

work has focused on empowering the brave men and women who defend this country to become more and achieve more than they ever could have without education.

The VA education benefits that Mrs. Dollarhide has so masterfully administered have helped countless thousands of veterans and servicemembers to make their dreams a reality. I can say this from experience, as I myself have directly benefited from VA education benefits under the GI Bill program. In this regard, I want to personally thank my friend Celia—for her tireless energy, for her unwavering advocacy efforts and for her leadership.

At VA, Mrs. Dollarhide has spent her working days seated behind the large lawyer's desk that used to belong to her late husband, Charles "Lew" Dollarhide. Mr. Dollarhide also served as VA's Director of the Education Service from 1980 to 1986. Mrs. Dollarhide's service and that of her husband have been an exemplary contribution to public service by two remarkable people. For the betterment of veterans and their families, Celia Dollarhide leaves behind an outstanding record of achievement at VA and for this we are all grateful. Thank you, Mrs. Dollarhide, and best regards to you in your well deserved retirement.

NO ESCAPE, NO MORE TO GIVE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of my colleagues to a poignant and powerful article about the increasing violence we are witnessing in Israel. The author of the article, Sherri Lederman Mandell, is the mother of one of the two teenage boys who was found stoned to death in a cave last week. Her words provide us with an insightful look into the lives of Israelis living on the front lines of the violence in Israel.

We must not lose sight of the human element of the issues which we debate. The decisions we are trusted to make impact the lives of real people, a fact too often forgotten. This is especially true for the current violence in Israel, where personal testimonies are often drowned out by pools of rhetoric and propaganda. The fact is, Mr. Speaker, that innocent Israelis are forced to live lives full of fear of violence and terror. Confined to their homes by the violence that surrounds them, these brave people hold out hope that peace will occur one day.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this entire article "No Escape, No More to Give" by Sherri Lederman Mandell, and published in the May 14th edition of the Washington Post be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I urge my colleagues to carefully consider the tragic human suffering that persists in the Middle East and which the author describes so vividly in this excellent article.

[From the Washington Post, May 14, 2001]

NO ESCAPE, NO MORE TO GIVE
(By Sherri Lederman Mandell)

We want to stop listening to the news and watching TV. It is so unbearable that we

have reached the point of saturation; no more—no more listening to reports about our children, our soldiers, our husbands, our mothers, our fathers dead, maimed, dying, lost, suffering.

My friend Leah this morning had to pay a mourning visit to a friend whose husband died on Friday. He was on his way from Neve Yaakov, home to Beit Shemesh, and was found in the trunk of his car, dead. It's not clear whether the killing was criminal or terrorist. The astonishing thing is that we talk about this story and feel as though the world is lost. Then, 10 minutes later we're talking about our diets. Everyone I know is on a diet. Why? Because our weight is all we can control.

I am cleaning house, something I generally don't do. Each corner has to be swept, each bed needs to be made. It is a way of feeling that I can cope. My house is clean and in order, so the world is good.

My friend Shira who is a former SDS member, a feminist and now a therapeutic masseuse, has been reading romance novels—for the first time in her life. She also is decorating the walls of her house with shell sculptures that she fastens with concrete glue. She is busy designing waves and a sun. She is building a life of freedom within the confines of her four walls, the only place she feels safe nowadays.

Suddenly, everyone is home for Independence Day. The only picnic is one that is close by, one that we don't have to drive to with our whole family in the car. We say a special prayer in the synagogue on Friday for Linda and Bobby who were shot at on the tunnel road—shots were fired over their car, the road was closed and they turned around and went back, unhurt.

This is our freedom and independence in our own country. During Holocaust Day, you could hear the sounds of gunfire and tank fire from Gilo and Bethlehem as the prime minister made his speech at Yad Vashem praising Israel as the land where the Jews are free to defend themselves.

On Independence Day, my daughter read the names of 12 people from our area who were killed in the most recent battles. This is not Holocaust Day; this is not some distant battle. This is the battle of today.

We can try to deny it, but we can't escape it—a battle is raging around us. No matter how much we don't want to listen, we lie in bed and hear the shooting.

There is no way not to listen. But what is the message we are supposed to hear? It's not clear anymore. We want peace, but peace is a word that is not the absence of war. Peace has to have value in itself. We have been dreaming about peace. But we have been dreaming with our eyes closed.

Now our eyes are open. We can't escape the sounds of battle. And what is most alarming is this: The battle is a result of giving everything we could. To give more, makes no sense.

The writer's 13-year-old son, Koby, was stoned to death in a cave in Israel last week; she wrote this piece before her son's death, and it is published now with her permission.

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE WILLIAMS

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, and I am

proud to recognize Joyce Williams in the Congress for her invaluable contributions and service to our nation.

Joyce comes from the small town of Bono, Arkansas, but her resume shows that she has not had a small town life. In the first place, she is one of the best-educated people I know, having attended Arkansas State University, the Graduate Institute of Politics, Jonesboro Business College, John Robert Powers Modeling School, and of course, Bono High School.

Right now she and her husband Jim—who also is a wonderful friend—operate Williams & Associates Management Consultants, but I came to know her when she worked for me after I was elected in Congress. In total Joyce spent 22 years employed with the U.S. House of Representatives, and her experience in the offices of my predecessors was crucial as I learned how to represent the First Congressional District of Arkansas. Before working for our institution, Joyce had jobs in industry with General Electric and A.D.T., as well as in the bookkeeping trade and sales.

In addition to these professional responsibilities, Joyce somehow found time to be the Governor of Altrusa International, and hold memberships in the Altrusa Club of Jonesboro, the Order of the Eastern Star, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, the Girl Scout Council, the National Association of Retired Federal Employees, the Arkansas Democratic Women, the Craighead County Democratic Women, the Craighead County Election Commission, the Walnut Street Baptist Church.

Joyce is a devoted mother to her daughter Teresa Jo—now Mrs. Michael Watkins—and spends a great deal of time with her grandchildren Seth and Sarah Watkins, and she is a devoted daughter to her own mother.

I am proud to recognize Joyce Williams for everything she has done to help me and the residents of the communities that have been lucky enough to count her as a member. Today I want to express my appreciation on behalf of those people, and on behalf of the citizens of this nation.

PHIL KENT, PRESIDENT, SOUTH-EASTERN LEGAL FOUNDATION

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, those who would argue that a successful career in the news media and sensible conservative views are mutually exclusive traits have obviously never met Phil Kent.

Phil's service to his country began with duty as a military police officer in the United States Army, and as press secretary to Senator STROM THURMOND. After finishing his tenure in Washington, Phil returned to Georgia where he began a job as opinion page editor for the Augusta Chronicle.

His work at the Chronicle brought him widespread recognition and honors. Even his liberal opponents will admit, Phil's written work was always well-researched, well-written, and interesting to read.

Phil Kent is now entering a new phase in his career. He was recently recruited by the Southeastern Legal Foundation to serve as its President. I have every confidence this vital, public interest legal foundation will benefit greatly from Phil's conservative vision and penchant for bold action as he takes the helm there.

I hope other Members of this body will join me in celebrating the arrival of such an effective activist at such an important legal foundation.

CONGRATULATIONS, KID WITNESS
NEWS AWARD WINNERS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the United States House of Representatives to join me in paying special tribute to a very talented group of students at the Gordon Parks Academy, located in my Congressional district in East Orange, New Jersey. On May 15th, they will be honored at the 11th annual Panasonic Kid Witness News Vision Awards Ceremony, to be held in our own Newark Museum in Newark, New Jersey.

The Gordon Parks Academy, K-8, is this year's special Technical Vision Award winner for producing a video with the best special effects. This winning video, "Reading: Destination Unlimited", used especially creative and innovative special effects to create its message that books can transport the mind and the imagination. Two students wander into their school's book fair looking for a recommendation. They are invited by the mysterious librarian to take a trip across the United States. To the tune of Nat King Cole's "Route 66," the students experience a fulfilled cross-country odyssey. The special effects reinforce the point that reading a good book can be as vivid as living what you are reading. Mrs. Sharman Howe Nittoli, the TV Production Teacher and KWN coordinator, should be commended for her outstanding work with the very talented young people who produced this video. Kid Witness News is a hands-on video education program in more than 200 primarily inner-city schools in 120 U.S. cities. Using Panasonic-supplied equipment to create video projects, young people are encouraged to develop their creative, communication and technical skills through video production. Annual awards are presented to student teams in various categories, including Best Video, Documentary, Local Hero, Multiculturalism and News at a special program held in New Jersey each spring. It is apparent that The Gordon Parks Academy is proud to be a participant in Panasonic's KWN student news program. I know Ms. Joyce F. Howard, the school's principal, clearly recognizes the importance for young people of diverse backgrounds to seek new experiences and examine themselves in different roles as they prepare for their own future. I truly am proud to say congratulations to her, to the program advisors, and especially to the students

of Gordon Parks Academy for a job well done. As a former teacher and lifelong advocate of youth, I am pleased to support Panasonic's Kid Witness News program. I commend Don Iwatani, Panasonic's Chairman and CEO of North American operations, for his support and leadership of such a commendable program. The excitement surrounding this program is that we actually will see "The World Through Their Eyes" in years to come as the participants become the future newsmakers of tomorrow. The 2001 New Vision Awards are a testament to the great future of today's youth as they prepare for the 21st Century. I am proud that Panasonic is in New Jersey and proud of its efforts to make a difference in the lives of children both in New Jersey and across the country.

THE 42ND ANNUAL CASTROVILLE
ARTICHOKE FESTIVAL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 42nd Annual Castroville Artichoke Festival, taking place May 19th and 20th. While quite unknown to many people outside of my district in California, Castroville is the self-declared "Artichoke Capital of the World," and this delicious thistle is one of the largest crops in northern Monterey County.

The Artichoke Festival is an annual two-day event that celebrates the culture of the Salinas Valley, specifically the growing, harvesting and many uses of the artichoke itself. Every year new events are planned, but the most popular ones include a classic car show, a parade, and, of course, the food. This year will surely be more exciting, with the addition of a 10K/ half marathon race and an artichoke recipe contest.

The artichoke first came to central California in 1921, when four families with close ties to Italy decided to grow the thistle that was so popular in Europe right in Castroville. With a climate that is perfect for this crop, the artichoke has become a rich part of the heritage and culture of our area.

Because of this importance in the life and economy of my district, and because it is such a delicious treat for anyone familiar with this thistle, I am pleased to be able to honor the 42nd Annual Castroville Artichoke Festival.

TRIBUTE TO JIMMIE LOU FISHER

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, and I am proud to recognize Jimmie Lou Fisher in the Congress for her invaluable contributions and service to our state and nation.

I have known Jimmie Lou for years, and I can testify from experience to her public service and the example she has set for others.

Jimmie Lou has served longer than any other state treasurer in Arkansas history. As one of the first female office holders in our state, she has been a positive role-model and trailblazer for young women. Most importantly, she executes her responsibilities effectively, and combines her obvious competence with a passion for politics. This explains why the citizens of Arkansas have elected her so many times, and why she has inspired so many others to become involved in our political system.

Clearly Jimmie Lou has mastered her job, and has shown creativity and ingenuity in the process. In 1990 she was named the president of the National Association of State Treasurers. Recently she was the only state treasurer in the nation to employ a state-of-the-art investment and general ledger system, which has cut paperwork and processing in half, and dramatically reduced maintenance costs.

Her many awards and nominations indicate the degree to which she has touched the lives of people in communities large and small. President Bill Clinton was lucky to have her as a district coordinator when he first ran for governor; the Democratic party was lucky to have her in all of the capacities she accepted in its behalf; the citizens of Arkansas were lucky to have her through almost eighteen years of public service; and the women in our state have been lucky to have her as a role model and inspiration.

Jimmie Lou decided to retire from politics this year, which came as a surprise to many people in our state. We all wish she could have served forever. On behalf of the citizens of the state of Arkansas and this nation, with great love and respect, I thank her for everything she has done to improve the lives of others. I am very proud to call her my friend.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SMALL
BUSINESS LIABILITY PROTECTION
ACT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Small Business Liability Protection Act. This bill, which has cosponsors from both sides of the aisle, represents the successful negotiations of Republicans and Democrats on both the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. This bill is long overdue and will provide liability protection to small businesses that disposed of very small amounts of waste or ordinary garbage and shelter small businesses from serious financial hardship by offering those affected businesses expedited settlements. It does not save any businesses from Superfund liability if their waste stream caused serious environmental harm. This bill provides an appropriate helping hand while keeping the onus on all businesses to be responsible stewards of our environment. I would urge all members of this House to support this bill, without amendment.