California sun, and they moved to Los Angeles, intending to retire.

Instead of retiring, Arthur made a second fortune in real estate. Arthur "never made money just for the sake of making money," as he liked to say, but he will be remembered not for how he made money, but rather how he spent it. His passion for collecting art came about almost accidentally, while looking for decorations for his new home in Los Angeles. A friend suggested to him that he needed some silver to dress up the living room, so he purchased, in his words, a "schmaltzy cabinet by the 18th century silversmith Paul de Lamerie." It was also this time that he bought his first micromosaics, which are images created by tiny threads of glass. Arthur became quite enamored with micromosaics, and eventually purchased over 200 pieces.

Mr. Speaker, the New York Times (September 4, 2001) noted in its obituary of Mr. Gilbert that "in time his collection grew to comprise several collections. The silver and silver-gilt items include scores of ornate tankards, dishes, candelabra and cups that once decorated the royal and aristocratic dinner tables of Europe. His gold collection was made up of some 20 gold snuff boxes, which like the 260 micromosaics, and his 80 portrait miniatures, are best appreciated through a magnifying glass."

Arthur Gilbert was justifiably proud of his collection, and frequently he personally led tours through the museums which housed his collection. As his collection continued to expand, it eventually became too large for the space constraints at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, where it had been housed for some time. In 1996, Arthur accepted an offer to house his collection in the newly renovated Somerset House, an 18th century palace in London, where it is now displayed. He called it "Britain's heritage regained," since many of the pieces originally belonged to British aristocrats. The collection—valued at over $200 million—has been on display since May of last year. In appreciation of this lavish bequest, Arthur Gilbert, who never renounced his British citizenship, was knighted in 1999.

In addition to his donated art collection, both Arthur and Rosalinde Gilbert were benefactors of numerous charities and organizations. These include the Arthur and Rosalinde Gilbert Center for the Advancement of Scientific Research. They have contributed generously to the February 1941 Foundation—an extraordinary foundation created to thank the Dutch people for assisting Jews fleeing Nazi persecution and downed Allied pilots during World War II.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the Los Angeles Times (September 4, 2001) captured the essence of this outstanding philanthropist, when it quoted him: "Whether you collect snuff boxes or matchboxes, don't buy because it's going up in value but because you like it or it will enhance your life—then give it away." I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Sir Arthur Gilbert, an outstanding Californian and a generous philanthropist.

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Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Officer William David Peoples, of the Cambridge, Ohio Police Department has been recognized as its Officer of the Month for May 2001; and,

Whereas, Officer Peoples has continually demonstrated a superlative degree of professionalism, care and commitment in his role as a police officer, and

Whereas, he was awarded the Exceptional Service Medal in 1995 for his heroic actions and effective problem solving as he helped deliver water to the 12,000 residents of Cambridge when a main line broke; and,

Therefore, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the dedication and the exemplary service of Officer William D. Peoples, a man whom I am proud to call a constituent and one who serves as an example to us all.

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Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my severe disappointment regarding the lack of engagement by the United States in the United Nations World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

The United States has an extraordinary perspective on racism. It has made great strides towards addressing some of its problems. When the original Constitution was enacted, it declared African-Americans to be three-fifths of a human being. During Reconstruction, this very body initially refused to seat the first African-American Members of Congress. Today, there are thirty-nine African-American Members of Congress and numerous Cabinet officials. Though we have a long way to go with regard to race relations, we have come a long way.

This Nation presided over a slave trade that will go down in world history as one of the most grotesque examples of man's inhumanity to man. Once slavery was abolished, due in large part to pressure from other nations, parts of the United States then enacted codes designed to deny African-Americans their full citizenship rights. As abhorrent as this pattern
was, Americans of good conscience rose to the challenge and implemented laws to ensure equal treatment under the law. We have a long way to go, but we have come a long way.

This Administration has continued to tell all Americans to deliver the message of possibility to the world. Yet, unfortunately, this administration approached this conference with little interest and a miniscule commitment to engagement. Representatives of this Administration stymied the preparation that began during the previous Administration. Therefore, its withdrawal from the conference was not a surprise.

And while the actions in Durban were not surprising, hope that the refusal to discuss differences does not become the trademark of this Administration and mar its ability to engage in constructive dialogue about civil and human rights in this country. The withdrawal from Durban, combined with the lack of a domestic civil rights policy, an unwillingness to proceed with much-needed election reform and the glaring refusal to end racial profiling, leads me to doubt this Administration’s ability to candidly and fairly address issues of race and diversity within this country.

Mr. Speaker, racism in real. Discrimination is real. The argument for reparations should be openly discussed and seriously debated in this country. America must face its current racial reality and reconcile with its inglorious racial past. I suggest that Members of this House begin our national healing by passing a resolution which offers an acknowledgment of the sufferings caused by slavery and an official apology for governmental actions which perpetuated their condition. If we, as Representatives of the United States Government, cannot apologize for this sorry and unfortunate history, our future will be forever marred and our enemies will be able to say that the United States left Durban because it did not want to address its own history.

I call upon the Congress and the President to show the leadership necessary to begin healing within our country.

A COMMANDING ROLE FOR JAMES N. GOLDSMITH

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA
OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate an ally of veterans everywhere and my close friend, James N. Goldsmith, upon his election as Commander-in-Chief for the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. It is with particular pride that I note that Commander Goldsmith is a Life Member of VFW Post 4139 in Lapeer, Jim has held many posts in the local, state and national organization and he has received numerous awards. In 1978, Jim was selected as Michigan’s “Young Veteran of the Year;” and, in 1980, he became the first Vietnam veteran to win election as Department Junior Vice Commander.

Jim has traveled the world to learn the concerns of active duty service members and reservists. Adhering to a soldier’s code never to leave a buddy behind, Jim has remained committed to accounting for missing American service members. He has made two trips to Southeast Asia in efforts to recover the remains of those still missing. He also has been a strong advocate for addressing veterans’ medical needs and has made diabetes research a top priority.

Never willing to accept full credit for his good deeds, Jim points to each of the 2.7 million members of the VFW and its Ladies Auxiliary as key to his efforts. He also single out his sons, Jim and Jeff, for enabling him to serve their needs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing gratitude to Commander-in-Chief Goldsmith for his valiant, enthusiastic and ongoing work for veterans. I am confident that Jim will continue to find new and better avenues to assist the men and women who have put their lives on the line in defense of our great Nation.

RECOGNITION OF 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF SYRACUSE’S ST. BRIGID AND ST. JOSEPH’S PARISH

HON. JAMES T. WALSH
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 75th anniversary of St. Brigid and St. Joseph Church in Syracuse, New York. Its congregation is gathering to recognize this important milestone during a memorial mass and celebration on Sunday, September 16, 2001.

Established on May 26, 1926, and incorporated on August 9, 1926, St. Brigid’s was formed from a portion of the rapidly growing St. Patrick’s Parish on Tipperary Hill. While masses were first celebrated within St. Patrick’s School by St. Brigid’s founding pastor—Rev. William H. McCormick, the parish’s first sanctuary was constructed the following year at the corner of Willis Avenue and Herkimer Street at a cost of $165,000. The church’s cornerstone was laid on June 15, 1927 with its first mass on August 21st. St. Brigid’s School opened on September 6th of that year under the direction of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

Since that time, the parish has grown considerably. Upon the retirement of its second pastor—Rev. William J. Brennan, the parish’s debt was retired. Construction of a larger sanctuary began in 1955 with a Dedication Day Mass celebrated in the new church on November 6, 1956. Rev. J. James Bannor was pastor at that time. In 1964, St. Brigid’s merged with St. Joseph’s Church to become St. Brigid and St. Joseph’s Parish. Rev. David J. Norcott became the combined church’s first pastor followed by Rev. James A. McCloskey.

The parish is served today by Rev. Lawrence W. Kennedy, Pastor. Mr. Leonard S. Monnat, Deacon, and Sister Theresa Brown, CSJ, Director of Human Development and Parish Minister. Approximately 510 families are served by St. Brigid and St. Joseph’s Church. The parish continues to be a strong steward of Christian values and community outreach, ministering to the people of Syracuse’s Westside.

On the occasion of its 75th anniversary, it is my honor to recognize the people of St. Brigid and St. Joseph’s Church and to extend best wishes for many more successful years of faith-based ministry to follow.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO PROTECT THE PRIVACY RIGHTS OF OUR NATION’S UNIFORMED SERVICEMEMBERS

HON. RICK BOUCHER
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my colleagues Mr. SHAYS and Mr. WAXMAN, in introducing legislation to protect the privacy rights of our nation’s uniformed servicemembers.

If enacted into law, the legislation we have put forward will clarify that the same right of privacy guaranteed to all other individuals under the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act shall apply to members of the uniformed services.

The Privacy Act was established in 1974 to ensure that the information the Federal Government collects as part of its programs and practices of agencies is protected, and the agencies observe and safeguard the right to personal privacy.

The need for this legislation arises from a September 2000 federal district court ruling which stated that military servicemembers cannot sue for damages when records containing information about them, which under the terms of the Privacy Act may not be released, are released by the government in violation of the Privacy Act. The Court based its ruling on the Feres doctrine, a 51 year old judge-made doctrine which states that servicemembers cannot bring civil actions against the government for acts incident to service because they have benefits available through their military health and other programs. As a result of this ruling, there is no effective way to prevent the unauthorized release of sensitive military personnel records and no way to compensate servicemembers for damages arising from acts by government agencies that are in violation of the Privacy Act.

Congress enacted the Privacy Act with an unambiguous intent to make government responsible for the damages it causes when the