SOCIAL WORK MONTH

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD
OF GUAM
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, Guam has designated the month of March 2001 as “Social Work Month”—the focus revolving around the 23rd Anniversary of the Guam Association of Social Workers (GASW), their 20th annual training conference and the formal establishment of the Guam Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

For the past 23 years GASW has endeavored to establish a network that would provide professional support for social workers in the region. Already in its 20th year, the annual GASW training conference has served to promote and facilitate this objective. This year, conferees from the many islands of Micronesia gathered together on Guam to discuss, learn, and share the latest issues, techniques, and information pertaining to the rapidly changing and demanding field of Social Work.

This year’s theme, “Trends in Health, Technology and Human Services,” focused upon key issues such as the formation of communities through the processes of inclusion and exclusion, the complex situations of the people involved, and the need for increased skill, thorough analysis, creative visions, and solutions in order for social workers to become better advocates for the community. These issues were addressed and their objectives were met.

This year also marks the establishment of the Guam Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). After seven years of negotiations and plenty of hard work, the organization’s president, Gerard Schwab recently announced that the board of directors had approved their by laws and articles of incorporation. The Chapter is now registered with the Guam Department of Revenue and Taxation. With creation of the Guam Chapter, members within the region stand to benefit from access to the resources of the national association. In addition, Guam is now a voting member of the NASW in national social policy matters. I am sure that this organization will facilitate this objective. This year, conferees from the many islands of Micronesia gathered together on Guam to discuss, learn, and share the latest issues, techniques, and information pertaining to the rapidly changing and demanding field of Social Work.

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As we go about with our daily lives, we must take a moment to reflect upon the services provided by the people dedicated to the field of Social Work. With the recent unfortunate incidents plaguing the nation, especially, the island of Guam, we depend upon these people to provide the necessary guidance and direction that will enable us to heal and, hopefully, prevent future problems. I congratulate this year’s awardees, the Guam Association of Social Workers (GASW), and the Guam Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). I urge them to keep up the good work and I wish them all the best in the years to come.

CROATIAN SONS LODGE NUMBER 170

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate the Croatian Sons Lodge Number 170 of the Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge Number 170, for their loyalty and radiant display of passion for their ethnicity. The Croatian community has played a key role in enriching the quality of life and culture of Northwest Indiana. It is my hope that this year will bring renewed hope and prosperity for all members of the Croatian community and their families. I am proud to represent these gifted residents of the First Congressional District of Indiana.

RECOGNIZING VALOR IN THE CAPTURE OF JAMIL ABDULLAH AL-AMIN

HON. BOB BARR
OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, all too often, Federal law enforcement agents are criticized for problems that occur under their watch, without receiving the same level of attention when things go well. In an effort to partially correct this trend, I would like to commend three employees of the United States Marshals Service (USMS) for their extraordinary bravery in the capture of Jamal Abdullah Al-Amin.

Formerly known as H. Rap Brown, Al-Amin has a long history of encouraging and participating in violent action. That history continued, when on March 16, 2000, he shot two Fulton County, Georgia sheriff’s deputies. After learning that Al-Amin was hiding in the Selma, Alabama area, a Federal manhunt began.

This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
After Al-Amin was located in a wooded area, he fired upon USMS personnel with an assault rifle. The attack left the officers Al-Amin posed to their lives. Inspectors Barry Lowery and Joseph Parker, and Deputy U.S. Marshal James Ergas maneuvered through the snake infested woods toward Al-Amin.

They succeeded in containing the armed suspect for two hours while awaiting backup, and established a perimeter. Due to their com- petence and bravery, Al-Amin was arrested without further loss of life, and the weapons he used in both incidents were recovered.

The bravery of Inspectors Lowery and Parker, and Deputy Ergas is yet another ex- ample of the high standards of professionalism and dedication honored by Federal law en- forcement officers every day. I add my voice to the many others who truly appreciate the work they do to keep our homes, schools, and neighborhoods safe.

### STRUCTURED SETTLEMENT PROTECTION ACT

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

**OF CALIFORNIA**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I join today with Mr. Shaw and a broad bipartisan group of our colleagues from the Ways and Means Committee in introducing the Structured Set- tlement Protection Act.

I was the Chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittee that considered the original bi- partisan legislation in 1982 that enacted the structured settlement tax rules. The Ways and Means Committee, acting on a bipartisan basis, adopted the structured settlement tax rules that are in the Code today to provide long-term financial protection to seriously-in- jured victims and their families, so that these families will not have to turn to taxpayer-fi- nanced programs to meet their basic living and medical needs.

As a long-time supporter of structured set- tlements, I have been gravely concerned about the impact of so-called “factoring”—in which future damage payments are sold off for a discounted lump sum—on this long-term fi- nancial security that Congress intended to achieve for injured victims and their families. That is why I have worked actively with Mr. Shaw and our colleagues on the Ways and Means Committee over several years to put forward legislation to protect structured settle- ments and the injured victims and their fami- lies who depend upon them.

The Structured Settlement Protection Act that we are introducing today with broad bipar- tisan support on the Ways and Means Com- mittee will bring a final resolution to the fac- toring issue, protecting the hundreds of thou- sands of structured settlement recipients and the longstanding Congressional policy of most two decades.

The Act works in conjunction with com- plementary State structured settlement protection legislation that has already been enacted by 19 States and is under active consideration in an additional 20 States. The Act and the complementary State legislation rely upon a State court review process to ensure that the structured settlement fulfills its intended pur- pose of providing long-term financial protection for injured people who are entitled to get access to future payments if the court deter- mines that such access is in the best inter- ests of the injured person, taking into account the welfare and support of his or her depend- ents, and determines that the sale of future payments does not violate any State or Fed- eral statutes or existing court orders.

This Federal legislation is necessary to en- sure compliance with State regulation given the nationwide operation of the factoring in- dustry, to encourage the remaining States to adopt the necessary regulatory legislation, and to put to rest tax uncertainties that factoring transactions have created for the other parties to the structured settlement.

I understand that the Act has the support of both the National Structured Settlements Trade Association, the structured settlement industry and the National Associa- tion of Settlement Purchasers on behalf of the factoring industry. Given this joint support, the legislation should be non-controversial.

We have worked hard on a bipartisan basis to resolve this issue. I strongly urge that we move forward to enact this bipartisan legisla- tion as soon as possible.

### IN RECOGNITION OF DR. THOMAS E. STARZL

**HON. JOHN P. MURTHA**

**OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Dr. Thomas E. Starzl, a pioneer in the field of organ transplantation, on this year’s 20th anniversary of the first liver trans- plant performed in Pittsburgh.

Born on March 11, 1926 in LeMars, Iowa, Dr. Starzl received a bachelor’s degree in biol- ogy at Westminster College before going on to earn a master’s degree in anatomy, a Ph.D. in neurophysiology, and an M.D. with distinction at Northwestern University Medical School. Following postgraduate work and a number of surgical fellowships and residencies, he re- turned to Northwestern University to serve on its faculty. Dr. Starzl moved on to the Univer- sity of Colorado School of Medicine in 1962, and performed the world’s first human liver transplant the following year.

Dr. Starzl joined the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, which already had an es- tablished kidney transplant program, in 1981 as a professor of surgery. On February 26 of that year he performed the region’s first liver transplant. Amazingly, of the 30 transplant pa- tients that first year, 11 are still alive today be- cause of Dr. Starzl’s commitment to the great promise of the procedure despite earlier failed attempts.

A major factor in the success of organ transplantation is the development of immunsuppressant drugs. Dr. Starzl was in- strumental in this development, which ad- vanced transplantation to an accepted form of treatment for patients with end-stage diseases of the liver, kidney and heart. It also shed light on the possibility that other organs could be successfully transplanted.

With Dr. Starzl as chief, the University of Pittsburgh transplant program soon became the largest in the world. In the past two dec- ades, over 11,300 transplants have been per- formed at UPMC Presbyterian, Children’s Hos- pital of Pittsburgh, and the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, and major advances by university faculty have had a tremendous im- pact on the entire field of transplantation. Among the countless “firsts” for this transplant program are the world’s first multivisceral transplant, heart/liver transplant, and heart/ liver/kidney transplant.

From the first successful liver transplant in 1967, through the development of surgical techniques and anti-rejection drugs that revo- lutionized the field, to his pioneering efforts at xenotransplantation, Dr. Starzl is among the most cited scientists in the field of clinical medicine. Now retired from clinical practice, he continues to influence all aspects of organ transplantation as director emeritus of the in- stitute that now bears his name, the Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring Dr. Tom Starzl for his tireless devotion and countless accomplishments in the field of organ transplantation.