

agricultural students at Hemet and West Valley High Schools. They are also active participants in the Winchester Homeowner's Association; the Chambers of Commerce in Winchester, Murrieta, and Temecula; the Riverside County Property Owners' Association; the Murrieta Temecula Group, and the Hemet-San Jacinto Action Group.

It is a well deserved honor and I am proud to pay homage today to a family who has done much for the people in my district.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIE NELSON

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and honor the philanthropic efforts of legendary country music star, Willie Nelson.

Mr. Nelson recently came to the City of Brea and held a benefit concert to raise funds for the La Habra-Brea Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Nelson treated some 400 country music fans to an intimate and memorable evening of his treasured ballads and tunes and, in the process, raised more than \$100,000 to help build the Boys and Girls Club an all-purpose facility.

The event was arranged by La Habra-Brea Boys and Girls Club Board Member Tom Duncan, who approached Mr. Nelson, his long-time client and friend, about the need for a permanent club facility in Brea. Mr. Nelson readily agreed to donate his time and talent to kick off the capital campaign with a benefit concert. Unocal Corporation generously offered to host the event in the Hartley Center auditorium in their Brea facility.

The Boys and Girls Clubs across the nation are professional, non-profit organizations that serve children ages seven to eighteen. Dedicated employees help these young people develop character and provide opportunities for healthy social recreation, physical education, as well as citizenship and leadership skills. Proceeds from this successful event will bring the reality of a safe-haven for the youth of the community a step closer.

According to Mr. Duncan, "Willie's a good-hearted soul and he likes to help people who need it." Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that this 107th Congress join me in saluting the benevolent and compassionate acts of a "Great American," Willie Nelson.

IN HONOR OF P.O. GLADYS FIGUEROA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of P.O. Gladys Figueroa in recognition of her twenty-one years of service to the New York City Police Department and the people of New York.

Gladys Figueroa was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico. Her parents brought her to New York

City in search of a better life when she was four years old. They settled in Williamsburg, Brooklyn where she attended elementary through high school. She graduated from Eastern District High School in 1971. After her first semester at Queens College, Gladys decided to leave school and enter the work force. Gladys has been working since the age of 14 as a summer youth worker.

While working, she held various positions: Receptionist, Administrative Aide, Legal Secretary, Cashier, Salesperson, and Waitress. At the same time, she was always looking for something else. She attended various trade schools, such as Airline Training, Massage, Home Improvement, etc. in January 1980, she finally found her home when she joined the ranks of the New York City Police Department. She was assigned to the 79th Precinct where she spent 13 years of her career. Her first assignment was to patrol the streets of Bedford-Stuyvesant. She saw everything that her precinct had to offer; her worst assignments were dealing with domestic violence issues. After five years on patrol she was assigned to the Community Affairs office of the 79th Precinct, where she remained for the subsequent eight years. Her most rewarding task was working with the Youth and Community Councils. In 1994, Gladys was transferred to the Brooklyn North Community Affairs Office. She remained there until her retirement date on September 30, 2001.

Gladys is a people person. She enjoyed the various tasks associated with representing the police in a positive way with the community. She assisted in senior citizens programs, the Citizens Academy, and girl's basketball. She was especially fond of working holidays with senior citizens or bringing food to homebound AIDS patients. One of her last assignments was to join the Domestic Violence unit of the 90th Precinct. Her next assignment will be her most significant and most difficult, serving as a full time mom to her pride and joy, 14-year-old Diola, and 12-year-old Alejandro Castillo.

Mr. Speaker, Gladys Figueroa has served the people of Brooklyn and New York City for over twenty-one years of proud and dedicated service as a New York City Police Officer. As such, she is more than worthy of our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3427, AF- GHANISTAN FREEDOM AND RE- CONSTRUCTION ACT OF 2001

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing H.R. 3427, the Afghanistan Freedom and Reconstruction Act of 2001. I want to thank my good friend, the Gentleman from New York, Mr. ACKERMAN, ranking Democratic Member of the Middle East and South Asia subcommittee. Without his hard work and that of his staff, we would have never reached this point.

As we speak, the Taliban leadership is on the run. The capital city of Kabul has been lib-

erated from Taliban control, as have key cities across Afghanistan. The final pockets of resistance are surrounded and facing imminent defeat. And as freedom returns to Afghanistan, women are throwing off their veils and men are lining up at barber shops to shave their beards after years of repressive rule.

Now is the time for swift action by this Congress, for the United States to demonstrate to the people of Afghanistan and throughout the Muslim world that the military campaign against Al-Qaida and the Taliban is neither a war against Muslims nor a war against the Afghan people. Yes, the United States is committed to wipe-out the terrorist network in Afghanistan. But we must be equally committed to helping the Afghan people reclaim their country and rebuild their lives. We may be close to winning the war but we are far from winning the peace.

The United States did not live up to its commitment after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was repulsed. We left the people of Afghanistan and our friends in Pakistan to fend for themselves. Afghanistan disintegrated as a result, as warlords pillaged the country, followed by the Taliban's repressive rule and ultimately the rise of terrorist elements.

Mr. Chairman, we must not permit the past to be repeated in Afghanistan. Yesterday, the representatives from all major factions in Afghanistan signed a landmark agreement to create a broad-based, multiethnic, gender-sensitive, fully-representative government in Afghanistan. After over 20 years of civil war, foreign occupation, and oppression, the people of Afghanistan see rays of hope breaking through their clouds of fear.

Over the last few months, the International Relations Committee has held a series of hearings regarding the humanitarian needs in Afghanistan, the possibilities for reconstruction, and Afghani hopes for the future. Based on these hearings, it is clear to me that we must help the Afghan people secure a future for their children that is free from war and built on the same hopes and aspirations held by all-freedom loving people around the world.

Achieving this vision for Afghanistan is not only a moral and humanitarian impulse—it is a national security imperative. If we are to prevent future terrorist attacks targeting the United States, we must provide a positive alternative to the poverty, repression, and religious fanaticism that breeds terrorists such as Osama bin Laden and his minions.

H.R. 3427, the Afghan Freedom and Reconstruction Act of 2001 does just that. The bill:

Expresses a sense of Congress on the U.S. policy towards Afghanistan, including promoting its neutrality, supporting a broad-based, multi-ethnic, gender-sensitive, fully representative government, and maintaining a significant commitment to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction of Afghanistan.

Authorizes \$77.5 million for broadcasting to Afghanistan;

Authorizes \$325 million for humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan in fiscal year 2003;

Authorizes \$150 million for fiscal year 2002 and 2003 for a multinational security force in Afghanistan and authorizes funding for civil advisers for that country for the interim or transitional authority;

Authorizes \$875 million for rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for fiscal years

December 7, 2001

2002–2005, with—conditions for each year to ensure that benchmarks laid out in the December 5, 2001 Bonn Agreement between the various Afghan factions are being met; assistance for agriculture, health care, education, vocational training, disarmament and demobilization, and anti-corruption and good governance programs; a special emphasis on assistance to women and girls; a report on assistance actually provided; and authority to provide some of this assistance through a multi-lateral fund.

Authorizes \$60 million for Democracy and human rights initiatives for fiscal years 2002 through 2004;

Authorizes \$62.5 million for a contribution to the UN Drug Control Program for fiscal years 2002 through 2004 to reduce or eliminate the trafficking of illicit drugs in Afghanistan.

Authorizes \$65 million for a new secure diplomatic facility in Afghanistan.

Requires the President to consult with Congress on any ongoing support for remnants of the Taliban, including sanctions against any country that provides such support.

We are committed to supporting the people of Afghanistan in their quest to establish a broad-based government that respects human rights—especially the rights of women and children—and practices religious tolerance.

Mr. Chairman, I, along with GARY ACKERMAN, the ranking member on the Middle East and South Asia subcommittee, and the Gentlewoman from Florida, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, the Chairman of the International Operations and Human Rights subcommittee, am introducing this legislation to put the U.S. Congress squarely behind the people of Afghanistan and its nascent hopes for a brighter future.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES S. KNISLEY

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of my dear friend Charles S. Knisley.

Charles S. Knisley was a renowned master horse trainer, and an upstanding citizen of the community dedicated to his friends and beloved children.

Charles had a life-long love for horses. He was a Master Horse Trainer and produced two outstanding Saddlebred stallions: Prime Time and a half and Sparkling Running Wild.

He worked with Ms. Linda Copper, an accomplished horsewoman in her own right, and Judith and Bill Cottrill, who established some of the finest blood stock of Saddlebred horses in America.

He loved the Saddlebred horse, was an expert farrier of show horses and was an expert rider and handler of high strung Saddlebred show stock for Ms. Cooper.

Chuck, as he was known to his friends, always had a good word for all; but he was not known to say much. He spoke with his deeds!

Charles “Chuck” Knisley was a great father, a great husband, a great friend, a great horseman and a great American. He will be sorely missed.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2299,
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2001

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House passed the conference report on H.R. 2299, Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations for FY 2002. I was pleased to support this legislation and would like to thank the committee for including language which benefits my constituents in the 8th Congressional District of Texas.

First, the committee was kind enough to include report language that encourages the Federal Highway Administration to collaborate with the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) at Texas A&M University on their Work Zone Safety proposal. TTI is dedicated to a program of research intended to enhance the overall safety associated with roadways and, at the same time, finding approaches for more efficiently handling the traffic demands.

One important example of TTI's efforts to improve the safety of our roadways is through the National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse. The only one of its kind in the United States, the Clearinghouse provides information and referrals to government agencies, public and private organizations, and the general public concerning the safe and effective operation of traffic work zones.

Work zones have always been dangerous places for construction workers and travelers. With more and more highway construction and maintenance under way, most of the time traffic cannot be shut down while work is being done. Highway workers must often perform their jobs with traffic just a few feet away. Unfortunately, this has resulted in more than 20,000 accidents in highway work zones, injuring some 5,000 people and killing 700 more. In my home state of Texas alone, 125 people were killed in a construction or maintenance work zone in 1998.

The National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse housed at TTI is a part of the solution. With a toll-free call, a fax or visit to the Clearinghouse's website, contractors, workers and safety officials now have access to a wide array of information and materials. The Clearinghouse collects, maintains and makes available information on work zone safety, crash statistics, construction standards, worker safety training, safety products and public awareness and law enforcement campaigns. Through these efforts we are seeing progress, but more work needs to be done to help make work zones safer and save more lives.

The continued efforts of TTI and the Clearinghouse are critical to furthering work zone safety. It is my goal to see that important transportation research such as the work zone safety clearinghouse continues to receive the support it deserves.

I would also like to speak today about a provision that represents a good example of com-

munity and university partnership in my district. The Conference Report provides funding to Brazos Transit to purchase new buses and then lease them on a multi-year agreement to Texas A&M University at a nominal yearly fee.

These new buses will help meet the transportation needs of the community by providing students living in the community with safe, efficient and economical transportation to and from campus. This new partnership will benefit Brazos Transit, Texas A&M University and most importantly the students.

IN HONOR OF STAFF SGT. BRIAN
CODY PROSSER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Special Forces Staff Sgt. Brian Cody Prosser, a young man who grew up in my Congressional District and who died Monday in Afghanistan fighting terrorism on behalf of all Americans.

Sgt. Prosser hails from Frazier Park, California, a small, tight-knit community in the Los Padres National Forest's high country. He was captain of his high school football team and enlisted in the Army after graduation in 1991. Friends and family have described him as “dedicated,” “brave,” “tough,” and “down-to-earth.”

His father, Brian D. Prosser, who is also an Army veteran, called his son a “warrior” and said Sgt. Prosser died doing what he wanted to do.

Sgt. Prosser was proud to be an American, trained hard to become one of America's elite soldiers, and died a hero at age 28 doing his job to rid the world of terrorists and those who harbor them. Our country is saddened by his death and those of his comrades who died with him, Master Sgt. Jefferson Donald Davis, 39, of Watauga, Tennessee, and Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Henry Petithory, 32, of Cheshire, Massachusetts. At the same time we are honored and thankful for their commitment to America and the sacrifice they were willing to risk on our behalf.

Sgt. Prosser is survived by his wife, Shawna; his parents, Brian and Ingrid Prosser; and three brothers, Jarudd, Michael, and Reed.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in honoring Sgt. Prosser's sacrifice on behalf of his country and in offering our heartfelt sympathy to his family and friends, as well as to the family and friends of Sgt. Davis and Sgt. Petithory.

IN HONOR OF THE LATE JAMES
WORTH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of a dynamic community leader, a good friend,

24561