

taken concrete steps to help raise human rights awareness. Under the sponsorship of the Human Rights Foundation, in 1999 a monument was erected in Green Island, off the southeast coast of Taiwan, opposite Taitung County. The monument was to help people remember the many victims who were imprisoned and died in Green Island, a notorious prison camp. To prevent future violations of human rights, Chen's government has made every effort to guarantee its people the most basic human rights—freedom of expression, the right to assemble peacefully, and freedom of association. There will be no more prisoners of conscience and no more extrajudicial killings. Civil liberties are to be respected at all times.

In his inaugural address delivered on May 20, 2000, President Chen committed Taiwan to upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, and the Declaration and Action Program of 1993 Vienna Conference on Human Rights. In essence, President Chen believes that every citizen ought to enjoy the right to work, the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, the right to an education, the right to medical care, the right to participate in elections, and the right to social security in the event of unemployment, illness, and disability. Also, President Chen has urged the Taiwan legislature to consider drafting legislation to protect the rights of women, children, the elderly, and the indigenous people, laborers, and soldiers. Clearly, there is a long way to go and human rights work is a never ending effort.

It is appropriate that we applaud Taiwan's many efforts in upholding and maintaining human rights for its people. Taiwan is indeed fortunate to have its president as its foremost human rights champion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this Chamber when rollcall votes Nos. 206, 213, 214 were cast. I want the RECORD to show that had I been present in this Chamber at the time these votes were cast, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 206, "yes" on rollcall vote 213, "yes" on rollcall vote 214.

IN HONOR OF AMBASSADOR
JAMES C. HORMEL

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished, accomplished man who by devoting his life to public service has become a champion for social justice, a leader in his community, and an example of courage for us all. Today, Thursday, July 19 in

my district in San Francisco, the American Civil Liberties Union will honor Ambassador James C. Hormel with the 2001 On The Frontline Award. He is most deserving of this award and I am proud to acknowledge his contributions on this occasion.

Ambassador Hormel graduated from Swarthmore College and received his J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School where he later served as the Dean of Students. He also established the James C. Hormel Public Service Program at the University, which encourages law students to venture into public service.

Ambassador Hormel has spent a lifetime fighting sexual orientation discrimination. He helped originate the Human Rights Campaign, the country's largest gay and lesbian political organization. For the last two decades, Mr. Hormel has assisted many local and national AIDS organizations, including San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Project Open Hand, AIDS Emergency Fund and Shanti Project.

In 1996, the San Francisco Public Library opened the James C. Hormel Gay & Lesbian Center. Mr. Hormel's generous donation kicked off a major fundraising campaign and created an endowment to ensure the center's continuing development.

Ambassador Hormel was nominated to serve as Ambassador to Luxembourg. Mr. Hormel lived in the glare of the spotlight but he did not shy away from the intense inspection of his personal life. He remained graceful, poised and courageous. On June 29, 1999 James Hormel was sworn in as U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, thus becoming the first and only openly gay Ambassador in United States history. He served his term with great distinction. Mr. Hormel is an inspiration to us all.

I join Jim's partner, Timothy Wu, and his five children, Alison, Anne, Diz, Sarah, and James Jr. in recognizing the achievements of my constituent and dear friend, Ambassador James C. Hormel, and acknowledging his contributions and on-going commitment to human rights, social justice and the betterment of our nation.

TOM KNITTER LEAVES MILWAUKEE'S THOMAS MORE HIGH SCHOOL AFTER 33 YEARS

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to publicly thank Mr. Tom Knitter, an outstanding educator and community leader from my district, who is moving on to a new set of challenges and opportunities in California.

Tom Knitter first began teaching social studies and physical education at Pio Nono High School in 1968. Ten years later, when Pio Nono merged with my alma mater, Don Bosco, Tom settled in at the newly formed Thomas More High School, where he became the assistant principal. With Tom as its wrestling coach from 1973 to 1982, the school brought home three state championships. In

1987 he was named principal of Thomas More, and seven years later he became the school's first president.

Since that time Tom has worked tirelessly as the school's chief executive officer. He has been responsible for its strategic planning, development, finances, and marketing for the better part of a decade. On July 21, 2001, Tom celebrates his 33-year association with Thomas More High School, and says goodbye, as he leaves for a position with Garces High School in Bakersfield, California.

Tom is leaving behind many friends, memories, and most importantly, many lives that were touched by his unparalleled dedication to molding today's students of Thomas More High School into tomorrow's leaders. The people of Bakersfield are privileged to gain the services of a talented educator with such a passion for his work.

The void left by the departure of Tom and Josie, his wife of 30 years, will not be easily filled. In addition to his responsibilities as the head of a National Blue Ribbon School, he has worked with groups such as the Healthier Communities Initiative, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Marketing Committee, and the National Catholic Education Association.

And so, it is with both great appreciation and sadness that I join the entire community at Thomas More High School in thanking Tom Knitter for his 33 years of exemplary service, and wishing him all the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW
ALEXANDER ENGEL

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students, Matthew Alexander Engel. The Boy Scouts of his troop will honor him as they recognize his achievements by giving him the Eagle Scout honor.

Since the beginning of this century, the Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of boys and young men each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

This award is presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. Becoming an Eagle Scout is an extraordinary award with which only the finest Boy Scouts are honored. To earn the award—the highest advancement rank in Scouting—a Boy Scout must demonstrate proficiency in the rigorous areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless

others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Mr. Engel, and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young man on his day of recognition. Congratulations to Matthew and his family.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE VIRGINIA MAE DAYS

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2001

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Judge Virginia Mae Days, who is retiring after more than 20 years on the bench of the Santa Clara County Superior Court. When Governor Edmund Brown Jr. appointed her in 1981, Judge Mae Days was the first Latina on the bench in Santa Clara County.

A lifelong resident of the Bay Area, Virginia Mae Days was born in San Jose in 1934. She served in the US Navy WAVES during the Korean War, earning both the National Defense Service Ribbon and the Good Conduct Medal. After the war, Judge Days attended the University of California at Berkeley for both her undergraduate and graduate years, earning her law degree there in 1963.

Judge Days' long record of service to Santa Clara County includes 6 years as the mayor of Morgan Hill and terms on Santa Clara County's drug abuse commission, regional criminal justice planning board and human relations commissions. Immediately prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Days was the Director of the California Department of Veterans Affairs.

Throughout her tenure on the Court, Judge Virginia Mae Days has been a strong role model for the community. She summed this philosophy up best in March of 2000 at a dinner honoring the groundbreaking women jurists of Santa Clara County: "The more the bench reflects the community, the fairer the process."

I want to thank Judge Mae Days for her many years of service to our community and wish her nothing but the best in this next phase of her life.

IN HONOR OF HERBERT AND MARION SANDLER

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Herbert and Marion Sandler for their long-standing entrepreneurial and philanthropic commitment to the San Francisco community. Today, Thursday, July 19 in my district, Herbert and Marion Sandler will be inducted into the Bay Area Business Hall of Fame. They are most deserving of this honor and I am proud to acknowledge their contributions on this occasion.

Herbert and Marion Sandler co-founded Golden West Financial Corporation in Oak-

land, California in 1963. As Chief Executive Officers and Chairmen of the Board, they have had phenomenal success in building Golden West Financial into a Fortune 500 company. With 420 offices and \$57 billion in assets, it is the third largest savings and loan in the country today.

Marion Sandler has been recognized by Fortune Magazine as one of the most powerful women in business today. By being one of the first women to break through the Fortune 500 glass ceiling, her accomplishments are an inspiration to businesswomen everywhere. Golden West Financial Corporation has the significant distinction of being one of the very few major companies with more women on its Board of Directors than men.

Herbert Sandler serves on numerous advisory boards sharing his expertise with others. He was elected to the Board of Directors of the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco. He also serves as a member of the board of directors of the Success for All Foundation and of the Center For Real Estate and Urban Economics of the University of California at Berkeley.

The Sandlers are committed to philanthropy and community activism. Through the Sandler Family Supporting Foundation, they support nonprofit and community organizations in the Bay Area and nationwide. Among the numerous recipients of their generosity are the Sandler Program for Asthma Research, the Human Rights Center at the University of California at Berkeley, and the National Women's Law Center. They also fund many research grants in the fields of medicine and social work. In addition, Herbert and Marion have donated generously to worthy causes such as Human Rights Watch.

It is with personal and civic pride that I celebrate with my dear friends on this festive occasion. The Sandler's dedication to the people of the Bay Area has had a significant, lasting effect on Californians. Their service to our country and our community is indeed a cause for celebration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, during recorded vote 248, on final passage of H.R. 2500, the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2002, a technical error resulted in my vote not being recorded.

I had intended to vote "yes" on this measure.

TRIBUTE TO THE BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE ORGANIZATION

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 20, 2001

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the men and women of the Bal-

listic Missile Defense Organization for the successful ballistic missile defense test that took place late Saturday night over the Pacific Ocean. The first success since 1999, the ballistic missile interceptor that shot down a dummy warhead used a "hit to kill" technology and was able to destroy its target hundreds of miles away from launch point. This test demonstrates our commitment to defending against the threat of Intercontinental Ballistic Missile launches and once again shows that this "bullet to bullet" method of target destruction is technologically feasible. Further, it justifies our need to continue with vigorous testing as we aggressively move forward with maturing our ballistic missile defense capabilities. We must continue to develop, test and fund missile defense technologies to create a defensive system to protect this nation and our allies against missile threats worldwide. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

TRIBUTE TO DEBBY O'CONNOR

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 20, 2001

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and honor the accomplishments of Debby O'Connor of Diamond Bar, California.

Mrs. O'Connor served as Mayor of the City of Diamond Bar for the year 2000. In that position she demonstrated civic leadership, responsibility and deep personal commitment to her community. She previously served as Mayor Pro Tem, and served a two-year term on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Mrs. O'Connor is Co-Chair of the City Community/Civic Task force. She is the City of Diamond Bar's voting delegate on the Wildlife Corridor Conservation Authority and on the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership of Commerce and Cities. She is one of the City Council's liaisons to the volunteer planning committee behind the City's successful anniversary celebrations and, is also very involved with the Diamond Bar Community Foundation. In addition to her Council duties, she has demonstrated her long time support and concern for the community by being actively involved in the Friends of the Diamond Bar Library, Diamond Bar Improvement Association, Lorbeer Middle School PTSA, Diamond Ranch High School Boosters and Diamond Point Elementary School Safety Site and Technology committees. She is a youth soccer referee and board member for the Region 311, American Youth Soccer Organization. Mrs. O'Connor has been a dedicated fundraiser for the Diamond Bar/Walnut YMCA since 1996, and has also served on the board for the Diamond Bar Community Nursery School and Diamond Point Swim and Racquet Club.

Mrs. O'Connor's leadership in strong economic development programs and her impressive record of civic and volunteer community involvement have earned the admiration and respect of those who have had the privilege of working with her. I would like to congratulate Debby O'Connor on these accomplishments and thank her for her outstanding service to her community.