

brought happiness and fine music to thousands in the Northeastern Ohio area.

As long-time polka all-star Frankie Yanovic put it, Cleveland is a polka town! Originating in 1976, the Cleveland Polka Association has long been dedicated to preserving the polka heritage, and promoting interest in polka events. The CSA has been working diligently to establish close friendships among all those who have a great interest in polka music and dance.

The Cleveland-style polka has its roots in Slovenian folk music, but American musicians have given the polka a style that people of all backgrounds can enjoy. The Cleveland Polka Association devotes their time and energy to upholding great polka lessons, such as "If you can't do the Polka, don't Marry my Daughter", and "In Heaven there is no Beer." They will never really answer the question "Who stole the Kishka?"

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing the Cleveland Polka Association on their distinguished 25th Anniversary celebration. The polka music will be heard long and far as the CSA celebrates to the melodious tunes into the night.

BENNY PRILL: POLKA'S "GOLDEN STAR"

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2001

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Benny Prill for his induction into the Michigan State Polka Music Hall of Fame. Michigan is a state whose citizens are proud of their multi-cultural ancestry and who delight in celebrating that diversity with others. The Polish community is one of the proudest in Michigan, bringing with it a love for good food, good spirits, fellowship, dancing and the lively, foot-stomping traditions of the polka.

When Benny was just a toddler, he drove nails into a board to simulate an accordion and in doing so he became part of the rich heritage that all polka music enthusiasts share. Like many musical genres, polka is a mingling of many styles, including European classical music and folk music. During the Depression Era in the United States, a uniquely American style developed that reflected the melting pot musical talents of the many immigrants who came to this country.

Like many polka lovers, Benny was introduced to the music at an early age and quickly developed a passion for it. During his school years, Benny played for weddings, dances, house parties and at many other functions. He was drafted into the army at eighteen and during his enlistment he joined a band called the Drifters. Once back home, Benny went on to play for the Golden Stars and most recently in the Polka Music Sound. Many polka fans have come to know Benny through bus trips he has organized throughout Michigan and Ohio for the promotion of polka music. He also hosts polka dances and is a part-time disc jockey for WKJC-FM in Tawas City.

For Benny and others, polka is more than just a type of music, it is a lifestyle that rep-

resents a culture and a warmth of spirit that attracts people from all over the world. Polka fans have their own language, with words such as "tubs" to describe a drum set or "boxman" to describe a concertina or accordion player. Benny has earned a reputation not only as a fine musician, but as someone who honors the customs and traditions of polka music so that future generations also will be able to enjoy it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Benny Prill on achieving the Michigan Polka Music industry's highest honor. As a keeper of the polka flame, Benny will ensure that good music and lively dancing will live on for many years and I am confident that he will find even more ways of providing venues for all to enjoy the melodic energy of the polka.

HONORING MARVIN GREENBERG

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2001

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who will be greatly missed by all those who knew him. A man who served his country proudly, and a man who displayed immeasurable love for his work, his community, his life, and his family. It brings me great sadness to report that Marvin Greenberg of Plantation, Florida, passed away on September 24, 2001 at the age of 81.

Marvin Greenberg was born in Brooklyn, New York, where he was raised and attended high school. Upon graduation, he began what was to become a very long, meaningful life as a contributor to both his country and community in a variety of ways.

Before matriculating to college, Marvin was called upon by his country to serve in World War II. As a 1st Lieutenant in the United States Army, Marvin bravely commanded a tank battalion in the European Theatre. For the unwavering valor he showed in battle, Marvin was awarded both the Silver Star Medal and a Purple Heart with two clusters, a testament to his willingness to sacrifice himself for the freedom of our nation.

After returning home from Europe, Marvin attended Pace College and graduated with an accounting degree. Marvin went on to work as a production manager for a Brooklyn-based company, and later became a successful national sales representative for a security company.

In 1983, Marvin moved to Plantation, Florida, where he would remain throughout the rest of his life. It was in Plantation where Marvin became an indispensable member of the community, becoming an avid advocate for those in his condominium community and within the city of Plantation as a whole. Passionate about the importance of equality, Marvin became a frequent visitor before the city council, where he argued for causes including housing, loans, and traffic safety. Marvin would join the Lauderdale West Democratic Club, where he was an active member of the Board for eight years and served dutifully as the President for four. Above all else,

Marvin made certain that everyone had a voice, and that it was heard.

Mr. Speaker, Marvin Greenberg was both well-loved and widely respected by all those blessed to have known him. He is survived by his wife, Lee, his brother Irwin, his three children, Phil, Paula, and Ricki, and by his five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Marvin selflessly served his country and his family was a source of admiration and great pride. Today we celebrate Marvin's life, which serves as a wonderful example to all who follow in his footsteps.

LIMITATION ON PER COUNTRY SHARE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation.

In May, the House passed legislation, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act that authorized both the release of the \$582 million and a third installment of \$244 million. However, two weeks before the House considered the bill, the United States was removed from the U.N. Commission on Human Rights. The House responded by adopting an amendment conditioning the third installment on the U.S. return to the commission. This legislation repeals that amendment and reschedules the untimely repayment of our U.N. dues.

As a delegate of the United Nations and Chair of the Commission on Human Rights, Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "Without the United Nations our country would walk alone, ruled by fear instead of confidence and hope." I believe that the American people want to walk in confidence with the U.N.

The majority of Americans consistently show a readiness to pay U.N. dues in full. Most recently a Zogby poll found that 62 percent of Americans believe that we should pay our delinquent dues. Another poll showed that 53 percent of Americans believe that the U.S. should not hold back dues as a means of pressuring the U.N.

It's regrettable that the U.S. lost its seat on the Human Rights Commission but I firmly believe there will never be an appropriate venue for this country to deny its responsibility. Instead of disengaging ourselves from the U.N., I believe that we should do just the opposite and support it with all our vigor.

I'm proud to support this legislation and I will continue to do all that I can to support full payment of our Nation's U.N. dues.

TASK FORCE ON MENTORING IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and to express my appreciation

for the Montgomery County Task Force on Mentoring on its 10th anniversary. In late 1991, after completing a study, the Montgomery County Human Relations Commission concluded that a broad and determined mentoring program could vastly improve the current situations of the County's young males. Following a September 28, 1991 conference titled "Black Males in Crisis—Is Mentoring a Solution?" the Task Force was founded on December 16, 1991.

Functioning under the core belief, as stated by Jonathan Alter, Senior Editor of Newsweek, that, "no one succeeds in America without some kind of mentor—a parent, teacher, coach, older friend—to offer guidance along the way," the task force has grown into an umbrella organization for dozens of non-profit organizations providing mentorships for high risk youths. Annually the task force helps a significant number of children and young adults within Montgomery County.

Another of the Task Force's core beliefs: "reaching out together as a united community, we will make a difference," should become a mantra for all Americans. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Montgomery County Task Force on Mentoring, for their commitment to improving our community.

My thanks to Mr. John Smith, president of the task force and to all of its members for the outstanding and valuable service they provide to the citizens of Montgomery County.

MOTOR VEHICLE OWNERS' RIGHT TO REPAIR ACT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on August 2, 2001, I introduced HR 2735, "The Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act of 2001" to ensure that all motoring consumers have the freedom of choice of where, how and by whom to have their vehicles repaired, maintained and to choose the parts of their choice. I introduced HR 2735 to offer protection to consumers who will suffer from high, non-competitive prices.

But since the introduction of HR 2735, my state of New York and the United States have been changed forever by the devastating attack of September 11th on American lives, our way of life, and our economic foundations. It is now more important than ever for the passage of HR 2735, which will bring economic relief to consumers and small business.

Since September 11th, many citizens have chosen to drive their vehicles to work, to recreation and to vacation sites, rather than take other means of public transportation. This means that consumers will be spending an ever-increasing amount of time in their vehicles. And, that means that these vehicles will need more repairs and parts replaced.

Another consequence of September 11th is the attack on America's economic foundation. Many businesses will close their doors due to the inability to continue to provide consumer services. Now, more than ever, we in Congress must work to bolster business, not

hinder it with the economic chains of monopolies. Passage of HR 2735 will keep the doors open for many in the automotive aftermarket, allowing the domino effect of recovery to continue.

HR 2735 will open the door to motoring consumers who are away from home, whether for business or pleasure, to have unforeseen repairs and parts replaced at the shop of their choice and with the parts of their choice. HR 2735 will allow motoring consumers to dispense with fears of being caught in strange localities or being forced back to dealerships. Consumers will be able to make competitive choices.

For several years, Congress mandated that vehicles come manufactured with a computer system to monitor vehicle emissions. As vehicles have advanced, so have the computer systems installed which now control vital systems such as brakes, ignition, ignition keys, air bags, steering mechanisms and climate control. What began as a clean air measure became an unintended "vehicle in itself" to a repair and parts information monopoly by car manufacturers.

The end result is that motorists have become chained to the car manufacturers and their car dealers in order to have their vehicles repaired and parts replaced. Instead of exercising America's free-market ability to choose the automotive technician, shop and parts of their choice—or even work on the vehicles themselves, this lock-out of information has forced motorists to return to car dealers and forced them in many instances into paying higher, noncompetitive costs. Simple tasks such as having an ignition key duplicated can cost \$45 or more.

Passage of HR 2735 is essential to the economic structure of the vehicle independent repair industry, as well as the limited budgets of many consumers and their safety.

Passage of HR 2735 will allow motorists who do not live near car dealerships to have their vehicles quickly and efficiently repaired, without being forced into driving a great distance in a problematic car to a dealership, jeopardizing their safety and that of others. It will allow motorists to work on their vehicles and will allow motorists to save money.

Passage of HR 2735 will empower motorists and will not restrict their choices of repair shops, including the desire of those who wish to go to car dealerships. It will allow motorists to actually own the repair and parts information to their own vehicles and to be the ultimate decisionmakers—instead of the car manufacturers—of their own vehicles.

Now more than ever is the time for Congress to keep consumers and small business sound, not pigeon-holed into unnecessary and expensive monopolies. Freedom to choose and to compete is the American Way.

POMONA VALLEY WORKSHOP'S 35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2001

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and honor the accom-

plishments of the Pomona Valley Workshop on its 35th Anniversary of dedicated service to individuals with developmental disabilities in Western San Bernardino County and Eastern Los Angeles County.

The Pomona Valley Workshop is one of the largest employers in the city of Montclair and strives to maintain the highest of standards in its provision of traditional and innovative services. As an active member of the local community, the Workshop's efforts to improve the public's understanding of issues which affect persons with disabilities have resulted in strong community support and volunteer efforts.

I salute the Pomona Valley Workshop on the outstanding role it has played in assisting adults with disabilities achieve their highest level of employment and community integration. I wish them continued success in their exemplary endeavors.

ATTACKS ON SIKHS SUBSIDING— STILL UNDER SIEGE IN INDIA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am glad that the attacks on Sikhs and other Americans in the wake of the September 11 attacks have subsided. While there are still some incidents, Sikhs, Muslims, and other Americans are safer now than they were a week or two ago. That is good news.

However, Sikhs continue to be under assault in India. The Indian government holds over 52,000 Sikhs as political prisoners. It has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984. A few months ago, Indian troops were caught red-handed trying to set fire to a Gurdwara (a Sikh temple), but Sikh and Muslim villagers prevented them from carrying out this atrocity.

This is part of a long pattern of violation of the rights of Sikhs and other minorities by the Indian government. The attacks on Sikhs in America, which are terribly unfortunate and should be condemned by all, have been incidents carried out by individuals. That is a key difference. Much of the problem is that since the Sikhs don't have their own country, Americans and others don't know who they are. This is one more reason why a free Khalistan is essential.

Khalistan is the Sikh homeland which declared its independence from India on October 7, 1987. This week marks Khalistan's independence anniversary. It will also see the annual convention of the Council of Khalistan, the government pro tempore of Khalistan which leads its independence struggle.

Given India's apparent reluctance to cooperate with the United States in our war on terrorism, American support for a free Khalistan and for freedom for the Kashmiris, for predominantly Christian Nagaland, and for all the other nations seeking their freedom is more urgent than ever. We must do what we can to extend the glow of freedom all over the world. We can help that along by maintaining our sanctions on India, by cutting off our aid to India until human rights are respected, and by