

be erased. Judge A. Leon Higginbotham's legacy is too important.

TRIBUTE TO LOUIE GREENGARD

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 1998

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend the work of a tireless brother from the House of Labor in my district, Louie Greengard. Mr. Greengard recently retired as the president of the Saint Paul Trades and Labor Assembly, the AFL-CIO central body my district.

In 1969, Louie Greengard began his trades career as a carpenter. Elected Recording Secretary of the Carpenters and Joiners Local 87 in 1977, Greengard advanced to the position of Business Agent in 1982. In 1988, his carpenter sisters and brothers elected him as Executive Secretary of the Carpenters District Council. One year later, in 1989, Louie Greengard was elected President of the Saint Paul Trades and Labor Assembly. He served in this capacity until his recent retirement late this year.

I've been pleased to work with Louie Greengard on a wide variety of issues, all advancing the working people's interests and concerns. I know Greengard as a hard-working, strong, fair, effective servant of labor in all walks of life and work; advocating for working families' wages, benefits, and an innovative service network; leading the Trades and Labor Assembly through good times and bad. Highlights include organizing innumerable Saint Paul Winter Carnival Parade units for the Assembly; coordinating labor's participation in the United Way campaigns; drawing Minnesota's oldest labor newspaper, The Union Advocate under the trades and Labor Assembly's aegis; successfully lobbying for Saint Paul's half-cent sales tax, creating a fund for community reinvestment and redevelopment; guiding the Assembly's participation in challenging election cycles; advocating strongly and forcefully for working families; and always working to bring people together for the common good.

With Mr. Greengard's retirement on November 11, 1998, he has, no doubt, plans to use his richly-deserved free time to restore a few more classic cars; spend more time with his wonderful family, his spouse Jan, his 5 children and 12 grandchildren; spend more time with his faithful basset hound, Jake; and bask in the friendship and warm sunshine of southern winters chasing fish and golf balls.

Louie Greengard is a great example of those who ably, confidently and successfully lead the house of labor. We are all richer for his friendship, leadership and tireless advocacy of working women and men. I'm honored to represent him and earn the support of working men and women in our state. It is with heartfelt thanks and gratitude that I wish him the best of health and a well deserved retirement.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR.
ERNEST J. KING

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 1998

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give special tribute to my constituent and good friend, Mr. Ernest J. King of Temple, Texas. On January 2, 1999, Mr. King will retire from government service upon serving his country for forty-two years and nine months.

Born in Palestine, West Virginia, Mr. King joined the Army National Guard in 1956 and served with distinction as a guardsman until 1971. In that capacity, he became a specialist in the Nike Ajax and Nike Hercules military fire control systems at Fort MacArthur, California. Throughout his tenure there, he earned various awards and commendations befitting his exemplary service in the Guard.

Upon completing his military service, he began his twenty-seven year tenure as an electronics technician with the Federal Aviation Administration. His breadth of experience highlights Mr. King's service in the FAA. He received numerous citations for his dedication to excellence, often described in accolades from his superiors as having "a can-do attitude", "a keen sense of personal initiative" and "a professionalism maintained at a level far beyond the call of duty". Mr. King played an instrumental role in attaining the FAA's Best Regional Sector Field Office of the Year Award for 1974 and Best Regional Sector of the Year Award for 1981. He was also lauded for his efforts in the Panama Canal Zone. After President Carter signed the Panama Canal Treaty in 1978, Mr. King and his colleagues were charged with the air traffic and radar control transition from United States to Panamanian jurisdiction. They did this with particular distinction, earning high praise from the regional headquarters in Atlanta.

The King family has resided in my Congressional district since 1981. My admiration and fondness for them run deep. Furthermore, I extend my sincere appreciation to Mr. King for his commitment and duty to his country for over forty years.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognizing and honoring a gentleman who has served his country and community well.

RECOGNIZING JERRY LOCKMAN OF
CHARLOTTE, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take a moment today to recognize Mr. Jerry Lockman for his work on the "House That Congress Built" project in Charlotte, Michigan.

Jerry dutifully served as volunteer construction manager and building consultant for the first several weekends of this home located at 521 Monroe, Charlotte. He was largely responsible for its quick framing and roofing and I am proud to say we will dedicate this new home this Sunday, December 20, 1998, at 3 p.m.

Mr. Lockman generously volunteered his construction expertise to guide volunteers with varying degrees of experience to construct the home. Not only did Jerry donate his vast knowledge, but his time and tools too.

Families selected to receive a Habitat for Humanity home are required to contribute many hours of their "sweat equity" to the construction of their future home. Mr. Lockman's sweat equity, his dedication, hard work and long hours are what I recognize and honor today. His investment in this home, neighborhood, Charlotte community. Eaton Area Habitat for Humanity, and perhaps most importantly, the lives of the new homeowners, Julie, Hailey and Skyler Hartig, is to be commended.

Many of my colleagues have been involved in the construction of a Habitat for Humanity home. This year, I was privileged enough to lend my support to three houses in my district. I could not have attempted to help build these homes without the drive, support and assistance of good people like Mr. Jerry Lockman.

The Honorable Speaker of the House, NEWT GINGRICH, perhaps summed it up best when we kicked off the "House that Congress Built" project last year. "When you help a family grow, as well as build a house—when you watch the sense of ownership—you understand why this is a great program."

The Theology of the Hammer, a guiding principle of Habitat, is an appropriate way to describe Jerry's efforts. This theology emphasizes partnerships, bringing people together from all different social, racial, religious, political and education backgrounds, to work together for a common goal. This was never more apparent than working at the Charlotte home site. People were brought together in the spirit of friendship and teamwork, and personal differences didn't matter. Mr. Lockman embodies the spirit of volunteerism and caring that fuel so many organizations like Habitat for Humanity, allowing them to do all the good things they do for others in need in our communities and around the world.

Habitat is founded on the conviction that every man, woman and child should have a simple, decent, affordable place to live, grow and raise their families. Because of Jerry Lockman and others, the Julie Hartig family now has such a place to call home.

My wife Bonnie and I would like to offer Jerry our most sincere thanks for his dedicated volunteerism and assistance in helping build the Eaton Area Habitat for Humanity's the "House That Congress Built," at 521 Monroe, Charlotte.

RUSSIA IS A SIGNIFICANT
PROBLEM IN CYPRUS

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 1998

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, the tensions in Cyprus continue, despite a new round of American diplomatic efforts and shuttle diplomacy by the United Nations envoy. In my view, our government should focus its attention on a significant part of the problem: Russia.

As it has since May, Russia refuses to halt its planned sale of S-300 missiles to the Greek Cypriots, despite resounding protests

and criticism from our government and the United Kingdom, Germany, and the United Nations. The world realizes that introducing sophisticated anti-aircraft missiles and powerful air surveillance radar into the fragile Cyprus peace would dangerously raise tensions between Greek and Turkish Cypriots, and between Greece and Turkey.

Even though Russia is a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, it seemingly flouts numerous Security Council resolutions and United Nations efforts to defuse the tensions in Cyprus. Indeed, just last Friday the U.N. Security General cited the S-300 sales in his report to the Security Council recommending renewal of the U.N. peace-keeping force in Cyprus.

Even Greece argued for an alternative; place the S-300s on the Greek island of Crete instead of Cyprus. Although not an optimal solution, this alternative at least would have kept the missiles out of the immediate crisis zone.

United States Ambassador Kenneth Brill endorsed such an idea, stating in the press that the United States would like to see the missiles deployed anywhere but Cyprus.

President Clerides of the Republic of Cyprus rejected the Greek plan. In press statements, he tried to downplay the missile crisis, calling it but one issue of many regarding security. This is quite an understatement, as the missiles could destroy aircraft flying in southern Turkey and the radar equipment reportedly could reach as far as Israel. The introduction of these missiles creates a real risk of wider conflict in the eastern Mediterranean.

More disappointing was Russia's reaction to the proposal. The Russian reaction was more defensive, more ominous—and insulting. Russia condemned Mr. Brill's statement as "unfriendly", and formally rebuked our diplomats in Moscow for interfering in what Russia labels an exclusively commercial and bilateral deal. The Russian Ambassador to Cyprus responded by saying that Russia is "nobody's colony."

The Russians appear to have mistaken diplomacy for interference, and arms sales for acts of sovereignty. International prestige comes from settling crises, not provoking them. With power comes responsibility. The best way for Russia to show it remains important on the world stage is to act responsibly, to work for a solution to the military tension on Cyprus rather than inflame it for financial gain.

It is unclear why Russia has taken this course at a time when it hopes for foreign aid to help ease its deep financial crisis. Russia risks damaged ties with the U.S., international condemnation, and the disruption of commerce in the Mediterranean. What is the motive?—making money from the missile sale; trying to divide NATO members; posturing against Israel and its expanding ties to Turkey; or asserting a bold Russian presence abroad to divert attention from problems at home? Certainly none of these reasons should be worth damaging relations with the international community—or provoking hostilities in Cyprus.

We should expect higher standards of conduct from Russia, a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council. Further, its treatment of United States diplomats, who are working to find solutions to a crisis which everyone except the Greek Cypriots and Russia want to resolve, is unacceptable.

The Administration needs to more forcefully persuade the Russian leadership to halt the

sale. The President must take a hard line against Russia's treatment of United States diplomatic efforts and personnel, and their efforts to thwart the will of the international community. The U.S. and international community must not take sides in the Cyprus matter, but work for an honest and fair solution for both sides. Stoking the fire with high tech weaponry sales to one party can only lead to further deterioration and a more difficult road for peacemakers in the international community.

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH COULD SAVE MEDICARE

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 18, 1998

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise once again to encourage my colleagues to continue supporting increased funding levels for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This funding is critical for biomedical research that benefits all Americans. It improves quality of life.

San Diego County is a leader in the field of biomedical research. One of our local champions for medical research is Dr. Lawrence Goldstein, an investigator in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and a professor in the Division of Cellular and Molecular Medicine and Department of Pharmacology at the UCSD School of Medicine. I submit an article from the San Diego Union Tribune in which Dr. Goldstein suggests that biomedical research could help save the Medicare Trust Fund from bankruptcy.

[From the San Diego Union Tribune, Dec. 11, 1998]

MEDICARE CURE: BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH?

(By Lawrence S. Goldstein)

While not obvious, part of the solution to the impending Medicare crisis may be greater federal investment in biomedical research.

This surprising conclusion was recently suggested by a series of studies from Dr. Kenneth Manton and colleagues at Duke University. These researchers analyzed the incidence of disability among the elderly between 1982 and 1994 and found that it fell steadily every year.

One of the major factors driving these consistent declines in disability appears to be biomedical research, which ultimately leads to improved health care for elderly and other patients. Effectively, this means that biomedical research helps us to do a little bit better every year at keeping the elderly productive, active and healthy and often helping to keep them out of nursing homes.

The story, however, gets better since keeping the elderly actively engaged in daily life not only keeps them, their children and grandchildren happier, but also saves our country large amounts of money that would otherwise pay for physical support and nursing homes.

Little wonder that the federal government, with the strong bipartisan leadership and support of members of our local congressional delegation—Randy "Duke" Cunningham, Brian Bilbray and Bob Filner—increased biomedical research funding for the National Institutes of Health by 15 percent this past year.

There are important long-term implications of these studies for our society and the benefits it may reap from biomedical re-

search. Imagine for a moment that the incidence of disability among the elderly in 1994 had been that of 1982. Manton and colleagues estimate that this would have meant that 400,000 more elderly Americans would have been living in nursing homes in 1994 than actually were.

This would cost \$17 billion more in 1994 than was actually spent (assuming that typical annual nursing home residence cost in 1994 was \$40,000). Compared to the actual 1994 Medical expenditures of 167 billion dollars, this is a significant savings, just by keeping these seniors out of nursing homes. These estimated annual savings on nursing home residence alone are also larger than the National budget for all biomedical research supported through the NIH (15 billion dollars this coming year).

Imagine, on the other hand, that we could slightly improve the annual rate of decline in disability. Manton estimates that if we could increase the rate of decline from the current 1.2 percent per year to 1.5 percent per year, this small change could completely change future projections for Medicare expenditures and lead to solvency in 2028 instead of bankruptcy.

Although part of the puzzle to reducing health care costs for the elderly and everyone else is by more efficient delivery of medical care, most of our physicians are already working as hard as they can. Indeed, at this point, it is not clear that additional efficiency can be wrung out of the delivery side of the medical system without sacrificing quality.

A better and more cost-effective route for reducing health care costs in the long run is biomedical research. Such research is the best way to understand the causes of disease, to ensure that the most appropriate treatments are delivered and to find the best methods of support for the ill. Better understanding of the causes of acute or chronic diseases leads to better prevention, treatment and even cure. Important improvements in lifestyle and diet are also guided by research, which tells us what changes matter the most and what changes are unnecessary or even damaging.

Finally, research can tell us what therapies are most valuable in each situation, and it can tell us how to apply them in the best and most cost-effective manner. Combined, improvements in health care coming directly from research can lead to significant declines in disability among the elderly.

Last year, the Senate unanimously passed a resolution in favor of doubling the budget of the NIH in the next five years, even in a time when government reduction is widely supported. The House has been entertaining a similar resolution, and most of our local representatives have signed on as co-sponsors.

They have done so for good reason. What these members realize is that increased biomedical research will not only help us solve our health problems and save Medicare, but, it is one of the most cost-effective long-term investments to achieve these goals.

Let us encourage our representatives in this quest and make biomedical research our No. 1 priority as we enter the next millennium. Our children will thank us even as they enjoy our healthier company in the years to come.

Goldstein is an investigator in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and a professor in the Division of Cellular and Molecular Medicine and Department of Pharmacology at the UCSD School of Medicine.