TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL CENTER FOR INDIGENOUS AMERICAN CULTURES IN KANSAS CITY, MO

HON. SAM GRAVES
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Center for Indigenous American Cultures at Line Creek in Frank Vaydyk Park in Kansas City, Missouri.

Frank Vaydyk Park lies within an area that has been recognized as sacred ground by Native Americans. It contains a large number of American Indian archeological artifacts, many of which date back more than 1,000 years. The National Center for Indigenous American Cultures at Line Creek, an organization created to preserving the site, is working hard to ensure that future generations will be able to learn about these different cultures that have inhabited that sacred land. Additionally, the Center intends to establish an education center to promote and protect this important archeological site.

On September 21st, 22nd, and 23rd, there will be a meeting of Spiritual Leaders from all over the nation at the site to perform a Healing Ceremony. It will be an opportunity for people from both the American Indian and the Kansas City communities to come together to celebrate as the plans for the construction of an educational center and protection of the archeological site progress.

I would like to commend the National Center for Indigenous American Cultures for their work to preserve the past, and I wish them many blessings as they partake in this important sacred ritual that will provide a wonderful beginning for their future education and preservation endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO PARKER AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to express gratitude and congratulations to Parker Agricultural Services of Limon, Colorado, a recent recipient of the Environmental Achievement Award from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The Environmental Achievement Award is one of the highest awards given by the Environmental Protection Agency and recognizes Parker Ag’s success of using biosolids as a fertilizer and soil enhancement product in Prowers County.

The biosolid program performance by Parker Agricultural Service has made monumental changes in the environmental makeup of Prowers County. Through this program New York and Boston biosolids are used as fertilizer for farmland. Not only has this program been successful for farmland but has also transformed marginal lands once again into rich producing ground. As reported by The Limon Leader, a 250-acre plot of land was transformed from bare sand to being completely covered by vegetation. Other instances have shown that using this program has increased the amount of protein content in certain plants as well as increasing yield per acre.

Parker Ag has been a shining example of what every company must strive for, achieving the delicate balance between production and environmental protection. I applaud the company for its ingenious and noble efforts to preserve and enhance the environment in its community.

As a company located in Colorado’s Fourth Congressional District, Parker Ag not only makes its community proud but also those of its state and country. It is a true honor to have such an extraordinary company reside in Colorado and we owe it a debt of gratitude for its service. I ask the House to join me in extending wholehearted congratulations to Parker Agricultural Services.

HONORING DR. HRAYR “HAGOP” HOVAGUIMIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Hrayr “Hagop” Hovaguimian for his contributions to the improvement of health care in Armenia.

Dr. Hovaguimian, a Syrian-born specialist in complex pediatric surgery, made his first trip to Armenia in 1991 to see the corrupt medical practices first-hand. Since then he has been actively committed to providing affordable cardiac surgery in Armenia and abolishing corrupt medical practices prevalent in that country.

Decades of under-the-table, behind-closed-door payments have plagued the health care system in Armenia. Armenian citizens tell stories of bribing nurses, doctors and other health care staff just to get the medical attention they require. Dr. Hovaguimian, a Syrian-born specialist in complex pediatric surgery, made his first trip to Armenia in 1991 to see the corrupt medical practices first-hand. Since then he has been actively committed to providing affordable cardiac surgery in Armenia and abolishing corrupt medical practices prevalent in that country.

Dr. Hovaguimian left behind a lucrative career in Portland, Oregon to establish Nork Marash Medical Center in Yerevan, Armenia. With the help of a pediatric cardiologist from Spokane, Washington, Dr. Hrair Garabedian, Hagop is running Armenia’s first medical facility that is free of the corrupt influences that are crippling the country’s health care system.

In June of 1994, the first pediatric heart surgery was performed at the hospital. In 1996, the first adult surgery was performed. Nork Marash Medical Center operates at standards equivalent to those of United States hospitals. The center is a nonprofit entity to include noncorrupt business practices indicated by a zero-tolerance policy against gratuities. Led by the efforts of Dr. Hovaguimian, the Nork Marash Medical Center has brought a breath of fresh air to a health care system marked by bribes, kickbacks and payoffs.

Nork Marash has struggled to achieve financial self-sufficiency without government subsidies. Many surgeries on pediatric patients who cannot afford the cost of cardiac surgery are performed at no charge. Dr. Hovaguimian has a guiding principle: no patient is denied care because of inability to pay. Although the hospital has faced several financial obstacles, they have been able to achieve financial self-sufficiency.

Mr. Speaker, I honor Dr. Hovaguimian for his efforts to bring high standards and professionalism to the health care system in Armenia. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Hrayr “Hagop” Hovaguimian many more years of continued success.

2001 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR RECOVERY FROM AND RESPONSE TO TERRORIST ATTACKS ON THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF
HON. MARCY KAPTUR
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, September 14, 2001

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2888, the emergency supplemental appropriations bill providing essential funds for recovery from and response to the terrorist attacks on New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

I want to thank our distinguished Chairman, Mr. Young of Florida, and our ranking member, Mr. Obey, for their hard work in negotiating this essential package with the leadership of both bodies and the President. The totality of a nation is tested at trying times, and the response before us today demonstrates that America, her people, and her leaders, are ready for this test.

Today we provide $40 billion to start beginning to pay for the damage caused by the attack, to assist the victims who were impacted by it, to upgrade our security, and to begin the military preparations necessary for an appropriate response.

Mr. Speaker, there have been so many times when America has committed her resources to the causes of peace and in support of freedom. There can be no more appropriate time when our homeland has been attacked and our citizens killed.

I am one who believes that we should celebrate the victory that we had in the thousands of people who survived, and in the outpouring of the American spirit in support of the victims of the attack.

No one can ignore the determination of the iron, steel and construction workers who felt an obligation to donate their professional skills to the rescue effort.
No one can doubt the conviction of the men and women of America’s military who moved swiftly to safeguard our nation, or the thou-
sands of Americans on reserve duty who stood ready for the call to action.

The entire world is in awe of the outpouring of support of people, from the youngest chil-
dren to our senior citizens who looked for things or money to donate, wrote encouraging
message to the worker, and supported friends, neighbors and even strangers in any way they
could during a traumatic time.

But that is what America is. America is resili-
ent. America is resourceful. America is at her
very best when challenged and when angered. Others around the world often misunderstand
America’s resolve. Now the execution of that
resolve will leave no questions.

In this Capitol, we celebrate what makes our
nation special. We revere the times when we
can pursue those policies that we believe to be in the best interest of the United States. We have
embraced these crucial debates in which we highlight, not hide, our differences of
opinion. We cherish those moments because that is what freedom brings to us—the ability
to advance those causes that are important to
us, while openly disagreeing with those we
dislike without the fear of retribution.

And now, in a moment of historic signifi-
cance, we also celebrate another matter that
makes our nation special—the ability to come
together as one when our precious freedom is
attacked by those who either misunderstand
or are fearful of freedom’s power.

In the days and weeks to come, this Con-
gress will work together on behalf of our
nation. We will have disagreements, and at the
end of the day our nation and we will be better
for it.

Those who thought that they could infect
our nation with ill will should remember the
words of a great man who served in this very
building, Hubert Humphrey: “Freedom is the
most contagious virus known to man.” Let us
use this challenge to create an opportunity for
America to once again celebrate freedom, and
to help spread it to others who for too long
have been under the scourge of terror.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AND COM-
MENDATION FOR KIDS DAY
AMERICA/INTERNATIONAL

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight a special community event that will
take place in Lima, Ohio. I am pleased to an-
ounce that the second annual “Kids Day
America/International” will occur September 22, 2001. This day is set aside to ad-
dress health, safety and environmental issues that affect us as individuals and as a commu-
nity. It was founded for the purpose of educat-
ing families and communities about these
important social issues. I am glad to report
that it has grown and gained strength.

More than 1,300 communities have taken
part in this event and more than 1,000,000 children and their families have enjoyed this
day across the globe. With the assistance and
support of thousands of local police depart-
ments, county sheriff offices, dentists, and
photographers who volunteer their time, all
these children completed Child Safety ID
cards.

I join Mayors, Governors, Senators, and
Representatives who have endorsed Kids Day
America/International. Chiropractors have also
contributed greatly in helping our communities’
children. Dr. Kay Heaston of Network Chiropractic of Lima is also volunteering her time and
skills for this event.

This year the event in Lima will benefit
DARE. Officer Bob Stoodt will attend, with the
DARE mascot “Daren” the lion, to fingerprint
ID children. Doctors will be doing spinal
screenings; Huntington Bank will be sending
Winnie the Pooh and friends. The Lima Fire
Department will bring a fire truck and their
mascot. Lima City officers will inspect for car
seat safety. Girl Scouts will have environ-
mental presentations. As communities rally in
which we work together on behalf of our na-
tion, this event will allow families to protect their children even more.

Mr. Speaker, once again allow me to voice
my strong support for this worthy event and
those supporting it.

RECOGNIZING MR. SCOTT HURFF
HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to
congratulate and honor a young citizen from
my district who has distinguished himself
among his peers and community.

Mr. Scott Hurff, an honor student at Dublin
Coffman High School and a 2001 delegate to
Ohio’s American Legion Boys State, delivered
the following address at this year’s Memorial
Day ceremonies in Dublin, OH. I believe this
stirring presentation is worthy of the Nation’s
attention.

ORATION BY SCOTT HURFF, BOY’S STATE
DELEGATE 2001

They kicked him. The Nazis kicked him to see if he was dead.

My great-grandfather, who landed at Norm-
andy in WW II, had to play dead to stay alive. He had landed fighting next to his
friends. Now they were dead. The Nazis kicked their bodies to see if they were alive,
and if they believed that there was some spark of life left in them, they shot them.

My great-grandfather was eventually dischar-
ged because of severe frostbite on his
feet. He would be forever tormented with the images of the short time he spent in Europe.
At this very second, America has seen only 11 generations. It is only 225 years old. Yet,
the pillars that are supporting this country,
the pillars that tell the world what is just and right, are being hit.

But how? How can the core values of this
country possibly be in danger?

It’s called apathy. Not caring for what
America is built upon, not caring about
those that made sure these pillars could
stand.

Our society is vulnerable to self-absorbed
greed. Our society is vulnerable to the apa-
thy that tears down and makes us forget the
origins of America. Our society is vulnerable to irresponsible behavior.

The same situation pertains to Memorial
Day. Memorial Day is valuable to being
forgotten. The men and women that we are
recognizing today fought for the good of our
society and our country. When their lives
should have been filled with fun, work, and
adventure, they were fighting in remote,
god-forsaken areas of the world. Places like
Tunisia, places like Guadalcanal, places like
Okinawa, places like Khe Sahn. They had to endure the most horrible conditions to save the
world and our country.

What have we given them?

Too many people of this generation barely
acknowledge the significance of this holiday. Too many people of this generation have no
idea what the holiday represents.

Thus, the people of my generation must
ensure a transition to restore confidence and
security to all citizens. We must begin with
Memorial Day.

The only way we can honor the men that
surrendered their time to whole-heartedly
serve their country is for this generation to
dedicate their time to ensuring that the citi-
zens of America are fully aware of what has
been given to them and what could easily be
taken away. This generation has to rein-
state the active patriotism and restore the
constant awareness of what this country is
based upon. We must ensure another 11 gen-
erations, 225 years, and beyond. We must be
leaders in this transition.

As President Bush said, “The only good so-
ciety is a caring society.” Take heart to what
has been done for you, and be moti-
vated to make a difference in someone’s life.
Become a teacher. Help lead the way to guar-
antee equality in Ohio’s schools. Support the
World War II memorial. Participate in gov-
ernment. That is the way to ensure that
America’s pillars stand. That is the way to honor the soldiers that fought to preserve
those pillars.

TRIBUTE TO COLORADO STATE
SENATOR MARK HILLMAN

HON. BOB SCHAFFER
OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. SCHAFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor
to rise to express gratitude and congratula-
tions to Colorado State Senator Mark Hillman
of Burlington, CO, this year’s recipient of the
National Legislator of the Year by the Amer-
ican Legislative Exchange Council. The Amer-
ican Legislative Exchange Council gives this
award to outstanding legislators who under-
stand that what is good for business is good for
America.

In a recent edition of the La Junta Tribune
Democrat Duane Parde, executive director of the American Legislative Exchange Council,
proclaimed Senator Hillman one of the best
legislators in the nation. He’s a leader who
truly personifies the Jeffersonian principles
of individual liberty, limited government and free
markets.

Mr. Speaker, Senator Hillman is a person of
high integrity and honor. He considers it a privi-
lege to know and work with him. Mark has
served the State of Colorado well taking the
responsibilities and standards of his job to the

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

17463