

* * * can't afford (insurance). Now we are told by TexCare Partnership we will have insurance for our children with low premiums and low co-payments that we can afford. My children have health care when they need it."

CHIP was first implemented in 1998 to address a national crisis—almost 12 million children that were without insurance. In Texas, we are now able to offer insurance to approximately 1.8 million children that otherwise would have none.

While we can make this offer, it is up to each parent or guardian to enroll, or at least inquire about getting, their children in this program. Believe it or not, the hardest part of the CHIP program is getting parents to enroll their children. More parents need to take advantage of this genuinely great program. I want to stress that even if a parent has never qualified for health insurance for their child before, now they can.

CHIP solves the cost problem for many Texas families. In CHIP, many families will only pay an annual fee of \$15 to cover all their children in the plan. Some higher-income families will pay monthly premiums of \$15 or 418, which covers all children in the family. Most families will also have co-payments for doctor/dental visits, prescription drugs, and emergency care. And families must re-enroll their children once a year. Children can only get this insurance if their parents apply, and I hope all parents will take the initiative and make certain your children are enrolled.

The application process is simple and straight-forward—any Texan can call 1-800-647-6558 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. If parents want local assistance or information in my congressional district, they can call the organization "ADVANCE" at 956-618-1642, or visit any public library in Hidalgo County to pick up a bilingual brochure and application.

COLORADO STATE
REPRESENTATIVE STEVE TOOL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this moment to recognize the career of one of Colorado's leading statesmen, Colorado Representative, Steve Tool. In doing so, I would like to honor this individual who, for so many years, has exemplified the notion of public service and civic duty. It is clear that Representative Tool's dynamic leadership will be greatly missed and difficult to replace.

Elected to the State House of Representatives in 1992, Steve served on the Finance, Judiciary, and the Health Environment and Welfare and Institutions Committees. He has sponsored legislation regarding the penalty one might receive for child abuse resulting in death. Steve has also worked very aggressively in regards to school finance and trying to balance school finance in the State of Colorado so that there is equal distribution of funds to all communities.

The number of honors and distinctions that Representative Tool earned during her years

of outstanding service are too numerous to list, too few to do justice to his contributions to the State of Colorado.

2000 marked the end of Representative Tool's tenure in elected office. His career embodied the citizen-legislator ideal and was a model that every official in elected office should seek to emulate. The citizens of Colorado owe Representative Tool a debt of gratitude and I wish him well.

IN HONOR OF ESTHER KIM AND
KAY POE ON THE OCCASION OF
THE 2000 U.S. OLYMPIC
TAEKWONDO TRIALS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Esther Kim and Kay Poe of the US Taekwondo team, who recently participated in the U.S. Olympic Taekwondo Trials in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Ms. Kim and Ms. Poe deserve this body's special recognition for their outstanding display of courage and sportsmanship.

Ms. Poe was set to fight her best friend Esther Kim, whom she has known for thirteen years, in the final match of the tournament, when Ms. Kim then made a most monumental decision, which will undoubtedly affect the lives of both taekwondo stars forever. Knowing that Ms. Poe was injured and unable to fight competitively, Ms. Kim forfeited the women's flyweight championship match and title in honor of her best friend.

Ms. Kim's "bow down" ended her chances of competing for the U.S. in Sidney this September at the Olympic Games. Mr. Speaker, this action clearly demonstrates Ms. Kim's courage and conviction, as well as her indescribable admiration and love for a friend.

Ms. Kim believed that Ms. Poe had worked harder at the sport and deserved the opportunity to represent her country. Poe was seeded number one in the world, while Ms. Kim was ranked tenth.

Rather than dishonoring her best friend by defeating an injured opponent, Ms. Kim chose to respect not only Ms. Poe's ability in the sport, but her determination in defeating her semi-final opponent after suffering an injury.

The Olympic Games are a pillar for international unity, as a plethora of athletic ambassadors compete for a chance to bring back a medal of outstanding athletic achievement for their respective nations. The U.S. teams' goals are very similar, in that our athletes make great sacrifices, with the hope that their efforts will be rewarded with a medal that can be brought back to our grateful nation.

Ms. Kim's father, Mr. Jin, who trained both Ms. Poe and Ms. Kim was honored by his daughter's decision. He believed that both athletes emerged victorious, as they worked together in honoring the team's final Olympic berth.

I salute Ms. Poe and Ms. Kim for their dedication and sacrifice and I ask my colleagues to join me in commending both Esther Kim and Kay Poe for their efforts at the U.S. Olym-

pic Taekwondo Trials in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

HONORING JOHN CIFICHIELLO

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Cifichiello from the Bronx. This Thursday, Mr. Cifichiello will be honored by Community Board #11 in the Bronx for his lifetime of service to God, country, and family.

Mr. Cifichiello is a lifelong resident of New York City. He was born on August 24th, 1906 to Italian immigrants Vito and Rosa in their Greenwich Village apartment.

At a young age, his family moved to the Fordham section of the Bronx. Vito and Rosa, along with their daughter Josephine, sons John, Neal, and Fred worked hard and eventually bought their own home on Crotona Avenue. John worked in the printing trade and married Caroline Ciani of Pelham Parkway.

During World War II, he served in the Navy in Ireland and England and upon his discharge began a career in the Postal Service while helping to raise a son John, and a daughter, Carolyn.

Since the end of the war, Mr. Cifichiello has been a community and church activist. He is a past Commander of the Catholic War Veterans and, he has escorted veterans to mass each Sunday at the Kingsbridge Veterans Hospital. He has also been active in Mount Carmel's Holy Name Society and St. Vincent De Paul Society.

Mr. Cifichiello continues to serve as a member of Community Board #11 and is a past president of St. Lucy's Senior Citizens Association. He was a long term member of the Red Cross, participating in numerous blood drives for St. Lucy's and is also a past member of the Catholic Guild for the Blind. He served with the Pelham Parkway Little League for over twenty years, first as a coach and then as president.

Upon retiring from the Post Office in 1975, he began as a volunteer at the New York Botanical Gardens where he continues to serve. He continues to march in the Bronx annual Columbus Day Parade.

Mr. Cifichiello is also the proud grandfather of Peter, Matthew, Michael, John Melissa, and Carolyn.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending this volunteer and family man for his many years of service to his church, family, and his nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mr. RYUN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, May 22, I was unavoidably detained and was not present for rollcall vote Nos. 211, 212, and 213. Had I been present, I would have voted

"yes" on the rollcall No. 211, "yes" on rollcall No. 212, and "yes" on rollcall No. 213.

COLORADO STATE HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE ANDY McELHANY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this moment to recognize the career of one of Colorado's leading statesmen, Colorado Representative, Andy McElhany. In doing so, I would like to honor this individual who, for so many years, has exemplified the notion of public service and civic duty. It is clear that Representative McElhany's dynamic leadership will be greatly missed and difficult to replace.

Elected to the State House of Representatives in 1992, Andy served as chairman of the State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committees. He was the sponsor of the 'Deadbeat Parent' bill and worked hard on the issues of health care reform, transportation, government efficiencies and tax reform.

Representative McElhany received many honors. One of his many honors was the the Colorado Library Association Legislator of the Year award.

2000 marked the end of Representative McElhany's tenure in the State House of Representatives. His career embodied the citizen-legislator ideal and was a model that every official in elected office should seek to emulate. The citizens of Colorado owe Representative McElhany a debt of gratitude and I wish him well.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably absent from the House floor when the following votes were taken: rollcall vote No. 211, rollcall vote No. 212, and rollcall vote No. 213. Had I been present in this Chamber when these votes were cast, I would have voted "yes" on each of the votes.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF WALTER W. SHERVINGTON TO THE MEDICAL PROFESSION AND HEALTH CARE

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Walter W. Shervington, a noted psychiatrist and a hero of health care, for dedicating his life to the needs of both the communities in which he lived and worked and the Nation.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Dr. Shervington received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and his medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. His distinctive medical career involved active participation in numerous professional associations, which included the Black Psychiatrists of America, the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors, the American Psychiatric Association and the American College of Psychiatrists. In February of this year, he was appointed to the Board of Directors of a new U.S. Olympic Committee, with oversight of drug screening for U.S. athletes participating in the Olympics.

In August of 1999 he was sworn into office as the 99th President of the National Medical Association (NMA). The NMA is a professional, scientific and educational organization that represents the interests of more than Twenty Five Thousand (25,000) African American physicians and the patients that they serve. It is an organization that is dedicated to establishing parity in medicine and the elimination of health disparities.

Dr. Shervington's three decade tenure with the NMA is a legacy of service, dedicated commitment, accomplishment and reflects the multiple and diverse positions that he held. He served as Chairman of the Section on Psychiatry and Behavioral Science; Delegate, Secretary, Vice Speaker and Speaker of the House of Delegates; Chairman of the Board, Vice President and President-Elect, before being sworn into office as President during the Association's 104th Annual Convention and Scientific Assembly.

His term as President brought national attention to the negative impact of Managed Care on African Americans, issues of parity and the access of African American patients to HIV/AIDS treatment. His expertise in the field of psychiatry enabled him to write and lecture extensively on mental health and the impact of HIV/AIDS on the African American community. He served as principal investigator and co-principal investigator on several HIV/AIDS projects and participated in the New Orleans Regional AIDS Planning Council, while being a member of the National AIDS Advisory Committee of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Until his death he served as Chief Executive Officer of the New Orleans Adolescent Hospital, a psychiatric hospital for children and adolescents serving the Greater New Orleans area. He formerly served as Medical Regional Director for the Office of Mental Health in the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals. In 1992 he was appointed Assistant Secretary, Office of Mental Health, by Governor Edwin Edwards of Louisiana and was also an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Louisiana State University School of Medicine. His death on April 15, 2000, ended the illustrious performance of an individual's contributions to various communities and the field of medicine.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I salute Dr. Walter W. Shervington for his dedicated service to his country, his profession and especially the African American community. I thank his wife Denise and daughters Shanga and Iman for sharing him with us.

May 24, 2000

HONORING LAURIE SPRACKLIN-NOEL

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, the word courage is used to describe many things. President John F. Kennedy wrote the best selling book "Profiles In Courage," and we in the House of Representatives are often asked to vote the courage of our convictions. Courage is often associated with our national war heroes. To a lesser degree, the word "courage" is used to describe athletes who persevere despite injury.

Winston Churchill defined courage as the first human quality because it is the quality which guarantees all others. While Sir Winston did not know Laurie Spracklin-Noel, his words surely describe her.

Laurie, a constituent, was recently diagnosed with stage-three cancer. As a wife, a mother of four, an OB/GYN nurse, an award winning actress and speaker, Laurie has shown her ability to succeed in many areas. At the same time, her most important accomplishment is yet to come. When this event happens Laurie will add the distinction of cancer survivor to her list! Laurie is determined to overcome her cancer through the combination of chemotherapy, the strong support of her family and friends in Moberly, Missouri, and her positive attitude and yes, her undaunted courage. In fact, Laurie has said, "even if this cancer were in stage four, I'm going to beat it."

While Laurie knows she is in the fight of her life, her attitude, disposition, and faith make this fight winnable.

Napoleon said, "Courage is like love; it must have hope to nourish it." Laurie is an inspiration to her family and community. They have hope that through her courageous efforts Laurie will win her battle.

Mr. Speaker, the thoughts and prayers of my colleagues and I go out to Laurie and her family and we wish them well for the future.

RUSSELL GEORGE, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COLORADO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this moment to recognize the career of one of Colorado's leading statesmen, and my very dear friend, Colorado Speaker of the House, Russell George. In doing so, I would like to honor this individual who, for so many years, has exemplified the notion of public service and civic duty. It is clear that Speaker George's dynamic leadership will be greatly missed and difficult to replace.

Elected to the State House of Representatives in 1992, he served on the Agriculture, Judiciary, Joint Legislative Sunrise/Sunset, UMTRA Oversight, Children's Code Oversight, Capital Development, and G.A. Board of Ethics Committees. In 1996, he sponsored numerous legislation, including, revision of Child