races, and provides for the powerful "sankofa" experience of recognizing our past to better understand who we are today. Therefore, it is my belief that this conference is a wonderful testimony to the complexity and the magnificence of the human experience.

This event is designed to raise awareness within the African American community about the importance of tracing one's ancestry, particularly those whose ancestors were original depositors of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company. Freedman's was created by Congress and President Lincoln in 1865 for emancipated slaves. Unfortunately, Freedman's went bankrupt when 95% of the bank's money was borrowed and never repaid by white Americans. This conference will also provide opportunities for African Americans and all American families to share their ancestral information with each other.

The conference is co-sponsored by the California Genealogical Society, African-American Genealogical Society of Northern California, Legacy Jubilee Arts, Mid-Peninsula NAACP, Oakland Temple Family History Center, Center for Urban Black Studies and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Additional participating organizations include the Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church and the Voices of Evergreen Choir and the Morningstar Baptist Church. The featured speakers of the conference include Senior Research Consultant of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, Ms. Marie Taylor

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and award-winning broadcaster Mr. Darius Gray, who has traced his own family's ancestry back to the 1700's. Together, Ms. Taylor and Mr. Gray have been working on a project to extract one million names from Freedman's deposit records.

"Finding Your Roots" it is truly a valuable resource for all and I encourage everyone to begin finding their own roots today.

MAKE DUBAI INVESTMENTS PAY ITS BILLS

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to apply pressure to Dubai Investments, a very profitable joint stock public holding company in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), to pay its debts to American companies. The proposal is directed toward the government of the UAE, because both the government of Dubai and Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid al-Maktoum, the deputy ruler of Dubai, are founding investors and major stockholders in Dubai Investments—a rogue company that utilized unethical business practices left over 100 Georgians.

The Dubai Investment/United Arab Emirates Debt Repayment Act of 2000 addresses the situation that brought this issue to my attention—Dubai Investments' refusal to fulfill the terms of its contract with Pascoe Building Systems, Inc. Pascoe was once a mid-sized manufacturer with over \$20 million in annual sales. Today, Pascoe's doors are shut as a result of Dubai Investments' failure to fulfill its contractual compensation obligation. My legislation will prevent the pending sale of F-16 fighter aircraft to the UAE until the President certifies that Dubai Investments has fulfilled its obligations under its agreements with Pascoe Building Systems, Inc.

It is time for Congress to defend American businesses against rogue foreign corporations that intend never to pay their bills. I encourage my colleagues to support The Dubai Investments/United Arab Emirates Debt Repayment Act of 2000.

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