kind of program, which is badly needed, will continue.

My district of El Paso, Texas is an impoverished area of our country. Programs like Reading is Fundamental may not make much of a difference in more affluent areas, but they certainly do in El Paso. For some kids, a free book is the only access to reading that they have.

RIF programs operate in schools, libraries, community centers, child-care centers, Head Start and Even Start centers, hospitals, migrant worker camps, homeless shelters, and detention centers. Today, thanks to public-private partnerships, RIF is the nation’s largest child and family literacy organization. RIF has placed more than 200 million books in the hands and homes of America’s children.

Now, President Bush has proposed a five-year plan to improve young children’s reading ability by cutting all funding for IBDP and consolidating the funding into state-level reading grants. This is simply not the answer. The answer is RIF.

I respectfully request that the Administration restore the RIF program in the 2002 budget. The RIF program is an example of a program that is working and making a real difference in the lives of countless children across the country. It would be a travesty to destroy it.

HONORING HIS HOLINESS KAREKIN II NERSISSIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor His Holiness Karekin II Nersissian, the Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians. Karekin II traveled to the United States last month and visited Armenian churches, schools and a retirement home in Fresno, California and surrounding communities.

Karekin II was born in the village of Voskhat, in 1951, in the Etchmiadzin Region of Armenia. He entered the Theological Seminary of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin in 1965 and graduated in 1971. In 1970 he was ordained a Deacon, and in 1972 he was ordained a Catehyst Priest. Karekin II then left for Germany to serve as a pastor, while continuing his theological education at the University of Bonn.

In 1979, Karekin II returned to the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, and thereafter, left for Russia to study at the Theological Academy of the Russian Orthodox. In 1980, he was appointed Assistant to the Vicar General of the Araratian Pontifical Diocese. In 1983, he was appointed to Vicar General of the Araratian Pontifical Diocese. Karekin II was ordained a Bishop in October of 1983 and was granted the title Archbishop in November of 1992. In 1998, Karekin II was appointed to the Vicar General of the Catholicos.

On Wednesday, October 27, 1999, Karekin II was elected as the 132nd Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians. Since his ascension to the head of the Armenian Church, Karekin II has actively rejuvenated the

Tribute to Paul Beazley

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend, a former colleague, and fellow South Carolinian, Paul W. Beazley. On July 16th, Paul will retire from South Carolina State government. It is a retirement well deserved and he will be sorely missed.

Before coming to this august body, I served as Human Affairs Commissioner for the State of South Carolina. I was fortunate to have Paul among my support staff. Paul joined the State Human Affairs Commission in January of 1973. Upon my arrival in October 1974, I named him Director of the Technical Services Division where he served for five years before becoming Deputy Commissioner.

During my nearly 18-year tenure at the Commission, Paul was an invaluable colleague, and became an expert on the issues of equal opportunity and diversity, particularly in the workplace. He supplemented his vast experience in this area with several published works including: Think Affirmative; The Blueprint, which became the leading affirmative action planning manual in the 1970’s and 1980’s. He recently wrote, The South Carolina Human Affairs Commission: A History, 1972–1977; and Who Gives a Hoot at the EEOC?, a public policy case study.

An active member in his community both professionally and personally, Paul currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Midlands Marine Institute, and is president of the Alumni Association of South Carolina State Government’s Executive Institute. Paul is also chairman of the State Appeals Board for the United States Selective Service System.

In addition, Paul is a member of various professional associations, and works as a volunteer for many non-profit organizations. He is also a member of the Eau Claire Rotary Club of Columbia, and has served as President and Secretary of the National Institute for Employment Equity, and as Chairman of the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Family Services Center of Columbia, the Board of Visitors of Columbia College, the Board of Directors of Leadership South Carolina and numerous other boards and local government.

Prior to joining the Commission in 1973, Paul was a Presbyterian Minister. He served as a pastor, a Conference center Director, and an Educational Consultant. He has also worked as a Consultant for the University of South Carolina General Assistance Center, teaching in the field of test taking and problem-solving. He organized a reading school and directed an experimental reading program for the Columbia Urban League.

Paul received his Bachelor of Arts degree from East Tennessee State University, his Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, and a Masters of Education from the University of South Carolina, where he also completed Doctoral studies. Paul is also a graduate of the South Carolina Executive Institute (1992), and Leadership South Carolina (1987).

Paul, a long-time resident of my current hometown, Columbia, South Carolina, is married to the former Marcia Rushworth. They have one son, Paul Derrick Beazley, who lives in Charleston. Paul is a competitive tennis player, and we share yet another common interest, pastime, golf.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in saluting one of our nation’s authorities on diversity, one of my State’s most highly respected professionals, one of my Community’s finest citizens, and one of my good friends, Paul W. Beazley, upon his retirement. Please join me in wishing him good luck and Godspeed.

In Tribute to Stephen Walpole

HON. SAM FARR
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to join with my friend and colleague, Congresswoman Mike Honda of the 15th District of California, in honoring a dedicated public servant. Stephen Walpole, Chief of Police for the Scotts Valley Police Department, will be retiring on July 6, 2001, bringing an end to 30 years of service to his community.

Chief Walpole is a constituent of Congressman Honda, since part of Santa Cruz County is in his congressional district. However, Chief Walpole and I came to know each other well during my years serving in the California Assembly. His work on behalf of the residents of Scotts Valley is an amazing reminder of the importance of public service in our nation. When Chief Walpole’s career began as a reserve officer in 1970 with the Scotts Valley Police Department his potential was quickly recognized. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1974, Lieutenant in 1979, and Chief of Police in 1986. Besides his focus on the community of Scotts Valley, Chief Walpole has also served in several County and State-wide positions, bringing his experience and leadership to others in law enforcement and government.

Chief Walpole has also been the recipient of many awards and recognitions, including the Exchange Club Officer of the Year in 1973 and 1983; the Meritorious Service Award from the Scotts Valley City Council in 1989 for his efforts during the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake which devastated many parts of Santa Cruz County; and was named as the Scotts Valley Chamber of Commerce Man of the Year in 1989.
Mr. Speaker, when he retires on July 6, 2001, Chief Waiapole will be leaving behind a three-decade legacy of excellence and professionalism. It has been a pleasure for myself and Congressman HONDA to work with him and other members of the Scotts Valley community, and it is an honor to be able to pay tribute to him here. We wish him well in his upcoming retirement, but we know that he will always remain an active member of the community.

HONORING JORDAN HENNER

HON. STEVE ISRAEL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York’s outstanding young students, Jordan Henner. This young man has received the Eagle Scout honor from his peers in recognition of their achievements.

Since the beginning of this century, the Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of boys and young men each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

The Eagle Scout award is presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. Becoming an Eagle Scout is an extraordinary award with which only the finest Boy Scouts are honored. To earn the award—the highest advancement rank in Scouting—a Boy Scout must demonstrate proficiency in the rigorous areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills; they must earn a minimum of 23 merit badges as well as contribute at least 100 man-hours toward a community oriented service project.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Jordan and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young man on his day of recognition. Congratulations to you and your family.

JIM ROPER, INDUCTEE TO THE
NEW MEXICO-BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION’S HALL OF FAME

HON. TOM UDALL
OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of the outstanding citizens of the northeast corner of my home state of New Mexico—Jim Roper, who was recently inducted into the New Mexico Broadcasting Association’s Hall of Fame. As a pioneer with more than 50 years in the industry, he is eminently deserving of this prestigious honor.

Jim Roper is the chief executive officer of Raton Broadcasting and head of KRTN–AM and FM. These stations bring music and important news to the citizens of Colfax, Union, and Harding Counties as well as southeastern Colorado. In northeastern New Mexico, I cannot emphasize how important the medium of radio is as a critical news source. Mr. Roper and his team have served its citizens well.

Jim’s career began in 1948, while still in high school. And it all started because the station’s general manager had laryngitis. Jim and his family lived in the town of Brillion, not far from Raton, where radio was one of the only sources of entertainment. During his high school basketball game, Stan Brown, then the general manager of KRTN, had lost his voice and could not broadcast the game report. Jim said, “I don’t know, but I’ll try.” One thing led to another, and soon he was spinning records at the station. In less than two decades, he was the station’s owner. Jim has seen vast changes in the radio broadcasting business since he began. Tape recorders replaced wire recorders, compact discs replaced records and satellites replaced disc jockeys. However, at KRTN on-site folks still operate the station, and despite lucrative offers to purchase the small station, Roper refused to sell.

Jim has always been committed to providing quality service to the listeners of KRTN and capturing the essence of rural New Mexico. His dedication and commitment have made him an important part of the community. Jim has served as the city’s commissioner, the president of the Raton Chamber of Commerce, as a member of the city parks and recreation board and as the president for the Raton water board.

Mr. Speaker, Jim Roper is a champion of his community and is completely deserving of being named as one of the first inductees into the New Mexico Broadcasting Association’s Hall of Fame. I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting Jim Roper for his vast accomplishments.

HONORING MAYOR JOHNNY ISBELL OF PASADENA, TEXAS

HON. KEN BENTSEN
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize a fine individual and exceptional teacher, Ms. Tanya Parisi of Olmsted Falls Middle School, for her outstanding dedication to the education of young students.

Ms. Parisi is one of two teachers that have organized a program that will enrich students. With the help of 140 students, researching the food web, identifying living specimens, and so much more. Through this entire project, students will maintain a computer portfolio of their research and publish their results online.

This program materialized only through the tireless efforts of Ms. Parisi. Her love and