

was very caring about what happen with his students and what direction they were headed" (Stephanie Lopez, a former student and first grade teacher).

In return, the community was there for Loya. When it was discovered that he needed a bone marrow transplant, hundreds flocked to have their bone marrow tested during six drives in his honor. Although no matching donor was found, Loya helped to raise awareness of the need for bone marrow donors.

In the Salinas Valley a true champion is lost. My thoughts remain with his family.

HONORING THE 5TH ANNUAL
"CALIFORNIA DUCK DAYS"

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 1998

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an event in my district that has become one of the premier wildlife festivals in the United States. In the short span of five years, "California Duck Days" has grown from a small, community-based event to a large, regional festival offering a wide range of activities including field trips, workshops, lectures, family and youth activities, and, for the first time ever, a large Exposition Hall which includes educational displays, vendor booths, and demonstrations about wetlands and wildlife.

This year, "Duck Days" is co-hosted by the California Waterfowl Association, and it coincides with the Sacramento Valley's peak migration period for hundreds of thousands of waterfowl moving south on the Pacific Flyway. "Duck Days" showcases the wonders and diversity of our region's wetlands and it serves both to increase public awareness and to promote education about the importance of wetlands and wildlife.

Last fall, the community, and many of this year's "Duck Days" participants, braved the cold and rain to successfully dedicate the opening of the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. We were joined that day by President Clinton who noted that "there is no challenge facing this country that we cannot meet, if we will just do what you have done here." The 3700 acre wetlands area that constitutes the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area is the largest wetlands area in the western United States and "California Duck Days" is a continuation and expansion of the many partnerships that created the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. The president's message, which stressed the power of collaboration, continues to be highlighted by the growing successes of the "Duck Days" celebrations.

With over 60 participating organizations, "Duck Days" is proof that individuals and organizations can work together to give thousands of people, young and old, the opportunity to experience these wild places, learn about them, and share their experiences with others. I commend the successful model of the Yolo Basin Foundation to my colleagues and extend the congratulations of the House of Representatives to the organizers and participants of 1998's "California Duck Days" festival.

HONORING TILLIE ROTHSTEIN

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 1998

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the lifetime achievements and the memory of a remarkable visionary, activist, and friend, Tillie Rothstein. Tillie was a determined and tireless trailblazer whose contributions to Broward County, and to me personally, have left a permanent impression and a rich legacy.

Tillie is a New York native who made her home and her political career in South Florida. She and her husband retired to Sunrise, Florida in 1977, but Tillie wasted no time launching into the local political arena. She served as a congressional aide and worked in public relations at Broward Federal Savings & Loan. However, she is perhaps best known for her leadership as president of the West Broward Democratic Club which now flourishes as an influential presence, due in large part to her hard work and courageous pioneering. She was unshakably loyal, and her support was one of the most sought after endorsements among those with political aspirations. Always confident and tenacious, Tillie campaigned for her candidates and the causes she championed for over twenty years, thus earning recognition as a stalwart figure in the Broward County community. I am grateful for this opportunity to applaud Tillie for her outstanding efforts and thank her for her innumerable contributions to the community. She will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO ODESSA E. TEVIS

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 1998

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I once heard beauty described as "unity in variety." In considering our American people, that definition could easily be expanded to describe the beauty of America—a nation of people gathered from a diversity of backgrounds united in their belief in the freedom of all human beings and their deep love for the country that protects those freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce you to an exemplary American, and a good friend, Odessa E. Tevis. Odessa is being honored on Sunday, February 1, 1998 by the Tarpon Springs Historical Society and by the community, for her 25 years of volunteerism in this area.

Born in St. Louis, Missouri on November 27, 1908, Odessa, like so many children during wartime and a troubled economy, moved several times during her childhood. Having moved from Missouri to Chicago to Iowa then back to Chicago, Odessa graduated from High School and then junior college. On the last day of 1931, she married her high school sweetheart, Harry Tevis. Harry worked for the Illinois Bell Telephone Company, and for the next eighteen years, every promotion meant yet another move to another city in Illinois.

There was one interruption—WWII—and Harry had orders to go overseas. But, before he left, he helped Odessa find a job at the

Atlas Educational Film Company in Oak Park, IL where she worked on scripts and even did a little acting when needed.

Having made several trips to this area over the years, when Harry retired in 1973, they decided the Florida Suncoast was where they wanted to live. The two cars and camper were barely unpacked when Odessa began making the community her own. Within a year her beloved Harry had passed away and Odessa filled those open hours by helping others. If someone needed a ride to the doctor or the hospital, or needed medication; or a friend to stay through an extended illness or watch a child—Odessa was there. Even today, at 89 years of age, her days are divided between at least two projects such as volunteering at an eye care clinic and a local museum. When asked why she does so much, she chuckles and matter-of-factly replies, "might as well!"

Her 25 years of involvement in many organizations, including the Women's Club of Tarpon Springs, the New Port Richey Garden Club, the Tarpon Springs Garden Club, the Friends of the Library, the Republican Women's Club of Tarpon Springs, and the Tarpon Springs Historical Society, to name a few, has endeared her to the community. Her involvement in projects for the last quarter century has resulted in countless improvements in the community and benefited many, many residents indeed.

Because of her energy and her example, Odessa has the ability to gather people from diverse backgrounds and unify them by a common goal . . . and has therefore made a beautiful difference in our community. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to join my community members and the Tarpon Springs Historical Society in honoring our own Odessa E. Tevis as an exemplary American volunteer.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, as we return for the beginning of the 1998 legislative session I want to renew my call for action this year on campaign finance reform. Last year, I submitted a daily statement for the official RECORD calling on you to allow a vote on campaign finance reform. Unfortunately, we were not allowed an opportunity to vote on this important issue. I hope that 1998 will be the year we finally respond to the demands of the public, who overwhelmingly want us to fix the current campaign funding system.

In the U.S. Senate, Senator LOTT has promised a vote on this issue before March 5. I applaud his commitment to allowing a vote. I hope that the leadership in the House will also commit to a date certain. Until then, I will continue my practice of submitting a daily statement to remind the congressional leadership and the public that we have not passed campaign finance reform.

Mr. Speaker, the problem is clear, there is too much money involved in the election campaigns. The influence of money has created the appearance of special interest influence in the democratic process. The voters no longer believe they have a voice in the system. We will not be able to turn around public opinion,