together for fifty years. These two were married in Gallup, New Mexico on December 28, 1951. This is a special and "golden" occasion, and quite an event in times when marriage doesn’t always endure these long years. This shows great dedication and hard work, exemplifying such values for future generations in their family. As family and friends will gather to celebrate this joyous occasion, I too would like to recognize them at this special time.

David and Sue Ann have built and shared their life together these fifty years in Meeker, Colorado on the Smith Family Ranch that has been in the family for well over 100 years. It is a Centennial Ranch in Colorado. David and Sue Ann expanded the ranch in the late 1960’s by adding the Barrett ranches and the Ed Sprod Ranch, and the ranch now surrounds the town of Meeker on all four sides.

In addition to the responsibilities of the ranch work, David and Sue Ann both have been heavily involved with their community. Both have been active on numerous Community Boards. David served on the School Board, worked with the Cub Scouts, served on the Planning and Zoning Commission and served as a Rio Blanco County Commissioner. He has been and still is involved with many water issues. He currently serves on the Meeker Town Ditch Committee, the Highland and Yellow Jacket Ditch Groups, and is also a long-standing member of the Colorado River District Board and the Colorado Water Conservancy Board.

Sue Ann has worked as a den mother for the Cub Scouts and has been a leader for various Girl Scout troops. She has also been active with the Colorado West Mental Health Group and many 4-H groups. She is now working with the Safe House Group, the Build a Generation Group, and she started the Walbridge Wing Family Support Group. As you can see, these two individuals have contributed and still contribute many hours of service and dedication to their community.

Their largest contribution has always been to their family. They have raised five children: David W. Smith, Brent A. Smith, Phillip M. Smith, Lori E. McNinis, and Brian E. Smith. They now have eleven grandchildren. Through their work on their ranch and all of their community service, they have provided their children and grandchildren with morals and values for hard work and the giving of oneself to others. The largest gift given is the example set forth through fifty years of a strong and determined love for each other.

David and Sue Ann, congratulations on your fifty years together. We wish you many more great years together.

HONORING GEORGE C. SPRINGER FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO
OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the Connecticut Federation of Educational and Professional Employees, AFT, AFL-CIO in paying tribute to their president of twenty-two years, and my dear friend, George C. Springer as he celebrates the occasion of his retirement. His outstanding leadership and unparalleled dedication has made a difference in the lives of thousands of families across Connecticut.

I have always held a firm belief in the importance of education and a deep respect for the individuals who dedicate their lives to ensuring that our children—our most precious resource—are given a strong foundation on which to build their futures. As a twenty year veteran of the New Britain, Connecticut school system, George made it his personal mission to help our students learn and grow—touching the lives of thousands of students.

During his tenure in the New Britain school system, George also served as an officer and negotiator for the New Britain Federation of Teachers, Local 871. Twenty-two years ago, he was elected to the position of state federation president. As the state president, George has been a tireless advocate for his membership and their families. I have often said that we are fortunate to live in a country that allows its workers to engage in efforts to better employee standards and benefits. George has been a true leader for teachers across the state, providing a strong voice on their behalf.

George set a unique tone for this organization, extending their mission beyond the fight for better wages, better work environments, and more comprehensive health benefits. He has led the effort of the Connecticut chapter to become more involved with the larger issues of how to improve our schools—for teachers and for students. Though we will miss him in the long battle ahead, George’s leadership and outspoken advocacy on behalf of our public school system will continue to be an inspiration to us all.

In addition to his many professional contributions, George has also been involved with a variety of social service organizations in the community. The John E. Rodgers African-American Cultural Center, New Britain Boys Club, Amistad America, Inc., Coalition to End Child Poverty, and the New Britain Foundation for Public Giving are just a portion of those organizations who have benefited from his hard work and contagious enthusiasm.

It is my great honor to rise today to join his wife, Gemi, their four children, ten grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren, as well as the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered this evening to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to George C. Springer for his outstanding contributions to the State of Connecticut and all of our communities. He will certainly be missed but never forgotten.

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.
OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to rise today to congratulate Carlin Manufacturing on the occasion of their 20 year anniversary. Carlin Manufacturing is the world’s leading manufacturer of mobile kitchens and specialty vehicles.

Carlin Manufacturing built its first mobile kitchen in 1980. Today, Carlin Manufacturing...
HONORING IMAM ABDUL-MAJID KARIM HASAN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DELAUR0
OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Ms. DELAUN. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to congratulate Imam Hasen on the occasion of his retirement.

For over twenty years, Imam Hasan has worked diligently as the Islamic Chaplain and director of Islamic Affairs for the Connecticut State Department of Corrections. What began as a volunteer effort to provide Islamic services to prisoners became a life-long career when in 1980 then Commissioner of the Department of Corrections, John Manson, asked Imam to assume the responsibilities of Islamic Chaplain. As the first full-time Islamic Chaplain, Imam Hasan has been an invaluable resource for those of Islamic faith in the corrections system. Throughout this time he has been responsible for the implementation, evaluation, and oversight of all Islamic programs for both male and female correctional facilities throughout Connecticut. Serving as liaison between inmates, administration and the federal courts, Imam Hasan has left an indelible mark on the Department—a legacy that will not soon be forgotten.

In addition to his professional career, Imam Hasan has played a vital role in the Islamic community of New Haven for over thirty years. Imam Hasan’s work with the Muslim American Society has spanned over four decades. First appointed as Minister of Muhammad’s Mosque #40 in New Haven in 1971, he has been an invaluable asset to the Muslim community of Greater New Haven for over thirty years. As the spiritual director of the Muhammed Islamic Center, Imam Hasan has devoted countless hours to nurturing the spiritual needs of Muslims throughout the Greater New Haven region. His commitment and dedication to the mission of the Muslim American Society and his fellow Muslims is reflected in the myriad of awards and citations that adorn his walls.

This evening, as family, friends, and colleagues gather to pay him tribute, I am honored to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Imam Hasan for his years of dedicated service and best wishes for many more years of health and happiness.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, due to an unavoidable scheduling conflict in my Congressional District on Monday, July 23, I was not present for rollcall votes Nos. 257–259. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all three votes.

THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, July 25, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of my colleagues to the issue of strengthening trade relations with one of the most promising countries of the post-Soviet era—the Republic of Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan has long been seen as a crossroads between East and West—a meeting place not only of continents, but of cultures, values, ideas, resources and trade.

Kazakhstan today has the best economic prospects in the region. It has highest rate of economic growth, especially throughout the current year. Already well-known for its abundant natural resources, the recent discovery of major hydrocarbon deposits in the offshore East Kashagan field on the Caspian Sea is expected to put Kazakhstan among ten leading world oil producers by the middle of this century.

Kazakhstan is also rich in natural gas, and has vast gold, uranium, ferrous, non-ferrous and rare earth metal deposits. In addition, Kazakhstan has a highly developed agicultural sector, noted especially for grain and meat production.

The potential for cooperation and progress is great, and the time for action now. We must break away from the outdated constraints of a past era and seize the opportunity to put trade ties with Kazakhstan on a more solid, mutually beneficial basis.

Mr. Speaker, keeping in mind the importance of promoting and developing active U.S. trade relations with Kazakhstan which will not only open this huge market for Americans but also help to pave the way for true democracy in the country, I proudly cosponsored the legislation (H.R. 1318) that would grant permanent trade relations to Kazakhstan.

I am enclosing a letter from the U.S.-Kazakhstan Business Association signed by U.S. companies asking for our support to strengthen bilateral relations with this country by passing H.R. 1318 and the article “Cheney Aims To Drill Afar and Wide”, published in “Washington Times” on July 20, 2001.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM C. VEALE,
Executive Director.