

to adopt a resolution drafted by the International Center for Missing and Exploited Children that would recommend that the Permanent Bureau of The Hague produce and promote Practice Guides to assist in the implementation and operation of the Convention.

While great strides have been made, we recognize that there are serious shortcomings in its implementation. These Practice Guides, therefore, are necessary.

There will be no parents included from the U.S. on the trip to The Hague. So at this time I would like to let the parents of abducted children, including people like Lady Catherine Meyer, Joseph Cooke, Jim Rinaman, Tom Sylvester, Tom Johnson and others know that I have heard their stories, I have heard their voices, and I will be representing them and their concerns before the 60 contracting parties. Their voices will be heard there.

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#### CONGRATULATING FOUNDERS OF MIAMI'S WOMEN'S PARK AND HISTORY GALLERY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) and I wish to congratulate the founders of Miami Women's Park and History Gallery:

Mother of the Park and women's rights pioneer, Roxey O'Neal Bolton; chair of the committee, Judge Bonnie Lano Rippingille; secretary, Teresa Zorilla Clark; treasurer, Molly Turner; and historian, Dr. Dorothy Jenkins Fields.

I also congratulate and as well the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) congratulates founders Leona Cooper, Katherine Fernandez-Rundle, Diane Brant, Colette McCurdy Jackson, Dr. Patricia Clements, and the late Elaine Gordon, Monna Lighte and Helen Miller.

Judge Rippingille also founded Sisters of the Heart, a program that links delinquent girls with positive female role models.

Tomorrow, the Park will exhibit 100 years of African American Women's History, narrated by historian Dr. Jenkins Fields. The girls will learn of African American women in literature and in the suffrage movement. They will write essays and paint posters with positive images.

We congratulate the Women's Park Committee for the contributions of women in South Florida and for leaving a positive legacy by investing in the lives of our future leaders. Tomorrow's leaders are today's girls.

#### CDBG RENEWAL ACT

(Mrs. MEEK of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today, with the support of 50 of my colleagues, I am introducing the Community Development Block Grant Renewal Act, a bill that directs more CDBG funding to the low and moderate income people so that the CDBG program should serve.

The basic mission of the Community Development Block Grant program is to direct Federal funding to the neediest among us. Today, pressures on low and moderate income people are more acute than ever before because of a severe shortage of affordable housing, the growing loss of public housing units and the changes in welfare law.

Mr. Speaker, the CDBG program is not a revenue-sharing measure. It is not meant to simply redistribute money from the Federal Government to the States and local governments for any purposes whatsoever. Rather, the Community Development Block Grant program is to build housing, to provide safe, healthy housing for people who cannot afford market rents. It is meant to provide economic development and jobs for people with low and moderate income.

My bill would amend the CDBG statute to better reflect the original spirit and intent of the law. It will require grantees to spend at least 80 percent of their CDBG funds to directly benefit low and moderate income people.

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#### LOS SERRANOS COUNTRY CLUB ADOPTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

(Mr. GARY MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the partnership that has been forged between Los Serranos Country Club in Chino Hills, California, and Los Serranos Elementary School.

Jack Kramer, the owner of the Los Serranos Country Club, has committed to donating \$10,000 a year over the next 5 years to the Los Serranos Elementary School. The first to participate in the Chino Valley Unified School District's new Adopt-A-School program, Mr. Kramer is demonstrating one way businesses can support their local schools.

Mr. Kramer's desire to improve his community is admirable and worthy of praise. As the first business owner to participate in this program, he has set an outstanding example to other business leaders, and his generosity has most certainly set a high standard. However, most noteworthy is Mr. Kramer's reason for participating. His simple statement, "it's worthwhile," says everything about education.

#### PEACE IN THE BALKANS REQUIRES INDEPENDENCE FOR KOSOVO

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. From the United Nations to heads of state, everyone is hoping against hope for peace in the Balkans. I do not want to rain on everyone's parade, but in my opinion there will never be peace in the Balkans until there is independence for Kosovo. The bottom line, it is the right thing to do. Ninety percent of the citizens of Kosovo are ethnic Albanians. Freedom and independence for Kosovo is the only long-term solution for a lasting peace in the Balkans.

I yield back the fact that map boundaries have been redrawn regularly throughout history to accomplish peace.

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#### NURSE JILL STANEK TO ADDRESS LAWMAKERS TODAY

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, at noon today, some of us will be hearing from Jill Stanek, a nurse from Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn, Illinois. She will be sharing some actual experiences with us, telling us what happens when a baby survives an abortion. That is something we do not often hear about.

Just what does happen? Babies survive abortion more often than one might think. One day Julie found a small living baby in a soiled utility room at her hospital, 22 weeks old, aborted because he had Down's Syndrome. His mother had an abortion, but he survived. The hospital did not know what to do with him, so he was just left in that cold room, lying naked on the counter. No one lifted a finger to help him live. Jill sat and cradled him in her arms for 45 minutes until he died.

Mr. Speaker, last year we passed the Born Alive Infants Protection Act in the House to make it clear that all infants who are born alive, even if they were supposed to be aborted, are treated as legal persons under Federal law. Soon, it will be introduced again.

Today, I invite my colleagues just to come and listen to Jill tell her story. It will take place in Room 311 Cannon at 12 noon.

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#### U.N. CONVENTION ON ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, in honor of International Women's Day on March 8, 68 of my House colleagues and I sent a letter to the Secretary of State urging the Bush administration to support U.S. ratification of CEDAW, the U.N. convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women.

Ratified by 166 other nations, CEDAW establishes a universal definition of discrimination against women and provides international standards for equality in education, health care, employment, commercial transactions and public life.

This Congress, I have reintroduced House Resolution 18, and I ask my colleagues to become cosponsors. Let us send a message loud and clear to women in this Nation and all over the world that the United States is truly committed to protecting women's rights.

#### A CASE OF SELECTIVE INSANITY?

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, this morning we had a guest chaplain who opened our session with prayer. We have a full-time chaplain. So does our Senate. So do a lot of athletic teams and our military services each have a large number of chaplains.

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And our schools have condoms.

Mr. Speaker, I wish that you could help me and at least 150 million other Americans understand why chaplains and prayers are good for our House of Representatives, good for our Senate, good for our athletic teams and good for our soldiers and sailors and marines and airmen. And condoms are good for our kids. Is this a case of selective insanity?

#### VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

(Ms. CARSON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, historically domestic violence has been a silent epidemic. According to a recent study conducted by the Commonwealth Fund, almost 4 million women are physically abused each year in the United States.

Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women in this country, where they are more likely to be assaulted, injured, raped or killed by a male partner than any other type of assailant.

However many politicians, intentionally or unintentionally, have not dealt with this serious and destructive epidemic. In my district alone, judicial

levels have been totally insensitive to the plight of victims of domestic violence to the extent of sending perpetrators home on home monitors, with ankle bracelets; and they eventually go out and kill the victim without being noticed by the system until it is way too late.

We need to expand the Call to Protect program, continue funding through VAWA and demand that the Violence Against Women Office in the Department of Justice becomes permanent.

We can tackle the undiagnosed treatment of women before it matures into violence by conducting early prevention to teach young people the importance of supporting and respecting one another.

#### TAX RELIEF AND A BUDGET FOR EVERY FAMILY

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, this week the House Committee on the Budget will take the first step towards passing the budget for fiscal year 2002. Our budget is a bold and responsible statement that places the concerns of hard-working American families ahead of the concerns of the Washington bureaucracy.

With budget surpluses in Washington, we have an opportunity to shore up Social Security, protect Medicare, pay down our record amount of debt, and provide relief from enormously high tax burdens.

Federal taxes are the highest they have ever been since World War II. When you combine the overall tax burden of local, State, and Federal governments, plus the cost of regulations, folks are giving almost half of what they make back to their government. This is unacceptable and needs to be changed.

Without a doubt, working Americans need a break. This is not the time for politicians in Washington to point fingers of blame at the current state of the economy. We must rise above the partisan bickering and pass legislation that will provide immediate and meaningful relief to hard-working American families.

#### DANGERS OF ARSENIC LEVELS IN DRINKING WATER

(Mr. HINCHEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to call to the attention of the Members of the House an issue of great public concern because it affects public health.

In 1997, this Congress directed the Environmental Protection Agency to

upgrade standards for arsenic across the country. The standards that we have today have been in effect since 1942. They are 50 parts per billion of arsenic in drinking water. All around the world, countries have raised the standards to 10 parts per billion, because arsenic in drinking water is known to cause cancer of the bladder, the urinary tract, lung cancer, and other ailments.

The backtracking on this rule that took place earlier this week is of great concern to all of us. The Bush administration has announced that it will not follow through on reducing arsenic in drinking water. This is a threat to the health and safety of more than 31 million Americans who now drink water with elevated levels of arsenic. Most of these people live in the southwestern portion of our country.

I call upon the Bush administration and this Congress to stick by the raising of these standards for arsenic in drinking water. This is a matter of grave concern for public health and safety.

#### WELCOMING COACH RICK PITINO BACK TO KENTUCKY

(Mrs. NORTHUP asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, when the people around this country think about Louisville, Kentucky, a number of positive images come to mind. We are known as the hometown of sports legends Muhammad Ali, Pee Wee Reese, Denny Crum, and Paul Hornung. We are known as the home of the greatest 2 minutes in sports, the running of the Kentucky Derby. And, of course, we are home to the world-famous Louisville Slugger baseball bat.

Mr. Speaker, another sports legend, Rick Pitino, has returned home to Kentucky, this time as head basketball coach at the University of Louisville. Coach Pitino is no stranger to our State. He led the University of Kentucky Wildcats to a national championship in 1996.

We are thrilled to have Coach Pitino back where he belongs, in the Bluegrass State. No one likes to win basketball games more than Coach Pitino. But more importantly, he will set a great example for our children and young adults, inspiring them to set high goals and then work hard to achieve success.

Coach, welcome back to Kentucky and to the University of Louisville.

#### URGING CONGRESS TO LIMIT TRASH IMPORTATION

(Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)