

school's dedication to involving students in the community.

In 2000, 84 percent of Mineola's senior class went to college, 57 percent to 4-year colleges. Of the last graduating class, 55 percent of all students received Regents seals on their diplomas, including 14 students who earned Regents diplomas with honors.

The outstanding academic record and the dedication of Mineola's administrators and staff demonstrate it is indeed a school of the month and a school vital to Long Island's future.

HONORING EDNA GARABEDIAN,  
BORIS NIXON, AND DIANE NIXON

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Edna Garabedian, Boris Nixon, and Diane Nixon for their contributions to the California Opera Association.

The California Opera Association was incorporated as a California non-profit corporation May 4, 2000. The association is dedicated to enhance public awareness of the role of arts in California through activities and services in the field. In addition to forming partnerships with community organizations, California Opera Association will participate in local, regional, national and international events designed to enhance good will and to support and encourage civic and community growth.

Edna Garabedian is one of the founding directors of the California Opera Association. She is a world-renowned Mezzo-Soprano who has performed throughout the U.S. and Europe. Ms. Garabedian was the founder of the Fresno International Grand Opera and has held the distinction of chairperson of voice and opera at several major universities.

Boris Nixon is a featured cellist with the Fresno Philharmonic Orchestra. He has performed with various symphony orchestras throughout the United States and he is also one of the founding directors of the California Opera Association. Mr. Nixon has collaborated with the Music Performance Trust Fund of America and Young Audiences of America to stress the importance of keeping music in the schools and expanding work and career opportunities for professional musicians.

Diane Nixon is an educator and musician, who is currently completing her pre-med requirements to become a physician. Ms. Nixon is also a founding director of the California Opera Association and has traveled extensively throughout the United States and Europe attending and studying International Operas and Special Arts Festivals for the disabled. Her goal is to focus on integrating and embracing the often-neglected populations, such as the disabled, disadvantaged and elderly, into the creation and consumption of the performing arts.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Edna Garabedian, Boris Nixon and Diane Nixon for their contributions to the California Opera Association. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Ms. Garabedian, Mr. Nixon and Ms. Nixon many more years of continued success.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK JUNIOR LEAGUE

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the New York Junior League (NYJL) on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary.

The NYJL is a remarkable organization, dedicated to training women for leadership in serving their communities. The Junior League is committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

The NYJL was founded by Mary Harriman, a 19-year-old New Yorker and Barnard College student, to unite young women and provide an organized means for them to give back to their communities. Originally called the Junior League for the Promotion of Settlement Movements, the organization was inspired by the settlement movement started by Jane Addams 13 years earlier. The NYJL quickly boasted 80 members. The new organization's first beneficiaries were residents of the New York College Settlement on the Lower East Side. Recognizing the success of NYJL, other areas of the country began to form their own Junior Leagues. Today there are 296 Junior Leagues in the United States, Canada, Mexico and the United Kingdom.

Eleanor Roosevelt joined the NYJL at the age 19. Her volunteer activities included serving as a dance teacher for young girls living in a Lower East Side settlement house. She later acknowledged that the experience played an important role in developing her social conscience and her commitment to public service.

Today, Junior League volunteers are engaged in helping a wide range of New Yorkers, including children, the elderly, victims of domestic abuse and prisoners. The NYJL teamed up with the Legal Aid Society Community Law Offices in East Harlem to help domestic violence survivors obtain divorces. As its 85th Anniversary project, NYJL created Milbank Houses, which provides transitional housing for homeless families. Junior League volunteers continue to provide education on subjects including living skills, nutrition and job-hunting. NYJL volunteers paired up with Victim Services to provide temporary emergency shelter victims of domestic violence through Project Debby. Volunteers recruit hotels to donate unused rooms for one to three nights to women and children in need of a safe haven until permanent arrangements can be made.

Ms. Speaker, I am delighted to congratulate the New York Junior League on its 100th Anniversary and I wish them many more years of successful service to my community.

*January 30, 2001*

TRIBUTE TO BILL EASTERLING OF HUNTSVILLE, AL

### HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Mr. Bill Easterling of Huntsville, Alabama. On December 29, 2000, Bill Easterling, a Huntsville Times columnist and friend of our larger community succumbed to his 18-month struggle with cancer. Our community mourned the loss of this man respected throughout North Alabama for his generosity, talented writing and love of his fellow man.

The blessed life of Bill Easterling was filled to the brim with his writing. For 22 years, he shared his talents with the Huntsville Times in the capacities of sports writer, editor, and columnist. When he began writing the Times community column, his stories opened up new people and places and a lot of old ones too for all the community to learn from and take pride in. Lee Roop, one of Bill's colleagues, had this to say about Bill, "Bill Easterling had a talent for people, too. He was gifted with the ability to touch them. He was comfortable being up close where life is shared in all its emotions." John Pruet, a sports writer for the Times, expressed that Bill "commanded respect without seeking it, inspired loyalty without demanding it and exuded self-assurance without making a show of it." Mrs. Christine Richard eloquently wrote "Bill Easterling's death leaves a void in the lives and hearts of so many people—those who knew him personally and those who only knew him through his columns."

Bill Easterling's words of wisdom and insight will live on in his columns and books. During his prolific career, Bill wrote an award-winning children's book, Prize in the Show and published two collections of his columns, Voices on a Cold Day and A Locust Leaves its Shell. I extend my sympathy to Bill's family, his wife Pat, his children, Leigh and Mike, step-children, Victor and Natalie and grandchildren Caroline and Ellie.

On behalf of the people of Alabama's 5th Congressional District, I join them in celebrating the extraordinary life and honoring the memory of a man who filled his 60-years with a love of God, his community, and his family. I send my condolences to his family, colleagues and friends.

## GUAM WAR CLAIMS REVIEW COMMISSION ACT

### HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I'd like to reintroduce a bill which passed the House of Representatives during the 106th Congress dealing with equity for the people of Guam during World War II. While the bill received bi-partisan support, the Senate was unable to act on the bill before sine die adjournment.

Legislation regarding Guam war restitution has been introduced by every Guam Delegate to Congress, beginning with Guam's first Delegate Antonio Won Pat, and including my predecessor, General Ben Blaz. The measure I introduce today is a careful compromise that incorporates many Congressional and Department of Interior recommendations that have been made over the years. The legislation amends the Organic Act of Guam and provides a process for U.S. restitution to Guamanians who suffered compensable injury during the occupation of Guam by Japan during World War II. Compensable injury includes death, personal injury, or forced labor, forced march, or internment. The bill establishes a federal commission to review the relevant historical facts and determine the eligible claimants, the eligibility requirements, and the total amount necessary for compensation.

There is a lot of historical information available to show that the United States had every intention of remedying the issue of war restitution for the people of Guam. In 1945, at the urging of the Acting Secretary of the Navy to the House of Representatives, the Guam Meritorious Claims Act was enacted which authorized the Navy to adjudicate and settle war claims in Guam for property damage for a period of one year. Claims in excess of \$5,000 for personal injury or death were to be forwarded to Congress. Unfortunately, the act never fulfilled its intended purposes due to the limited time frame for claims and the pre-occupation with the local population to recover from the war, resettle their homes, and rebuild their lives.

On March 25, 1947, the Hopkins Commission, a civilian commission appointed by the U.S. Navy Secretary, issued a report which revealed the flaws of the 1945 Guam Meritorious Claims Act and recommended that the Act be amended to provide on the spot settlement and payment of all claims, both property and for death and personal injury.

Despite the recommendations of the Hopkins Commission, the U.S. government failed to remedy the flaws of the Guam Meritorious Act when it enacted the War Claims Act of 1948, legislation which provided compensation for U.S. citizens who were victims of the Japanese war effort during World War II. Because Guamanians were not U.S. citizens when the act was enacted, but were U.S. nationals, they were not eligible for compensation. Guamanians finally became U.S. citizens in 1950 under the Organic Act of Guam.

In 1962, there was another attempt by Congress to address the remaining U.S. citizens and nationals that had not received reparations from previous enacted laws. Once again, however, Guamanians were inadvertently made ineligible because policymakers assumed that the War Claims Act of 1948 included them. Thus, Guam was left out of the 1962 act.

The reason the legislation involves the U.S. government is because under the 1951 Treaty of Peace between the U.S. and Japan, the treaty effectively barred claims by U.S. citizens against Japan. As a consequence, the U.S. inherited these claims, which was acknowledged by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles when the issue was raised during consideration of the treaty before the Committee on Foreign Relations in 1952.

My legislation does not provide compensation. It simply establishes a federal process to review the relevant historical facts and determine the eligible claimants, the eligibility requirements, and the total amount necessary for compensation arising from the Japanese occupation of Guam during World War II. Last year, the Congressional Budget Office estimated that the cost of my bill would be minimal and would not affect direct spending or receipts. Moreover, considering that the island of Guam had a small population of 22,290 during the nearly 3 years of occupation during the war, and given the available territorial and federal records on this matter, I anticipate that any federal commission that is established under my bill would be able to complete its work expeditiously and provide the Congress with the necessary recommendations to resolve this longstanding issue in a timely fashion.

IN HONOR OF MAJOR ALBERT V. CLEMENT

**HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN**  
OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on October 19, 2000, in a ceremony held at Ft. Benning, Georgia, Ranger Albert V. Clement (Major Ret. Deceased) of Fall River, Massachusetts, was inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame.

The Ranger Hall of Fame was formed to honor and preserve the spirit and contribution of America's most extraordinary Rangers. The members of the Ranger Hall of Fame Selection Board take particular care to ensure that only the most extraordinary Rangers are inducted. By any standard, Major Albert Clement was an outstanding choice to receive this honor.

Major Clement joined the U.S. Army in June 1941 in response to ominous signs of a pending world conflict. He fought for forty-one months in the Pacific Islands as a machine gunner and expert demolitionist. Shortly after the Korean War started, he volunteered to fight there as a Ranger, but was promoted and selected to remain at Fort Benning as an instructor. Shortly thereafter, he volunteered again, was assigned to the 32nd Infantry, and was chosen to organize and lead a raider platoon against menacing enemy forces entrenched in the Iron Triangle. Major Clement's Raiders turned the enemy tide and filled a critical void left by the formerly assigned 2nd Ranger Company. Within four months he was awarded two Silver Stars and one Bronze Star for heroism, received two Purple Hearts, was promoted to master sergeant and granted a battlefield commission.

In 1960, Major Clement and two Special Forces professionals were called to affect a daring rescue in the Congo. The country had just won its independence and was in a state of crisis. Mutiny and rebellion were rampant, and hundreds of missionaries and doctors were being held hostage and threatened with rape, torture and death. In three weeks, 239 people were rescued and safely evacuated from various tribal areas, with Major Clement

leading the way. The mission ranks as a huge special operations success story.

Following retirement, Major Clement worked for the local school board and later entered into a commercial fishing venture. As a machine gunner in the Pacific, a Ranger at Fort Benning, a Raider in Korea or a Green Beret in the Congo, he was destined to live his retired life as he had served—in the adventurous outdoors. He died on Friday, October 16, 1998, after suffering for several years with cancer. He concluded his life of selfless service in quiet dignity.

IN HONOR OF THE McLEAN  
HIGHLANDERS MARCHING BAND

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the McLean Highlanders Marching Band for winning first place in the Class IV Open Championship competition sponsored by the U.S. Scholastic Band Association.

On November 3, 2000, the Highlanders not only delivered the overall winning performance within their grouping, but they also were given the best music award and the Marine Corps "Expirit de Corps" award for best team spirit and discipline.

During the month of August when most high school students were still enjoying their summer vacations, every member of the Highlander Band and their dedicated parents began preparations for this competition.

Under the guidance of band director Kirchenbauer and his support staff, the group devoted countless hours of practice throughout the year to learn and perfect their award-winning musical program and marching routine.

Mr. Speaker, a tribute to the McLean Highlander Band would not be complete without mentioning the support of Dr. Donald Weinheimer, McLean High School Principal, and the tireless efforts of the McLean High School Band Parents Association.

The McLean community is proud of every member of the high school band that contributed to their award-winning performance. Accordingly, I join the students of McLean High School and the U.S. Scholastic Band Association in saluting the McLean Highlander Marching Band on a job well done.

HONORING JEANIE MILLER

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeanie Miller for being voted "Affiliate of the Year" by the Fresno Association of Realtors for the year 2000. The "Affiliate of the Year" is awarded to an individual who promotes the professionalism of the Fresno Association of Realtors and has made