

telemedicine for home health agencies. Technology is improving by leaps and bounds. Telemedicine allows doctors and other health care professionals to examine and sometimes treat a patient through an interactive terminal, like a television. Some home health agencies are already examining patients using telemedicine. Medicare, however, does not reimburse for home health care telemedicine visits, primarily because it is unclear how and to what extent these visits should be reimbursed. For this reason, this bill requires HCFA to study these visits and to report their findings to Congress. This bill also allows home health agencies to list on their cost reports any telemedicine services provided. Cost reporting will provide the data necessary to develop a fair and reasonable Medicare reimbursement policy for home health telemedicine and bring the benefits of modern science and technology to our nation's seniors.

This bill is an important step in continuing the vital home health services provided by Medicare. The BBA hurt home health services, yet, today, Medicare is the most solvent it has ever been. Our nation is experiencing the biggest economic expansion in the history of the world. We must have the political will to improve the systems that provide the necessary services to everyone in this great country. The Equal Access to Medicare Home Health Care Act of 2000 will do just that.

HONORING MR. BOB RUCKER

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend, Bob Rucker, and congratulate him for being named Citizen of the Year by the Greater Merced Chamber of Commerce for his outstanding service to the community and his commitment to our future.

Bob is one of Merced County's finest individuals. He readily engages in any and all civic matters to the benefit of all residents of Merced County. His commitment to build the University of California, Merced, campus is commendable. He has dedicated countless hours working to improve the transportation infrastructure of Merced County as well as working to remove graffiti from our neighborhoods.

Bob is a problem solver. He works well in coordinating the efforts of city, county and state officials to improve the quality of life in Merced. He is a tireless advocate on behalf of the business interests in the Merced community. It is my distinct privilege to recognize Bob, and I ask that my colleagues rise and join me in saluting Bob Rucker as Merced's Citizen of the Year.

HONORING STEVE DAVIS,
AVIATION LEADER

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, today I join with each of my colleagues in recognizing Steve

Davis for his extraordinary contributions to American aviation, his dedication to his country, and his commitment to excellence.

In just three years, we will celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the first powered flight by man. On December 17, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright broke the bonds of earth after conquering serious technological and scientific obstacles. But the biggest obstacle they faced was the absolute certainty of those around them that it "simply couldn't be done." Bishop Wright said, during a sermon in 1890, "If God meant man to fly, he would have given him wings." Yet, just 13 years after their own father ordained it impossible, the Wright Brothers proved that perseverance and faith can overcome even the greatest of seeming impossibilities.

Steve Davis is one of those rare men who, like the Wright Brothers, never listened to those who told him it "couldn't be done." As a Navy pilot in Vietnam, a key leader with Frank Borman at Eastern Airlines, the founder of his own airline, and a respected leader among his aviation colleagues in Orange County, Steve Davis has long been in the forefront of aviation. He has taken on each challenge with the absolute certainty that nothing is impossible.

Steve Davis has proven to every American that, with the right attitude, even the greatest obstacles can be overcome. Steve gives 110 percent effort, 100 percent of the time. He has served his country with distinction, his industry with honor, and his friends and family with love.

Steve Davis's efforts and can-do optimism are appreciated by all who know him. In behalf of every one of us in the United States Congress, as well as all of the people of Orange County whom it is my privilege to represent, I am honored to extend to Steve Davis a hearty "thank you" and warmest congratulations for a job well done—and a shining example for all of us to follow.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO TOFT'S
DAIRY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS
ONE-HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding business in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. On Friday, June 23, 2000, Toft's Dairy will host an Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social to celebrate its one-hundredth birthday.

Toft's Dairy began in 1900, in Sandusky, Ohio, as the dream of Chris and Matilda Toft. The Toft's venture into the dairy business began as they started selling milk to customers in their rural area. With a great deal of hard work and determination, the Toft family was able to obtain a horse and wagon and began hauling large containers of milk to the city of Sandusky.

In 1935, the Toft family began to further expand its operation and purchased the Oswald

Dairy. With the acquisition of this retail dairy, the Toft Dairy operation began and would continue as the business that we know today. Over the years, many members of the Toft family began to work in the dairy as it expanded its size and scope in serving the Sandusky area.

Toft's Dairy continued its efforts to diversify and grow as it began to pasteurize and homogenize milk and make its own ice cream. The 1960s and 70s brought enormous growth to the dairy as the company added new products, property, and equipment. In fact, in 1968, Toft's Dairy was the first dairy in the area to bottle milk in gallon plastic jugs.

Mr. Speaker, Toft's Dairy is the second oldest dairy still in business in the state of Ohio. That is quite an accomplishment. And, Toft's Dairy is the only locally owned and operated dairy on the Lake Erie shoreline between Lorain and Toledo. Toft's supplies products to more than 250 schools and 1,200 customers.

Mr. Speaker, it is often said that America succeeds due to the ingenuity and hard work of her sons and daughters. I think that is clear and true statement as the descendants of the Toft and Meisler families continue the Toft's Dairy tradition today. At this point, I would urge my colleagues in the 106th Congress to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Toft's Dairy. We congratulate you on your one-hundredth birthday and we wish you continued success far into the future.

HONORING KENNETH I. WARREN

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a minute to tell my colleagues and the American People about my friend, Kenneth I. Warren of Mississippi, Ken is retiring this year from the Mississippi Department of Transportation where he has been working since 1963. Over these nearly four decades, Ken has been a driving force behind the incredible strides forward in transportation made in Mississippi.

It is easy to heap praise on Ken because he has contributed so much to his fellow-Mississippians over the years. Both professionally and personally, Ken has been a role model for his colleagues and friends. Whether leading the music at Porter's Chapel United Methodist Church, sharing his life at Cursillo, speaking his mind on the Transportation Research Board, or spending time with his family, Ken is always sincere, warm, and genuine.

When I arrived at the Mississippi Department of Transportation as Transportation Commissioner in 1988, Ken had already been around for 25 years, and he was more than willing to share his knowledge and offer his advice. Ken leaves a void at MDOT that will not be easily filled.

I look forward to many more years of friendship and interaction with Ken Warren. It will not be through MDOT. Ken is moving on. But, our friendship will continue. To Ken Warren I say thank you for serving Mississippi in the fashion you did and for the contributions you have made to your state and nation.