

services, day or respite care, counseling on financial assistance and insurance, and other support services.

I think it is appropriate during National Women's Health Week, that Congress fully fund research and treatment programs such as this.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE
FRANCISCA GARMON

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise in memory of Francisca Garmon, of my district, who passed away on Mother's Day, May 13, 2001.

Francisca served as vice president of the local union, United Steelworkers of America Local 7600, which represents approximately 4,000 Kaiser Permanente Medical Center Employees in San Bernardino and Riverside counties. A woman of great faith, Francisca was known for her resilience and tenacity. A gifted communicator, she was asked by the union to serve as a spokeswoman because of her speaking abilities. A talented singer, she made a recording last year at the request of the Steelworkers International.

Francisca is survived by her husband, James Garmon, a physician's assistant at Kaiser Permanente's San Bernardino Clinic. She is also survived by her mother Virginia; Children Johnny, Troy and Anna (Sey), who is a customer service representative at Kaiser's Corona Call Center; grandchildren Dana, Kaleb and Jacob; brother, Richard; sisters Evelyn, Jeannie and Rosie; and many other relatives.

Francisca had worked for Kaiser Permanente for 18 years. Prior to becoming a grievance officer she served as an assistant grievance officer. In the year 2000, Fran became vice president of USWA Local 7600. She served as co-chair of the Legislative and Education Committee, was active in the Labor Management Partnership and was a political activist for State and Federal labor laws.

Francisca's presence, along with her efforts and hard work, will be missed tremendously by all her Brothers and Sisters of Local 7600, and indeed, all in our community, but our comforting memories of her will live on.

Francisca also served her country in the armed forces, in the Air Force from April 4, 1970, through September 11, 1970, being honorably discharged due to pregnancy; and also in the Army for two years, being honorably discharged on April 17, 1979.

Francisca made a lasting difference in her community. Our hearts go out to her family and loved ones. With God's grace we know she will have peace.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE COST OF HIGH ENERGY
PRICES ON OUR NATION'S AGRICULTURE PRODUCERS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the energy crisis that is draining the farm economy. My district, like many rural areas across the country, has suffered greatly as a result of high energy prices. Agricultural producers in particular have been hit hard as higher diesel and natural gas prices increase fuel, irrigation energy, and fertilizer costs.

Our reliance on foreign oil and dependency on imported fuel has created a crisis for our nation's farmers. Kansas producers' net income fell 7.7 percent in 2000, down 11 percent from the five-year average, largely because of the summer drought and dramatic increases in the price of energy. On a nationwide average, energy costs alone caused a 6 percent decrease in farm income.

According to the Kansas Farm Management Association, average cash operating expenses on Kansas farms increased 6.2 percent last year, and the increase was largely related to energy prices. Combined gas, fuel and oil expenses rose \$2,551 per farm, a 33 percent increase. Prices for nitrogen fertilizers, a natural gas derivative, were the primary determinant in driving fertilizer costs up more than 10% above the 1999 average. Irrigation energy costs for a typical irrigated corn farm in western Kansas were \$34,026, approximately one-fourth of the gross revenue generated. This figure represents an increase of almost \$18 per acre just to run the irrigation system.

With commodity markets remaining at record lows and the tremendous increase in energy prices, last year it cost farmers more to produce grain than they were paid for it. Without emergency assistance, producers would have lost money.

Unfortunately, projections for the 2001 crop year are not optimistic. Given the current status of energy supply and demand, the Department of Agriculture predicts that producers will face a 15 percent decrease in net cash income due to energy and fertilizer costs. Losses will be still greater for irrigators.

In addition to the negative impact on crop producers, the livestock segment of the agriculture industry has also been affected by fuel costs. According to the National Cattleman's Beef Association Cattle-Fax, high energy prices have cost the fed cattle market \$4 per hundred weight in decreased demand. The crises spreads across commodities and across all regions of the country, from rice producers in California, to Kansas wheat farmers, to New England dairies.

Since I arrived in Congress, I have asked both the Administration and my colleagues to develop a national energy policy. I look forward to reviewing the findings of the Domestic Energy Policy Task Force headed by Vice President CHENEY when their report is released tomorrow. As we finally begin to look at legislation regarding national energy policy, it is important to keep in mind both the short

May 17, 2001

and long term challenges that exist in the agricultural sector.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE TIMOTHY
SECHRIST

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I note the passing of Timothy Sechrist, formerly my Press Secretary and Senior Legislative Aide, who died of a heart attack in Los Angeles this past weekend (May 13, 2001).

In addition to working on my staff, Tim also worked for Congressman Doug Applegate (OH 1984-94); and the Honorable Ron DeLugo (PR). He also served on the staffs of the Honorable BART STUPAK and the Honorable MARCY KAPTUR and did some committee work.

Tim was from the old school, a different era, when the institution of Congress was perhaps a little bit smaller, a little bit more collegial, a little more productive. I think he sought to capture that quality in all that he did.

As a new Member, who was still learning how to get around the Capitol, I found Tim's guidance indispensable. He knew everything from how to advance briefings with the President at the White House and legislative meetings, to how to further a complicated parliamentary maneuver on the floor. Tim was a walking reference of the rules and procedures of the House, a mentor to staff, a tutor to Members.

As a long-time staff member on the Hill, Tim lived and breathed this institution. To walk around the Capitol with Tim was to be steeped in the history and lore of the place. One could not help but feel a sense of reverence, and even a little intimidation at the shoes one must fill coming to this great institution. He could make history come alive by describing the origin of a bullet hole in the Senate Chambers, and the story behind the portraits on the walls.

A gifted raconteur, Tim entertained us with legends about larger-than-life Members who have graced the Chambers and walked the Capitol grounds. Listening to Tim, one got the sense that this is the people's House, and it belongs to each of us who live in this wonderful country. We are temporary stewards with a mission that is almost sacred—the preservation of our democratic institutions.

Tim was a wonderful writer, turning out copy that was to the point and incisive. As a staff member handling appropriations and selected legislation, he was indefatigable, demanding nothing less than working to his highest potential, and seeking to bring the institution and his colleagues to increasingly greater heights of achievement.

Tim brought a confident and professional bearing to his work. And yet, lurking in all that seriousness was a man with a great sense of humor, who was not above playing a practical joke or laughing with his friends and colleagues at a particularly amusing story. It was wonderful to all of us to see that side of him, to counterbalance his seriousness and sense of purpose. It is from those happy times that

we know Tim as a kind and humane man, one who was liked and loved by his friends and colleagues.

A graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and a native of California, Tim loved government. He was a public servant in the humblest and best manner. He genuinely liked what he did, and you got the sense that there really was no other calling he would prefer.

Even when Tim left the Hill, it was to work in a position advocating for transit for the disabled. He never tired of working for the betterment of society, forgoing many lucrative opportunities that would have embraced him had he chosen such a path.

In summary, Mr. Speaker, Tim left the institution a better place for his having been here. Many Members and colleagues on Capitol Hill mourned his abrupt passing, and have recalled the friendship they enjoyed with him.

He is survived by his wife, Connie Jillett, his father, and two brothers.

There is nothing so fitting for—Tim, as a man who loved this institution dearly, that we salute him on the floor of the House of Representatives. He will be missed. And so we say, "God Bless, we cherish your memory and your good works."

HONORING HOWARD JAY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask that Congress take a moment to recognize and thank Howard Jay of Glenwood Springs, Colorado for his years of teaching and service to the community. The National Association of Elementary School Principals honored Howard as the National Distinguished Principal for the state of Colorado.

Howard graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Education degree from Arizona State University and received a Masters of Arts in Education from Western State College. He spent three years teaching special education classes in Roy, Utah before moving to Colorado, where he worked as a teacher for five years, and as a principal for 15 years. In 1986 he became the assistant principal at Glenwood Springs Elementary, and then in 1989 Howard started his career as a principal. He has spent the last four years at Sopris Elementary School. "It's quite an honor for our school and the community, as well as the district. The staff is just walking on air because of this, and I'm riding their coattails," said Howard.

Howard has the ability to involve parents in the day-to-day operations, which makes the school's successes a real community effort. He also takes a leadership role in the community by being involved in various organizations. "I'm thrilled for him. He's been with the district a long time and has worked hard to accomplish goals and to help teachers succeed with kids. I think that's what being a part of the community is all about. . . . It's not just a job, it's your life," said Jim Phillips, former Glenwood Springs principal.

Howard is the first principal in the district to win this prestigious award. "We're as strong

as the community we serve. If I'm being recognized, it just says great things for the community."

Mr. Speaker, Howard, his wife Mary, and his three sons Zack, Steven and Jon should be proud of this achievement. Howard Jay has helped shape the minds of children for over 15 years and is well deserving of this award as well as the thanks and praise of Congress.

Howard, congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for continued success and happiness!

STUDENT AWARDS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to announce that the Silver Bell Club, Lodge 2365 of the Polish National Alliance of the United States, will be hosting the 28th Annual Hank Stram-Tony Zale Sports Award Banquet on May 21, 2001, at the Radisson Hotel in Merrillville, Indiana. Twenty outstanding Northwest Indiana High School athletes will be honored at this notable event for their dedication and hard work. These outstanding students were chosen to receive the award by their respective schools on the basis of academic and athletic achievement. All proceeds from this event will go toward a scholarship fund to be awarded to local students.

This year's Hank Stram-Tony Zale Award recipients include Stacey Bailey of Hammond Clark High School, Michael Baron of Andrean High School, Phillip Barszczowski of Bishop Noll High School, Jason Carson of Lake Station Edison High School, Katie Dyer of Merrillville High School, Laura Helnowski of Hebron High School, Corrie Kaczmarek of Highland High School, Mark Korba of Portage High School, Amanda Meyer of Lake Central High School, Derrick Milenkoff of Hammond Morton High School, Sunny Oelling of Valparaiso High School, T. J. Pruzin of Crown Point High School, Courtney Schuttrow of Lowell High School, Kathryn Sliwa of Munster High School, Michael Tomaszewski of Griffith High School, Keith Turpin of Calumet High School, Robby Vrelab of Whiting High School, Natalie Vukin of Hobart High School, Christine Wajvoda of Hanover Central High School, and Sarah Zondor of Crown Point High School.

The featured speaker at this gala event will be Mr. Tom Dreesen. Tom Dreesen's name has appeared on major venue marquees in Las Vegas, Lake Tahoe, Reno and Atlantic City with artists like Frank Sinatra, Smokey Robinson, Natalie Cole and Sammy Davis, Jr. Dreesen, who opened for Frank Sinatra for well over a decade in club and concert appearances throughout the United States and Canada, has also appeared in many network television shows including the "Tonight Show," as well as "Columbo," "Gabriels Fire," "Murder, She Wrote" and "Touched by an Angel."

Kelly Komara, one of Purdue Women's Basketball's strongest players, will also be in attendance at this memorable event. Kelly was raised in Schererville, Indiana and graduated from Lake Central High School, where she

played basketball and was named Indiana's Miss Basketball. While attending college at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Kelly has been an integral part of Purdue's successful basketball team. With Kelly's quick shooting, ball-handling skills and accurate free throws, she helped lead the Boilermakers to the final round of the 2001 NCAA tournament. Additionally, Kelly was named the Midwest Regional's Most Outstanding Player.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the Silver Bell Club, Lodge 2365 of the Polish National Alliance of the United States, for hosting this celebration of success in sports and academics. The effort of all those involved in planning this worthwhile event is indicative of their devotion to the very gifted young people in Indiana's First Congressional District.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF INDIANA

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2001

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to extend heartfelt congratulations to Boys and Girls Clubs of Indiana.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of America is the fastest growing youth guidance organization in the nation. They inspire and enable all young people, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances, to realize their fullest potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. The core programs enrich the lives of our youth through character and leadership development, the arts, sports and fitness, health, and life skills. Though youth involvement reflects wonderful diversity of income, age, and gender, it is especially important that 66 percent of the youth involved come from families with an annual income under \$15,000.

In Indiana, the Boys and Girls Clubs, harnessing energy and altruism, serve 90,000 youth with financial assistance from 35 corporations, helping at more than 60 sites. Board members, professionals, volunteers and youth members make possible the outstanding achievements of the clubs' youth, developing competence, usefulness, belonging, and power of influence of the participating young people of Indiana and Indianapolis. It is a matter of special pride to me that the Boys and Girls Clubs of Indianapolis is headquartered in the same building where the 10th Congressional District Home Office is located.

It is my distinct pleasure to ensure that the accomplishments of this special combination of effort in my district are forever memorialized in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States of America. Today, I have the honor of paying special tribute to two Indiana Youth of the Year: State Winner Amy L. Gley and State Runner-Up Zachary Stavedahl.

Mr. Speaker, let all who read these pages know that a very special group of people offer an outstanding service to the communities of the Boys and Girls Clubs, while promoting superior leadership skills and a perseverance of overcoming life obstacles.