EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

BELARUS FREEDOM FIGHTER DESERVES UNITED STATES SUPPORT

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the growing chorus of protest against the increasingly violent and chaotic situation in the former Soviet satellite nation of Belarus.

As many of my colleagues know, Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Belarusan President Alexander Lukashenko last month signed an agreement that would reintegrate the political, economic, and social ties between the two nations. While I realize the importance of neighborly alliances, I am afraid that this new treaty has ominous implications for emerging democracies in the newly independent nations of Eastern Europe. In point of fact, the agreement has already produced frightening results.

Tens of thousands of Belarusans, realizing the very real threat to their new-found independence, have taken to the streets of Minsk to protest the agreement. In response, President Lukashenko has initiated a campaign of fear and terror meant to intimidate the Belarusan people into silence. Lukashenko has placed former members of the Soviet Armed Forces in top posts throughout the Belarusan secret police and military, sending them out into the streets to arrest thousands of his own people and to raid their homes and places of business. The Belarusan President's regard for his own countrymen, fighting homespun terrorism at the hands of their longtime oppressors, is so low that he has referred to them as " * * * sick people who have placed themselves outside of the law."

Standing in stark contrast to President Lukashenko's repressive tactics is Yury Khadyka, a longtime Belarusan freedom fighter. Mr. Khadyka fought the heavy yoke of communism when Belarus was a Soviet satellite and now that his homeland has tasted freedom, he has become a leading figure in the fight to preserve Belarusan independence. Distressingly, Mr. Khadyka has been imprisoned since April 27 for standing up to President Lukashenko's growing campaign of terror and intimidation.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, the saddest chapter in this sordid story is the complicity of the Clinton administration in Mr. Khadyka's imprisonment. To fulfill a political agenda, this administration has stood idly by while the fragile framework of a newly independent nation crumbles and innocent people like Mr. Khadyka are imprisoned at the hands of a present-day dictator.

In order to prop up Boris Yeltsin's reelection campaign, this administration has signaled its tacit approval of the reintegration of Russia and Belarus. In fact, President Lukashenko, a career Communist Party bureaucrat, has given every indication that he would prefer to see one of President Yeltsin's more hard-line rivals prevail in the upcoming elections. If that happens, and if the Communist Party once again takes the reigns of power in Moscow, this agreement will signal the functional end of independence in Belarus. I support President Yeltsin's efforts to implement democratic and free-market reforms in Russia, but I would urge Mr. Yeltsin to recognize that Belarus has the right to pursue these same goals on its own terms.

As Thomas Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." I do not quote this famous document lightly—the simple truth is that these words represent a plain, concise distillation of what we, as Americans, believe to be true for all people, everywhere. That is why I urge President Clinton to put political maneuvering aside and to support those ideals upon which the United States was founded. Now, as freedom takes root throughout Eastern Europe, the United States must support the standard-bearers of liberty on this democratic frontier. Yury Khadyka is such an individual, and he deserves our support and assistance as he strives to preserve democracy in his beloved homeland.

HONORING THE RUTHERFORD COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Rutherford County Rescue Squad. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that should disaster strike, we know that our friends and neighbors are there to help.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a member of the rescue squad. Rescue squad members undergo a training series over a 4- to 6-month period which includes instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation [CPR], vehicle extrication, emergency driving, and rescue orientation. In addition to this training, rescue squad members also meet monthly to address business concerns as well as hear guest speakers.

Rescue squad members are volunteers. They receive no pay for what they do. What also makes their service especially outstanding is that the organizations themselves receive no funding. They receive no funding from the city, the county, or the Federal Government.

Rescue squads are funded in the same spirit of community volunteerism which moves them to serve. Family, friends, and neighbors pitch in at bake sales, road blocks, and fish frys to help those who sacrifice their time for the benefit of the whole community.

Committing such an amount of spare time and energy to a job so emotionally and physically taxing requires a sense of devotion and duty for which we are all grateful.

WHITTIER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT HONORS NEAL J. AVERY FOR 45 YEARS SERVICE

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Whittier City School District Superintendent Neal J. Avery as he retires after 45 years of service in public education. On Wednesday, June 12, district employees and friends will gather to celebrate and honor Neal for his commitment to the education of our students.

Born in Salt Lake City, UT, Neal moved to California to attend the University of Southern California, earning his bachelor's degree in education in 1951 and his master's degree in 1956. In September 1951, he began his teaching career in the Whittier City School District at Lydia Jackson School, teaching fifth and sixth grade students. In 1954, he transferred to Longfellow School as a teaching vice principal and received his tenure also that year. In 1956, he was appointed principal of George Washington School, and by 1959 was serving as principal of two schools, Lou Henry Hoover and Abraham Lincoln schools. In 1981, he was appointed superintendent of the district. His entire career has been spent dedicated to the students of the Whittier City School District.

In addition to his service to the school district, Neal has served on the Whittier YMCA board of directors for many years. He helped to establish the Whittier Youth Network Club in cooperation with the city of Whittier, which is held at several school sites. He received the PTA Honorary Service Award in 1993 from the Whittier/Pico Rivera Council PTA. He and his wife, Nedine, have two children.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I congratulate my friend, Superintendent Neal Avery, on the occasion of his retirement from Whittier City School District after 45 years of dedicated service to our students and to our community.

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A TRIBUTE TO EDWIN SCHNECK

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. I rise to salute a long-term educator in my district, Mr. Edwin Schneck. He has taught science for over 35 years; 32 of the years were spent in Bethesda, MD. Since 1964, Edwin Schneck has been a science teacher at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School.

In order to further education in Montgomery County, Mr. Schneck focused on the rewriting of curriculum and also took a variety of leadership positions in the county. One of the founding members of Homework-Hotline, Edwin Schneck never tired of helping students learn, even if it was not in the classroom. He tirelessly took on a variety of roles so that the needs of the diverse student body of Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School could be met.

A coach as well as a teacher, Mr. Schneck coached basketball, baseball, and golf during his tenure at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. Whether on the playing field or in the classroom, Edwin Schneck gave of himself for the sake of his students.

Mr. Schneck's conscientiousness as an educator should be an example for all of us; he was a teacher whose community was a better place for his service.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to pay tribute to this devoted educator.

SUPPORT IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR NATION'S MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION SYSTEM

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Chairman SKEEN and members of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture for supporting full funding for the Food Safety and Inspection Service [FSIS]. American rely on FSIS to assure that meat and poultry products meet Federal quality, labeling, and packaging standards. I strongly support the $574 million provided in the fiscal year 1997 Agriculture appropriations bill for FSIS, which will work to improve our 90-year-old meat and poultry inspection system. In the near future, FSIS will initiate the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point [HACCP] system, a new method of meat and poultry inspection. This new inspection system is needed to prevent harmful bacteria from ever entering the food supply, thus protecting the health of America citizens.

As many are aware, an outbreak of the E.coli bacteria hit the west coast over 3 years ago. This outbreak infected 700 people and killed 4 children. Some of the victims lived in my district. Following this tragedy, families and friends of victims joined together to establish "Safe Tables Our Priority," whose goal is to educate the public and legislators about the deadly E.coli bacteria. They are committed to improving the safety of the Nation's meat and poultry system. I am proud to have worked very closely with this organization over the last 3 years, and I am pleased that they join me in supporting full funding of FSIS.

A TRIBUTE TO SENATOR BOB DOLE

HON. TILLIE K. FOWLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, as I stood on the floor of the other body watching my friend Bob Dole say farewell, I was impressed, as always, by his remarks—which were delivered with his trademark sincerity and self-depreciating humor. But I was just as impressed with the response he got from the crowd, which ran the gamut from Senators and House Members to capitol tour guides, pages, and Senate staff.

It was clear to me that everyone present, regardless of party affiliation, age or importance, held this man in high regard. There was a palpable sense of affection and respect in that room—the kind of affection and respect that is only given to someone who has earned it over the years.

I would venture to say that although most Americans know about Bob Dole's leadership; his record of service; his keen intellect, and his commitment to making a difference for America, many of them do not know what the crowd in the Senate Chamber knew—that Bob Dole is a man with tremendous heart, and that he has served the American people, and the institution of the Senate for many years with everything he had to give.

Bob is known around here as one of the kindest, most generous people in Washington—the man who knows everyone in the Capitol, from the plumbers and the carpenters to the Senators and the reporters—and treats everyone the same. He is known as a leader of great skill, vision, and rock-solid integrity, and he is known as a man with heart.

It was Bob's heart that led him to serve our Nation during war, and that gave him the strength to recover from injuries that would have killed many men.

It is his heart that makes him someone who is consistently rated as a favorite by Capitol employees, and who has gone out of his way time and again to help me since I came to Washington. It is his heartfelt belief in the American ideals of hard work, individual responsibility and helping others that has led him to work night and day to make a difference for this Nation.

Bob Dole is a proven leader and a true American hero. He has the character, the courage, the compassion—and the heart—to lead this Nation into the next century, and I join with all his other friends, and colleagues in wishing him well as he departs Capitol Hill to move on to his next challenge.

STATEMENT OF LECH WALESA

HON. MARTIN R. HOKE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, the great twilight struggle against the incredible evil of communism produced some of history's most extraordinary people. But if you had to choose the three people who played the biggest role in relegating communism to the dustbin of history it would have to be Ronald Reagan, Pope John Paul II, and a shipyard worker from Gdansk named Lech Walesa—the three men Time Magazine dubbed "The Holy Alliance."

The centerpiece of the operation to free Eastern Europe from the chains of communism was Solidarity, the workers' union founded by Lech Walesa. Everything else flowed from that. Solidarity was the weapon that the Pope and President Reagan nurtured and protected and eventually used to help bring about communism's collapse, first in Poland, then in the rest of Eastern Europe.

None of what was accomplished, however, could have happened without Lech Walesa. It was his bravery, his skill, his dedication, and his love for his country and its people that showed the way. The world owes an debt of gratitude to this common man with uncommon valor.

Last week a ceremony was held in Washington both to honor this hero, as well as to celebrate the introduction of the NATO Expansion Act, a bill that will bring Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic into NATO. In many ways this bill is the culmination of all the Mr. Walesa has worked for and I am proud not only to be an original cosponsor of this bill, but also that I had a hand in drafting some of the language. I urge the Congress to pass this important bill and the President to sign it.

I would like to submit a copy of Mr. Walesa's inspiring remarks for the RECORD.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE LECH WALESA, WASHINGTON, JUNE 4, 1996

Mr. Speaker, Members of Congress, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Friends.

First and above all, I would like to say how very grateful I am for being invited here today. Being here again brings back cherished memories of that day six years ago, when, as we were all witnessing the end of the communist empire and of the Cold War, I had the honor of addressing the joint session of the United States Congress. It was one of those rare moments when we all felt that history was being made. There are indeed very few such great landmarks to one's lifetime.

But this was not the first time Poles and Americans shared such moments. It was two centuries ago when, by a historical coincidence, our ancestors both in America and in Poland were simultaneously experiencing momentous changes in the lives of their nations. America had just won her independence and in 1790 ratified a democratic constitution. A year later and an ocean away on May 3rd, the Polish Parliament also passed its own constitution, a grand design for modern political reform.

There were striking similarities between them. The basic concept of the American constitution, that the source of governmental power stems from the will of the people, was also embodied in the Polish one.

Both stated the same basic objective: liberty and general welfare of the people. The Polish reformers were spiritually at home with the American Founding Fathers; they shared the same fundamental ideals. America was viewed as a model; it was certainly not an accident that Polish Reformer-King Stanislaw August had put a bust of George Washington in his study at the Warsaw Castle. And it was certainly not accidental that Polish volunteers participated in the American Revolution. At this point I must express my most sincere gratitude for the recent joint resolution of the United States Congress commemorating the two hundred fifth anniversary of the adoption of Poland's first constitution.

But while the America envisaged by the Founding Fathers has become a great democracy and still governs itself by the same constitution, Poland had spent most of the last two centuries relentlessly struggling to achieve among the nations of the earth that which your Declaration of Independence called "a separate and equal station to which laws of nature and Nature's God entitle them". I am not a historian, as you know, but sometimes I think that, perhaps, apart from the right ideals and stubborn resolve, nations need a bit of luck too. For instance, I would have liked Fortune to have placed the Poland of the 1791 Constitution somewhere on the map of North America and not in the center of Europe, between autocratic and imperial Russia and Prussia.

It was exactly 200 years ago that President George Washington was retiring. Having led a victorious fight against the imperial tyranny of Britain and ensured America's independence, he could withdraw into the peace and tranquillity of his beloved Mount Vernon. He cautioned that free people must always remain wary of potential threats, but he was convinced that what he called America's "detached and distant position" offered hope that the republic would endure. As you well know, my country, inhabiting the heart of Europe, unfortunately had not the luxury of such a "distant and detached position" over the past two centuries. The tough experiences of our history do not make a retirement in true peace of mind a very likely possibility for any leader. Perhaps that is why Poles love liberty as one loves a bride but Americans love her more as a grandmother.

But I believe that, although we cannot affect Fortune, we can and should help it. From 1989, liberty in Central Europe had been given a new, historic chance, a chance preceded by a very, very long and bitter struggle, and, as such, deserving the needed nourishment of peace and security. May I point out that Poland is today the fastest growing economy in Europe a remarkable evidence of fruits born of regained liberty.

We have before us a rare window of opportunity to help preserve both peace and freedom—and the former depends much on the latter—and ensure that it extends well into the twenty first century. Just as the eighteenth-century constitutions opened a new epoch, the fall of totalitarianism in Europe offers a similar prospect today. But many a great battle in history had been ultimately lost due to a lack of follow up by the victors to ensure a durable success. I strongly believe that this is such a moment requiring a follow up in the form of providing NATO security to ensure the durability of the democratic revolutions of 1989. Only United States has the power and authority today to lead towards this goal. I am particularly pleased that this cause has found much bipartisan support in the United States Congress. It gives me much faith and hope that the liberty for which so many have struggled for so long will be given the protection and opportunity it merits.

I wish to thank you once again for your kind invitation and for your inestimable support now as in the past.

HONORING THE SHACKLE ISLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RESCUE SQUAD

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Shackle Island Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that should disaster strike, we know that our friends and neighbors are there to help.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a member of the rescue squad. Rescue squad members undergo a training series over a 4- to 6-month period which includes instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation [CPR], vehicle extrication, emergency driving, and rescue orientation. In addition to this training, rescue squad members also meet monthly to address business concerns as well as hear guest speakers.

Rescue squad members are volunteers. They receive no pay for what they do. What also makes their service especially outstanding is that the organizations themselves receive no funding. They receive no funding from the city, the county, or the Federal Government.

Rescue squads are funded in the same spirit of community volunteerism which moves them to serve. Family, friends, and neighbors pitch in at bake sales, road blocks, and fish frys to help those who sacrifice their time for the benefit of the whole community.

Committing such an amount of spare time and energy to a job so emotionally and physically taxing requires a sense of devotion and duty for which we are all grateful.

THE MILLENNIUM ACT OF 1996

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Millennium Act of 1996 along with my colleagues, Representatives MORAN, BATEMAN, PICKETT, SCOTT, SISISKY, L.F. PAYNE, BOUCHER, WOLF, GEJDENSON, FROST, WILSON, MOORHEAD, FAZIO, BEREUTER, ROEMER, MANTON, MONTGOMERY, LANTOS, STEARNS, COSTELLO, CONYERS, DURBIN, MARKEY, D. YOUNG, WHITFIELD, and BILIRAKIS.

This bill is a bipartisan effort to focus the Nation's attention on what may become one of the most anticipated events in history—the beginning of a new millennium. As the new millennium nears, this bill hopes to focus our attention on the achievements of the past 1,000 years and help to foster educational opportunities for those who may take on leadership responsibilities in the next 1,000 years.

Since its founding in 1979 by a group of college students from around the world, the Millennium Society has worked successfully to organize a global celebration and commemoration of humankind's achievements during this millennium and to endow a crosscultural scholarship program to help educate future leaders. I believe it is the oldest organization in the country formed for the specific purpose of celebrating and commemorating the historical significance of the millennium. The society was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, charitable organization in 1984 for the purpose of establishing and administering the Millennium Society Scholarship Program.

The Millennium Society plans to organize and telecast "Countdown 2000" celebrations here and around the world to permanently endow its Millennium Scholars Program.

Unlike the Bicentennial Commission which required Federal funding, this bill asks for no Federal funds. Title I of this bill provides the society with the official authorization and designation to administer millennium activities both here and abroad and ensures that charitable proceeds will go to the Millennium Scholars Program. The organizers hope that this designation can operate much like the U.S. Olympic trademark. Mr. President, to the best of my knowledge, there are no other organizations that are competing for this designation nor have any indicated any specific interest in doing so.

The second title authorizes the minting of commemorative coins. This bill incorporates some of the language from the House commemorative coin reform legislative package, H.R. 2614. Specifically, the Millennium Society agrees not to derive any proceeds until all the numismatic operation and program costs allocable to the program have been recovered by the U.S. Mint. Moreover, it embodies some of the key criteria and recommendations of the Citizens Commemorative Coin Advisory Commission. The minting of the millennium coins will not begin until July 1999. Further, through its own fundraising efforts, the Millennium Society will match the funds received through commemorative coin sales for its scholarship program.

The third title expresses the sense of Congress that the U.S. Postal Service should consider the issuance of stamps to commemorate the close of the second millennium and the advent of the third millennium.

The Millennium Society was established as an international, charitable organization dedicated to giving students from around the world a chance to go on to college and to promote international fellowship and understanding among the world's peoples on an unofficial and nongovernmental basis.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting this legislation to both commemorate the coming millennium and help provide scholastic funding for its future leaders.

TRIBUTE TO JULIAN CERVANTES ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM UAW LOCAL 509

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a dear friend and tireless advocate for the working men and women of America. Next Tuesday, June 18, 1996, Julian Cervantes will retire from the United Auto Workers Amalgamated Local Union No. 509 after 43 years of dedicated and exemplary service.

I have had the distinct pleasure of knowing Julian for most of his 43 years of membership in the UAW. We started our careers together, organizing hard working Americans under the banner of trade unionism and fighting to ensure workers would receive a decent wage for jobs well done.

Following his graduation from Roosevelt High School in east Los Angeles, Julian began his career at ITT Cannon Electric. In 1956, he was drafted and served with distinctin in the U.S. Army. Julian returned to ITT Cannon Electric, after his tenure in the Army.

After serving as UAW committeeperson, in 1968 Julian was elected chairperson of over 3,000 members to help with organizing drives for UAW Region Six. He also served until 1974 on the staff of the International Unions Manpower O.J.T. and an east Los Angeles community development corporation as an instructor for on-the-job training program.

In 1975, Julian was elected Local 509's vice president and service representative. Among his other duties at local 509 have included: co-coordinator of community services; the CAP Council; recreation committee; retires committee; and the F.E.P.C.

Currently, Julian serves as an international trustee, a position he was elected to at the International UAW Convention, and as local 509's president.

Julian and his loverly wife of 28 years, Marlene, have four children, Lorraine, Larry, James, and Mark, three grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Mr. Speaker, Julian Cervantes has been a true champion for America's working men and women. His legacy of fair and decisive leadership will serve as a guiding light for local 509's membership in the days to come. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting this great American and wishing him well in his retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO ED MULLANEY

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to acknowledge one of Montgomery County's finest teachers, Ed Mullaney, on the occasion of his retirement. For 30 years, he has ensured that the students of the Montgomery County school system received educations of the highest standard. First a geography and history teacher at Leland Junior High School and later a social studies teacher at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, Mr. Mullaney energetically devoted himself to the students he taught. Yet far more than just teaching them academics, he educated students about community service.

As a founder of teen organizations, sponsor of yearbooks, student governments, and sports programs, Ed Mullaney gave of himself so that the communities of the schools in which he worked would be stronger. At B-CC, he was often recognized as the spirit of the school, a teacher who made students realize how fortunate they were to attend Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. Even when they left, students could not forget Mr. Mullaney, for he even organized alumni events during his past 7 years at B-CC.

Wherever Mr. Mullaney has been, he has encouraged his students to involve themselves in their communities. He realizes that community spirit is the key to a successful education.

I fondly remember that when I was a Maryland State Legislator, Mr. Mullaney could be depended upon to bring students of the highest caliber to the State capitol. His organization of these excursions was always beyond the duty of a teacher, but he wanted to give his students something more than a classroom education.

Ed Mullaney will be missed both as a teacher and a leader in Montgomery County. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to add my voice to the praises of his students and colleagues who gather to salute him.

SAVING MEDICARE IS "MISSION: IMPERATIVE"

HON. MARTIN R. HOKE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, the Medicare trustees have just issued their annual report and the news isn't good.

Medicare is now losing money for the first time ever, and will be completely broke by 2001 unless prompt, effective, and decisive action is taken to control costs.

Last year the trustees—who include three members of the Clinton Cabinet—projected Medicare wouldn't run out of money until 2002. So the situation has worsened.

But as bad as the news is, the American people need to know that regardless of who wins in November, Medicare's financial crisis will be solved.

Letting Medicare go bankrupt simply is not an option.

Both Congress and the White House have offered plans that limit the rate of growth in Medicare spending—by strikingly similar amounts. The White House would increase spending 7.2 percent annually, Congress 7.0 percent. To put this in perspective, bear in mind that private sector health care spending is now growing at less than 3 percent annually.

This no doubt comes as a surprise to those who already have suffered from overexposure to the semihysterical, patently false, and politically motivated mantra of "cuts, cuts, cuts." President Clinton himself put it well: "When you hear all this business about cuts, let me caution you that that is not what is going on. We are going to have increases in Medicare."

While the sides essentially are in agreement with respect to how much, there are significant differences as to how.

The President and those who believe Washington knows best are committed to a top-down, bureaucratic solution that would increase the Government's role in the health care of our seniors, essentially identical to Mrs. Clinton's defeated health care plan of 1994.

The far better solution is to modernize Medicare by giving seniors the kinds of options, including medical savings accounts, now available in some of the best private sector plans, while preserving their right to stay with traditional Medicare. In addition, we must mount the first ever attack on the waste and fraud that have helped bring Medicare to the brink of bankruptcy. The congressional plan to preserve Medicare contains both of these elements.

Unfortunately, some folks, including politicians, Washington special interests groups, even the President, have indulged their partisan ambitions by intentionally trying to scare seniors into believing that Congress might take their Medicare benefits away from them. Helping to spread the poison are the big labor bosses in Washington, who have spent millions of dollars confiscated from their own rank and file membership on advertisements pusing that same big lie.

Yet when you cut through all the political grandstanding, one thing becomes crystal clear: the longer a Medicare solution is put off, the harder and more unpalatable the choices become.

We need all sides working together now—not as Republicans and Democrats, but as Americans—to solve this problem.

So the next time you hear someone attack Congress for killing Medicare, ask them to show you their plan to save it. Chances are they won't have one. That's because they're thinking more about the next election than the next generation.

A RECOGNIZED HERO

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a special person and true hero—Chief Warrant Officer 2 Wade Chapple of Milford.

The operations group soldier was recently awarded the Soldier's Medal of Honor for an act of heroism that saved a Colombian man's Life.

Serving a 3-year tour as a tactical training advisor to the Colombian Army 10th Airborne Division in Malgar, Colombia, Chapple and his crew rescued an injured Colombian man who had fallen off a cliff.

First, Chapple was able to diplomatically convince the base commander to provide a

helicopter for the rescue. After landing on a small finger of open space nearly 700 feet below the injured victim, Chapple and his crew of two men went to work.

Chapple scaled the vertical climb dragging a stretcher that was tied to his waste.

Upon arriving at the injured man, Chapple notice multiple injuries and the man in shock. Working quickly to immobilize the man, Chapple and his crew eased the injured man slowly down the steep face of the mountain

The helicopter rushed the victim back to the base and there a waiting ambulance rushed the man to the hospital. Three months later, Chapple met the man who was beginning to walk again and has since recovered.

The incident was reported to Chapple's commanders by the Colombian Army without his knowledge.

Chapple is a symbol of today's military. Compassionate, skilled and heroic. Wade put his life on the line to save a man he didn't even know. I am proud of Wade Chapple. His great and noble rescue has made our community smile.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS MAJESTY, KING BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ'S ACCESSION TO THE THRONE

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on June 9, 1996, citizens of Thailand celebrated the 50th anniversary of the accession to the throne of His Majesty, King Bhumibol Adulyadej. This is a joyous moment for the people of Thailand and the people of the United States join with them on this special auspicious occasion.

The King is a good friend of the United States. He permitted Thailand to be the most supportive nation in the region throughout the Vietnam war. He always makes sure that Thailand is a tremendous refuge for people fleeing repressive governments in the region.

The King has underscored that Thailand is a democracy in an otherwise undemocratic region. His tact, intelligence, and grace has enabled Thailand to grow and prosper. He is in constant touch with his people and he travels regularly throughout Thailand.

The King was born 68 years ago here in the United States and he is the world's longest serving living monarch. He is known as the "working king" because of his extensive travels throughout Thailand and the 2,000 projects in Thailand that he initiated.

Because of his diligent work, Thailand is a beacon of hope and serves as an example for other nations in the region.

Accordingly, I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing His Majesty, King Bhumibol Adulyadej's a long, healthy, and prosperous life on this auspicious occasion of the 50th anniversary of his accession to the throne.

STOP ATTACK ON CALIFORNIA AVOCADO JOBS

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, as we consider the fiscal year 1997 Agriculture Appropriations Act, I want to take this opportunity to inform my colleagues of another Clinton administration attack on California agricultural jobs. Six thousand American avocado growers and 21,000 avocado industry workers are in danger of losing their livelihood should the USDA implement its proposed plan to modify the quarantine on Mexican Hass avocados. The quarantine was placed in 1914 to protect our avocado crops from Mexican pests and fruit flies.

During a trip to Mexico City, USDA Secretary Dan Glickman spoke about lifting the current ban. He continues to tell me that he is "absolutely committed to a sound, well-founded, science-based decision on this proposal." This is what I expect from the USDA. However, Secretary Glickman continues to ignore the warnings of independent scientists at the University of California Riverside and elsewhere that infestation of pests from Mexico is very likely if the quarantine is lifted. The USDA believes that Mexico can handle their serious pest problem. But, science has proven that Mexico has failed for years to destroy pests. NAFTA specifically left the quarantine intact because our Government knows that Mexican pests would devastate American avocados. The University of California Center for Exotic Pest Research released an important report based on their studies, entitled "Risks of Exotic Pest Introductions from Importation of Fresh Mexican Hass Avocados into the United States." Secretary Glickman must carefully consider the results of this report before a final rule is made.

Mexican pest-infested avocados have already been smuggled across our border. On January 5, 1996, the U.S. Customs Service confiscated and destroyed 3,337 pounds of Mexican Hass avocados at the Otay Mesa commercial facility in San Diego County. The driver, who had previously been arrested for the same offense, admitted to similar smuggling activities in recent months. Although U.S. Customs officials thought they were seizing a truck loaded with drugs, they definitely touched on a problem of significant concern to California's avocado growing region.

It is evident that the USDA proposal will only harm our country. I encourage my colleagues to give me a call, should any of you have questions about this plan to destroy the crops and lives of American avocado growers and workers. We must stop this attack against California jobs.

HONORING THE SMITHVILLE-DEKALB COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Smithville-DeKalb County Rescue Squad. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that should disaster strike, we know that our friends and neighbors are there to help.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a member of the rescue squad. Rescue squad members undergo a training series over a 4- to 6-month period which includes instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation [CPR], vehicle extrication, emergency driving, and rescue orientation. In addition to this training, rescue squad members also meet monthly to address business concerns as well as hear guest speakers.

Rescue squad members are volunteers. They receive no pay for what they do. What also makes their service especially outstanding is that the organizations themselves receive no funding. They receive no funding from the city, the county, or the Federal Government.

Rescue squads are funded in the same spirit of community voluntarism which moves them to serve. Family, friends, and neighbors pitch in at bake sales, road blocks, and fish frys to help those who sacrifice their time for the benefit of the whole community.

Committing such an amount of spare time and energy to a job so emotionally and physically taxing requires a sense of devotion and duty for which we are all grateful.

GILBERT DE LA ROSA HONORED FOR LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO CITY OF PICO RIVERA

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to a friend of mine, the Honorable Gilbert "Gil" De La Rosa, Pico Rivera City Councilman. On Saturday, June 8, 1996, the board of directors of the Intercommunity Blind Center will recognize Gil for his many years of dedicated service to the city by honoring him with its Distinguished Leadership Award.

Gil served on the Pico Rivera City Council from 1982 to 1990. He served as mayor in 1986, and is currently mayor pro-tempore. He was elected again to the council in 1994.

He also was elected to the El Rancho Unified School District Board of Education in 1966, and was reelected to this position four times, serving until 1982. He was appointed to a management skills team to represent the California School Boards Association, and advised districts throughout the State on good management techniques. Gil was elected

president of the Mexican-American School Boards Association in 1981, and was appointed by the National School Boards President to a 10 person task force that developed an investment procedure for school districts throughout the United States.

Gil is an active member of the Pico Rivera Lions Club, and served as its president in 1984–85. His extensive work with the St. Francis of Xavier Holy Name Society, and the Beverly Hospital Foundation, on whose board he has served for 16 years, are well known and respected throughout the community. His involvement in the community also includes membership on the board of directors of the Pico Rivera Redevelopment Agency, and the Pico Rivera Housing Assistance Agency; he also serves with the League of California Cities Environmental Quality Committee, the United Way Board, Pico Rivera Transportation Committee, and is a member of the Southeast Mosquito Abatement District.

Gil has received three gubernatorial appointments as a probate referee, and has been honored as a life member of the California Parents and Teachers Association. He is a member and now serves as immediate past president of the Intercommunity Blind Center. Gil is a veteran of the U.S. Army, having served in WWII. He and his lovely wife, Sylvia, live in Pico Rivera.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the Honorable Gilbert De La Rosa for his many years of selfless service to the Intercommunity Blind Center, the city of Pico Rivera, and to our Nation.

A TRIBUTE TO LESTER OLINGER

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Lester Olinger, a highly esteemed teacher who has taught U.S. history at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School for more than 35 years. As he retires this year, he leaves behind generations of students who would never have had such an exceptional appreciation and understanding of American history were it not for Lester Olinger.

At Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, his teaching style was legendary. Students knew that they would not leave his classroom without enhancing their knowledge of the history of their country. As a result, Mr. Olinger's students were known to have some of the highest test results in the Nation. He also taught advanced placement classes on U.S. history and American government.

As well as being an exceptional teacher, Lester Olinger gave time to a variety of clubs. A sponsor of both the frisbee and the ski teams, he could always be depended upon to cheer Bethesda-Chevy Chase's athletes to success.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to salute a phenomenal teacher, Lester Olinger.

LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE THE LMA PROCESS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to address a serious flaw in the rules governing local marketing agreements for television stations.

Current FCC rules allow television stations to enter into what are called "local marketing agreements", or LMA's. An LMA allows a television station or other entity to manage programming, sales, and operations at another station.

For troubled stations, the LMA can provide needed assistance to maintain both their operations and independence. However, as they have become more frequent, so have they become broader and more comprehensive in their scope.

Strangely, although FCC rules are clear with respect to TV station ownership—owing two stations in the same market is illiegal—they are extremely vague with respect to television LMA's.

For example, current FCC regulations do not take into account the size of a local marketing agreement, the amount of operations managed through an LMA, or the size of the media market affected. Nor do they require prior notice or public comment from the communities that might be impacted.

My own community has been affected by this ambiguity in FCC rules. Recently, two local stations in Monterey, CA reached a local marketing agreement which affected a sizeable portion of the programming and operations of one of the stations. No prior notice was given or required; no public input was requested; and there were no studies or consideration of the possible impact, positive or negative, of the LMA on the region.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, this is a growing problem. Although radio LMA's account for the majority of such agreements, the expanding number of consolidations and mergers in the television industry have put greater economic pressures on small stations. LMA's have become an increasingly attractive alternative to bankruptcy—but also, for some, a useful loophole in the duopoly laws.

My bill will resolve this problem by extending the more exact and time-tested LMA rules for radio to television as well. As for radio, television LMA's affecting 15 percent or less of broadcast time on a station would not require prior notice or approval by the FCC. However, more comprehensive LMA's would require prior notice and public comment before the FCC could approve them. Such approval would have to be made on the basis of public interest, convenience, and necessity.

My bill will resolve the current ambiguity in FCC rules—ambiguity which leaves the LMA process open to broad interpretation, and makes no allowance for the needs, interests, or concerns of local communities. Making LMA rules clear and fair will benefit the station owners who benefit from these agreements, as well as television viewers and local communities affected by them.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

A POEM OF REMEMBRANCE

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Memorial Day has just passed, but we should always hold in our hearts the memory of those who came before us offering their service to our country. They made many a sacrifice, none small, some ultimate, for the greatness of our Nation.

My constituent, Mr. Curt Perdelwitz, a retired U.S. Air Force Master Sergeant, has written a very poignant poem to remind us of our obligation to honor their memory. The poem, "We Remember," which I will include following my remarks, was selected as the Editor's Choice by the National Library of Poetry and published in the "Path Not Taken." I commend it to my colleagues and all Americans as a constant reminder of the great price we pay to defend freedom throughout the world.

WE REMEMBER

(By Curt W. Perdelwitz)

The guns of the battle are now silent,
The cries of the wounded no longer are heard
The fields at Verdun and Bastogne are now peaceful,
Antietam and the Hue are history remembered.
Inchon and Desert Storm but memories of conflicts,
Iwo Jima and Guadalcanal are part of our lore.
But, for those whose blood turned battlefields red,
And those who now rest in Valhalla,
We, on this day, offer this prayer:—
Oh Father in heaven! Lord of all living things!
Bestow on Your lowly human mortals
The wisdom and strength to lay aside
Our greed, and power, and desire for material things.
Awake within us, the sights of those crosses en row,
Remind us of the souls who rest beneath—those
Who gave their lives for us who now remain.
It is for us to keep alive their spirits and hopes
For those freedoms that shall never die.
Grant us the ability to keep the faith and our promises
To those who gave so much to us who now survive.

TRIBUTE TO FIFTH DISTRICT BOY SCOUTS

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the achievements of several Boy Scouts from my district. Eric Jordan and Kevin Engbretson were recently recognized in a National Court

of Honor Ceremony, and Travis Passey received his Eagle Scout Award, joining his five brothers in receiving this honor.

In the early morning of February 19, 1994, Scout Eric Jordan, of Walla Walla, WA, awoke to find his bedroom filled with smoke. Eric shared the bedroom with his younger brother Kristopher, and heard him gasping from the dense smoke. Crawling along the floor, Eric found his brother's electric blanket burning and the younger boy unconscious. He dragged Kristopher from the room and closed the bedroom door to suffocate the fire. For his quick thinking in averting the potential tragedy, Eric was awarded the National Heroism Medal.

On May 27, 1994, Scot Kevin Engbretson, also of Walla Walla, was on a field trip with his seventh grade class at Charbonneau State Park. When one of his classmates was playfully pushed off a dock into the Snake River, and it became apparent that she could not swim, Kevin quickly waded into the river and towed the girl to safety. For his efforts in rescuing his classmate, Kevin was awarded the National Certificate of Merit.

Travis Passey, of Cheney, WA, recently earned his Eagle Scout Award for organizing a project that raised funds for area libraries. Travis deserves recognition for his service, but equally deserving are his five brothers: Jared, Ryan Nathan, Allan, and David. Each of Glenn and Joan Passey's six sons have earned the rank of Eagle Scout, and I would like to congratulate this family's accomplishment. The young men honored their father's guidance over the years with a flag flown over the Capitol, and I think the accompanying certificate precisely summarizes their appreciation for his support. The certificate read, "Your six Eagles Scouts sons honor you for your dedication, inspiration and love."

Mr. Speaker, I feel privileged to recognize the achievements of these young men. I was a Life Scout, and I know of the significant personal dedication that is required of Boy Scouts. The lessons learned in Scouting are of great personal benefit but as these men have demonstrated, our families and communities are even greater beneficiaries Eric Jordan and Kevin Engbretson calmly reacted to crises that could have become tragedies. Travis, Jared, Ryan, Nathan, Allan, and David Passey, through their service as Eagle Scouts, have contributed lasting community service projects. I am proud of the contributions that these young men have made, and grateful for their commitment to their families and communities.

HONORING THE SMYRNA RESCUE SQUAD

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Smyrna Rescue Squad. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that should disaster strike, we know that our friends and neighbors are there to help.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a member of the rescue squad. Rescue squad members undergo a training series over a four to six-month period which includes instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation [CPR], vehicle extrication, emergency driving, and rescue orientation. In addition to this training, rescue squad members also meet monthly to address business concerns as well as hear guest speakers.

Rescue squad members are volunteers. They receive no pay for what they do. What also makes their service especially outstanding is that the organizations themselves receive no funding. They receive no funding from the city, the county, or the Federal Government.

Rescue squads are funded in the same spirit of community volunteerism which moves them to serve. Family, friends, and neighbors pitch in at bake sales, road blocks, and fish frys to help those who sacrifice their time for the benefit of the whole community.

Committing such an amount of spare time and energy to a job so emotionally and physically taxing requires a sense of devotion and duty for which we are all grateful.

TRIBUTE TO BRIG. GEN. ANDREW P. GROSE

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brig. Gen. Andrew P. Grose upon his retirement from the U.S. Air Force after 33-years of exemplary service. General Grose is currently the Air Force Reserve mobilization assistant to the director of legislative liaison for the U.S. Air Force. Since assuming this post in 1991, General Grose has demonstrated sound judgement and a keen sense of priority. His in-depth knowledge of the Air Force and the Congress has been of great benefit to Members of the House of Representatives as we have deliberated issues relating to our national security interests.

General Grose has served with distinction in demanding positions. The leadership and commitment that he has demonstrated throughout his career have earned for him the respect and gratitude of those who have had the privilege of working with him. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues on the Committee on National Security, I bid General Grose a fond farewell and wish he and his family the very best as they move on to face new challenges and rewards.

CARRYING THE TORCH FOR THE 1996 OLYMPICS

HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the individuals in my district who have been honored to carry the torch in the Olympic Torch Relay.

These individuals have distinguished themselves in the community by helping others who have been less fortunate. This group combines people of all ages, men and women for one purpose, to help bring the Olympic flame to Atlanta.

The Olympics are held only rarely in the United States. We should take advantage of this great opportunity to showcase true patriots of this country. Once again I congratulate these individuals on their achievement.

The individuals from my district are: James Barefoot, Sauquoit; Darrell Bruder, Rome; John Cribbs, Sidney; Judith Greiner, Clinton; Leo Hofmeister, Utica; Carlton Jarvis, III, Barker; Jeffrey Jost, Wampsville; Derek Macero, Utica; Dick Mattia, Utica; Robert Merritt, Utica; Allen Pylman, New Hartford; Kristina Rico, Rome; Sandy Shivas, Ilion; James Suriano, Sidney; Russell Brooks, II, Utica; Tim Catella, Oneonta; Eugene A. DiFondi, Jr., Utica; Dustin Hite, Camden; Scott Huges, Herkimer; David Jones, Utica; Joe Kelly, Whitesboro; Ward Mack, Sidney; Steven Mac, Utica; Thomas Mirabito, Jr., Sidney; David Rich, Utica; Williams Rys, New Hartford; James Simpson, New Hartford; and Bob Wood, Sauquoit.

PRINTING ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS AN AGENDA

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, just when I thought that Wes Pruden could not be more incisive in his commentary, he out does himself again. I submit for the RECORD his column which was printed in the June 11 Washington Times.

PRINTING ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS AN AGENDA

(By Wesley Pruden)

Bill Clinton and his boys on the bus are getting a hard lesson about how times have changed.

They can't any longer decide what news is fit to print—and more to the point, they can't any longer prevent news they think is not fit to print from getting printed anyway. This will become even more important three months hence.

The story about how the White House was building an enemies list from secret FBI files first broke on Thursday, with the revelation that Bernard Nussbaum, or someone using his name, asked the FBI to supply its dossiers on Billy Dale seven months after Mr. Dale, the head of the White House travel office until Hillary Rodham Clinton ordered the president's men to delivery his head, was beheaded.

This was the main, or lead, story in this newspaper, stretched across the top of Page One. The Washington Post put it on Page 4, a decorous announcement to the reporters around town, who imagine The Post to be the arbiter of what's news, that it wasn't much of a story. The New York Times, couldn't find any room at all for it on Thursday or Friday. But in fairness to the New York Times, there was a crush of other stuff of compelling interest to its constituency,

mostly news about how maybe you can, too, catch AIDS by taking unclean foreign objects in your mouth. There was even a story about how monkeys, if forced to by lab attendants, can catch AIDS this way.

The Associated Press, no doubt influenced by The Post and the New York Times, at first paid grudging attention to the story. But when the story grew, and it became clear that the White House had more in mind than merely seeking dirt on Billy Dale, the story sprouted legs.

By Saturday morning it was in full gallop, with the disclosure that the White House had obtained FBI dossiers on 339—or 341, the figure grew by the hour—Republicans. The White House explanations grew from improbable to unlikely and then to fanciful: It was of course "an innocent mistake," made because maybe they needed to know just who these people were, men like James Baker, the former secretary of state; Marlin Fitzwater, the press secretary for both President Reagan and President Bush; and Tony Blankley, the press secretary for Newt Gingrich. They might want to offer them jobs. Mr. Clinton is determined to keep the unemployment rate down, and you never know when these guys might be out of work.

By now the story was getting out of hand. The silence of the lambs at the New York Times and the reticence of the wolves at The Post was supposed to tell everyone that this was not news fit to print, but some people (like us) never seem to get the word. The New York times put it plain enough for everyone but people like us on Saturday: "Senior White House officials said tonight that they have discovered new facts about a White House request to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for information about a fired employee, *showing that the request was an innocent mistake.*" (Emphasis mine.) Everybody could now go back to sleep, and send your apologies to Bill and Hillary.

Too bad for Mr. Clinton and his pals, but now the story was racing on its little baby legs to front pages across the country, and by Sunday morning the TV talk shows couldn't get enough of it. Even Ann Lewis, the deputy director of the Clinton re-election campaign, in a fit of uncontrolled candor, likened the Clinton list to the enemies list compiled for Richard Nixon.

"That's the point we've been trying to make," said Tony Blankley.

"I was trying to be funny," replied Miss Lewis, frostily. (The resident wit, she's famous for cracking everybody up at the White House.)

"Oh," said Mr. Blankley. Being one of nature's gentlemen, he obliged with a laugh.

President Clinton, no doubt irritated that his pals had not contained the story, attempted a diversion on the weekend with his radio speech decrying—as he should have, but in a less blatantly political way—the torching of black churches in the South. He told reporters that the torchings particularly upset him because when he was just a little shaver in Hot Springs he was saddened by the smoking ruins of black churches in Arkansas.

This was too much for the home folks, black and white. None of them remembered a black church being torched, ever. Well, never mind. The story sounded good at the time, and since he had long since shredded the good name of his native state, what difference could it make?

His hometown paper, the Arkansas Democrat Gazette, called him on it the next day, quoting skepticism and outrage from the state historian and a collection of knowledgeable black ministers and NAACP officials. Washington read about it in the pages of this newspaper, which, like his hometown paper, knows him best. The news didn't fit in certain other famous places.

TRIBUTE TO TODD KAMINSKY

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Todd Kaminsky of Long Beach High School for the outstanding leadership which he has shown as a columnist and political activist to his school and community. It is encouraging to see an active, independent young man playing such a leading role in our political process.

Mr. Kaminsky will be graduating this month from Long Beach High School and plans to attend the University of Michigan. I am certain that he will have a particularly successful academic career.

I am pleased to insert in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a recent column which Mr. Kaminsky wrote for the April 1996 edition of the "Tide" which is the student newspaper for Long Beach High School.

KING CALLS FOR STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

(By Todd Kaminsky)

For a few months a year, a couple of hundred of men and women gather in a neatly assembled, large, white building to discuss a few matters concerning the state of our nation's well being. Welfare reform, gun control, the environment, and even the occasional blurb on nuclear weapons are some of the random sounds you might hear bounce off the inner walls of this stately building.

These are just some of the great topics most teenagers couldn't care less about. But these men and women are our Congressmen, easily some of the most important people in our country. Although the attitude on politicians reflected in the prior paragraph may be the prevailing one amongst teenagers, the teens of Long Beach have reason to breathe a little easier.

Of the near 500 members of Congress, struggling to tackle daily important foreign and domestic issues that face this nation, you will see that at least one of these brave souls is looking out for the future of our nation. Congressman Peter T. King, who represents Long Beach among other areas in the House of Representatives, knows how important teenagers are to a prosperous democracy.

"Even when I was very small, I was still interested in political events. I guess it was a natural interest," said King, who is one of the few politicians who realizes how vital a role teens actually play in our government.

In Congress right now, there are many important domestic issues that our Congressmen vote on. Some of this legislation effects teens directly, and some will affect them later on down the road. This is why King feels, "Teens owe it to themselves to get involved."

King has gained most of his fame in Congress, by passing or being the sponsor of bills that directly affect teenagers. Recently, he was given much attention for a bill which would make English the official language, and would end bilingual education. Representative King has always been involved in making important educational decisions. "I feel that my greatest work as a Congressman was done with the English bill. It has been one of my greatest accomplishments," said King.

There is a great variety of things a teenager can do to make a difference in his or her community. Most political meetings, (school board, or otherwise) are held publicly. Just by attending a few of these meetings, you can become aware of what is taking place in your community.

It is almost considered a fact, that most teenagers would rather play sports than follow the nation's political affairs. We have a whole slew of sports teams in LBPS, but do we have a Young Republican Club? Of course, we don't.

Congressman King played basketball in high school and boxed as well. He admits to never being great at these sports, but he always tried his hardest. If you ask any coach what makes a great athlete, he will tell you hard work, good thinking, and perseverance. It is no coincidence that when I asked Congressman King what are the characteristics one needs to be successful in Congress, he replied, "hard work, smarts, and perseverance."

Of all the characteristics King described, he felt that perseverance was the most important. He lost a race for State Attorney General a number of years ago. Not only did he lose, but he got clobbered. He lost by almost 1 million votes. But King kept coming back again, and again, and again. Now he is among the most powerful in Washington.

A TRIBUTE TO BEVERLY FIEGE

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Beverly Fiege on the occasion of her retirement. A teacher at both Richard Montgomery High School and Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, Ms. Fiege has taught French in the Montgomery County school system for over 15 years.

At Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, Madame Fiege was beloved by her students. A joyful, cheerful educator, she transformed the learning of a language from the mundane memorization of grammar and vocabulary to a creative, enjoyable learning experience. Her enthusiasm for her work was undeniable to those who saw her teach. In addition, her remarkable attentiveness to every one of her students was never forgotten by those who were members of her class.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for this opportunity to salute Beverly Fiege, an outstanding educator.

"TEENS ASSISTING SENIOR CITIZENS" VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me today in honoring and

thanking the volunteers at Teens Assisting Senior Citizens [TASC], located in Pico Rivera. On Friday, June 14, 1996, TASC will hold its annual recognition dinner to acknowledge and thank the volunteers who make this program successful year after year.

TASC is a program that serves the needs of Senior citizens while allowing local youth to benefit from service and involvement in the community. It began in 1983, with local youth and adult volunteers being recruited and trained in aging, communication, and emergency management. The volunteers were then sent to the homes of older community members who could benefit from help in their homes and sharing with youth. Volunteers provide friendly visiting, light housekeeping, shopping assistance, and yard work.

The goal of the program is to help older individuals of the community to remain independent and avoid unnecessary or premature institutionalization. TASC is a program of Catholic Charities Aging Services Department, a United Way Agency, and is supported by funds from the city of Pico Rivera. Kiwanis of Pico Rivera, and private donations.

The volunteers who deserve special recognition are: Rosa Alcocer; Lorraine Aldarondo; Frank Alvarez; Sergio Aguilar; Tiffany Avila; Adriana Bagues; Stephanie Barba; Cherly Bautista; Elizabeth Blanco; Omar Bravo; Cesar Chavez; Fabiola Chavez; Richard Chavez; Greg Cordova; Carlos Covarrubias; Diana De La Rosa; Araceli Delfin; Janice Diaz; Monique Dovalina; Mark Elias; Janet Gallogos; Gabriela Garcia; Michelle Garcia; Sandra Garcia; Ernie Gevara; Huge Gomez; Sally Gomez; Carolina Gonzalez; Matthew Heilgeist; Gia Hua; Sakina Hussain; Luis Jiminez; Stephanie Kary; Lendy Le; Tanya Lopez; Jessica Mecado; Eric Medrano; David Morales; Patty Morales; Sandy Mudry; Mary Nguyen; Fernando Ortega; Susana Ortega; Chantha Ouk; Priya Patel; Andy Perez; Richard Perez; Erin Perez; Carmen Ramirez; Janet Renteria; Fabiola Robles; Armando Rodriguez; Rocio Rodriguez; Yazmin Romero; Cesar Ruiz; Jennifer Salamat; Veronica Singh; Frances Soliz; Rosemary Soliz; Jesica Tapia; Andy Torres; Peter Ubugen; Lisa Valles; Elizabeth Vasquez; Michael Velasquez; Linh Vuoung, and TASC program director Cristina Quijada.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the volunteers in our community who have dedicated themselves to selfless service by participating in Teens Assisting Senior Citizens.

HONORING THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Williamson County Rescue Squad. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that should disaster strike, we know that our friends and neighbors are there to help.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a member of the rescue squad. Rescue squad members undergo a training series over a 4- to 6-month period which includes instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation [CPR], vehicle extrication, emergency driving, and rescue orientation. In addition to this training, rescue squad members also meet monthly to address business concerns as well as hear guest speakers.

Rescue squad members are volunteers. They receive no pay for what they do. What also makes their service especially outstanding is that the organizations themselves receive no funding. They receive no funding from the city, the county, or the Federal Government.

Rescue squads are funded in the same spirit of community voluntarism which moves them to serve. Family, friends, and neighbors pitch in at bake sales, road blocks, and fish frys to help those who sacrifice their time for the benefit of the whole community.

Committing such an amount of spare time and energy to a job so emotionally and physically taxing requires a sense of devotion and duty for which we are all grateful.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY E. GRIFFIN

HON. MIKE PARKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. PARKER. Mr. Speaker, I come before the House to ask you to join me in honoring Mr. Larry E. Griffin, the current president of the International Right of Way Association and a resident of Laurel, MS.

Born on December 28, 1949, in Laurel, Mr. Griffin earned his bachelor of science degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. Following his graduation he began his career as a specialist in the acquisition of power line and pipeline rights-of-way. While serving in the Mississippi highway department, Griffin earned his senior right-of-way designation and worked to ensure that his peers were recognized and rewarded for their achievement. After 12 years of dedicated service to the department and the people of Mississippi, Mr. Griffin moved on in 1987 to become the director of lands at the South Mississippi Electric Power Association.

Mr. Griffin has been active with the International Right of Way Association serving in many capacities—treasurer, membership chairman, local president, director, public awareness chairman, course coordinator, nomination and election committee, liaison committee, president's club, a course coordinator, nomination and election committee, liaison committee, president's club, a representative for the pacesetter campaign, and as vice-chair and chair of the Southeast United States Region. In 1985, he received his chapter's Professional of the Year Award. He also has been recognized by two international awards: the Gene L. Land award for the greatest percentage increase in chapter membership, and the Frank C. Balfour professional of the year award.

A year ago, I had the privilege of installing Mr. Griffin as the 41st president and the first Mississippian to be president of the International Right of Way Association. In addition to holding this prestigious position, he has continued his daily responsibilities to the people of Mississippi, and his other commitments to his church and family, his children's schools and civic organizations. He is an advisory board member of the Word of Life Church, Parent Teacher Organization president, and director of the Kiwanis Club of Laurel.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I ask you to join with me in thanking Mr. Griffin for his dedicated service and in wishing his continued success. Mr. Griffin, thank you for all you have done for Mississippi and our Nation.

DEJA VU BUDGET

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today out of deep concern for our children, senior citizens and the working poor. This budget is deja vu all over again. I thought that the leadership learned a lesson last year when they shut down the Government and lost favor in the eyes of the American people but here we go again with the same old gimmickry. Just like last year, they are using the annual report published by the Medicare Board of Trustees to justify these extreme cuts in Medicare, while everyone knows that these cuts are going to used to pay for the tax cuts they plan to bestow on their wealthy friends.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would have the American people believe that they are doing seniors a favor by causing them to have to choose between going to the doctor and buying groceries. This is no favor it is a vicious attack on the Nation's elderly. There are over 388,000 medicare beneficiaries in Mississippi and this bill will have a devastating impact on them.

Mr. Speaker, because this budget is just like the old one, more than 6 million families with children will see a reduction in the earned income tax credit. This is a credit that goes to working families and is not a welfare payment. To take this credit away from working families makes about as much sense as asking the Bulls to play without Michael Jordan tonight.

Mr. Speaker, it is a sad day when we are forced to stand before the American people as leaders and speak out to protect the most vulnerable people in our society against an irresponsible plan that would cause undue pain. I urge a "no" vote on this budget resolution.

RECOGNITION OF THE UNITED FAMILY COALITION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the United Family Coalition for its commitment to regaining control of their community in Ward 7, Washington, DC. On June

13, 1996, UFC will courageously march against drug offenders in their neighborhood. The organization will march from 60th and East Capitol Streets to the U.S. Capitol Grounds as a symbolic show of their solidarity and determination to rid the community of drug dealers and their illegal activity. The United Family Coalition will put all drug dealers and abusers on notice that the sale of narcotics and violent behavior will not be tolerated in Ward 7. UFC and march participants will announce to Congress that Ward 7 can govern itself.

UFC's mission is to enhance the quality of life for children, youth, and families in at-risk communities. This organization provides individual and group counseling on substance abuse, AIDS, employment, and parenting skills. They also provide tutoring and college preparation referrals.

We should all applaud the United Family Coalition for its efforts to regain control of their community. I enthusiastically support the march's objective to create safer communities for our children and families. I urge my colleagues on Capitol Hill to make a similar commitment.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA M. RICH OF EDGEFIELD, SC

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, Martha M. Rich, who is known affectionately throughout Edgefield County as Miz Martha, has served the people of Edgefield County in many ways since moving here in 1956. In that year she began work with the South Carolina Highway Department. Previously, she had worked as a bank teller in Augusta, GA, and operated a restaurant and motel in McCormick County.

It was in 1963 that Martha Rich was asked by then-County Commissioner Frank Timmerman to consider working for Edgefield County. Starting her county work in the tax assessor's office, she was involved that year in the very first property value reassessment program. In 1970, she was named assistant county administrator. During her 33 years with the county, she has served the public on matters as diverse as roads and bridges, emergency medical and fire operations, and waste disposal. Ms. Rich was a key figure in the transition to home rule, when county governments were gaining local control under new laws enacted at the State level. In the often trying political environment of country government, Ms. Rich has served six county administrators and numerous local elected officials. She has also remained a key contact person with State and Federal office holders on behalf of Edgerfield County. Her professionalism and historical perspective of our county government will be missed tremendously now that she has decided to retire.

Though her work schedule has remained heavy throughout the years, Mr. Rich has always made time for community and family. She has been active in the Senior Citizens' Advisory Council, Piedmont Technical College, the Edgefield County Red Cross, the Edgefield County Transportation Committee, and the Governor's Beautification Task Force. She is also a fixture at Red Oak Grove Baptist Church, where she participates in the WMU and the Edgefield Baptist Association. Away from public life and civic pursuits, Martha Rich occupies herself with family. She has a son, Jackie, and three daughters: Patsy Smith, Greenie Crowder, and Georgia Morris. she has one brother, Kenneth Morgan. Six grandchildren also keep here quite busy and bring her a great deal of joy. Ms. Rich looks to family as a first priority in her retirement.

We wish Miz Martha the best in retirement, and we thank her for the work she has done on the behalf of Edgefield County.

IN HONOR OF FIRE CHIEF PETER PHELAN

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 12, 1996, the Milford Fire Department will hold a testimonial dinner to honor Chief Peter Phelan who is retiring. It is with great pleasure that I salute Chief Phelan and his distinguished career of service to the Milford Fire Department.

Chief Phelan's career as a firefighter began in 1944 when he joined the Milford Fire Department as a volunteer firefighter with the former Myrtle Beach Volunteer Engine Company No. 3. He was following a long family history of firefighting for the town of Milford as both his father and grandfather had served in the same company. Chief Phelan was permitted to join even though he was only 17 years old and still in high school at the time. World War II had created a manpower shortage within the fire department so the chief's young age was overlooked.

In November of 1948 Chief Phelan was appointed to the Career Department. He left briefly from 1951 to 1953 to serve with distinction in the Korean conflict. The chief's early career included work with the late Fire Chief Richard Coley to reorganize the old civil defense programs into the Milford Civil Preparedness Agency. Chief Phelan was responsible for preparing plans to put the city of Milford in line for Federal grant programs.

In 1966, Chief Phelan was promoted to the rank of lieutenant. He was promoted again in 1967 to the newly established rank of captain. The chief became a battalion chief in 1972 and, in 1977, became the assistant chief/fire marshal. When the department was reorganized, he was named assistant chief/operations. On January 1, 1996, he was appointed to the office of fire chief.

Chief Phelan has earned a number of awards during the course of his career. The most outstanding awards are the Ryder Fireman of the Year Award and a bronze medal from the Connecticut Humane Society for his part in the rescue of a handicapped person from the second floor of a burning building. These awards illustrate Chief Phelan's dedication to firefighting and the safety of the residents of Milford. He is without doubt one of Milford's most important public servants.

In addition to his involvement with a number of community organizations, Chief Phelan has served as chairman of the Connecticut Fire Marshal's Association's Annual Educational Seminar for the past 15 years. He is also a member of the New England Division of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and was a member of the first group of the Fairfield County Arson Task Force. He is a past president of the Connecticut State Fireman's Association, has served as president of the Connecticut Fire Marshal's Association and has been a member of the board of directors of the New England Fire Marshals Association and the New Haven County Fire Chiefs Emergency Plan.

I am so pleased to join Chief Phelan's colleagues at the Milford Fire Department, his wife Catherine, and his children and grandchildren in congratulating him on his retirement. His departure is a great loss to the town of Milford and the Fire Department. I thank Chief Phelan for a lifetime of extraordinary service to the public and wish him enjoyment in his retirement.

THE WINNING TRADITION OF HUNTINGTON HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, for years we have heard that national sports figures have been role models to young Americans all around the country. There has been a great debate centering around academics versus athletics and what takes precedent in the lives of young adults. I rise today to honor a group of individuals from my district that I am proud to say have excelled on both the athletic field and in the classroom.

The Huntington High School Pony Express boys and girls tennis teams have won a total of three State championships in a span of 2 years. The school won dual titles in 1995 and the girls team won again in 1996. Although they may not be as well known as Andre Agassi or Steffi Graf, they are great example of what one can achieve through hard work and dedication.

Under the guidance of coach Roberta Bunch, the teams combined have attained a record of 68 wins and 2 losses in 2-year span. They are the true definition of what one would call exceptional athletes.

But their performance does not stop between the baselines. In the classroom, this group of players is among the best in the school. All of the players are college bound to schools such as Marshall University, West Virginia University, Duke University, Wake Forest University, and Indiana University. The grade point averages among these players consistently rank in the top 10 percent of their respective classes. They are the true definition of what one would call exceptional students.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that their names be entered into the RECORD at this time: Jeff Morrison, Kyle Foster, Adam Woodruff, Jay Hatten,

Jimmy Leach, Ellie Earles, Taryn Foster, Ashleigh Harrison, Lindsay Wilson, Tiffany Kassab, Erin Allen, Lauren Oxley, Jenna Hegg, Kate Denman, Ramsey Cook, Katie Twohig, Lynsey Jenkins, and Sabrina Copley.

I am proud to recognize these individuals who have striven for and attained the highest peak possible in the Mountain State. I congratulate and salute them.

OFFICER SORRY FOR ATTACK ON NAVY CHIEF

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, the following is an article published by the Indianapolis Star on May 29.

Our Center Township assessor, Jim Maley, says, "Sticks and stones may have broken his bones, but names and words broke his heart. We good guys are proud of Big Mike Boorda."

An honest mistake which hurts no one else does not deserve dishonor, much less death.

At the airport, sometimes they turn the metal detector up too high and it even picks up the ring on your finger. If anything, Adm. Jeremy Boorda's sense of honor was too high. And whatever that is, it is certainly not dishonor.

[From the Indianapolis Star, May 29, 1996]

OFFICER SORRY FOR ATTACK ON NAVY CHIEF

(By Robert Burns)

WASHINGTON.—A Navy officer whose unsigned letter attacking Adm. Jeremy M. "Mike" Boorda was published in the Navy Times three days before Boorda's suicide has come forward and apologized.

"I am sorry for Admiral Boorda's family and for the sailors he loved," Cmdr. John E. Carey wrote in a letter to the editor of the Navy Times.

The newspaper, too, said it regretted publishing the earlier letter, which it called a "cheap shot." It promised to stop publishing letters containing personal attacks.

In a related development, the Navy distributed to all sailors a message from Boorda's widow, Bettie Moran Boorda, expressing thanks for their support.

In publishing Carey's attack against the chief of naval operations Navy Times did not mention that Carey had been relieved of command of the guided-missile destroyer USS Curtis Wilbur. He was punished for verbally abusing his crew.

In a suicide note left at his residence at the Washington Navy Yard, Boorda expressed distress over what he apparently felt would become a media scandal over questions about the propriety of two combat pins he had worn on his chest.

In the unsigned May 13 letter, Carey said Boorda had lost respect of his fellow officers and asked him to resign. He wrote that admirals often referred to the 5-foot-4-inch Navy chief as "Little Mikey Boorda" out of disrespect.

New York's Newsday, reported that Carey told one of its reporters he planned to leave the Navy soon.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLOSE UP FOUNDATION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I want to call the attention of my colleagues to a very special event that is taking place, the 25th Anniversary of the Close Up Foundation.

As many of you know, the Close Up Foundation is the largest civic education organization in the country. It has not always been that way, when Close Up started 25 years ago their first program included 25 participants from 14 States. Today, Close Up brings approximately 25,000 participants annually to Washington, DC, on their various programs. They have participants from all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Pacific Island territories.

These achievements are of themselves enough to make an organization and those who have supported it very proud; however, it does not stop there. Close Up has remained true to its mission over these 25 years. Their focus has been on efforts to be all inclusive and reach students who are underserved, either because of their economic, cultural, or geographic isolation. I am personally familiar with the difference Close Up has made to those who are geographically isolated.

Since 1979, more than 9,200 Alaska students and educators have participated in Close Up's programs. In 1987, Close Up began an effort to focus on including Alaska Native students in the Washington, D.C. High School Program. Since that time, approximately 685 Alaska Native students have taken part in the Close Up program. These students, from every corner of Alaska including our most remote villages, come to Washington and mix with their peers both from within Alaska and throughout the United States. While they are here, they are able to contribute to as well as learn from the diverse population of Close Up's student participants. By including Alaska Native students, young people, who rarely, if ever, have been outside of their villages, get the opportunity to expand their civic literacy as well as learn about the rest of the country and its citizens. We, in Alaska, are very proud of the input all of our Alaskan students bring to their peers from the rest of the country.

The contribution made by Alaska's students and educators takes many shapes, including returning to Alaska to become involved in and to organize Close Up local programs. These local programs provide civic education opportunities for all members of the community not just those students who were lucky enough to get to Washington, DC, to benefit from the Close Up experience. In this way, the Close Up message of informed, responsible citizenship is multiplied many times over to the great benefit of my State and the country.

In this time of distrust and cynicism, Close Up's program works to break down suspicion and to show high school students that government is relevant to their lives and important to them as citizens. With the recent disturbing results of a study of peoples' public opinion of Congress and the Government, we, as elected officials, should make it our goal to raise student interest in government because the future of this Nation depends on their civic involvement.

As we all know, Close Up's message of civic involvement is directed toward all students, not just the academic elite or the affluent. The federally funded Ellender Fellowship Program, along with Close Up generated fellowship funds, has made the Close Up civic learning opportunity a reality for students who would not otherwise be able to afford a trip to Washington, DC. In Alaska, students from families with limited means face an additional hurdle of very high travel costs. The Ellender fellowships help to level the playing field and provide civic educational opportunities to many students who might otherwise be overlooked or left behind.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a longtime supporter of the Close Up Foundation, and I am delighted to be able to send my heartiest congratulations to them on the celebration of their 25th anniversary. The congratulations are for a job well done, and one I hope will continue for another 25 years.

AN EASY WAY TO REDUCE MAIL FRAUD

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation, the Mail Fraud Prevention Act, which will serve to increase the security of mail delivery for every individual who relies on the services of the U.S. Postal Service [USPS].

Current policies at the USPS allow an individual or household to change their address, and therefore forward their mail, to a new location simply by filling out a form and submitting it to the USPS. The forms can even be mailed to the postal service. This policy certainly makes service delivery more fluid for the estimated 42 million individuals or households who move and file mail forwarding orders each year. That convenience, however, has a price. That price may well be the security of personal and financial information delivered by the USPS to individuals and families across the Nation.

Because the USPS does not verify that the person submitting the forwarding order actually resides at the original address before processing the order and rerouting mail, criminals can fraudulently forward another individual or household's mail to a new address. The only information needed to submit a fraudulent forwarding order is the old address and a signature, which can be forged since the USPS does not check the identity of the individual at the time it accepts the completed form.

This policy gives criminals easy access to vital personal and financial information of every USPS customer, virtually every houshold in the Nation. Once bank account, credit card, or Social Security numbers fall into the hands of the thieves, it does not take long for them to drain finances and destroy credit histories that tool a lifetime of fiscal planning

and saving to build. The USPS estimates that 1,000 people annually are victimized by this form of postal fraud.

To the credit of the USPS, they do eventually attempt to verify mail forwarding orders; however, this action comes only after the mail has been rerouted. The USPS mails letters to both addresses, new and old, telling residents that a forwarding order has been processed in their name. The flaw in this system, however, is that in the days or weeks it takes to send these verification notices, mail flows to the new address, sending sensitive and valuable information into the hands of the fraudulent filers.

The USPS has a responsibility to provide the highest level of security to its customers, and current policy regarding changes in address clearly ignores that responsibility. That is why I am introducing this legislation on the issue. This measure would require the USPS to check the identification of indivudals submitting change of address forms at the time the form is submitted, before mail is rerouted. Only forms that are submitted by residents of the original address will be processed.

There is an exception for homebound individuals and others who would have a difficult time getting to a USPS branch to submit the form, although the bill requires the USPS to develop policies to increase the security of these individuals' mail delivery as well. By verifying an individual's identity before mail is actually forwarded, criminals have less opportunity to access personal or financial information. With so many personal and financial documents being sent through the mail in today's society, we must ensure that these documents are as safe as we can make them. This legislation would take a large bite out of postal fraud crime and go a long way in increasing the security of mailed documents and information.

TRIBUTE TO THE LEDYARD HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Ledyard High School girls softball team which has won four consecutive State championships, most recently on June 8, when it defeated Amity by a score of 4 to 3 in the finals.

Coached by Ellen Mahoney, a member of the school's faculty, Ledyard's program has compiled a remarkable record since it was started at the club level in the 1970's. The school has posted five State championships in the 1990's and had undefeated seasons in 1991 and 1993. This year saw yet another undefeated season, with an amazing record of 26 to 0, and a first place finish in the Hartford Courant's poll of girls' softball teams in Connecticut. Ledyard's record in the 1990's is a remarkable 165 victories and 10 losses. During the regular season this spring, the team compiled 16 shutouts in 20 games and allowed only 17 runs in the year's entire 26 game campaign.

Coach Mahoney says a dedicated coaching staff, fan support, and commitment from the kids contribute to the success of the Ledyard program.

The wonderful record of the girls softball team is one of the many elements on the academic and athletic fronts that makes Ledyard High School the excellent institution that it is.

TRIBUTE TO STAN HALL

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to share with you and my colleagues the outstanding professional career and community service of a distinguished constituent who has resided in the city of Oakland for over 25 years, Mr. Stan Hall. On the occasion of his 50th birthday, I wish to join with the community to pay tribute to his dedication and commitment that has endeared him to those he had worked with and earned him well-deserved accolades for over two decades.

Stan Hall was born in Richmond, CA, to William and Hazel Hall. He is the seventh of eight children. Stan attended local schools in the Richmond Unified School District, graduating from Harry Ells High School. He was a member of the student council, drama class, the school band, the school's State championship basketball team and the Forensic Society. Stan received the State Championship Award for Oratorical Interpretation.

He obtained his B.A. degree from San Francisco State University and his M.P.A. from Golden Gate University. He served as a faculty member of the Graduate School of Public Administration at Golden Gate University where he authored and published municipal management articles and presentations.

Throughout his life, Stan has been active in the community, serving as a member or in leadership positions with a number of professional and community organizations. Some of the organizations of which he has held or currently holds positions with, are the United Way of the Bay Area, Bay Area Urban League, Mt. Diablo Therapy Center, CHAD, the NAACP, Municipal Management Assistants of Northern California, the American Society of Public Administration, the National Forum for Black Public Administrators, and the International City Management.

In recognition of his achievements and dedication to the community, Stan was twice named an Outstanding Young Man of America, named in Who's Who in Black America, and Who's Who in California. Among the numerous awards for achievement and community service of which Stan has been the recipient are the Meritorious Service Awards from the city of Richmond, CA, from the Seaside Masonic Lodge, and from the U.S. Department of Labor.

Stan is an active member of the Allen Temple Church of Oakland, CA, where he serves as a member of the public ministries committee, community development committee, the male chorus, and the sanctuary choir.

I join in celebration of Stan's 50th birthday and his more than 20 years of public service.

HONORING THE RED BOILING SPRINGS FIRE AND RESCUE SQUAD

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Red Boiling Springs Fire and Rescue Squad. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that should disaster strike, we know that our friends and neighbors are there to help.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a member of the rescue squad. Rescue squad members undergo a training series over a 4- to 6-month period which includes instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation [CPR], vehicle extrication, emergency driving, and rescue orientation. In addition to this training, rescue squad members also meet monthly to address business concerns as well as hear guest speakers.

Rescue squad members are volunteers. They receive no pay for what they do. What also makes their service especially outstanding is that the organizations themselves receive no funding. They receive no funding from the city, the county, or the Federal Government.

Rescue squads are funded in the same spirit of community volunteerism which move them to serve. Family, friends, and neighbors pitch in at bake sales, road blocks, and fish frys to help those who sacrifice their time for the benefit of the whole community.

Committing such an amount of spare time and energy to a job so emotionally and physically taxing requires a sense of devotion and duty for which we are all grateful.

COMMENDING JENNIFER TUTAK ON HER ESSAY "THE BEST OF THE BEST"

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues an excellent essay from an intelligent young student in my district named Jennifer Tutak. She writes that, looking back over the past 200 plus years of our country's history, we have made remarkable advances and are indeed the best of the best.

I would encourage my colleagues to take a moment and read her very optimistic and uplifting account of what we as Americans have accomplished since the beginning of our country. I certainly agree that the United States is the best country in the world, and Jennifer does well in reminding us of that.

THE BEST OF THE BEST

(By Jennifer Tutak)

Just over two hundred years ago, America was nothing more than a small band of colonies lacking unity and a strong government. Yet today we are leading the world in technological advances, medical breakthroughs,

agricultural production, and global politics. A universal superpower, we have tremendous amounts of food, rich, vast lands, superb military forces, and a successful government. How did this happen? In two centuries, how did we surpass countries which have existed for thousands of years? The answer lies in the strong governmental and moral values of dedicated citizens which have pushed us to the top and continue to bring us to new heights and achievements.

It takes proficiency to make an administration strong, and our federal system of government provides just that. The ethical codes of each of the three branches have built up a stable governing body which meets the needs of its people and serves as a model for the rest of the world. The judicial branch protects the rights of all United States citizens, declaring them "innocent until proven guilty". Both the legislative and executive branches create laws to produce new benefits for the country, like safety regulations and trade agreements.

We hold public votes for our representatives in accord with the belief that the government directly serves us. They reflect our values and wishes and work to institute them. The United States strongly advocates world peace and belongs to a myriad of organizations and committees to promote goodwill, assistance, and trade between countries. We value our environment, the clean, crystal water, fresh air, and lush forests. The country recognizes the resources which we take for granted actually belong to our children's children's children. The government likewise has set up national parks, land reserves, pollution regulations, and created protection for endangered species. A third standard demanded by the people involves that of education. Our government provides public schooling for every child in this country, so that they may grow up with the means to make bright futures for themselves.

Another area in which the American public and their administration have used strong ideals lies in the economy. We have always fiercely believed in a free enterprise system. The incentives of owning a private business and making profit instigated millions of citizens to work hard and develop the country. In doing so, the United States started growing as a capitalist giant through mining, farming, trade, industry, entertainment, and building, to name a few. The money brought in, new inventions, and immigrants eager to try their own hand in business never let the country look back.

The government did uphold and expand on such values, but it was the American voices behind them who presented these ideals and their own customary, unwritten morals. As already shown in the example on free enterprise, U.S. citizens have been zealous believers of hard work since the country's formation. The Founding Fathers set up a government and turned a loose group of states into a nation. Pioneers opened up the West. Immigrants introduced their ideas and joined the fight to advance America. Oil was found, railroads were connected, the Wright brothers flew the first airplane, women won the right to vote, America met victories in both World Wars, Dr. Jonas Salk found the polio vaccine, man landed on the moon, computers were invented, and we continue to speed down the Information Superhighway to new prospects on the horizon. The determination and devoted labor of all Americans has proved quite possible to be our greatest strength.

Besides working hard, the policy of helping others has long been a value which has made America great. Whether it be a neighbor in trouble like Mexico, a devastating earthquake in southern California, or the atrocious Oklahoma City bombing, Americans have come to the rescue. The Red Cross, 911 Emergency Medical Services, police departments, fire stations, and a multitude of other volunteer organizations come forth in times of need. We care about our brothers and sisters. U.S. citizens give money, volunteer time and talent, spread hope, and even donate their own blood and organs for each other. In a country where Good Samaritans live, good things are bound to happen.

Thus, by supporting the ethics of the Constitution and the values of hard work and love, the American people and their government have made our country the international force it is today. We value our freedoms and friends as much as hard work and free enterprise. We value education, the environment, and a peaceful world. We value all of these because we value the future of America. As the 21st century arrives, we shall accomplish new feats and set new goals and continue to make our great country even better.

REFORMING GOVERNMENT

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, June 12, 1996, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

MAKING GOVERNMENT WORK FOR HOOSIERS

Hoosiers often tell me how they feel shut out from the political process. They say that Washington does not listen to them, and is more responsive to special interests than to their own concerns. Many have concluded that government either makes things worse or is incapable of making them better.

It has always been true that people in this country have been skeptical of power, and our system of government, with its checks and balances, reflects that view. Our citizens have long cherished the right to strongly criticize their leaders, and that attitude can be a healthy one.

But public cynicism today is severe, intense, and stronger than it once was. A top priority for elected officials must be to restore confidence in government. People want to see that the government is on their side, working to help not hurt them.

A key element of any reform program must be to make government more responsive to the needs and concerns of its citizens. That means opening up the political process, reducing the role of special interests, and making elected officials more accountable. Congress, with my support, has taken steps to these ends, but more needs to be done.

MAKING VOTING EASIER

Congress, with my support, approved a law in 1993 to ease voter registration procedures, and the results have been encouraging. Since the law went into effect in 1995, almost 10 million more Americans registered to vote, including about 500,000 Hoosiers.

BANNING GIFTS

The House, with my support, passed a bill last year to ban all gifts to Members, with limited exceptions for close family and friends. There is simply no reason to take valuable gifts, meals or vacations from lobbyists.

STRENGTHENING LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS

I voted for a tough lobbying reform law last year that requires paid lobbyists to disclose who pays them, whom they lobby, what issues they lobby for, and how much they are paid to influence the government. This should help make the system more open and accountable.

APPLYING WORKPLACE LAWS TO CONGRESS

Last January Congress passed a law to apply private sector laws to Congress. This law was based on a recommendation of the Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress, which I co-chaired. The legislation applies key workplace laws to Congress, including overtime, workplace safety and anti-discrimination rules.

REFORMING CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS

The House leadership has pledged to take up campaign finance reform this July. I regret it has taken the leadership so long to bring this priority item to the floor. My view is that genuine reform must include the following elements.

First, the importance of political action committees (PACs) should be reduced. We should cap total PAC contributions to a candidate and reduce the limit on contributions from a single PAC.

Second, Members of Congress should be prohibited from running "leadership PACs," which a few Members, including leaders in both parties, use to gain power and influence over other Members for their own personal agenda.

Third, Congress should limit the flow of "soft money" and "independent" spending into political campaigns. Such spending, which is made by or on behalf of corporations, wealthy individuals, and other organizations, falls outside normal federal campaign finance restrictions, and has been abused by both parties in recent years.

Fourth, reforms should emphasize the importance of grassroots political fundraising over big-ticket donors. The number of large contributions should be capped.

Fifth, Congress should examine ways to encourage voluntary campaign spending limits, such as providing reduced-cost television and radio time to candidates who abide by the limits.

Sixth, Congress must give more authority and support to the Federal Election Commission to crack down on election law violations.

FREEZING CONGRESSIONAL SALARIES

I have consistently voted against congressional pay raises during my time in Congress, including the most recent increase in 1989; and for the last several years, have supported the freeze on Members' salaries.

CUTTING CONGRESSIONAL PENSIONS

The House will likely consider proposals this summer to reduce congressional pension benefits, and ban pensions to Members convicted of crimes. Possible reforms include increasing Members' personal contributions and capping total pension benefits. I voted last year to reduce congressional pensions.

LIMITING THE CONGRESSIONAL FRANK

Since 1992, with my support, the House has cut its mailing budget by more than 70%, banned mass mailings within 90 days of an election, and required all mass mailings to be approved by a bipartisan franking commission to ensure they are substantive and non-partisan.

REFORMING ETHICS PROCESS

I have introduced a bill to create an outside panel to investigate charges of mis-conduct against Members. The Ethics Committee has increasingly been unable to fully and fairly investigate, prosecute and judge ethics complaints against fellow Members.

REGULARIZING REFORM

In early 1995 the House, with my support, approved several internal House reforms, including proposals to eliminate three committees and cut committee staff by one-third. I have introduced a bill to regularize this type of reform effort by having Congress take up reform proposals every two years, rather than do one-shot, omnibus packages every twenty or thirty years.

CONCLUSION

No issue is more important than the restoration of the confidence of Americans in their government. Americans will forgive government's honest failings if they believe that it cares about their needs and is trying to do a better job. Members of Congress have an obligation to earn the public's respect and trust. Congress has taken some important steps, but other, broader reforms are necessary if Congress is to be the truly representative body the people deserve and the nation's founders intended.

TRIBUTE TO MAJ. SCOTT BURAN

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional officer of the U.S. Marines in Maj. Scott Buran. This week, Major Buran completes a highly successful tour as the Marine Corps' assistant liaison officer to this body over the past 4 years. It is truly a pleasure for me to recognize a few of his many outstanding achievements.

A native of Vestal, NY, Major Buran became dedicated to the service of this country by following the fine example of his father, Lt. Col. Frank Buran. A retired Marine officer with his own impressive achievements, the elder Buran led marines during the amphibious assault on Iwo Jima during World War II and later during the Korean war. Following in his father's footsteps, Major Buran was commissioned in the Marine Corps on May 15, 1982, upon his graduation from the State University of New York via the Platoon Leaders Course Program.

Upon completion of The Basic School in Quantico, VA, Second Lieutenant Buran attended the Artillery Officer Basic Course at Fort Sill, OK, before reporting for duty with the First Battalion, Eleventh Marines at Camp Pendleton, CA, in August 1983. With 1/11, he served successively as a forward observer, adjutant, and battery executive officer.

In July 1985, First Lieutenant Buran joined Marine Barracks Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, for duty as a platoon commander and guard officer. Completing a successful 14 months in the Philippines, he returned stateside in the winter of 1986 for his new assignment at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, CA. Here, newly promoted Captain Buran contributed immeasurably to the process of making marines while serving successively as a platoon, series, and company commander, and finally as the S–3 training officer.

After a 6-month return to school at Fort Sill for the artillery officers advanced course, Captain Buran returned to the Fleet Marine Force in November 1989. Just 4 months later, he deployed with 3rd Battalion, 10th Marines as an artillery battery commander for duty in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Serving with distinction, Captain Buran participated in the liberation of Kuwait City.

Captain Buran arrived at the Capitol in August 1992 for duty as the Marine Corps assistant congressional liaison officer. Soon thereafter, he was advanced to the grade of major. In this capacity he has been instrumental in providing Congress with a working knowledge of the Marine Corps. Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, Maj. Scott Buran has come to epitomize those qualities that we as a nation have come to expect from our marines—impeccable integrity, moral character, and absolute professionalism.

I had the privilege of traveling with Major Buran to Somalia and to the former Yugoslavia. His superb professionalism, mature judgment, and tireless effort and enthusiasm made this trip not only possible, but extraordinarily useful as a means of informing the Congress of the situation in these troubled lands. Major Buran consistently exceeds the very high expectations of an officer of the Marines.

Major Buran's personal awards include the Combat Action Ribbon, the Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal with two gold stars in lieu of second and third awards, and the Meritorious Service Medal. Mr. Speaker, Maj. Scott Buran has served this Nation with distinction in war and in peace for the last 14 years. As he continues to do so, I call upon my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to wish him, his lovely wife Ann, and their three beautiful children, Elizabeth, Sydney, and Samuel, every success as well as fair winds and following seas.

A COLORADO AVALANCHE IN MIAMI

HON. WAYNE ALLARD

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Colorado Avalanche on their Stanley Cup championship. Colorado has had a long and illustrious history with all of its professional sports teams, yet the Avs are the first to bring home the top prize. While it has been almost 14 years since Colorado has had an NHL team, we are now able to appreciate Joe Sakic putting the biscuit in the basket and Patrick Roy's sterling defense in the net.

Coloradans closely associate themselves with the fortunes of our professional sports franchises, but it was the new kid on the block, the Avalanche, who overwhelmed the best team in NHL history, the Detroit Red Wings, for a shot at the NHL's most coveted prize. Marc Crawford and his Avalanche did not disappoint their frenzied fans at home. After hard fought victories in games one and three of the championship series, Uwe Krupp scored the final goal in the third overtime of the fourth game to complete a sweep of the Florida Panthers and bring the hardware home.

Mr. Speaker, since the Colorado Rockies hockey club left for New Jersey in 1982, NHL fans in Colorado have had little to celebrate. I can happily say that NHL hockey has returned to Colorado with a vengeance. With a team this young and talented, we look forward to many more championship seasons from the Colorado Avalanche.

A TRIBUTE TO REV. AARON GIBSON, SR.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Rev. Aaron Nathaniel Gibson, Sr., pastor of the Second Baptist Church of Long Branch, NJ. Reverend Gibson was overwhelmingly elected pastor by the members of the congregation on February 21, 1996, Ash Wednesday, after a 17-year association.

Mr. Speaker, the Second Baptist Church of Long Branch has a long and illustrious history, going back more than a century. In the 1880's, a group of believers in the Baptist faith settled in Long Branch. Finding no church, they met in the home of Mrs. Ellen Hill of Brook Street, with Brother William Bloodsaw as their leader. As the group of worshipers grew too large for the house on Brook Street, the congregation moved to Liberty Hall on Broadway, and, from there, back to Brook Street in the public primary school building, and then on to Layton Hall on Broadway. Brother Bloodsaw was succeeded by Reverend Jones, who was followed by Reverend Jeffries. It was during the tenure of Reverend Jeffries that the present site, 93 Liberty Street, was purchased and a frame building was constructed. The current stone building in which the congregation now worships was built in 1904. The church subsequently purchased a parish home on Liberty Street. The Reverend C.P. Williams was installed as pastor in 1934, and served continuously more than 50 years. During these sometimes difficult years of growth, expansion, and stability, the Second Baptist Church distinguished itself not only for providing its members with spiritual inspiration and sustenance, but also for civic, humanitarian, educational, and community endeavors.

Reverend Gibson, a native of Baltimore, has great experience not only as a minister, but also as an educator, published writer, human resource manager, and Army chaplain. He has studied at Brookdale Community College, El Paso Community College, Newark State College, and the University of Maryland. He has served as an associate minister of Fulton Baptist Church in Baltimore, assistant pastor of a 750-member church in Vogelweh, Germany, and as the director of parish development for the Army Chaplaincy. Reverend Gibson is married to Sheila Alexander, and they have

three children: Aaron Nathaniel, Jr., Damon Garrick, and Rachel Renee.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Gibson is seeking to lead the people of the Second Baptist Church of Long Branch on a spiritual pilgrimage of being "A Church Led By The Spirit Of God." Given the proud history of Second Baptist, the strong bonds of family and community of its members, and the inspired and devoted leadership of Reverend Gibson, I am confident that this spiritual journey will continue for many years to come.

QUEENS LIBRARY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO RESIDENTS

HON. FLOYD H. FLAKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 1996

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the oldest and most remarkable residents of my district. This constituent has lived in Queens for 100 years and has tirelessly given to many communities in the borough, reaching out to young and old of all faiths and ethnic groups. This constituent speaks dozens of languages, knows ancient history, understands the cultures of the world, and surfs the Internet.

This constituent of mine is the Queens Borough Public Library, which recently celebrated its centennial. Last month it marked 100 years of growth in size and services. It now boasts a central library and 62 branches within walking distance of almost the entire population of Queens, the highest circulation per capita of any public library, and more than 18,000 free cultural and educational programs each year.

After 100 years of growth and success, one could justifiably say that the library has hit its targets, it has made its mark, and it can rest on its laurels. The library has no such intentions. In the coming months, the library will open its new Asian center at the Flushing branch, a unique facility servicing the heart of the Asian community east of the Mississippi River; expand its highly popular and successfully latchkey and homework assistance programs that currently helps 35,000 children a year; and complete the networking of its branches with the main library to make even more resources available via computers to the community at large.

The Queens Library is simply an amazing place. Last year, it developed a special exhibit on Lewis Lattimer, an African-American inventor and engineer who worked with Edison on developing the electric light. It also displayed the oldest books printed with metal moveable type, brought all the way from Korea. It set up a database of community services for Queens residents, and even won the annual dragon boat race.

Mr. Speaker, I bring the library to our attention today with the utmost pride in its accomplishments. I congratulate the library on its century of service, and look forward to its second hundred years with great anticipation.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 1996, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 14

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Legislative Branch Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the General Accounting Office, and the Architect of the Capitol.
S-128, Capitol

1:00 p.m.
Foreign Relations
Western Hemisphere and Peace Corps Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the status of the hemisphere.
SD-419

JUNE 18

9:00 a.m.
Rules and Administration
To hold hearings on public access to government information in the 21st century, focusing on the Government Printing Office depository library program.
SR-301

9:30 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Research, Nutrition, and General Legislation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to review a report to the Department of Agriculture by the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Concentration, and to examine other livestock industry issues.
SR-328A

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold oversight hearings on the Federal Communications Commission.
SR-253

Environment and Public Works
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.
SD-406

Labor and Human Resources
To hold hearings on S. 1035, to permit an individual to be treated by a health care practitioner with any method of medical treatment such individual requests.
SD-430

10:00 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine oversight of the Department of Justice witness security program.
SH-216

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
Briefing to assess the impact of recent Albanian elections and prospects for its future.
2255 Rayburn Building

2:00 p.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings on pending nominations.
SD-226

2:30 p.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for defense programs.
SD-138

JUNE 19

9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine issues relating to salmon recovery research.
SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.
SD-366

Rules and Administration
To continue hearings on public access to government information in the 21st century, focusing on the Government Printing Office depository library program.
SR-301

10:00 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings on S. 1740, to define and protect the institution of marriage.
SD-226

JUNE 20

10:00 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings with the Committee on Indian Affairs on provisons of H.R. 2406, United States Housing Act, relating to Native American housing assistance.
SD-538

Indian Affairs
To hold hearings with the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs on provisons of H.R. 2406, United States Housing Act, relating to Native American housing assistance.
SD-538

JUNE 21

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
Legislative Branch Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Secretary of the Senate, the Sergeant At Arms, and the Government Printing Office.
S-128, Capitol

JUNE 25

9:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To resume hearings to examine the security status of national computer information systems and networks.

SD-342

10:00 a.m.

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Library of Congress.

S-128, Capitol

JUNE 26

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To resume hearings on S. 1726, to promote electronic commerce by facilitating the use of strong encryption.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on S. 1804, to make technical and other changes to the laws dealing with the territories and freely associated States of the United States, on a proposed amendment relating to Bikini and Enewetak medical care, and to hold oversight hearings on the law enforcement initiative in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

SD-366

Governmental Affairs

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To continue hearings to examine the security status of national computer information systems and networks.

SD-342

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for the Federal Election Commission, and on campaign finance reform proposals.

SR-301

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on proposals to reform the Indian Child Welfare Act.

SR-485

JULY 16

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Department of Education.

SD-138

SEPTEMBER 17

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.

334 Cannon Building

CANCELLATIONS

JUNE 13

2:00 p.m.

Appropriations

Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1997 for the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

SD-192