September 25, 2001

my district. I would like to congratulate Ms. Miller, who is celebrating 25 years of business in Chevy Chase and Bethesda, Maryland. A graduate of the University of Maryland, Ms. Miller and her family have lived in my district for generations. She has over 100 clients, and employs several people. Thanks to leaders like Ms. Miller, women entrepreneurs have made great strides in the business world. She serves as a role model for other women in the business community. On behalf of my colleagues, I would like to wish Ms. Garland Miller many more successful years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED BRYANT
OF TENNESSEE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. BRYANT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was inadvertently delayed getting back to Washington from my district, and as a result missed Rollcall votes 349 and 350. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on both votes. As an original co-sponsor of H.R. 717, I regret being unable to cast a vote in favor of this important legislation that will have a positive effect on those children who suffer from Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

HONORING HUBERT TABOR FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, to place your life in harms way in order to defend our Nation is indeed a noble and honorable action. Hubert Douglas Tabor dedicated himself by serving in World War II and is certainly worthy of the praise and admiration of this body. During the campaign in Northern Burma, Hubert placed his well-being before all else in order to ensure a victory for the Allies in that war-stricken area.

Hubert was raised on a farm in Colorado. Throughout his time there, he grew tired of horses and wished to escape from the farm life by signing up for the Army. However, after entering the Army, the Army recognized that Hubert possessed superior riding skills and was sent to Ft. Riley, Kansas to be a member of the 124th Cavalry. This unit was the last mounted cavalry in the Army and it was with the 124th that Hubert deservedly received his silver spurs due to his accomplishments in the service. Upon his relocation to Burma, his role was that of a packer.

The 124th Cavalry, teamed with the 56th Cavalry and the 613th Field Artillery Battalion, was charged with the duty of opening the Burma Road that was closed by the Japanese enemy. The Japanese was charged with the duty of attracting the attention of the Japanese to distract them while the rest of his team was able to penetrate the enemy’s flank. His friend was killed in the line of duty while Hubert survived, but not without debilitating injuries.

Due to his bravery and courage, Mr. Speaker, Hubert Tabor was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. This battle was brutal, but Hubert offered his patriotism to our country and fought for its sake in Burma. I would like to take this moment to recognize the incredible sacrifices that Hubert made for our country and thank him for his service to our Flag. Hubert helped to make our country great and I extend my warmest regards and best wishes to Hubert for many years to come.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Mr. Speaker, before I conclude my remarks, I would like to recognize a special individual who was honored for her leadership qualities and service to her community. On September 5th, Ms. Elvira Ortiz was honored by her peers at the Annual Profiles of Success Hispanic Leadership Awards presentation in Phoenix, Arizona. This event, coordinated by Valle del Sol, a local non-profit community based organization, kicks off National Hispanic Heritage Month in Arizona and is now in its twelfth year of honoring worthy individuals.

Honored in the category of Exemplary Leadership, Ms. Ortiz, of Phoenix, Arizona, was recognized for her civic activism in raising awareness of the issues that Latinos face today. She has risen to her position as Publisher and Editor-in-Chief at Ashland Media from humble beginnings, immigrating to this country from Mexico nearly twenty years ago, and has played an active role in addressing many civic issues. She was the co-founder of Cambio Magazine, a magazine addressing Latino issues in Arizona, and continues to work with Alma de la Gente’s Mexican Independence Day to replicate and promote the traditions and culture of Mexican-Americans.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Ms. Ortiz, who truly represents the determination of the new immigrant enriching this great country of ours with love and compassion for her family, community and profession.

THE BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2001 (H.R. 2941)

HON. GARY G. MILLER
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, I introduced the “Brownsfields Redevelopment Enhancement Act of 2001 (H.R. 2941).” I would like to thank my colleagues U.S. Representative Maloney, Chairman Mike Oxley and Chairwoman Marge Roukema for joining me in supporting this important measure.

The biggest barrier that cities and communities face when trying to acquire and redevelop contaminated “Brownsfields” properties is their lack of access to adequate and affordable capital to carry out critical activities including site assessment, remediation planning, cleanup and initial redevelopment activities. This legislation is designed to facilitate the provision of assistance by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the cleanup and economic development of Brownfields.

For nearly 25 years, HUD’s Section 108 Loan Guarantee program has encouraged local economic development by giving cities access to the up-front financing needed for key site preparation and infrastructure projects that make an area ready for revitalization. This bill would, in essence, improve the ability of local governments to use HUD’s Section 108 Loan Guarantee program and the Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) program to address Brownfields projects by recognizing one of the new realities of the redevelopment process—that environmental evaluation and cleanup activities have become a necessary part of the process for reusing old, often abandoned sites, and that the public sector frequently must jump start that process.

This legislation will modify HUD’s existing Section 108 Loan Guarantee program to make it a more flexible and usable tool for Brownfields projects and provide BEDI grant funding in a more flexible form. First, it authorizes, for the first time ever, appropriations specifically for the BEDI program, to clarify through the conventional authorization and appropriation process that Brownfields redevelopment assistance is a congressional priority. The authorization of such sums as may be necessary is for fiscal years 2002–4. This 3-year authorization would result in need for authorization after 3 years and prompt a timely congressional re-examination of the need for such funding and funding levels.

Second, it establishes the BEDI program as an independent program by separating it from the requirement that local governments obtain Section 108 loan guarantees in order to obtain BEDI grant funding. While Congress has funded the BEDI program at a level of $25 million annually since FY 1998, the program has existed solely as a line item in appropriations.