

champions during a final game against 17-year consecutive title holders Mount St. Charles Academy. She became the first goalie in 18 years to do so in a title series game. Due to her hard work the year before, Sara was the starting goalie her senior year.

Sara began her college career playing for the women's hockey team at Providence College. During the summer of 1997 Sara was chosen for Team USA to compete in the Pacific Rim Games at Lake Placid, New York. Team USA shut out the Canadian women's team 3-0 in the winner take all championship game. As a result of her skill and sportsmanship during those games, Sara was chosen for the United States Women's Olympic Hockey Team.

Sara is not only a great player, she is a great team player. She was not chosen to start in the gold medal game against Canada, but understood that the success of the whole team was more important than whether or not she got to play. Before the gold medal game she took off her angel pin that had brought her good luck for so long and gave it to the starting goalie.

For the past fifteen years Sara has heard people tell what she can't do. Sara has shown the whole world what she can do. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sara and the rest of her teammates for their victory in Nagano.

TRIBUTE TO MILDRED ANN
"MILLIE" BESSIRE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 1998

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mildred Ann "Millie" Bessire, a dedicated community leader who is being honored as an inductee into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Mildred Ann "Millie" Bessire has dedicated countless hours to improving the lives of children, particularly young girls, in San Mateo County. She has spent over 50 years in Girl Scouting, including more than 20 years actively leading a two-week long Girl Scout Day Camp, establishing it as an ongoing program in which she currently acts as Day Camp Administrator. Ms. Bessire also has been active in the Parent Teachers Association (PTA) for over 30 years, serving as President at the local and council levels. In addition, she has developed the expertise of others by recruiting and training adult volunteers, including her own grown daughters who are now active in the Girl Scouting program. In recognition of her volunteer efforts, she has been given numerous awards, including the PTA Honorary Service Award at the local, council, and district levels and the 1997 Women Helping Women Award from the Soroptomists.

Mr. Speaker, Mildred Ann "Millie" Bessire is an outstanding citizen and I salute her for her remarkable contributions and commitment to our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and congratulating her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today I read that there may be a vote on a pure soft money ban on the floor of the House of Representatives. While I strongly support a ban on soft money, it is not enough. Any campaign finance legislation that will make a difference must include increased disclosure rules on independent expenditures. The independent groups have come to dominate our campaigns, you just need to look at the race in California to see the effect outside interest groups have had on campaigns.

Fortunately, there is a bill that achieves that goal. The Bipartisan Campaign Integrity Act of 1997, H.R. 2183, bans soft money and places simple disclosure requirements on expenditures by independent groups. This bill does not violate free speech and is a practical way to start to get the big money out of the political system. The six Democrats and six Republicans who worked on this bill have taken the poison pills out of this legislation and have crafted a bill that can be supported by both parties. Our legislation has the most bipartisan co-sponsors of any bill in the House.

The time is now to pass a meaningful campaign finance reform bill. The Bipartisan Campaign Integrity Act of 1997 is the best bill available. The people of my district refuse to take "no" for an answer.

IN HONOR OF G.W. "BUD" MERWIN

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 1998

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a small businessman and a veteran from my home State of Texas. G.W. "Bud" Merwin is retiring as the President of the Automotive Services Association which is located in my district. The Automotive Services Association is the nation's oldest and largest not-for-profit trade association representing all segments of the automotive repair industry including mechanical, collision, and transmission repair facilities.

Bud Merwin started as the owner of a full-service mechanical, towing, and collision repair business. He graduated from the Institute for Organization Management at the University of Delaware and served in the United States Army. He was stationed in Germany and is an honor graduate of the U.S. Army truck, wheel, and light aircraft repair training school.

In 1971, he launched the very first voluntary automotive technicians' certification program, the National Automotive Technicians Certification Board. This later merged with Automotive Service Excellence that has become the industry standard for quality.

Bud was a founding board member of the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation, a co-founder of the International Autobody Congress and Exposition, and a founding officer of the Automotive Service Councils and the Automotive Management Institute.

G.W. "Bud" Merwin has worked throughout his life to protect American small business and to ensure excellence in the automotive repair community. Although he was not born in Texas, I am glad that he and the Automotive Service Association call it home.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN E. "JACK"
COTTER

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 1998

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man whose compassion, community dedication, and managerial skills have made him one of Arizona's most accomplished and well-respected citizens, Mr. John E. "Jack" Cotter, the Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Community Services of Southern Arizona. Arizona's largest voluntary social service organization, Catholic Community Services and its many agencies touch tens of thousands of lives across Southern Arizona each year. I am especially grateful for the services that Mr. Cotter has made available to my constituents in the Second District of Arizona.

Many of the service provider agencies and their programs exist because of the leadership and direction provided by Mr. Cotter during his tenure as Chief Executive Officer. Under his direction Catholic Community Services has achieved a remarkable record of accountability and stability in all its services. This is especially noteworthy because the funding for these services is patched together from many different public, private, local, state, and national sources. In terms of monetary value of the work, the combined program expenditures totaled more than \$23 million in the last fiscal year.

With this level of expenditure and with more than one thousand employees working across Southern Arizona, an organization of this size could lose its focus on compassionate service to the individual client. Jack Cotter has worked diligently and has provided leadership to his staff that ensures the true focus of Catholic Community Services has been maintained as a caring organization faithfully guided to serve those most in need of advocates and protectors: our children, our elderly, our ill, and our disabled.

In many Southern Arizona neighborhoods, Catholic Community Services is the only organization available to help those in need. I am grateful for the generous and caring spirit that has moved John E. Cotter to share his talents and to relieve the suffering of so many on a daily basis. The reputation of Catholic Community Services as a trustworthy, compassionate and effective organization for meeting the needs of individuals and communities, reflects the character of its leader, John E. Cotter.

All of Arizona has benefited from the 25 years Mr. Cotter has given to Catholic Community Services. As he retires, it is fitting that we reflect and thank him for all that he has done to make life more productive and less stressful for so many. For others, the services he made available were the critical factors determining life or death. I applaud all that he has done and hold him out to the nation as an honored leader. May his example guide others to a life of compassion and service.