

July 19, 2001

prepare countless students for the working world. She retired from teaching in 1978, only to serve in the administrative office of Wellman Seeds, Inc. until her retirement last year.

Mr. Speaker, the institution of marriage provides the strength that holds our communities together. Maintaining a marriage requires sacrifice, understanding, patience, and sometimes forgiveness by both husband and wife. Marking the fiftieth anniversary of a marriage is a very special occasion for not only the couple, but also for the family, friends, and community they have touched.

It has been my privilege to know Phyllis and Elmer Wellman for more than twenty years. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending to them our very best on their golden anniversary and to wish them many more years of happiness together.

TRIBUTE TO JENNETTA HARRIS

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and honor the accomplishments of Jennetta Harris, of Alta Loma, California.

Ms. Harris has been employed by Southern California Edison for twenty-eight years. In her role as Public Affairs Region manager, she has provided support to many organizations and the community at large. Ms. Harris has received numerous, well-deserved honors for her legendary giving of time and self to professional, civic and youth organizations. She was recently honored by the American Red Cross for her outstanding leadership as chair of the Pomona Valley Chapter.

Past awards and honors include: NAACP Legal Defense Fund Black Woman of Achievement; Los Angeles African American Women's Political Action Committee; Mary Church Terrell Award; 1999 AOH Woman; Pitzer College Learning Center Achievement Award; YMCA Leadership Award; Inland Valley News Publisher's Celebration of Excellence Award; American Woman Business Association Community Service Award; Boys and Girls Club C.J. Tuck McGuire Award and San Gabriel Valley Branch NAACP Black Women of Achievement Award.

Ms. Harris serves as a minister, Sunday School Teacher and editor for her parish, Greater Bethel Apostolic Community Church in Riverside, California. She enjoys spending time with her children, Elijah and Jennell, writing poetry and traveling.

Ms. Harris' impressive record of community service has earned the admiration and respect of those who have had the privilege of working with her. I would like to congratulate her on these accomplishments and thank her for the service she has provided to her community.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF ST. THEODOSIUS
ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the anniversary of the construction of the St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral. This architectural wonder has housed this faithful congregation for ninety years.

In addition to celebrating their anniversary, the Cathedral community has been engaged in a comprehensive restoration and improvement project. The beautiful Neo-Byzantine murals are being cleaned and restored. In addition, new gold leaf gilding, marble floor, and carpet are being installed and an entry-way will be constructed that will be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Over 500 individuals call St. Theodosius their spiritual home. The church community traces its history back to its founding in 1896 as the first Orthodox Community in Cleveland. Since then, this historic church has served the Tremont neighborhood and the rest of the Cleveland community in countless ways. Recently, it has been active in helping the needy by providing a Food Pantry every month along with hot lunches and holiday meals.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this congregation and their architectural marvel. May they serve their community faithfully for another ninety years and beyond.

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPEN DOOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 30th Anniversary of the Open Door Community Health Centers. Open Door began in 1971 as a volunteer clinic providing health, legal and other social services. Their mission has always been to provide high quality, affordable health care to all without regard for financial, geographical, or social barriers.

In its thirty-year tenure, Open Door has grown tremendously, presently operating eight community health centers in Humboldt and Del Norte counties. Open Door provides quality care to 32,000 patients a year and employs 250 people. The Mobile Health program serves over thirty school and community sites, bringing care to remote areas that would otherwise remain underserved.

In addition to providing two million dollars a year in free or reduced-fee services, Open Door has acted as an incubator for many new programs that have since become key service agencies for our community. Open Door has been instrumental in identifying the health needs of rural communities and in bringing them to the attention of state and federal legislators.

The committed staff of the Open Door Community Health Centers strives daily to provide

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the utmost in quality care for our community. Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize and honor their dedication on this 30th Anniversary of the Open Door Community Health Centers.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE,
JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY,
AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2500) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to speak in favor of the Small Business Administration 7a Loan program.

Currently, 40% of all long term business loans of \$1 million or less through private sector lenders have SBA involvement. Because of inadequate federal resources, SBA has had to rely on increased user fees. This results in higher costs and many lenders quit providing SBA loans because they are not profitable. This often means that small businesses are denied long term credit.

Over the last eight years, over 5,500 small business loans were made in the state of Kansas. If SBA had not been available to finance these loans, most would not have been made. Small businesses are vital to the small communities in my district. Without the availability of these long term loans, many small businesses would never get off the ground. If SBA must continue to rely on user fees to fund SBA, the future of small businesses will be jeopardized.

I urge my colleagues to support increasing SBA funding under the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriation bill.

H.R. 2562, THE MINORITY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ACT OF 2001

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill that will help minorities better prepare for tornadoes, floods, and other disasters, thereby raising the level of protection for segments of the population hit the hardest. This bill is entitled the "Minority Emergency Preparedness Act of 2001" and already has 25 original co-sponsors. I feel this initial response is a testament to the importance and value of this legislation.

This bill will establish a research program to assess the impact of man-made and natural disasters on minority populations, especially

low income, underserved populations in rural communities and densely-populated urban areas. This information can then be used to help prepare for disasters such as tornadoes, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, fires, and storms involving heavy rains, high winds and ice and snow, and thus lessen their impact.

According to the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), minorities are impacted by emergencies two and a half times more than others in the country, and this is unacceptable. We must do more to help those who need it, so that they will not be impacted as much at times of disaster.

It is my hope that all people in high risk circumstances will benefit from this program, which will document and make available information about the dangers that are present in different locations as well as provide practical guidance on how to protect against disasters. I ask my colleagues to join with me in supporting this legislation, and lessen the harsh effects that disasters have on our communities in the states and regions most impacted by them.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JENNIE
TERPSTRA

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations to Jennie Terpstra in honor of her 100th birthday. Ms. Terpstra was born on July 23, 1901 in Eastmanville, Michigan and has spent most of her life on a farm in Lamont, Michi-

gan. It was on the farm where she acquired a love for flowers, gardening, and reading.

On June 21, 1923, at the age of 21, Jennie was married to George Terpstra at Tallmadge Church. George was her elder by one year and one day. Later in life, Ms. Terpstra found her spiritual home at the Lamont Christian Reformed Church.

To date, Ms. Terpstra has five children, nineteen grandchildren, over forty great-grandchildren, and six great-great grandchildren.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Jennie Terpstra for turning 100 years young. Eric Butterworth once said "Don't go through life, grow through life;" Ms. Terpstra certainly has.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
AUTHORIZING CONGRESS TO
PROHIBIT PHYSICAL DESECRATION
OF THE FLAG OF THE
UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 17, 2001

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents and my late father, Dutch Platts, an army veteran who felt very strongly about protecting the American flag from desecration, I rise in support of this proposal.

House Joint Resolution 36 is important for many reasons. The American flag is of great importance not only to the men and women of the United States of America but also to the citizens of the world. Every time we raise or lower the many flags flown all over the world,

we have given thanks and shown appreciation not only to the veterans who fought and gave their lives to ensure the freedoms we know today, but to the many citizens who work daily to preserve those freedoms. Desecration of this commanding symbol, whether it is by burning, tearing or other mutilation, undermines the powerful sense of patriotism Americans feel whenever they see the red, white and blue. To many, desecrating the American flag not only destroys a cloth, it also destroys the memories and devotion thousands of veterans and others carry with them throughout their daily lives.

In this day of world conflict, we must remember that the Stars and Stripes has been a force that holds communities together. I agree with the gentleman from California, Mr. Cunningham, that, "The American flag is a national treasure. It is the ultimate symbol of freedom, equal opportunity and religious tolerance. Amending our Constitution to protect the flag is a necessity."

In looking to whether our Founding Fathers intended the First Amendment right to freedom of speech to include burning of the American flag, I look to how our Founding Fathers treated the flag: When the Founding Fathers would go into battle, one soldier would carry the flag. If that individual fell in battle, another soldier would give up his weapon to pick up the flag. Those actions tell us pretty clearly how much our Founding Fathers respected and were willing to sacrifice themselves for the flag and how they did not intend the First Amendment right to freedom of speech to include desecration of the American Flag.

I am hopeful that this bill will pass with broad bipartisan support.