

too discouraged when things are going badly. Everything I know about transition from communism to democracy teaches me to be a short-term realist when it comes to Russia. But it also teaches me to be a long-term optimist.

This period is different from all the other periods of change and reform in Russia's history in one important way. Unlike the Peter the Great's time, Russia is not seeking to enter a Europe of absolute monarchies in perpetual conflict. Unlike in 1917, it does not need to escape from a Europe engulfed in the senseless slaughter of a total war.

Yesterday, Europe was organized around alliances of countries that knew what they were against. Today, the rest of Europe and much of the world is coming together around a consensus for open markets, for cleaner government, for greater tolerance and peace. In the last 20th century, the forces that pull Russia toward integration, and that counteract the autarkic, self-isolating forces within Russian itself—are more powerful than at any time in history.

It is our job—because it is in our interest—to manage the aftermath of the Soviet Empire's disintegration, to help Russia integrate into the community of which we are a part, and eventually to help Russia thrive, not just muddle along. And that means remaining steady in defense of our principles, interests, and objectives. And it means standing with Russia as it moves forward—as long as it is moving on the right track.

I will continue to dedicate my best efforts to this hard-headed, principled enterprise, and I solicit yours as well.

Thank you very much.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AMARTYA  
SEN

**HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Amartya Sen who has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Economic Science for his work on human rights, poverty and inequality.

The Indian-born Professor Sen found an academically rigorous way to examine the impact that social policy choices have on rich and poor alike. His ground-breaking work on the 1943 Bengal famine has spawned extensive academic work on social choice and its economic consequences. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences noted that Professor Sen's research had "restored an ethnical dimension to the discussion of vital economic problems." Professor Sen himself said "I believe that economic analysis has something to contribute to substantive ethics in the world in which we live."

Professor Sen was also influential in how international organizations deal with food crises. His 1981 book "Poverty and Famine" demonstrated that famine was an avoidable economic and political catastrophe and not just a consequence of nature. The United Nations drew heavily on Professor Sen's work in creating the U.N. Development Index which quantifies the quality of life in different countries by looking at such factors as longevity and school enrollment rather than simply examining per capita income.

Professor Sen has restored a much needed discussion of values to the study of economics. His work can help us all understand the social consequences of economic choices and reminds us all that ultimately the quality of life is measured by more acquisitions.

Mr. Speaker, as the new co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Professor Sen for a lifetime of significant contributions to the study of economics and for being awarded the Nobel Prize.

COMMEMORATING PHILADELPHIA  
CORPORATION FOR AGING'S 25TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging as it marks its 25th anniversary of making quality of life a reality for senior citizens in Philadelphia.

The Philadelphia Corporation for Aging (PCA) is the largest of the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) in Pennsylvania, employing over 400 people. It has the distinction of being the fourth largest AAA in the country. Funded in part through the Pennsylvania Department of Aging and the federal Older Americans Act, PCA serves over 70,000 older Philadelphians each year through an umbrella of services designed to recognize the dignity of all older people while it respects their racial, religious, sexual and cultural differences.

From the onset, PCA's mission has been to improve the quality of life for older and disabled Philadelphians. It assists these individuals in achieving maximum levels of health, independence and productivity. Now, 25 years later, PCA can take pride in knowing it successfully meets its goals of addressing the changing needs of the community it serves. Whether it is its successful Senior Helpline, an extensive telephone information and referral service, or its Language Line, which addresses the language barriers of the many ethnic groups that make up a major city, PCA is always striving to do all it can for its unique clientele. In the summer, the successful Heatline is activated, sending volunteers to address heat stress issues with seniors, ensuring their health and safety.

In addition to these services, PCA operates approximately 50 multi-purpose senior community centers and satellite meal sites throughout the city, providing counseling, education, health promotion, a healthy meal and social interaction with those individuals over 60 years of age. PCA also offers transportation assistance, legal services, employment programs, companion programs and long-term care access to help our older citizens cope with many of the specific needs of the aging community.

Mr. Speaker, Pennsylvania is the second "grayist" state in the country and over 19 percent of Philadelphia's population is over 60 years of age. In my district alone, over

100,000 people are over age 65, making the Third Congressional District the 20th largest senior population in the country. As a result of serving such a large senior citizen constituency, I have the opportunity to see and hear the specific needs of our older residents and I see firsthand what an organization like PCA does to improve the quality of life for those over age 60.

As medical advances enable people to live longer lives we, as a society, must be better able to handle the medical, housing, and social challenges experienced by our aging community. PCA is one of the key agencies working to help individuals and their families cope with those challenges and, as a result, serves as a vital link to our aging population.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to pay tribute to PCA's President, Rodney D. Williams, for his 25 years of leadership and service excellence. Under his leadership, PCA has proudly improved the quality of life for all older people in Philadelphia. I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the valuable work performed by PCA and its staff and wish them many more years of success.

HONORING THE NORWOOD NEWS

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 15, 1998*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak about community newspapers, their value to the neighborhoods they serve and their function in unifying a community. Specifically I am speaking about a wonderful and dedicated community newspaper in my district—the Norwood News.

This newspaper was founded ten years ago by the Moshulu Preservation Corporation to help make Norwood a better place and to fill a void—no newspaper was being published in the neighborhood.

From its first edition it has fulfilled that mission. The front page story that day was about a sewer reconstruction project gone awry and which has led to the destruction of a line of magnificent trees.

In the intervening decade the paper has evolved in design and grown in content but has maintained one constant—to do stories about the community and to give the community a path of action. When necessary, the Norwood News dedicates large segments of its edition to stories having a significant impact in the community—more space than a daily newspaper could afford to give. Remarkably, it is able to accomplish its great work as a not-for-profit newspaper because the neighborhood cannot sustain a paper which requires a profit.

The spirit of a free press, so necessary to freedom and democracy, lives in the Norwood News. It carries on the grassroots tradition of bringing local information to people so they can make informed decisions. I congratulate the Norwood News on its tenth anniversary and look forward to reading the newspaper for many more years.