

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BERYLE R. READ

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Beryle R. Read, a resident of my Fifth Congressional District of Florida and a man who has become something very few of us ever will. In November of this year, Mr. Read will become a centenarian and at nearly 100, he is a father to one child, and a grandfather to three grandchildren.

Mr. Read was born in Nashville, TN, but went to school in Indiana, Illinois and Washington, DC. Following school, he worked for the government for 32½ years. He describes his happiest moment as going with his father to sell peaches in Indiana as a child. His favorite activities today are helping his wife cook, reading, and doing crossword puzzles.

Mr. Read says he likes living in Hernando County because it has a small town feel but a close proximity to valuable services and stores. When asked what advice he'd give to young people today he said, "Avoid dirt, debt and the devil." He says the best thing about growing older is having 39 years of mental and physical health to enjoy retirement.

Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring Beryle Read today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as he has and the ability to enjoy it as he has. He is truly a great man and someone with an appreciation for the importance of hard work.

FRENCH BAN ON TURBANS IN
SCHOOLS OPPOSED

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the government of France has recently enacted a new policy prohibiting Sikh boys from wearing their turbans in school. They also prohibited Muslim girls from wearing the traditional head scarves in school.

This policy is a threat to religious expression in France. It limits the ability of religious minorities to express their religion in the way that they are supposed to express their religion.

Sikhs fought actively in both World Wars to help keep the French people free. They fought in their turbans in Africa and the Middle East in World War I and they fought in the liberation of France in World War II. Yet the French authorities see fit to deny them their full religious expression.

Recently, Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, wrote an excellent letter to French President Jacques Chirac about this unreasonable policy. I am inserting it into the RECORD with the consent of

the House and I urge my colleagues to read it.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,
Washington, DC, January 19, 2004.

Hon. JACQUES CHIRAC,
President of France,
Champs Elysees, Paris, France

DEAR PRESIDENT CHIRAC: I am writing to you today on behalf of the Sikh community of France and the 25 million strong Sikh Nation around the world.

Recently, France has made laws prohibiting Muslim schoolgirls from wearing head scarves and Sikh boys from wearing their turbans.

The turban is a Sikh religious symbol. Sikhs are not allowed to remove their turbans. They are a major symbol of our religion. The Sikh Gurus commanded us to wear the turban at all times over unshorn hair, which is a gift from God. The Sikh religion is a sovereign, independent, monotheistic religion like Christianity. The Sikh religion requires every Sikh to wear five symbols. Unshorn hair is one of them.

As you know, Sikh soldiers wearing their turbans fought to defend France and defend its freedom during World War II. They also helped France and Britain to win World War I by fighting in Africa and the Middle East. We were proud to do so. Sikhs are commanded to fight against injustice wherever it appears. We believe in the freedom and equality of all people.

France is a secular, democratic republic. That implies a country that protects freedom of religious expression for all people. To force Sikhs to remove the turban is to destroy Sikhs' freedom of religious expression. That is neither secular, democratic, nor republican. It is simply the kind of system that Sikhs came to France and other countries to escape.

President Chirac, I encourage you to reconsider this ill-advised ban. Sikhs must be free to express our religion as fully as any other Frenchman.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President, Council of Khalistan.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK DOMINGUEZ

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of pride that I pay tribute today to the life of Frank Dominguez, a longtime leader in the Inland Empire. Frank passed away this month at the age of 64. He was a man of great integrity and character, and I join today with family and friends in honoring his memory and remarkable life.

To all those who knew Frank Dominguez, he was a hard-working, generous, compassionate man who was proud of his San Bernardino roots. His educational path took him through Burbank Elementary School, Colton Union High School, and San Bernardino Valley College. Following his graduation, he served our country proudly in the U.S. Army.

In 1964, Frank founded the Vanir Group of Companies, Inc. and proceeded to give back to the community that he so loved, including building the Vanir Tower, a San Bernardino landmark. His tremendous passion, pride, and selflessness led him to serve three terms on the state economic development commission and serve on the boards of the Goodwill Industries of the Inland Counties, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and the Diocese of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. He was revered and admired by friends and colleagues, leading to his selection as outstanding businessman of the year by the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

I join today with family and friends in paying tribute to Frank Dominguez, beloved husband, father, and friend. He is survived by his wonderful wife of 42 years, Gisela, his children Dorene, Richard, and Diane, and his three grandchildren. His kind deeds and gentle soul will be deeply missed by all.

HONORING DR. JOE SABOL

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Representative DOOLEY, Representative NUNES and myself to honor Dr. Joe Sabol on the occasion of his being distinguished as an Honorary Alumni Member of the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation's California Agricultural Leadership Program. This designation will be bestowed upon Mr. Sabol at the annual conference of this organization.

Selection for this distinction is reserved for "special individuals who have, over a period of time, demonstrated consistent commitment and uncommon excellence in the furtherance of education and leadership in California agriculture." The mission of the California Agricultural Leadership Program is to enhance the long-term viability of California agriculture through leadership development, which in turn benefits the people and the communities that agriculture serves.

In 1963, Joe received his Bachelor of Arts degree in General Agriculture from California State University, Fresno. He obtained his M.Ed. in 1965 from University of California, Davis and his Ph.D. in 1976 from Colorado State University. Dr. Sabol came to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 1972 to teach Agricultural Education. He later became Associate Dean and the Dean of the College of Agriculture, as well as Project Director of the Costa Rica E.A.R.T.H. Project. He was named Director of Outreach Services in 1993 and currently teaches within the College. Among his special teaching projects Joe counts the Mexican Ag Education Program, the Pakistan Project, an Advisor's Workshop for Vocational Student Organizations, and the Victorian (Australia) College of Agriculture and Horticulture.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Joe has been involved with the Western Region American Association of Teacher Educators in Agriculture, the FFA Alumni Association, Farm Bureau, the San Jose Unified School District Agriculture Program, and the California Agriculture Teachers Association. He has been named an honorary CFFA Member, Honorary State Farmer with FFA and Grange Youth Booster of the Year for California. In 1987, Joe received the Honorary American Farmer Degree at the National FFA Convention and has been recognized as a "Teacher of Teachers" for 10 consecutive years.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with Representative DOOLEY and Representative NUNES, to pay to Dr. Joe Sabol as an Honorary Alumni Member of the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation's California Agricultural Leadership Program. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Joe many years of continued success.

HONORING THE ELMHURST AMERICAN LEGION, THE BROADVIEW-HILLSIDE AMERICAN LEGION, AND THE COLLEGE OF DUPAGE JAZZ ENSEMBLE

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention today the commendable efforts and charitable spirit of the Elmhurst American Legion, the Broadview-Hillside American Legion, and the College of DuPage Jazz Ensemble.

In particular, I would like to recognize Mr. Charles Levitt, Commander of the Broadview-Hillside American Legion, Mr. Dante Laudati, Commander of the Elmhurst American Legion, Mr. Anthony Barone, Chief Liaison of the Elmhurst American Legion, and Mr. Tom Tallman, the Director of the College of DuPage Arts Center Jazz Ensemble.

Their unselfish efforts combined with the patriotic spirit of the members of these organizations represent the finest qualities of all Americans. The members of this energetic group held an event on October 19, 2003 in Elmhurst, Illinois to raise funds for the Armed Forces Children's Education Fund. This noteworthy fund is committed to helping the children of military men and women who make the ultimate sacrifice while fighting the war on terrorism. I am proud of the efforts made by these faithful and patriotic citizens. They serve as a fine example of citizens sharing their prosperity with the families of the men and women who risk their lives to secure our freedoms.

I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring and offering congratulations to all of these outstanding Americans.

COMMENDING NASA ON "SPIRIT" MISSION TO MARS

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, after a series of failures in trying to land on Mars, NASA's Jet

Propulsion Laboratory's *Spirit* has successfully landed on the red planet. Considering all the electromechanical systems, computer software, and retro-rockets that had to faithfully operate, the success of landing the spacecraft despite uncooperative Martian winds and dust is a testimony to the excellence, grit and determination of a host of planners, engineers and scientists at the laboratory. In a continuation of these successes, last Thursday, *Spirit* successfully rolled off the lander and onto the Martian surface.

In the meantime the *Spirit's* twin is scheduled to land halfway around Mars on Sunday, January 25. The mere thought of the possibility of two rovers exploring Mars is both exciting and a testimony to our Nation's scientific and technical vitality.

Spirit and *Opportunity* are just two of the many offspring of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory that have been sent on exploration voyages over the past four decades, visiting every known planet except Pluto with a few looking out into the universe and beyond our local planets.

In 1930, with the rise of Hitler and anti-Semitism, Theodore von Kármán left Aachen, Germany and accepted an invitation by the California Institute of Technology to come to Pasadena to lead an aeronautical laboratory, later named the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. At age 81 he was the recipient of the first National Medal of Science, bestowed in a White House ceremony by President John F. Kennedy. A crater on the Moon is named in his honor.

Over seven decades, JPL has maintained this dignified position and upheld the reputation of von Kármán's laboratory as world leader in engineering, science and planetary exploration.

TRIBUTE TO UNITED STATES ARMY PRIVATE REY DAVID CUERVO

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to another fallen patriot, United States Army Pvt. Rey David Cuervo, who gave the last full measure of devotion to the Nation of which he was not yet a citizen when he was killed in Iraq after his vehicle hit an explosive device in Baghdad.

After almost 5 years in the United States Army, Pvt. Rey Cuervo, a 24-year-old from Laguna Vista, was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment in Baghdad, based out of Fort Polk, LA.

Pvt. Cuervo was one of an estimated 50,000 legal permanent residents serving in the U.S. Armed Forces when he died for the country he loved and the ideals he believed in. He died for the United States as a foreign national in the Army . . . and he won his citizenship posthumously.

This is an important point to make to the House of Representatives at a time when many of our members are raising their voices against those who want to have a national policy that appreciates the actual faces of immigrants in this country who wish to be citizens here.

This brave young man was not here to take a job from a citizen. These soldiers play a big part in defending the country. They believe in the hope and opportunity they feel when they come to this country. This young man's death may serve to educate some members of Congress about the importance of soldiers who put their life on the line, be they born in this Nation . . . or new to this Nation.

To date, five Mexican nationals have died in the war in Iraq. The willingness of Cuervo and the others to fight and die for the United States is an illustration of the love of this Nation from our immigrant community, and of the extraordinary relationship between the United States and Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, the entire community of South Texas mourns this fine young man.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending the life and service of United States Army Pvt. Rey Cuervo, and in expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives to his family.

ONE IRAQI'S PERSPECTIVE ON U.S. ACTIONS IN HIS COUNTRY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as our country wrestles with the consequences of the war in Iraq, I think it is more important than ever to encourage thoughtful and critical discussion of America's role in the world and to be open to a continuing public dialogue on the wisdom of our policies in the Middle East and elsewhere around the globe.

Whether one supported the war or not, I believe our responsibility as elected representatives of the people must include maintaining an open mind on these matters, and to seek out the judgment and opinions of those who may have experiences unique from our own.

In this regard, I would like to submit for the RECORD a copy of remarks written by Mr. Ibrahim Kazerooni, an Iraqi dissident who fought against the regime of Saddam Hussein and who is now a respected clerical leader of the Muslim community in Colorado. I met Mr. Kazerooni shortly after the infamous attacks on our country on September 11, 2001 and have found his insights on the problem of terrorism and democracy in Iraq to be unique and well worth the attention of my colleagues.

[From the Denver Post, Dec. 7, 2003]

IRAQ WAR MAKES US LESS SAFE, NOT MORE

(By Ibrahim Kazerooni)

Having been imprisoned and tortured several times by the former Baathist regime of Iraq, I came to expect any absurdity from that dictatorship.

Under the Baathists, the people of Iraq were fed a steady stream of government-generated lies on just about everything. The regime skillfully operated under the premise that as long as you said something often enough, it didn't have to be true in order to get people to believe it.

Even though the Baathist regime is gone, it appears the Bush administration has adopted their practice of intentionally misleading the public—in this case, the American public—through the incessant repetition of false information.

For example, we continue to be told by the White House that taking over Iraq was necessary for the war on terrorism, despite the

absence of credible evidence of a link between al-Qaeda and the former regime of Saddam Hussein.

On June 26, The Associated Press reported, "The U.N. terrorism committee has found no evidence to support Bush administration claims of a link between Iraq and al-Qaeda, and the United States has provided the committee with no proof."

This should not be surprising, since the secular Saddam Hussein was notorious for brutally crushing any and all Islamist elements in Iraq. As a result, the Islamists and the Baathists had nothing but pure disdain and mistrust for one another.

One of the most respected authorities on terrorism and defense issues, the International Institute for Strategic Studies, reported Oct. 15 that the invasion and occupation of Iraq has had the effect of "swelling its [al-Qaeda's] ranks and galvanizing its will."

Beyond that, the administration's mismanagement of post-war Iraq has created ripe conditions for terrorism to thrive, to the point where it is now feared Iraq is exporting terrorism to its neighbors.

The White House and others also continue to insist that the security situation in Iraq—upon which everything depends, especially reconstruction—is improving. Yet, the facts reveal that the insurgency is spreading.

Part of the reason for the spread of the insurgency is the resentment we've generated among ordinary Iraqis, the very people we said we came to liberate. Dr. Rajaa Habib Khuzai, handpicked by the Bush administration to sit on the Iraqi Governing Council, said in September, "There is considerable discontent with the coalition forces, the majority of whom treat the Iraqi people with violence and contempt."

This analysis is shared by Marco Calamai, a special counselor to the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) in Iraq, who resigned his position in November because he said the U.S.-led CPA has created "delusion, social discontent, and anger" among Iraqis and allowed terrorism to "easily take root."

Calamai's view was confirmed by a classified CIA report leaked in November, which found that more Iraqis are "flooding to the ranks of the guerrillas" and predicted the security situation in Iraq would continue to get worse as the insurgency spreads across the country.

We invaded Iraq on the premise that the Baathist regime possessed stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction and would share them with al-Qaeda. Not invading, we were told, could likely result in "mushroom clouds" over American cities.

However, not only was the supposed link to al-Qaeda grossly absent, so are the alleged WMDs. The failure to find Iraq's alleged WMDs is entirely consistent with Secretary of State Colin Powell's statement on Feb. 24, 2001, in Cairo: "He [Saddam Hussein] has not developed any significant capability with respect to weapons of mass destruction. He is unable to project conventional power against his neighbors."

Powell's statement reflects the statements of Iraqi scientists and Saddam Hussein's son-in-law, Hussein Kamel, who defected to the West in 1995 and was later murdered by his father-in-law for defecting. He told U.N., U.S. and British experts debriefing him in August 1995, "I ordered destruction of all chemical weapons. All weapons—biological, chemical, missile, nuclear—were destroyed."

The invasion and occupation of Iraq has not only distracted us from the war against al-Qaeda and diverted billions of dollars from homeland security to operations in Iraq, it has actually increased al-Qaeda's recruiting and created more sympathizers for the organization among the world's 1.2 billion Muslims.

As long as the White House arrogantly continues to mislead the public with fabricated intelligence and sugar-coated assessments, we cannot possibly expect to win the war on terror.

REMEMBERING JUDGE HARRY
LOFTIS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant, a wonderful family man, and good friend who devoted so much time and energy to the community of Tyler, Texas—Judge Harry Loftis, who died on December 9, 2003.

Judge Loftis spent thirteen years as a district attorney and county judge. Raised in Tyler, Texas, he earned degrees at Tyler Junior College and the University of Texas at Austin. He joined the Army Air Corps during World War II, and flew glider missions in France, England, and Italy. His bravery earned him several medals and citations. The Library of Congress is privileged to have his wartime accounts on file as part of the World War II veterans project.

Judge Loftis was also a longtime supporter of area institutions of higher education. He was a devoted trustee of Tyler Junior College, and was recognized throughout his term in office with several accolades including the T.B. Butler Award, the Outstanding Ex-Student Award, and the Earl Story Award. He was also a leading advocate for the creation of Texas Eastern University (now the University of Texas at Tyler).

While Judge Loftis's work in higher education was impressive, he was also a tireless community booster. He was a president or board member of the Tyler Jaycees, Texas Junior Bar Association, Smith County Red Cross, Tyler YMCA, Kiwanis Club, Strutters, Mother Francis Advisory Board, Tuberculosis Association, Chamber of Commerce, and the Texas Rose Festival Association. He was also a lieutenant governor of Kiwanis International and served on the Board of Stewards at Marvin United Methodist Church.

Judge Loftis is survived by his wife of 57 years, Margaret Ann Loftis; sons and daughters-in-law, Harry Lee and Charisa Loftis, Michael George and Jenny Loftis; daughter and son-in-law Mollie Ann and Robert Halpin; and ten grandchildren.

Judge Loftis will be long remembered as a devoted public servant, and the community of Tyler will miss his unwavering commitment to serve others. On behalf of his many friends and fans, I want to take this opportunity in the House of Representatives to pay our last respects to this dedicated public servant and outstanding American—Judge Harry Loftis.

HONORING THE BRAVE SOLDIERS
OF THE NEW YORK AIR
NATIONAL GUARD'S 106TH AIR
RESCUE WING

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my deep admiration and respect for the brave soldiers of the New York Air National Guard's 106th Air Rescue Wing who recently returned home from service in Operation Enduring Freedom. The brave men and women of the 106th Air Rescue Wing are among the most talented and best-trained rescue specialists in the world.

Of course, while I am pleased these heroes are out of the line of fire, the 106th is never out of harm's way. Most Americans first heard about the 106th because of a heroic rescue effort, which was recounted in the book and movie "The Perfect Storm." They deserve our deepest gratitude for putting themselves on the front lines in war and peace.

The 106th Air Rescue Wing's extraordinary service in Iraq is the latest chapter in the storied history of this unit. During its time overseas, the unit was involved in numerous rescues, including from the October 12, 2003 bombing of the Baghdad Hotel and after a Chinook helicopter went down on November 2, 2003, a deplorable terrorist act that took the lives of 16 American soldiers. After this incident, members of the 106th Rescue Wing recovered two soldiers from the downed helicopter and brought them to safety where they received treatment. There is no more noble service than risking one's own life to save the life of a fellow soldier.

Mr. Speaker, as the representative of Gabreski Airport in Westhampton, Long Island, home of the 106th Air Rescue Wing, I could not be more proud of our soldiers returning home. I am truly privileged to represent this distinguished unit, which is not only a blessing to the people of Long Island, but to all Americans who benefit from its service.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING MR.
AND MRS. HAVER

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Charles and Lillian Haver were united in marriage November 4, 1933 and are celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary; and

Whereas, Charles and Lillian Haver have demonstrated a firm commitment to each other; and

Whereas, Charles and Lillian Haver must be commended for their loyalty and dedication to their family; and

Whereas, Charles and Lillian Haver have proven, by their example, to be a model for all married couples;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Haver as they celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary.

HONORING THE CAROLINA
PANTHERS**HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor and congratulate the Carolina Panthers. Last Sunday they defeated the Philadelphia Eagles to become the 2003 National Football Conference Champions. This is the first NFC title since they began in 1995, but it will not be their last.

At the beginning of the season, no one outside the Carolinas gave the Panthers any chance of even going to the playoffs. However, the "Cardiac Cats" played hard every game and never gave up. As a result, the Panthers have defied the odds and will be playing in Super Bowl XXXVIII.

As a season ticket owner, and an avid fan, I want to express how much the Carolinas appreciate the hard work of Panthers' owner Jerry Richardson, its head coach John Fox, the assistant coaches, and Carolina's wonderful players. I also want to commend the Carolina fans who have embraced the team, and have supported them through all the ups and downs.

It has been a joy to watch the Panthers play this year, and I along with thousands of fans across the Carolinas want to wish them the best of luck in the Super Bowl. I hope that in February I can again congratulate them on winning another title: National Football League Champions.

HONORING SALEM BAPTIST
CHURCH OF JENKINTOWN, PENN-
SYLVANIA**HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. HOFFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Salem Baptist Church of Jenkintown for its 120 years of worship and community development.

Founded in 1884, the Salem Baptist Church emerged from its modest, singleroom origins and flourished into a thriving church community. Through the immense effort of its congregation and the esteemed leadership of its pastors, Salem has grown consistently in both size and impact. Outgrowing each new building in which it resided, Salem expanded its presence in the community. Throughout its history, Salem has welcomed into its ministries such esteemed guests as Martin Luther King, Jr., Samuel Proctor, Rosa Parks, Jesse Jackson, and Pricilla Evans.

Today Salem includes the Church, a parsonage, Section 8 housing facilities for low-income residents and the elderly, and the Robert Johnson Smith Educational Center. In addition, there are plans to build a Family Life Center and nursing home facility. From its inception, the Salem Baptist Church has been committed to community development through the faith and determination of its congregation and pastors. I congratulate the members of the Salem Baptist Church on their 120th anniversary.

HONORING MARIE O'BRIEN

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marie O'Brien, a resident of my Fifth Congressional District of Florida and a woman who has become something very few of us ever will. Mrs. O'Brien is a centenarian and at 102 she is a shining example of how to enjoy and appreciate life.

Mrs. O'Brien was born in Philadelphia and went to school at St. Gabriel. Following school, she worked as a telephone operator. She describes her happiest moments as family gatherings growing up and receiving the sacraments. Some of her favorite activities today are reading and praying the rosary.

After 102 years, Mrs. O'Brien says she is satisfied with her life and that it has been a pleasure. When asked what advice she'd give to young people she said, "Stay away from drugs and be kind." She says the best thing about growing older is having time to relax and appreciate the gifts God has given her.

Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring Marie O'Brien today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as she has. She is truly a great lady and someone with an appreciation for the importance of kindness and kinship.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT LEWIS SOTO

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep affection that I pay tribute to the life of Robert Lewis Soto, beloved son of my dear colleague California State Senator Nell Soto. Robert, affectionately called "Bud" by his friends and family, passed away last week at the age of 52. He was a man of great honor, and I join today with family and friends in honoring his memory and remarkable life.

Bud graduated from Pasadena Community College where he was a classically trained musician and soon developed a reputation as being one of the most skilled keyboard players in the area. Despite his avid love for music, he took his immense talent into the business world.

An award-winning construction executive, Bud was best known for his restoration efforts of the San Gabriel Valley and San Fernando Valley Missions. He exhibited tremendous passion, pride, and an immense dedication to his work. He was a beloved part of his family and respected member of his community. His kind and passionate spirit was an incredible resource and blessing to those who knew him.

I join today with family and friends in paying our respects to a man who was a devoted and supportive husband, father, and friend. He is survived by his wife Alice, their three children Nellie, Sally, and Molly; his mother, Senator Nell Soto; his sister Anna; his brothers Phil Jr., Mike, Patrick, and Tom. He will be dearly missed.

SEMINAR ON KHALISTAN HELD IN
PUNJAB—STEP FORWARD FOR
SIKH FREEDOM MOVEMENT**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, last month in Punjab, a seminar was held on the topic of Khalistan. Given the oppression that Sikhs have faced at the hands of the Indian government for attempting to secure their independence, this was a very courageous act. All of those who organized the event and who participated are to be commended for their courage. Freedom is the birthright of every people.

The seminar was organized by former Member of Parliament Atinder Pal Singh. Speakers included Professor Gurdarshan Singh Dhillon, who reportedly made an extremely strong argument for the Sikh Nation's right to self-determination.

The Indian government claims that there is no support for Sikh independence, Mr. Speaker, but this seminar and other events show otherwise. Perhaps this answers the obvious question: If India is a democracy and if there is no support for an independent Khalistan, then why not simply hold a free and fair plebiscite on the issue, as democratic countries do, and settle it once and for all? Wouldn't that be the fair and democratic way to take care of this issue?

America can support this just cause and we have a moral obligation to do so. We can stop our aid to India until all people there enjoy full freedom and we can officially call on India to hold a free and fair, democratic vote to determine the political future of the Sikhs of Khalistan and all the other minority nations seeking their freedom, such as predominantly Christian Nagaland and predominantly Muslim Kashmir.

The Council of Khalistan issued a press release on the Khalistan seminar, which I would like to put in the RECORD at this time to show that the cause of freedom is universal and that it still has strong support in Punjab, Khalistan.

SEMINAR ON KHALISTAN HELD IN PUNJAB
INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT IS ALIVE AND WELL
IN PUNJAB, KHALISTAN

WASHINGTON, D.C., December 17, 2003—Former Member of Parliament Atinder Pal Singh organized a seminar on Khalistan last month at Baba Makhana Shah Labana Hall, Sector 30, Chandigarh. Speakers included Professor Gurdarshan Singh Dhillon and others. Dr. Dhillon made a very strong argument for the right of the Sikh Nation to rule itself in a sovereign, independent Khalistan. General Narinder Singh was invited, but unable to attend. This seminar shows that the cause of Khalistan is alive and well in Punjab, despite the claims of the Indian government that there is no support for Khalistan and that only outside Sikhs are supporting independence.

"The outside Sikhs have an important role to play," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. "They have exposed the human rights against the Sikhs to the international community and internationalized the cause of independence for Khalistan," he said. "They have also preserved Sikh history in the Congressional Record from 1984 to date, defeating the Indian government's attempts to alter it. However, it is the Sikhs in Punjab, Khalistan who are keeping the cause alive and liberating Khalistan," he said. "It is very good to

see this support for the cause of a sovereign, independent Khalistan," said Dr. Aulakh. On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its independence from India, naming its new country Khalistan.

"We salute Sardar Atinder Pal Singh for organizing this important event and we salute all the presenters who presented their papers," Dr. Aulakh said. "They put the Indian government on notice that its effort to suppress the Sikh independence movement by force has failed and will continue to fail," he said.

"The mere fact that this seminar was conducted shows that there is a significant change in the repression in Punjab," Dr. Aulakh said. "It shows that people feel free to exercise their basic right of freedom of speech," he said. "This is a step forward for the liberation of the Sikh Nation. There is a new upsurge of support for the cause of Sikh freedom," Dr. Aulakh said. "The flame of freedom burns brightly in the hearts of the Sikh people, in Punjab, Khalistan and outside as well."

"Every day, Sikhs pray 'Raj Kare Ga Khalsa,' which means 'The Khalsa shall rule,' said Dr. Aulakh. "Sikhs must claim their birthright by liberating Khalistan. I hope that this seminar will be the forerunner to a Shantmai Morcha (peaceful agitation) to establish a sovereign, independent Khalistan, thus fulfilling the desires of the Sikh Nation for Raj Kare Ga Khalsa," he said. "Guru Gobind Singh gave sovereignty to the Sikh Nation and we must achieve it."

The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 300,000 Christians since 1948, over 85,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Assamese, Mampuris, Dalits, and others. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide."

Indian police arrested human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra after he exposed their policy of mass cremation of Sikhs, in which over 50,000 Sikhs have been arrested, tortured, and murdered, then their bodies were declared unidentified and secretly cremated. He was murdered in police custody. His body was not given to his family. The police never released the body of former Jathedar of the Akal Takht Sardar Gurdev Singh Kaunke after SSP Swaran Singh Ghotna murdered him. Ghotna has never been brought to trial for the Jathedar Kaunke murder. No one has been brought to justice for the kidnapping and murder of Jaswant Singh Khalra. According to a report by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR), 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners in India without charge or trial. Some have been in illegal custody since 1984!

"As Professor Darshan Singh, a former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, said, 'If a Sikh is not for Khalistan, he is not a Sikh,'" Dr. Aulakh noted. "We must continue to press for our God-given birthright of freedom," he said. "Without political power, religions cannot flourish and nations perish."

HONORING JOHN W. LAKE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Representative DOOLEY, Representative NUNES and myself, to honor John W. Lake on the occasion of his being distinguished as an Honorary Alumni Member

of the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation's California Agricultural Leadership Program. This designation will be bestowed upon Mr. Lake at the annual conference of this organization.

Selection for this distinction is reserved for "special individuals who have, over a period of time, demonstrated consistent commitment and uncommon excellence in the furtherance of education and leadership in California agriculture." The mission of the California Agricultural Leadership Program is to enhance the long-term viability of California agriculture through leadership development, which in turn benefits the people and the communities that agriculture serves.

A native Californian, John graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 1970 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mechanical Engineering. He also completed one year of graduate work in Mechanical Engineering at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. In 1974, Mr. Lake began his career with Rain for Rent, working his way through the Engineering and Manufacturing Departments and management of Lake and Lake International, irrigation subsidiaries of Western Oilfields Supply Company. He founded Lake Leasing Company in 1983, Rain for Rent's agricultural irrigation equipment financing division. John has served as President and Chief Executive Officer since April of 1990.

Since its beginning in 1934, Western Oilfields Supply Company/Rain for Rent has evolved and expanded in its product offering and the markets it services, providing solutions to temporary liquid-handling problems. Their products and services cover a wide variety of industries, including, but not limited to: construction, petro-chemical, municipal, environmental, agricultural, and other industrial businesses that are serviced by 47 branches and 650 professionals nationwide. During John's tenure as President, the company has expanded into the tank, pump and specialty rental markets.

Mr. Lake is active in the Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Advisory Council, the California Agricultural Leadership Program, the Fellowship of Companies for Christ International, Quest Club, Idaho Irrigation Association and Safari Club International. John and his wife, Sheila, have two sons and attend Fruitvale Community Church in Bakersfield, California.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with Representative DOOLEY and Representative NUNES to pay tribute to John W. Lake as an Honorary Alumni Member of the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation's California Agricultural Leadership Program. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing John many years of continued success.

RECOGNIZING OF NELSON WESTERBERG INC.

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the leading corporate citizens in my district, the Sixth Congressional District of Illinois. This year Nelson Westerberg Inc., headquartered in Elk Grove Village, Illinois, will celebrate its 100th anniversary. Not many

companies reach this milestone, especially under the same family ownership, and that is why I want to commend Nelson Westerberg Inc., for reaching this historic milestone.

Nelson Westerberg Inc. has been safeguarding and relocating people, products, and offices since 1904 when it opened its first office in downtown Chicago. In 1904, it moved coal, ice and "some furniture" via horse-drawn wagons. Today Nelson Westerberg Inc. has become one of the Nation's leading relocation companies, offering its services to individual households as well as corporate customers.

Nelson Westerberg Inc., also is an active participant in community activities such as the Special Olympics and the Elk Grove Police Department's annual Truck Pull.

Therefore, it is with great pleasure that today I acknowledge the accomplishments of this fourth-generation business as it celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2004.

HONORING MARGARET DAVIS

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret Davis, a resident of my Fifth Congressional District of Florida and a woman who has become something very few of us ever will. Margaret is almost a centenarian and at 99 she is a mother to 2 daughters, a grandmother to 5, a great-grandmother to 8, and a great, great grandmother to 9.

Mrs. Davis was born in New York City, but went to school in a schoolhouse in Stamford, Connecticut, on Long Ridge Road. She describes her happiest moments as when her daughters were married. One of her favorite activities today is crossword puzzles with friends.

After 99 years, Margaret says she wouldn't change anything about her life. When asked what advice she'd give to young people she says, "listen to your parents." She says the best thing about growing older is people are very kind because of her age.

Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring Margaret Davis today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as she has. She is truly a great lady and someone with an appreciation for the importance of family and time with friends.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY REGARDING DISCLOSURE OF IDENTITY AND EMPLOYMENT OF COVERT U.S. INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, six months after a syndicated columnist disclosed the identity of a CIA employee, calling her a CIA "operative," the White House and the Department of Justice have yet to find and hold accountable the person or persons who leaked her name to the press. Congress and the men and women

of our intelligence community deserve answers.

I am today introducing a privileged resolution of inquiry to request that President Bush, the U.S. Attorney General, and U.S. Secretaries of State and Defense provide this Congress with factual information in their possession relating to the disclosure of the identity and employment of Ms. Valerie Plame as a covert employee of the CIA. I am pleased to be joined by U.S. Representatives ESHOO, REYES, TAUSCHER, LARSON, TURNER, SPRATT, MORAN, WAXMAN, LANTOS, and CONYERS as original cosponsors of this timely and important legislation.

If passed, this resolution will provide Congress with the information it needs to determine independently the facts surrounding this breach of confidentiality, to assess its effects on U.S. national security and intelligence gathering, and to determine whether legislative action is needed to prevent leaks of this nature in the future.

I submit that protecting our Nation's intelligence community, and all who serve in it, is vital to our national security and to the safety of all Americans. At this time, a resolution of inquiry is the best tool at the disposal of the House to determine how this leak occurred and who perpetrated it.

I am disappointed by the absence of public outrage among senior officials in our intelligence community and in this administration. They should be standing in solidarity with Ms. Plame and the other Americans who serve in our intelligence community, and they should be speaking out against anyone who would presume to unilaterally decide whose identity should be made public. Their silence is deplorable.

Protecting our country and the men and women who protect and defend us is not solely the responsibility of one branch of our Government. It is a shared responsibility under our system of checks and balances. Our Government—including both the Congress and the executive branch—has a duty to ensure that all who work within the U.S. intelligence community are not compromised and that all U.S. intelligence agencies are able to effectively do their jobs and protect the American people from more terrorist attacks and other threats. Some have used the weak excuses that this person's identity was already known by some people or that her work was not very important. These excuses are outrageous. Any unauthorized disclosure potentially puts our agents and our sources and their families at risk and thus weakens our ability to protect Americans.

At the least, I hope that this resolution will exert pressure on the ongoing Department of Justice investigation. I fully support the investigation, but there is no reason why it should be taking so long to get any answers at all. This investigation should be among the Department's highest priorities.

Over the longer term and after we have determined the origin of this leak, I believe that this Congress has an on-going responsibility to examine thoroughly and oversee how our intelligence community uses human sources, human case officers, and various kinds of cover, and how we go about protecting them. We simply cannot accept the public disclosure of an undercover intelligence operative. We must understand what happened and search for ways to prevent it from happening in the

future. The effectiveness of our intelligence agencies demands nothing less.

COMMENDING "MR. AMIGO,"
BERTHA NOEGGERATH

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to commend the 2003 "Mr. Amigo," Bertha Noeggerath, better known as "Dulce," chosen recently by the Mr. Amigo Association of Brownsville, TX, and Matamoros, Tamaulipas, in Mexico. Each year the Mr. Amigo Association honors a Mexican citizen with the title of "Mr. Amigo," and that person acts as a goodwill ambassador between our two countries.

The Mr. Amigo Award began in 1964 as an annual tribute to an outstanding Mexican citizen who has made a lasting contribution during the previous year to international solidarity and goodwill. "Mr. Amigo" presides over the annual Charro Days Festival.

The Charro Days Festival is a pre-Lenten event, much like Mardi Gras in New Orleans, held in Brownsville and Matamoros. Charro Days festivities last for several days; this year they will be February 25–28 and will include parades and appearances by Dulce. Charro Days is an opportunity to enjoy the unique border culture of the Rio Grande Valley area.

As Mr. Amigo 2003, Dulce will head the international parade of Brownsville Charro Days and Matamoros Fiestas Mexicanas festivities.

During Charro Days, South Texans celebrate the food, music, dances, and traditions of both the United States and Mexico. The United States-Mexican border has a unique, blended history of cowboys, bandits, lawmen, farmers, fishermen, oil riggers, soldiers, scientists, entrepreneurs, and teachers.

The border has its own language and customs. On both sides of the border, there is a deep sense of history, much of which the border has seen from the front row. We have seen war and peace; we have known prosperity and bad times. Charro Days is a time for all of us to reflect on our rich history, to remember our past and to celebrate our future.

The 2003 Mr. Amigo, Dulce is a musician and actress who continues to have a long and successful career in the entertainment industry. She is originally from Matamoros, Tamaulipas. Her music career began while singing in small nightclubs in her hometown in the early 1990's, before joining the group "Toby y sus Amigos." Her 27-year career includes not only Gold Records and several Spanish-language hits, but numerous television appearances and work in Mexican telenovelas, including "Sonadoras" and "Mujeres Enganadas," with Andres Garcia, Laura Leon, Kuno Becker and Susana Gonzalez. This year she joins the cast of "Las Vias del Amor."

The Mr. Amigo Committee selected Dulce because "she is a good role model for local youths interested in the arts," and because "through her acting and her music she represents the Mexican culture."

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Dulce Noeggerath, the 2003 Mr. Amigo, as well as the cities of Brownsville and

Matamoros, for their dedication to international goodwill between the United States and Mexico.

HONORING MR. MICHAEL KATZ OF
BOULDER, COLORADO

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Michael Katz of Boulder, Colorado for his exemplary public service.

Over the past 25 years, Michael Katz has been a successful and well-respected federal public defender for Colorado and Wyoming. Since 1978, he has handled thousands of cases, giving quality legal counsel to defendants who could not afford representation. In doing so, he has demonstrated and protected some of the most precious aspects of our democracy and Constitution. Unfortunately, Michael will be retiring this year. Instead of pursuing justice, he and his wife Susan will be pursuing the beauty of the Atlantic Coast as they sail from Chesapeake Bay to Key West.

Michael began his law career in a small law firm with a staff of only three lawyers in a modestly-sized office. Over the years, he has been unwavering in his commitment to environmental protection. Yet his dedication to principles of justice and fairness enabled him to defend environmentally destructive people with professional integrity. Along the way he has also defended criminals whose civil liberties and individual rights are guaranteed by our Constitution.

He has persevered through every challenge, putting justice and the Constitution ahead of his personal beliefs. His tireless dedication has gained national acclaim and respect, as well as leading his office to prominence. After years of hard work, his retirement is well earned. The people of Colorado and Wyoming will certainly miss him and his honorable service to the justice system.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in expressing our gratitude to Michael Katz for his relentless defense of our Constitution. I wish Michael and his family good health and happiness in their future together.

HONORING GEORGIA TOMPKINS

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Georgia Tompkins, a resident of my Fifth Congressional District of Florida and a woman who has become something very few of us ever will. On March 29th of this year, Mrs. Tompkins will become a centenarian and at nearly 100 she is a mother to 12 children, a grandmother to 32 grandchildren, and a great-grandmother to 12 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Tompkins was born in New York state and was a housewife. She describes her happiest moments as when each one of her children was born. One of her favorite activities today is playing dominoes.

After almost 100 years, Mrs. Tompkins says she would not change a thing about her life if she had to live it over. When asked what advice she'd give to young people she said, "Work hard and go to church." She says the best thing about growing older is all of the memories from years past.

Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring Georgia Tompkins today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as she has and the ability to live and love as she has. She is truly a great lady and someone with an appreciation for the importance of family and friends.

CONGRATULATING THE GAINESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL LEOPARDS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to recognize the Gainesville Leopards for winning the Class 3A Division I state football championship on December 13, 2003.

The Leopards' marquee season was one for the record books. The team finished the season with a perfect 15-0 record, becoming the first Gainesville High School team to ever win a state football championship. They achieved this victory by defeating the No. 1-ranked Burnet High School Bulldogs—a team that boasted the state's top passer and receiver. Led by first-year coach Jeff Cordell, the Leopards fought off a formidable team with a blistering offense to win the game by a score of 35-24.

The game was punctuated by Gainesville's impressive rushing offense. Running back Terrius Purvey led the team with 26 carries for 232 yards, and quarterback Chris Brown scored two touchdowns late in the game. But the win was a team effort, as it had been throughout the season. The 22 seniors, 5 juniors, and 6 sophomores followed the lead of the 11 Leopard's coaches and overcame a season of challenges.

For the town of Gainesville, Texas, the mighty Leopard team brought the community together like never before. After a special sendoff in Gainesville, fans from all over north Texas traveled to Texas Stadium to cheer on the team. A supportive community that proudly displayed Leopard car flags and victory messages backed the united varsity team. On behalf of the players, coaches, and fans, I want to take this opportunity in the House of Representatives to congratulate the new state champions—The Gainesville Leopards.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF PERRY B. DURYEA, JR., FORMER SPEAKER OF THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Perry B. Duryea, Jr., the former Speaker of the New York State Assembly and a lifelong resident of New York's First

Congressional District, who tragically lost his life last week after having sustained injuries from an auto accident near his Montauk home. Mr. Duryea was an outstanding public servant, successful businessman, and World War II veteran who dutifully served the people of Long Island and the State of New York with distinction for more than four decades.

Perry Duryea began what would become a legendary state political career in his hometown of Montauk, New York, having served as a member of the Montauk Public Board of Education and as president of the Long Island State Park Commission. He was first elected to represent the First Assembly District of the New York State Legislature in 1960, and remained a member of the body until 1978. During his time in the legislature, Mr. Duryea held the post of Minority Leader for 6 years and Speaker of the Assembly for 4 years. Although he was a leader of the Republican party's conservative wing, Mr. Duryea was known for his pragmatic bipartisanship, as he forged strong relationships with members from across the aisle and often supported legislative measures that were unpopular within his own party. Among his most noteworthy achievements was legislation that he initiated and passed to expand the state parks and the state university system. He also championed construction of the Long Island Expressway and the Sunrise Highway extension, and worked hard to promote environmental protection measures. Those who knew Perry Duryea remember him as an extraordinary leader who elevated the status of the New York legislature.

A prominent businessman within his Montauk community, Mr. Duryea also devoted much of his time to various community and civic endeavors which improved the lives of Long Island residents. Born and raised in Montauk New York, Perry Duryea took over the family wholesale seafood business, Perry Duryea & Son, after completing his service as a plane commander with the United States Naval Transport Service during World War II. After leaving politics following an unsuccessful bid for the governorship in 1978, Mr. Duryea returned to running his business and volunteering his time with numerous public and civic organizations, including Long Island Commercial Bank, where he served as Chairman of the Board.

In recognition of his many contributions and achievements, Mr. Duryea received numerous honors, including the distinction of "Man of the Year" by the Montauk Chamber of Commerce, and the naming of a state office building after him. Mr. Duryea is survived by his wife, Marie Therese Duryea, and two children—Lynne Duryea and Perry "Chip" Duryea III.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Perry B. Duryea, Jr. Throughout his exemplary career in public service, Mr. Duryea enhanced the quality of life for residents of Long Island and the State of New York. The spirit of bipartisanship with which he conducted his public life garnered him the respect of his peers and served to inspire future generations of community leaders. Mr. Duryea's leadership and strength of character are qualities each of us should aspire to embrace as we carry out our duties in this distinguished body.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTIAN HENDRICKS

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Christian "Chris" Hendricks, Deputy Inspector General of the House of Representatives will be retiring at the end of this year after a long and distinguished career in service to the United States government. His exemplary career spans twenty-seven years of service, including the last six years with the House of Representatives. Chris' considerable professional skills and credentials as a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Internal Auditor, and Certified Information Systems Auditor have enabled him to assist the House of Representatives in achieving its present standards of safety, security and accountability.

Chris' duties within the Office of Inspector General have ranged from the analysis of the House's financial controls to careful analysis of emerging technologies. His efforts have contributed to improved administrative functions for the House and improved services and security for individual Members. He has worked to ensure fire safety improvements in House facilities and has been critical to assuring the integrity of the House's information technology systems.

Chris will be missed by all of his colleagues, but he can take great satisfaction in the many efforts of his career. Chris' advice and counsel on matters of significant importance to the House will be difficult to replace. I wish Chris and his wife Nancy a joyful and exciting retirement, and I congratulate him once again for his long and distinguished career of service.

HONORING ELSA F. ANDERSON

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Elsa F. Anderson, a resident of my fifth congressional district of Florida and a woman who has become something very few of us ever will. Elsa Anderson is a centenarian and at 102 she is a mother to 2, a grandmother to 2 grandchildren and a great-grandmother to 11 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Anderson was born in Stockholm, Sweden, but went to school in New York City. Following school, she worked as an assistant in a specialty shop, in an office and as a housewife. Obviously a dedicated mother, she describes her happiest moments as the births of her two daughters. To this day one of her favorite activities is spending time with them when they come to visit.

After 102 years, Mrs. Anderson says she wouldn't change a thing about her life—she says she enjoys everything she's been given. When asked what advice she'd give to young people she says, "Work hard, be honest, and be ready to enjoy good things." She says the best thing about growing older is that people respect you.

I respect that candor and I'm proud to be her representative in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring Elsa F. Anderson today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as she has and the ability to impart wisdom as eloquently as she has. She is truly a great lady and someone with an appreciation for the importance of friends, family and happiness.

HONORING THE JOHN BOY AND
BILLY RADIO SHOW

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor and recognize the John Boy and Billy radio show. I have known John Boy, Billy, their producer Randy, their guest coordinator Marci, and their entire staff for many years. In fact, I knew them long before they became famous. They have been a great help to me by informing their listeners about important issues that face Congress.

Recently, the John Boy and Billy "Big Show" has been keeping their listeners informed about the War on Terror and the status of our troops overseas. As their listeners know, John Boy and Billy are the two funniest guys you will ever meet, but they are very serious when it comes to supporting our troops. The "Big Show" deserves to be recognized because they set up a United Service Organization (USO) care package drive to help support our troops during the 2003 holiday season.

Through their efforts they helped the USO collect more than \$75,000 from more than 1400 of their great listeners. I commend both the John Boy and Billy radio show, and the "Big Show" listeners, for supporting the troops and providing for them during the 2003 holiday season. Due to their efforts, our troops will receive care packages to let them know that they are supported back home, and that we appreciate what they are doing to protect us.

TAIWAN

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, Taiwan has been a close and valuable ally of our nation since its inception as the Republic of China in 1949. In contrast to the People's Republic of China, both democracy and capitalism have flourished in Taiwan, as demonstrated by its peaceful transition to a multi-party political system and its thriving free market economy.

I support the notion of a united China, but not if it means the assimilation of Taiwan into anything resembling the current People's Republic. Rather, I look forward to the day when both peoples are united in a truly democratic state, and are able to share in the political and economic freedoms of Taiwan. Until this is possible, the United States must use the tools at our disposal to maintain the status quo, guaranteeing the people of Taiwan the freedom they currently enjoy.

Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian has called for a nationwide referendum in March

regarding China's deployment of hundreds of missiles aimed at Taiwan. Asking the Taiwanese people whether Taiwan should purchase more anti-missile defenses in response to this obvious threat does not represent an escalation of tensions with China. On the contrary, this "defensive referendum" is an affirmation of Taiwan's democratic system. We must support this exercise of the right of free expression, which is consistent with our own values.

In this instance, China's inflammatory statements, not Taiwan's referendum, threaten to upset the delicate balance that exists in the region. The United States must remain firm in its support for the people of Taiwan. And until China is ready to adopt a democratic system of government and a free market economy, that means maintaining the status quo.

HONORING MYRA MACK

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Myra Mack, a resident of my Fifth Congressional District of Florida and a woman who has become something very few of us ever will. Mrs. Mack is a centenarian and at 101 has lived a full life.

Myra was born in London, Ontario and attended St. George's School. She left school to attend the Army, but joined the women volunteer services instead. She worked as a telephone operator. Following school, she worked as a box girl in a dry goods store. Myra said the happiest event in her life was when she married her husband Joseph. She is most proud of her eighty plus trophies she won over the years in dance competitions.

After 101 years, Myra says she enjoys sitting on her front porch and doing her sewing. Her best advice for young people is to enjoy themselves and play while they are young.

Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring Myra Mack today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as she has. She is truly a great lady and someone with an appreciation for the importance of friends and neighbors.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SAN BERNARDINO

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to honor the 25th Anniversary of the Catholic Diocese of San Bernardino and the leadership of Bishop Barnes.

In 1978, Pope Paul VI created the Diocese of San Bernardino. Serving over 1,000,000 Catholics in ninety-seven parishes, the Diocese has served as the moral compass and religious center to the citizens of San Bernardino.

Not only has the Diocese of San Bernardino served the Catholic citizens of San Bernardino, its thirty-four Catholic schools

have provided quality education to 8,500 students of all faiths and its two Catholic hospitals continue to save lives and keep the residents of San Bernardino healthy.

Since 1996, Bishop Gerald Barnes has led the Diocese of San Bernardino. Always a devoted teacher and educator, Bishop Barnes has also dedicated himself to fighting against the injustices that people of all races and backgrounds face.

Under the guidance of the founding Bishop, Phillip Straling and then Bishop Barnes, the Diocese has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of all citizens of San Bernardino.

I am pleased to honor the 25th anniversary of the Catholic Diocese of San Bernardino and the leadership of Bishop Barnes.

NEW YEAR'S WISHES FOR
FREEDOM FOR THE SIKHS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, recently my friend Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, the President of the Council of Khalistan, issued a New Year's message to the Sikhs. In it, he took note of the progress that has been made towards freedom for the Sikhs and other minority nations in South Asia. He also wrote that the effort to liberate the Sikh homeland, Khalistan, must continue.

As you may know, the Sikhs declared their independence from India on October 7, 1987. They named their country Khalistan. Since that time, tens of thousands of Sikhs have been murdered to suppress the Sikh freedom movement and tens of thousands more have been held as political prisoners.

Dr. Aulakh noted that seminars on Khalistan were held openly last year. He noted the ceremony honoring Sikh martyrs Satwant Singh, Beant Singh, and Kehar Singh. He wrote about recent initiatives by the Khalsa Panchayat to move the cause of freedom for the Sikhs forward.

Mr. Speaker, the right to self-determination is the cornerstone of democracy. It is time for the United States, founded on the principle of self-determination, to support self-determination for the Sikhs. We can do this by cutting off our aid to India until the Sikhs of Khalistan, the Muslims of Kashmir, the Christians of Nagaland, and all the minorities enjoy full rights and freedom and by putting the Congress on record in support of self-determination for Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and the other nations seeking their freedom in the form of a free and fair plebiscite on the question of independence.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place Dr. Aulakh's letter into the RECORD at this time for the information of my colleagues.

NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE TO THE KHALSA PANTH
WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Happy New Year to you and your family and the Khalsa Panth. May 2004 be your best year ever.

The Guru gave sovereignty to the Sikh Nation. ("In Grieb Sikhin Ko Deon Patshahi.") The Sikh Nation must achieve it. We always remember it by reciting every morning and evening, "Raj Kare Ga Khalsa." Now is the time to act on it. Do we mean what we say every morning and evening?

The fire of freedom still burns strong and bright in the heart of the Sikh Nation. 2003

was an encouraging year for the Sikh freedom struggle. Sikhs openly held seminars in Punjab on the subject of Khalistan. This is a very good sign and we salute the people who participated in these seminars. They are keeping the flame of freedom lit. Now I urge Sikhs to unite and take action to liberate our homeland, Punjab, Khalistan. It is time to start a Shantmai Morcha to liberate Khalistan from Indian occupation.

Never forget that the Akal Takht Sahib and Darbar Sahib are under the control of the Indian government, the same Indian government that has murdered over a quarter of a million Sikhs in the past twenty years. The Jathedar of the Akal Takht and the head granthi of Darbar Sahib toe the line that the Indian government tells them. They are not appointed by the Khalsa Panth. The SGPC, which appoints them, does not represent the Sikh Nation anymore. They have become the puppets of the Indian government and have lost credibility with the Sikh Nation. Otherwise they would behave like a real Jathedar, Jathedar Gurdev Singh Kaunke, rather than like Indian government puppet Jathedar Aroor Singh, who gave a Siropa to General Dyer for the massacre at Jalianawa Bagh. These institutions will remain under the control of the Indian regime until we free the Sikh homeland, Punjab, Khalistan, from Indian occupation and oppression and sever our relations with the New Delhi government.

The Sikh Nation is a nation of martyrs. It is encouraging that the SGPC and the Akal Takht honored the Sikh martyrs S. Satwant Singh, S. Beant Singh, and S. Kehar Singh. Recent initiatives by the Khalsa Panchayat to bring the Sikh tradition and glory to the Khalsa Panth are highly appreciated. This is a good start to establishing Khalsa Raj as the Akali movement in the 1920s freed the Sikh Gurdwaras from the Mahants who were puppets of the Indian government. Today, the Akali leaders are the new Mahants.

The Akali Dal conspired with the Indian government in 1984 to invade the Golden Temple to murder Sant Bhindranwale and 20,000 other Sikh during June 1984 in Punjab. If Sikhs will not even protect the sanctity of the Golden Temple, how can the Sikh Nation survive as a nation?

The Akali Dal has lost all its credibility. The Badal government was so corrupt openly and no Akali leader would come forward and tell Badal and his wife to stop this unparalleled corruption. That is why the Akali Dal was defeated in the elections by the Congress Party.

Chief Minister Amarinder Singh has done one good thing for which we must appreciate him. He is prosecuting Badal, his son, and his wife for their corruption during their five years in power, 1997-2002. How could a Chief Minister of modest means amass over Rs4300 crore? He should pay the taxes on this wealth and account to the Sikh Nation where he got it. This ill-gotten wealth should be confiscated.

Badal has destroyed the moral fabric of the Sikh religion. What happened to the concept of fairness and honesty? Because Sikhs are slaves in India, there is nobody to defend the Sikh interests internationally. Recently, an issue came up of the French banning the wearing of turbans in school. If Khalistan were free, the Sikh Nation could call the French Ambassador and tell him to stop this harassment of Sikhs. Our Ambassador to France would tell the French government the same thing: the turban is part of the Sikh religion and Sikhs should not be harassed.

When Sikhs ruled Punjab, a French general, General Ventura, commanded the Sikh artillery. He himself wore a beard and a turban. In World War II, the Sikh army wearing

turbans helped to liberate France so that France could enjoy freedom.

Khalsa Ji, let's pray to Guru for freedom, unity, sovereignty, prosperity, and happiness for the Sikh Nation around the world and for everyone. The Khalsa Panth is determined to establish Khalsa Raj, as the events of this past year show.

India is not one country. It has 18 official languages. Soon Kashmir will be free from Indian occupation. Now America is involved in it. As L.K. Advani predicted, "When Kashmir goes, India goes." We agree with him.

When I met President Bush on December 5, he personally told me, "I am aware of the Sikh and Kashmiri problem and we stopped India and Pakistan from going to nuclear war." The Sikh diaspora has a moral responsibility to help the Sikh Nation to achieve its sovereignty by freeing Khalistan from Indian occupation.

As President of the Council of Khalistan, I wish everybody a 2004 that brings freedom, prosperity, and happiness to you and to the Khalsa Panth. A free Khalistan is a must for the survival of the Sikh nation and will provide an optimal environment for the Sikh Nation to progress to its optimum potential politically, religiously, and economically.

Panth Da Sewadar,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President, Council of Khalistan.

HONORING WILLIAM J. ANDERSON

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William J. Anderson, a resident of my Fifth Congressional District of Florida and a man who has become something very few of us ever will. William Anderson is a centenarian and at 101 years old he is a father to one child, a grandfather to four grandchildren and a great-grandfather to three great-grandchildren!

Mr. Anderson was born in Boston but went to school in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Following school, he became a teacher. He describes his happiest moment as the birth of his son and most fondly remembers his childhood summers in Prince Edward Island.

After 101 years, Mr. Anderson says if he had it all to do over again, he'd like to work for the government—maybe even the IRS! When asked what advice he'd give to young people he said he'd tell them to work hard, stay out of trouble and drive safely. He says the best thing about growing older is the freedom to do what you want to and the time to travel.

Mr. Speaker, and my Colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring William Anderson today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as he has. He is truly a great man and someone with an appreciation for the importance of happiness and freedom.

RUDY DELEON'S ELOQUENT TRIBUTE TO FORMER CONGRESSMAN NICHOLAS MAVROULES

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I was saddened to learn of the death of former Congressman

Nicholas Mavroules, a dedicated public servant, leader, and family man.

At the funeral service for Congressman Mavroules on December 30, 2003, at St. Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church in Peabody, Massachusetts, Mr. deLeon delivered an eloquent tribute to Congressman Mavroules that touched me and all others who were present. He described the lifelong dedication that Congressman Mavroules gave to his beloved family, friends, colleagues, and constituents in Massachusetts, and his devoted service to this country.

Rudy deLeon's touching eulogy to Congressman Mavroules should be of interest to all of us. I ask that it be submitted to the RECORD.

His Eminence, Metropolitan Methodios; Current and former Members of the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation: Congressman Tierney, Congressman Neal, Congressman Meehan, former Congressman Harrington—Then as now, one of the most capable delegations in the Congress.

On behalf of the family of Nicholas Mavroules—his wife of 53 years, Mary—his daughters Debbie, Gail and Brenda and their families—and the other family, friends, colleagues and constituents—I would like to thank you for remembering and honoring a remarkable man. A man of family; a man of community; and, a man of public service.

Nick began his political career in the late 1950's, and I once asked—did you ever meet John F. Kennedy.

He responded, "yes, Senator John F. Kennedy."

His daughter—very young daughter Gail—was with him. Her response, "Dad, that man should run for Mayor of Peabody."

In 1978, Nick Mavroules would be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, serving the 6th Congressional District of Massachusetts for 14 years.

But it was in the 1980's, serving on the Armed Services Committee, where Nick would have his greatest impact.

The decade began with the inauguration of Ronald Reagan as the 40th President of the United States. It ended when the Berlin Wall came down in 1989, followed by the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991—ending communist rule in Russia.

In between was one incredible debate—and, of course—Nick Mavroules was right in the center. Along the way there were discussions of human rights in Central America, nuclear disarmament, Pentagon accountability, and the morale and welfare of U.S. troops.

In the course of his service, he would join and lead the debate—both in the Nation's Capital and on the North Shore—about the direction and course of our nation. The debate would take Nick to many places:

1981: Visit with U.S. forces in Germany.

1982: Northern Ireland.

1983: Two trips to Beirut, Lebanon. The first to spend July 4th with the troops; the second to lead an Armed Services Committee investigative team after 283 U.S. Marines were killed in a terrorist bombing during a peacekeeping mission at the Beirut International Airport. In the Committee's final report of December 1983, Nick would write, "A war of terrorism has begun and is likely to continue for the foreseeable future."

1985: A session with U.S. negotiators in Geneva—center of talks with the Soviet Union on nuclear weapons. He would meet with President Reagan in the Oval Office after this trip.

1986: San Salvador, El Salvador. A meeting with the Jesuit's at the University of Central America—priests would later be assassinated in their rectory.

1987: Baghdad, Iraq; Kuwait City; Taif, Saudi Arabia: An inspection delegation to review the security of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf during the Iran-Iraq war. Most notable was a vigorous session in Baghdad with the Foreign Minister of Iraq, Tariq Aziz, on Iraq's use of chemical weapons in its war with Iran.

1988: As an emissary of the U.S. State Department, Nick engaged in a private dialogue with Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu, providing a framework that produced the current U.S.-Greece agreement on military bases.

1989: Appointment to the House Select Committee on Intelligence, performing oversight of the CIA and other elements of the intelligence community. Nick's input: to require that intelligence be accessible to the U.S. forces deployed and at risk.

During this time, he was also engaged in the significant legislative work on national security that included:

The 1986 Defense Reorganization—the Goldwater-Nichols Act—that fundamentally restructured military command and control—so that troops serving in high-threat combat and peacekeeping missions—would have a responsive and dynamic military chain of command.

Implementation of the Packard Commission recommendations to reform Pentagon acquisition practices.

Legislation that limited the deployment of nuclear ballistic missiles, and ensuring that missile defense technology be treaty compliant.

Funding for the Navy's F-18 fighter, powered by GE engines from Lynn. Twenty years later the F-18 remains as the backbone of Naval Aviation;

And, the Small Disadvantaged Business Act that allowed more American citizens to compete in government contracting.

Throughout his service in Congress, Nick would earn the respect and trust of his colleagues. From Massachusetts: Senators Ted Kennedy, Paul Tsongas and John Kerry, Speaker Tip O'Neill, Joe Moakley, Ed Markey and Jim Shannon, Barney Frank and Joe Kennedy. And other Members of Congress, including Sam Nunn, Barry Goldwater, John Glenn, Les Aspin, Sam Stratton, Bill Nichols and Beverly Byron. His colleagues in Congress would conclude this about Nick Mavroules: He was always a gentleman. He was always well prepared. And, he always kept his word.

But, no matter the challenge in Congress, the highlight of each week would be Nick's return home to Mary and the girls. From his daughters and grandchildren came these comments:

Grandson Michael: He told me stories of himself in my place to lift my spirit; He never said, "No, Forget it, don't bother" or anything to that degree when I told him about my goals in my life I wish to go by; Any time I ever spent with him was always a good time no matter what the situation or event was; You were always there for me no matter what the situation was. The worst thing in my life was to see you go. I love you with all my heart and I always will.

Grandson Matthew: Taking me on my daily paper route. Calling me to make sure that I was ready to be picked up. You would say, "Can you believe I went from a Congressman to a paper boy. I went from being chauffeured to chauffeuring. Telling me never to forget our roots or where you came from.

Son-in-law Wayne: You weren't just a husband, dad or grandfather you were a best friend. You really had to feel very special to be Nick's friend. To Kristen and Nicholas, you just weren't a Papou but more likely considered a dad to them. Stories of baseball

and basketball when you played but as he told his stories, he told the grandchildren not to do what he did. When he watched the Red Sox and Patriots blow a game was so comical. If they pulled it out and won he would say "there's not a better team. Aren't they great!"

Grandson Jon: "No bird soars too high, if it soars with its own wings"—This could mean so many different things to many different people but it only means one thing when it comes to my mind. Everything that my grandfather taught and showed me in my life comes down to one thing. You will be most successful in life if you do things on your own and with some guidance of people who are close to you. Words cannot express how much love I will continue to have for my grandfather and how proud I am to say that my grandfather was Nicholas Mavroules.

Daughter Gail: Calling the boys over to your house when your clicker didn't work, remote controls, setting up your phone, TV, voice mail, teaching you all your buttons in your new car, and how proud you were of them because they had the knowledge of technology. How you would call us everyday from D.C. to check on us and how you would know from the tone of our voices if we were fine or not. You knew us like books. Warning the Capital Security and House Members when your grandchildren came to visit. How they would run through the halls going into other members, offices until they found you. Discussing at dinner and everyone taking turns including you and Ma. What was the best and worst part of everyone's day. How you loved that. I will forever miss your kindness, your smile, the warmth and softness of your hands, your guidance, loyalty, your love and affection, support but most of all being our champion and tower of strength. You taught us values to live by. In our lives you were bigger than life, you made us so proud and we will always live in your extraordinary legacy. You're our mentor and now our guardian angel. I love and thank you with all of my heart which you took a piece of with you and hope it lives within you as your soul will with me.

Daughter Brenda: I will always treasure these special times we shared. There wasn't anything that we didn't discuss. You always said the right things. You were my dad, hero, and friend. God needed an angel in heaven, and he took you, but he also took a special part of me. I wish everyone had the opportunity to be blessed with two beautiful parents like I was. I will miss you buddy and will love you always.

Daughter Debbie: You were my dad and my tower of strength. When I was weak you were my strength. You were my sports buddy every week during a Pats game or a Red Sox game, and if we weren't watching them together I would be on the phone with you at least five times. I started every morning by hearing you answer the phone. "Hello Deb, what are you doing Dad? Having coffee and toast and reading the papers by starting with the sports section first." You were a father to my children who adored you. You fought tooth and nail for us and always said no one will ever abuse you and the kids again. What a price you paid for our freedom. That's what Nick Mavroules was all about. The kindest, most caring, and loving individual who never forgot where he came from. That's my dad, our dad. Even from a sick hospital bed he always said take care of your mother and take care of the kids and each other and always stay together as one. Thank you for your endless love and family values.

Son in Law Phil: When I first met your daughter you did not trust me. Who was this "Irish guy taking out my daughter." Our first date, Brenda had to be home by ten o'clock PM until you trusted me with your

little girl. Once I was "cleared" you welcomed me with open arms.

On my first trip to Washington I was in awe of how many of the police officers, wait staff and regular people knew Nick and he knew them. He always treated them with the same respect as he did the Head of State. Nick you were a "class act."

Nick, I remember the birth of David. Once again you were sharing your life for others. I know when you called from the Navy ship you were so proud. David and you developed a very special relationship. David idolized you and relished the opportunity to spend time with "Pap." Alexis, what can I say. She is the only one who could convince the former Chairman of the Armed Services' Intelligence Committee to be a student who needed to complete his "dot to dot" assignment. Both David and Alexis loved their Papou. You were their hero and both of them will truly miss you.

Nick, I thank you for the opportunity to marry your daughter. I knew from the start that I could never be the number one man in Brenda's life. That spot was reserved for you. I can only try to live up to your standards. I will try my best to take care of your daughter and grandchildren.

Granddaughter Alexis: Papou was Alexis's favorite student. He was her "dot to dot" champ. Alexis told Papou when he came home from the hospital she would allow him to be the principal. Alexis and Papou had a special code, on every hour Alexis had to give Papou a kiss. Papou these kisses will never stop. When you feel tiny lips on your cheek, it's me still loving you. You will always live on in my heart Papou. I love you.

Grandson David: You helped me and you guided me through good and bad. I remember when I had social studies homework and it was about the government. I would call Papou and ask him and he would help me. We used to hang out together, talk about his past, talk about the economy, and why things happen. I loved spending time together and you don't know how much I loved it. You were my best buddy and my pal. I will miss you and I will cherish you forever and ever. I love you Papou.

(Conclusion)

Nicholas Mavroules left us on Christmas morning. We will remember him. And, we will miss him. But, we can all find consolation in an angel's Christmas morning blessing found in the Gospel of Luke:

"Glory to God in the highest,

And on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

With God's blessing, we say peace to our friend Nick Mavroules.

HONORING THERESA MARCELLA
(PALOMARES) FUENTES

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Theresa Marcella (Palomares) Fuentes, affectionately known to all as Teddy. She was born on January 16, 1924 in Los Angeles to Robert F. & Bessie (Duarte) Palomares. A fifth generation native Californian, Theresa is a direct descendent of Don Ygnacio Palomares, original Spanish land grantee of the historic Rancho San Jose located furthest from San Gabriel Mission and encompassing the area that today includes Pomona, San Dimas, La Verne and adjacent areas.

Teddy was educated in Los Angeles Catholic parochial schools, including St. Mary's Grammar School at 4th & Chicago in Boyle Heights, and later graduated from Catholic Girls High School. Immediately following graduation Theresa enlisted in the United States Navy Women's Auxiliary (WAVE's) Corps during the height of World War II, and was stationed in Washington, DC performing clerical duties for the Navy Department.

Upon her Honorable Discharge from the Navy following the war, Theresa married her childhood sweetheart Robert H. "Bob" Fuentes, also a Los Angeles native. Together they had 10 children, Christina Marie, Roberta Theresa (married to James F. Buescher), Charles Patrick (married to Linda L. Unruh), Andrea Elizabeth (married to Robert C. Kunkel), Cecelia Catherine, Robert Henry III (married to Cynthia Vetter), Mary Carole (deceased), Christopher Francis, Joseph Aloysius (married to Amy D. Boothe), and Caroline Bernadette "Buffy" (deceased), and made their home in Norwalk and later Cerritos.

A devoted homemaker and helpmate, Teddy immersed herself in the education and development of her children, amply demonstrating her talents as an accomplished artist and painter, expert seamstress, first-rate cook, as well as noted hostess in furtherance of her husband Bob's political career. After the untimely death of Bob Fuentes at age 50, Teddy took up the mantle of family matriarch and entered the workforce as a Sales Representative for Coca-Cola Bottling Company, retiring in 1991 after 14 highly successful years.

Teddy Fuentes has made many outstanding contributions to church, civic and community endeavors, including service as Grand Regent of the Santa Teresita Court of the Catholic Daughters of America, and active memberships in the American Business Women's Association, Native Daughters of the Golden West, Past Grand Knights Association of the Knights of Columbus Council 3678, Gadabouts Senior Club, and Cerritos Senior Citizens.

A world traveler par excellence, Teddy has traveled throughout the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East including several trips to Israel where she was baptized in the Jordan River, and Egypt where she rode camels at the pyramids and Sphinx.

Theresa Marcella Palomares Fuentes celebrated her 80th birthday on January 16, 2004 together with her large family and numerous friends including her six grandchildren Jennifer Marie Hood, Holly Alana Hood, Ryan Anthony Kunkel, Lauren Elizabeth Kunkel, Laurel Frances Fuentes and Robert Henry Fuentes, IV. I take great pleasure in noting the wonderful life and achievements of Theresa Marcella Palomares Fuentes, extend sincere best wishes on the happy occasion of her 80th birthday and wish her continued happiness and good health.

HONORING RICHARD SILVER

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Silver, a public servant who has dedicated his life to caring for and comforting our country's veterans.

Dick Silver has worked in various capacities for the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs for more than fifty years. During that time, he has served as the director, assistant director, administrator, and personnel services officer at VA hospitals in Massachusetts, Washington D.C., New Jersey, North Carolina, and eventually, in Florida.

Dick was appointed Director of the James A. Haley VA Medical Center in Tampa, which is near my congressional district, in 1979. The hospital, and its associated outpatient clinics, nursing homes, and domiciliaries, serves many of my constituents and has grown dramatically during his tenure. He has guided the hospital through trying times with humor, grace, and an abiding respect for the men and women who seek care at his facilities.

I worked closely with Dick over the past decade to build a spinal cord injury unit at the Tampa VA. Dick's guidance, wisdom, and knowledge were instrumental in helping me secure the necessary Federal funding for the project. He oversaw construction of the unit which, in the words of VA Secretary Principi, provides the best care in the country for veterans with spinal cord injuries and dysfunction.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to know and have worked closely with Richard Silver for so many years. His leadership, dedication, and professionalism have been an asset to me, our country, and those for whom he and his staff care.

HONORING HATTIE HALL

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Hattie Hall, a resident of my Fifth Congressional District of Florida and a woman who has become something very few of us ever will. Mrs. Hall is a centenarian and at 101 she is a mother to 5 sons, a grandmother to 10 grandchildren, and a great-grandmother to 19 and has 3 great, great-grandchildren!

Hattie was born in Savannah, Georgia and went to school at Savannah State College. Following school, she worked as a school teacher and a nurses' aid. She describes her happiest moments as going shopping with her uncle, her mother and her brother. One of her favorite activities is painting pictures.

After 101 years, Hattie says she only wished she had learned to paint at a younger age. When asked what advice she'd give to young people she says, "always do the right thing and remember to pray." She says the best thing about growing older is having a good son to take care of her.

Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring Hattie Hall today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as she has. She is truly a great lady and someone with an appreciation for the importance of family and friends.

HONORING ARLINE WHITAKER

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend and colleague who has played a major role in local government in my district, Arline Whitaker. As the Chair of the Farmington Town Council for the past 7 years, Arline has served her town with distinction and dedication.

Arline has been an active, constructive voice in the Farmington community for decades and first entered local government in 1979, serving as a member of the Farmington Town Council from 1989–2004. In addition, she chaired the Conservation Commission from 1988–1989. She continued to serve in various capacities in local government while also contributing her keen mind and boundless energy to develop many local organizations, including the Hill Stead Museum, the Stanley Whitman House, Friends of the Farmington Library, the Farmington Garden Club, and Services for the Elderly, among many others.

In her 7 years serving as chair of the Farmington Town Council, Arline has provided the leadership, enthusiasm, and long hours of hard work to accomplish an impressive list of projects. She led the initiative to build a new senior center, police station, and expand the Farmington library, while also acquiring 554 acres of land for open space preservation. She was involved with the creation of a new upper elementary school that provides our children needed classroom space. In addition, her relentless effort to seek State and Federal funding for local road improvements and the Rails to Trails project has brought new opportunities to Farmington residents to keep fit and enjoy their remarkable, scenic, and historic town.

Arline's long service to the town of Farmington is notable and commendable because it both preserved and protected a rich and wonderful history and prepared Farmington to continue as a strong community for decades to come. As a friend of Arline's, I wish her good health, high energy and joy in all she undertakes, with the time released from her many public responsibilities. My thanks for her public service, the high standards to which she held herself, and for her personal friendship.

CONGRATULATING ALYN KIEL ON HER ESSAY REGARDING PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE, AN INVASIVE SPECIE

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD an essay written by Alyn Kiel, an 11th grade student at Montague High School in Montague, MI. The essay is titled "Purple Loosestrife: A Beautiful Killer," and it is an excellent discussion of a very serious but commonly overlooked environmental problem around the Great Lakes and throughout the Nation.

Purple Loosestrife is one of the most common invasive non-native species in the United

States and Canada. Imported from Europe in the early 1800s, this plant is virtually impossible to eradicate, and its vegetative dominance often crowds out native plants and animals.

Ms. Kiel's essay is the winner of a recent essay contest for Michigan high school students sponsored by the Great Lakes Sea Grant Network and The Muskegon Chronicle. Students were asked to propose a creative, realistic and environmentally sound plan for managing an aquatic non-native invasive species in the Great Lakes.

As a Member of Congress whose district borders roughly 200 miles of beautiful Lake Michigan shoreline, I have observed firsthand the devastation invasive species can cause to the ecosystem and the economy. I am pleased to insert this essay into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and I hope that its presentation will continue to raise awareness of this serious environmental problem.

PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE: A BEAUTIFUL KILLER
(By Alyn Kiel)

Imagine a quiet walk along the lakeshore after a long absence. As you stroll along, you notice clusters of lavender flowers, and remark at their beautiful appearance. But as your journey continues, you see that most of the usual flora and fauna you would have observed a decade ago have completely disappeared. The culprit? The supposedly innocent plant you remarked upon earlier: purple loosestrife.

Purple loosestrife, or *Lythrum salicaria*, was brought to the eastern United States in the early 1800s by settlers as a medicinal herb and in the ballast holds of European ships. The spread of purple loosestrife increased with the construction of waterways, railways and canals. By the 1930s, it had moved inland [and could be found in most states and provinces] in the United States and Canada.

One of the most recognizable features of this marsh monster is a ridged, square stem. One plant can produce up to 30 stems from one central root mass. Leaves are smooth and attached directly to the stem. Flowers appear between late June and late September, and are purple in color.

Over 3 million seeds can be produced by one mature plant. Seeds are small, light and easily dispersed by wind. Each seed has high viability (nearly 100 percent germination rate) and remain so after years of being buried under soil or submersion under water. Seeds can be transported by animals, clothing, vehicles and rainfall, which carries them into river systems and wetlands.

Nicknames for purple loosestrife—beautiful killer, marsh monster and exotic invader among them—are extremely illustrative. Purple loosestrife easily establishes itself within urban and rural wetland areas. Once it's present, it's nearly impossible to destroy. It has a tendency to dominate native vegetation. This change in species composition has drastic effects on the wildlife population. Loosestrife [frequently] blocks water flow in ditches and irrigation canals.

No herbicides are currently approved to control loosestrife,** but small outbreaks can be removed by hand digging, as long as all pieces of root tissue are removed. However, for large scale infestations, this is costly and time consuming, and therefore is not a practical solution.

One innovative option being used in many wetlands across Canada and some areas of North America is Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Through this form of biological control, purple loosestrife is reunited with its natural enemies. Four insects are cur-

rently being used—two leaf eating beetles, a root mining weevil, and a seed weevil. These plant eating insects do not harm any other native plants or the natural environment. In certain areas of North America, IPM is providing total control of loosestrife. Through this method, purple loosestrife is effectively destroyed and herbicides and chemicals do not have to be used in sensitive areas.***

A second method of biological control is the removal of garden varieties of purple loosestrife. Although it was originally believed that garden varieties of loosestrife were sterile, recent scientific studies have shown that they are indeed capable of seed and pollen production. These varieties of loosestrife can exchange pollen with other cultivars and the wild population. The majority of wild infestations of purple loosestrife are the result of garden escapes.

The best way to remove loosestrife from a garden is through hand digging. All pieces of root tissue should be removed and plant material should be dried out thoroughly before disposal. Root masses can be treated with an herbicide, such as Round-Up. All plant material should be placed in a dark colored garbage bag and secured tightly to prevent infestation of the landfill.

In Canada, an exchange program has been created to exchange purple loosestrife for an environmentally safe native plant. Experts dispose of the loosestrife correctly, and residents are given native plants similar to loosestrife to replace in their gardens. A program such as this would be beneficial for Western Michigan. In this way, the purple loosestrife population is controlled, and the rebuilding of native habitats is promoted.

In order to prevent infestation of native habitats, it is necessary for informational programs to be created and promoted further within this area. As community members are informed of the danger of loosestrife, the greater amount of supporters will be gained for its control. If the entire community works together to exterminate this problem, [we will come] closer to rebuilding our wetlands.

* A healthy, mature plant can produce up to 2.7 million seeds per year.

** Currently, glyphosphate, sold under the trade name RODEO, is the only effective purple loosestrife herbicide that is registered for aquatic use. However, it is non-selective and will affect the vegetation surrounding the target plant.

*** Based on studies, three insects have been approved for release in the U.S., including one root boring weevil and two leaf eating beetles. The use of a pest's natural enemies to regulate its population and reduce damage is referred to as biological control. Biological control is only one method of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), which is a strategy to control a pest using a combination of methods.

Source; Purple Loosestrife in Michigan: Biology, Ecology, and Management, 1997, produced by Michigan Sea Grant and Michigan State University Extension.

HONORING JAMES OWEN RUSH

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an Irish Catholic and New Deal Democrat, Jim Rush. Beloved husband of Joan, Jim passed on January 2, 2004 after a hard-fought two year battle against cancer, surviving much longer than the doctors had ever predicted.

James Rush was born December 9, 1938, at Providence Hospital in Oakland, to two veterans of the Oakland General Strike, Eugene Rush and Esther Kelly-Rush. He attended and graduated Sacred Heart and St. Elizabeth's High School in Oakland. Just like his father, he lived his entire life at 472 & 474 W. MacArthur Boulevard, in the houses his grandfather, Owen Code Rush built sometime near 1870.

After high school, Jim was the night-manager at Doggie-Dinner's in Oakland. In 1962 he joined Teamsters Local 70 and was elected Chief Steward at Sears in 1969. He was arrested 3 times in the Coors Strike in Alameda in 1970. In 1972, he led the Sears Strike and was also elected Recording Secretary of Teamsters Local 70. Jim was injured on the job in 1980 and joined the law offices of John E. Hill, investigating "Serious & Willful Fraud of Injured Workers by Employers & Insurance Companies."

In 1981, Jim became interested in Palmistry & Tarot Card Reading, eventually becoming a world-renowned spiritualist and author. Published and broadcast under the name Jay Owen Swift, he founded Oakland's Palmistry Academy of Ancient Wisdom and until 2001, hosted the "Mystic-Eye," a spiritually oriented radio show on KEST in San Francisco.

In 1985, Jim was elected to the board of directors of the Instituto Laboral De La Raza, a non-profit community organization dedicated to assisting Latino immigrant working families in San Francisco, where he remained an Advisory Board Member until his death. In 1996, Jim was elected to the Executive Board of SEIU Local 616 after organizing the staff of his law firm into the union. He was appointed as a delegate to the Central Labor Council of Alameda County AFL-CIO in 1997 and elected by his fellow delegates to the Council's Union Label and Credentials Committee. On September 20, 2002, Jim was awarded the Instituto's "Santo Patricio Award." James P. Hoffa, General President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters traveled from Washington D.C. to make the presentation.

Finally, I want to honor him for being an exemplary role model, community leader, and friend. I take great pride in joining Jim's family, friends and colleagues to recognize and salute the accomplishments and contributions of James Owen "Jimmy" Rush.

HONORING ROSE DERGIN

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rose Dergin, a resident of my Fifth Congressional District of Florida and a woman who has become something very few of us ever will. Mrs. Dergin is a centenarian and at 101 she is a mother to one child, a grandmother to three grandchildren, and a great-grandmother to five great-grandchildren!

Mrs. Dergin was born in New York City but went to School in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey. At 17 she worked as a long distance telephone operator and following school, she worked as a bookbinder. She describes her happiest moment as her wedding day. Today

one of her favorite activities is playing cards until her eyes hurt!

After 101 years, Mrs. Dergin says if she had to live life all over again, she'd love to be a sketch artist, a hobby she had to give up in order to support her family. When asked what advice she'd give to young people she said, "Listen to your parents." She says the best thing about growing older is having her family around.

Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring Rose Dergin today. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as she has. She is truly a great lady and someone with an appreciation for the importance of family and closeness.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN THOMAS DYE
SCHOOL ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly remarkable educational institution in the 30th Congressional District—the John Thomas Dye School—on its 75th anniversary.

The John Thomas Dye School in Los Angeles, California, was founded in 1929 by Cathryn Robberts Dye and John Thomas Dye II. Originally named the Brentwood Town and Country School, it opened with ten students in 1929 at the corner of 26th Street and San Vicente Boulevard. One of these students was the founders' own son, John Thomas Dye III, who later was tragically killed while a pilot in World War II. In 1959, the school was renamed the John Thomas Dye School in memory of its fallen son.

In 1960, the school was moved to its present campus at 1141 Chalon Road. The very next year, the school burned to the ground in the Bel Air Fire. Thanks to the dedication of its founders, and the unwavering and generous support of the community, the school was rebuilt in one year.

Today, this independent, nonprofit school educates children from preschool through 6th grade. In addition to its strong academic program, the John Thomas Dye School places special emphasis on the "Five Cs": Caring, Common Sense, Consideration, Cooperation, and Courtesy. Throughout its 75 year history, the school has touched the lives of over 1,500 graduates, thousands of parents, and an exceptional faculty and staff.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the John Thomas Dye School family on the occasion of its 75th anniversary.

CELEBRATION OF LUNAR NEW
YEAR

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to represent a vibrant and strong Asian American and Pacific Islander community that is a historic part of San Francisco's world-re-

nowned diversity, and I rise today to recognize the celebration of the Lunar New Year, the most cherished Chinese festival.

The Lunar New Year marks the beginning of a new season and is a time of renewed hope. It is considered a time to sweep away misfortune and to welcome the New Year with hopes of good luck, prosperity, and excellent health.

The Lunar New Year celebration begins on the new moon of the first day of each year and ends on the full moon 15 days later. Family is a major focus of the Lunar New Year celebration, and participants pay great respect to their ancestors who laid the foundations for the well-being of their families. The Lantern Festival, which concludes the celebration with a parade of brilliant lanterns, the music of drums, and a dragon dance performed by youth, is especially beautiful.

By the Chinese calendar, this is the year 4,701, the Year of the Monkey. The Monkey represents the inventor and innovator and symbolizes growth and development. In many ways, the Monkey epitomizes the entrepreneurial spirit of my district in San Francisco and our ability to overcome great challenges.

The U.S. Postal Service recently issued its Year of the Monkey Stamp, the final in its spectacular Lunar New Year commemorative stamp series. It has been a great pleasure to celebrate the 12 years of the Chinese Zodiac with the stamps designed by artist Clarence Lee, and I am proud to display these beautiful images on the walls of my office. Thank you to the Organization of Chinese Americans, to the U.S. Postal Service, and to the leaders of San Francisco's Chinese American Community for your hard work to make this wonderful series a reality.

By percentage, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are the country's fastest growing ethnic group, and the community is a dynamic part of our nation. The Lunar New Year is a wonderful opportunity to recognize the immeasurable contributions of Asian American and Pacific Islanders to all aspects of American life, including the arts, education, sports, medicine, religion, and politics. It is my pleasure to join with so many of my constituents and with Asian American and Pacific Islanders across the country to celebrate the Lunar New Year.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ILC DOVER INC. AND ATK ELKTON

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recent accomplishments of ILC Dover Inc., located in Frederica, Delaware. ILC Dover has long been a partner in this country's space exploration efforts. From manufacturing space suits for the Apollo mission's to the moon to creating the air bag landing systems for the recent Mars rover's Spirit and Opportunity, the later of which is scheduled to land on the opposite side of Mars this weekend. I as well as the 400 employees at ILC will be watching closely as the company's technology delivers Opportunity safely to the surface of Mars.

As NASA's vision continues to change over time, ILC Dover has adapted their technologies to meet the challenges of these new missions. ILC's landing bags work much like your everyday passenger air bag in a car. The system surrounded and protected the rover Spirit as it bounced 30 times before resting on the surface of Mars. These unmanned probes will scour the red planet's surface in an effort to discover any previous existence of life. These air bag systems were enhanced from those that ILC made for the earlier Pathfinder mission to Mars.

ILC is very excited by the President's recent announcement that he plans to send Americans to Mars by establishing a permanent space station on the moon. ILC Dover has already begun testing their newest space suit, the "I-suit", which could be worn by those astronauts who will build the moon base. ILC has stated that they expect these suits would perform better, would cost less, and would be more comfortable, allowing crewmembers to perform their duties for longer periods of time.

The company also manufactures products to meet the emerging homeland security, defense, and environmental challenges that our country faces. For example, they have begun production and sales of the Scape hood, a mask that protects civilian wearers from nuclear, biological and chemical warfare agents. The company currently manufactures the M40 gas masks donned by the U.S. Army. The federal government, state and local municipalities, and the corporate community have invested in their Vapor Guard product. These soft material covers are designed to contain odors and emissions within wastewater treatment tanks. These are just a few of the emerging technologies that the company is focused on.

As part of the successful Mars Exploration Rover program, I would also like to acknowledge the important work of Alliant Tech Systems Inc. (ATK). ATK, based in Edina, Minnesota, is a \$2.2 billion aerospace and defense company with strong positions in propulsion, composite structures, munitions, precision capabilities and civil and sporting ammunition. I will be touring their Elkton, Maryland, facility and will see first hand how ATK is partnering with NASA.

The Elkton facility, which employs close to 100 Delawareans, is working on NASA's Mars Exploration Rover as well, the orbital space plane and other NASA missions. Specifically, ATK constructed the gas generators that inflated ILC Dover's airbags to cushion the rover's landings, as well as the rocket motors that slowed their decent.

Besides their NASA work, ATK is also partnering with the Department of Defense to create Kinetic Energy Interceptor missile defense programs and is also part of a Department of Homeland Security team with United Air Lines that has been tasked to submit designs for an electro optic missile warning systems for commercial airplanes.

These forward thinking companies continue to assert themselves as major players in our nation's research and development, especially our search of the next frontier. I congratulate them on their achievements and wish them continued success.

REGULATORY OBSTACLES TO THE
DEPLOYMENT OF BROADBAND
FACILITIES**HON. RICK BOUCHER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the positive economic benefits of eliminating the regulatory obstacles to the deployment of broadband facilities by telecommunications carriers. A recent report by economists Robert W. Crandall and Charles L. Jackson supplies strong evidence that further deregulation will jumpstart the sluggish technology sector and increase investment in broadband, which will in turn encourage greater Internet use, and expand the market for a broad range of technologies from computers and servers to digital appliances for the home that connect over the Internet.

Despite recent efforts by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in its Triennial Review Order (TRO) to promote broadband investment, several restrictions on broadband deployment remain that threaten to undercut the economic benefits the FCC was seeking to foster in its deregulatory order. The FCC has before it a reconsideration proceeding in which it has the opportunity to eliminate remaining barriers to investment and nourish broadband deployment, innovation, and economic growth. I urge the Commission to take full advantage of that opportunity. The following counterproductive regulations should be repealed:

First, although the FCC has eliminated unbundling requirements for new mass market broadband deployments, it mistakenly ruled that multiple dwelling units (MDUs) are subject to the greater unbundling obligations applied to the enterprise market. Apartment complexes and other primarily residential buildings should be treated the same as single family houses and small businesses that fall within the mass market. The unbundling requirements that apply to the enterprise market should not apply to these multi-family dwellings.

Second, the TRO muddies the distinction between the mass market and the enterprise market in other unfortunate ways. The FCC recognized that telephone companies face tremendous competition from cable operators when telephone companies seek to deploy new broadband networks to the mass market. It accordingly provided maximum unbundling relief to telephone companies for mass market deployments. But the FCC failed to say what the mass market includes. In particular, providers are uncertain whether fiber loops deployed to small businesses will be subject to unbundling at below-cost rates. The FCC should clear up this uncertainty by providing a clear definition of the mass market.

Third, although the TRO properly eliminates unbundling obligations for broadband under section 251 of the Communications Act, the FCC appears to have required the Bell companies to provide unbundled access to their broadband facilities under a different section—section 271. The FCC should make clear that no provision of the Act requires carriers to physically unbundle broadband facilities at cost-based rates.

The FCC needs to act swiftly to eliminate these lingering impediments to broadband de-

ployment. By doing so, the Commission will unleash the full potential of broadband communications, which will serve as an immediate stimulus for the economy.

According to the Crandall-Jackson report, if the FCC acts as I have recommended to deregulate broadband, as many as 1.2 million new jobs could emerge over the next decade from the resulting widespread adoption of existing and advanced broadband technologies. In as little as 5 years, the more than 250,000 jobs lost between 2000–2003 in the telecommunications service and equipment sector could be restored. Capital investment could increase to such an extent that by 2021, capital expenditure on broadband technologies will reach \$63.6 billion and create a cumulative increase in gross domestic product of \$179.7 billion.

Finally, in addition to creating the proper framework for investment in broadband facilities, I urge the FCC to promote regulatory parity for the broadband services provided by cable operators and telephone companies. Under current rules, telephone companies are required to provide nondiscriminatory access to all Internet service providers, but cable operators are not. For example, Verizon can offer its customers an Internet access service, but the user can instead select AOL, Earthlink, or any other ISP while receiving local telephone service from Verizon. If the subscriber has cable modem service, in most cases he is stuck with the cable company's affiliated ISP, and he would have to pay extra to reach a different ISP. This disparity makes no sense, especially given that cable operators have a 2–1 market share lead over telephone companies in the broadband marketplace.

The FCC should require cable operators to provide open access, just as telephone companies do. Americans deserve to choose their own ISP, rather than having the network owner choose for them. The FCC also should prohibit cable operators from using their bottleneck control of the network to discriminate against unaffiliated content providers or equipment suppliers. Such requirements would not involve the below-cost pricing associated with the objectionable unbundling regime, and accordingly would not chill investment in new networks. In fact, requiring all broadband network owners to provide a choice of ISPs will accelerate the deployment of broadband services at a more reasonable price.

TRIBUTE TO THE 12TH SERGEANT
MAJOR OF THE ARMY, JACK L.
TILLEY**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and privilege to simply say thank you to the 12th Sergeant Major of the Army, Jack L. Tilley. Thank you for your service to our country. Thank you for your sacrifice to this great nation, and thank you for your leadership as the highest ranking enlisted soldier in the Army.

Last week, Sergeant Major Tilley and his wife Gloria retired after 35 years in the Army. As Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Military Con-

struction, I had the distinct pleasure of listening to Sergeant Major Tilley testify about quality of life issues for Army soldiers. I witnessed his concern for the men and women who serve our country. Let me assure you, Sergeant Major Tilley was a zealous and effective advocate for all soldiers. There were numerous occasions when his suggestions were incorporated into subcommittee policy. Believe me, Sergeant Major Tilley made a difference in the lives of soldiers and their families.

Effectively representing soldiers of the most powerful Army in the world is a challenging and evolving task. In his statement to the Subcommittee on Military Construction Appropriations on March 5, 2003, Sergeant Major Tilley stated, "Almost three years ago my boss—Army Chief of Staff General Eric Shinseki—gave me a fairly simple charter. My mission is to get out among our soldiers and their families, understand their needs and issues, and become their biggest advocate and supporter as I represent them to him, the Secretary of the Army, and other senior leaders throughout our government." I can say without hesitation, Sergeant Major Tilley has accomplished his mission.

Over the course of his career, and most notably during his tenure as Sergeant Major of the Army, Jack Tilley's number one priority was Army soldiers. From the day he took the office of Sergeant Major of the Army in June 2000, until his retirement, Jack Tilley took his mission to heart. By his own admission, Sergeant Major Tilley logged hundreds of thousands of miles of travel visiting Army soldiers across the United States and forward deployed to countries all over the world. Sergeant Major Tilley's actions and dedication reveal that he is not afraid to get his boots muddy, in fact, he revels in it.

Sergeant Major Tilley's care for soldiers was tested many times during his tour of duty. As the first Sergeant Major of the Army appointed in the 21st Century, Jack Tilley has coached and mentored Army soldiers through many challenges that his predecessors could never have imagined. Sergeant Major Tilley was the Army's lead advocate for soldier issues as a new administration came into office, defense transformation became a reality, and our country, and the building he worked in, were viciously attacked on September 11th, ushering in a new type of war, the Global War on Terrorism.

Yet for all that can be said about Sergeant Major Tilley and his many accomplishments, he is nothing if not the embodiment of the modern American Soldier. Sergeant Major Tilley's concern and dedication for Army soldiers reflects what the President said to soldiers at Fort Hood Texas, and I quote:

"As members of our military, you serve this nation's ideals and you demonstrate those ideals in your code and in your character. As Commander-in-Chief, I have come to know the men and women who wear America's uniform. I have seen your love of country and your devotion to a cause larger than yourself. I have seen your discipline, your idealism, and your sense of honor. I know that every order I give can bring a cost. I also know without a doubt that every order I give will be carried out with skill and unselfish courage."

The fact that the President of the United States notices and commends Army soldiers is testimony to the hard work and dedication of people like Sergeant Major Tilley. Unquestionably, the United States possesses the

most effective and professional fighting force that the world has ever seen. The quality and caliber of Army soldiers continues to grow, despite increasing operational tempo and tremendous expectations thrust on the dedicated men and women who serve our country.

Thank you Sergeant Major Tilley for your leadership and values that have made our Army the most professional and effective fighting force in the world. Thank you for your ability to inform the Appropriations Committee on quality of life issues that impact soldiers and their families, and God's blessings to you as you begin your next great journey upon your retirement from the Army.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1, I was detained due to a delay in my flight. Had I been present, I would have voted "present."

CONGRATULATIONS AND APPRECIATION TO STAFF SERGEANT CAROL S. MURRAY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring a very special person, Staff Sergeant Carol S. Murray, who has given outstanding service to our Nation and to this institution. Sergeant Murray will be honored this evening by her many friends, colleagues, and family members on the occasion of her retirement from the United States Army.

As the Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge and Administrative Supervisor of the Army's Congressional House Liaison Division since 1991, Sergeant Murray has earned an excellent reputation among members of Congress for her dedication and professionalism. I had the pleasure of getting to know Sergeant Murray when she accompanied a Congressional delegation to Haiti. She impressed me with her ability to handle with grace any situation which arose, while also showing deep respect to our host country and its residents during the diplomatic mission. I always enjoyed walking by Sergeant Murray's office in the Rayburn Building, because I knew I would be greeted with the warm, friendly smile she has for everyone. In her position, she was always willing to show newcomers the ropes, inspiring a sense of esprit d'corps which is so important for the morale of those serving in our military. In addition, whenever the Army was hosting a reception or event for a senior officer, she worked tirelessly to ensure that it was well-attended and successful.

Sergeant Murray began her career in July of 1984 after completing Basic and AIT at Fort Jackson. She served in Stuttgart as the postal clerk for 139th AG Postal, Robinson Barracks. Her exceptional performance led to other assignments, including providing primary training

in office procedures and policies, and acting as a mentor for all newly assigned Military Personnel. Following her tour in Germany, she headed to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, to the XVIII Airborne Corps, where she served with the "Fighting" 305th AG Postal before leaving for Honduras and other numerous field deployments with the mighty 82nd Airborne Division. In January of 1988, she began working as a Postal Clerk with the 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Casey. She later worked as an Administrative Specialist to the Chief, Enlisted Records before serving as the Senior Administrative NCO for the Adjutant General's Office in the Military District of Washington.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in offering congratulations and best wishes for the future to Sergeant Carol Murray, a great soldier, patriot, and friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1 I was unavoidably detained and regret missing the quorum call. Had I been present, I would have voted "present."

REMEMBERING ROBIN EDMONDS MILLER

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share some very sad news with my colleagues today. Robin Edmonds Miller, of Stonington, Connecticut, died on Wednesday, December 10, at the age of 52.

Robin's loss is both professional and personal, as she was a dedicated public servant and a dear friend of the Simmons family.

Robin was involved and respected in state politics, currently serving as chairperson of the Board of Mediation and Arbitration for the State of Connecticut Department of Labor. She was also serving as chairperson for the State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services Employee Review Board.

Robin was active in social and civic affairs in the Town of Stonington, serving as the Town of Stonington Registrar of Voters. She also served as past chair, and currently vice chair, of the Stonington Town Republican Committee.

Robin Miller exemplified community action and public service. She believed that our communities, our states and our nation will function properly only when people step forward to do the hard work necessary to ensure the wheels of democracy will run smoothly. When I think of my friend I am reminded that the heart of a public servant is not measured by its size, but by the depth of commitment to make a positive contribution to the lives of others.

In addition to her parents, Robin is survived by her two children, Bianca Nardi and Curtis Miller; her siblings, Robert and Julie Edmonds of New Hampshire; and nieces and nephews.

All those who knew Robin Miller feel a profound sense of loss, but also a genuine sense of joy that we knew her.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRESERVING MEDICARE FOR ALL ACT OF 2004

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation to help fulfill the promise made by Congress and the President to our seniors. The "Preserving Medicare for All Act of 2004" begins with the framework of HR 1, which was passed in the last days of our first session. But it corrects the legislation's structural defects that will result in more harm than help for our Medicare beneficiaries.

Over the past few years, I have met with thousands of seniors in my district about Medicare and their need for prescription drug coverage. They brought me their empty pill bottles and their pharmacy receipts. With the highest out-of-pocket costs of any age group in the country, they and millions of other seniors across the nation were looking to Congress for real prescription drug coverage that would give them substantial help with their drug costs. They wanted their drug benefit to be provided like other benefits covered by Medicare—administered by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, with a guaranteed benefit, universally available regardless of where they live, for it not to jeopardize existing coverage, and yes, they wanted the choice of their own doctor and hospital and the freedom to choose a private health plan if they prefer that option.

I believe that a clear majority of the House and Senate wanted to enact legislation that met our seniors' needs. Unfortunately, the bill that moved through Congress failed to provide seniors with what they needed or expected. The plan that became law will not be administered by CMS but by private insurers. The government is prohibited from using the purchasing power of 40 million beneficiaries to lower drug prices. There will be no guaranteed benefit, but rather an "actuarially equivalent" benefit whose components insurance companies can manipulate to discourage high-cost seniors from enrolling. It will not be universal, because these insurers can offer different coverage in different areas of the country. It will jeopardize existing coverage; the Congressional Budget Office has estimated that 2.7 million retirees—half of whom have annual incomes of less than \$30,000—will lose the drug benefits they now enjoy as a result of insufficient subsidies to employers. Under the guise of "choice" and "competition," this bill gives an extra \$12 billion to managed care plans, which are already reimbursed at rates one-fifth higher than fee-for-service Medicare. This so-called "stabilization fund" and a premium support demonstration project are not designed to offer choice, but instead to lure younger, healthier seniors away from traditional Medicare and into private plans. These features of the bill do not save money, according to the Congressional Budget Office's estimate. Instead, scarce dollars that could be used to provide a better drug benefit are used

to ensure profits for health plans. Those beneficiaries who remain in fee-for-service Medicare will be isolated in an underfunded program and they will see their premiums skyrocket as a result of phony "competition." Finally, the new law includes a "cost containment" provision that actually shifts rather than contains costs. By combining the Part A and Part B Trust Funds and creating a new definition of insolvency that caps Medicare's use of general revenues at 45 percent of total Medicare costs, this provision would force government to cut benefits or raise payroll taxes if this limit is exceeded. More than any other element of the new law, this provision would undermine the entire Medicare system as we know it, shifting the burden of the program onto those least able to afford it.

The bill I am introducing today will modify these damaging aspects of the new Medicare law. First it will authorize the HHS Secretary to use the purchasing power of 40 million seniors and disabled Americans to negotiate lower drug prices. Second, it will guarantee seniors the choice of a nationally available, defined benefit within Medicare. The premium, deductible, copays and stoploss will be set by law, not by private insurers. Third, my bill will fully reimburse employers for the cost of qualified retiree drug coverage and it will permit their costs to count toward seniors' catastrophic limits. Fourth, it will repeal the premium support demonstration and help ensure that Medicare remains a national program with equal access for all seniors. Fifth, it will eliminate the "stabilization" fund for private health insurers and dedicate these funds to strengthening the traditional Medicare program for seniors. Finally, it will eliminate the "cost containment" provision of the bill, which will harm both working families, seniors, and health care providers.

Mr. Speaker, the Medicare prescription drug provisions of this bill will not take effect until 2006. We have time to fix the structural problems that prevent this law from benefitting today's beneficiaries and those who will depend on Medicare in future years. I urge my colleagues to support this effort and help keep the promises we've made to our seniors.

POSTHUMOUS TRIBUTE TO THE
LATE EUGENE "WHITEY" WHITE,
A TRACK STAR AT FLORIDA
A&M UNIVERSITY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the late Eugene "Whitey" White, a legendary track star at Florida A&M University. It is indeed a sad day for the entire Florida A&M University family, particularly those involved with the Athletic Department. He will be laid to rest on Saturday, January 24, 2004 at Dade Memorial Park in his hometown of Miami, Florida.

His untimely demise this past Thursday, January 15, 2004, leaves a great void in our historic institution. He is survived by his beloved daughter La Donna, grandson Ryan Smith, sister Cora L. White, nephew Eugene Randall White, and the rest of his loving family.

Eugene White was born in Miami, Florida on December 24, 1937, the oldest of three children born to parents, Eugene and Corine White. He attended Phyllis Wheatley Elementary School and Booker T. Washington High School where he was a star athlete. He was a running back for his school's Tornadoes Football Team, and was a sprinter and relay team track member. Graduating with the Class of 1957, he was awarded a four-year scholarship to Florida A&M University where he excelled in sports, and became an acclaimed running back for the Rattlers Football Team. Upon graduation in 1962, he was drafted by the Miami Dolphins and later played for the Oakland Raiders. His illustrious football career continued as he played with the Canadian Football League.

Though he was merely a freshman, Mr. White's most salient feat in the annals of Track and Field competition was that then-Coach Pete Griffin marveled at his amazing speed by winning the 100-yard dash at the Florida A&M Relays in a record 9.4. As he went about garnering many more excellent records, he entered the South Carolina State Invitational Meet. He was clocked by six official timekeepers at an unprecedented 9.5 for the warm-up, and, before the official hundred run, Mr. White pulled a muscle. Despite this apparent debacle that would have incapacitated many an athlete, he was able to finish second, clocking in at 9.7.

White's magnificent contributions to the personal and professional growth of countless youth in his native Miami are well-known, as he was admired for his quiet spirit and loving demeanor, always exuding a great many gentlemanly virtues that endeared him to the community and to his church family. His records on the athletic field have become legendary, and they now emblazon the fond memories of countless FAMU alumni. Young men and women who came to admire his athletic prowess also found him to be a caring professional who personified an indomitable example of excellent discipline and genuine compassion for his fellowmen. His colleagues highly regarded him as a confidant and the epitome of utmost urbanity and gentlemanly behavior. Nowhere has this advocacy role played out succinctly in the lives of many youngsters than in the indelible mark he left on many students, who were inspired by him to excel both in their academic pursuits and athletic endeavors.

Indeed, our FAMU family is genuinely touched and comforted by the undaunted leadership, resilient example and personal warmth he exuded to those who came to know and admired him. This is the genuine legacy he bequeathed to those of us he left behind. In a special way, I am privileged to be a grateful alumnus of Florida A&M University, a great institution of learning graced bountifully by his remarkable contributions, both on and off campus.

HONORING DR. ESSIE L. BAILEY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today on behalf of the Great Lakes Baptist District Woman's Auxiliary of Michigan, to

honor Dr. Essie L. Bailey for 33 years of dedicated service as President of the Great Lakes Baptist District Woman's Auxiliary, an auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. On Saturday, January 10, 2004, the Great Lakes Baptist District Woman's Auxiliary will recognize Dr. Bailey's accomplishments during a dinner to be held at the Metropolitan Baptist Tabernacle, A.J. Pointer Family Life Center located in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Dr. Essie L. Bailey was born and raised in Mississippi. Upon relocating to Flint, Michigan she became a faithful member of the New Zion Missionary Baptist Church, where she is currently serving as a Sunday school teacher, leader of the Missions Union and a Deaconette. Dr. Bailey was granted an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Humanities from the Urban Bible Institute of Religious Studies. She has served the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. as the President of the Great Lakes Baptist District Woman's Auxiliary for thirty-three years, President of the Wolverine State Baptist Woman's Auxiliary for eight years, Chairwoman of the Great Lakes Baptist District Foreign Mission Board, and Chairwoman on the District Presidents' breakfast committee. These roles have allotted Dr. Bailey with the opportunity to spread spiritual enrichment to women throughout the world. Her work has taken her to Africa, where in 1973, she served as the Great Lakes Baptist District Association General Ambassador to Africa. She also traveled on missions to Canada, and Israel. Dr. Bailey faithfully served the convention until failing health caused her to recently step down from her position as President of the Great Lakes Baptist District Woman's Auxiliary. During her tenure, Dr. Bailey was, and still is a positive religious influence within the Christian community. She is a true foot soldier for the Lord.

Dr. Bailey has received numerous accolades for her dedicated service. To name a few, she received the City of Flint Drum Major Award, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Woman of the Year Award, and the State of Michigan Outstanding Service Award. Aside from being an outstanding leader and role model, Dr. Bailey is also a loving wife, mother and grandmother.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I ask my colleagues in the 108th Congress to please join me in honoring my constituent and friend Dr. Essie L. Bailey for her outstanding service to the Christian community.

RECOGNIZING CAROL BRILL, PH.D

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Carol Brill, Ph.D., an exceptional woman who is retiring after serving as Executive Director of the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) for 32 years. I am proud of Dr. Brill's many accomplishments and would like to recognize her contribution to the field of social work and her community.

The overall mission of the Massachusetts Chapter of NASW, the professional organization in the field of social work, is to provide human rights, social and economic justice, and unimpeded access to services for everyone. Under Dr. Brill's leadership, the membership of the Massachusetts Chapter grew from

1,800 individuals to 8,200, its budget increased, and it established regional councils. Additionally, the Massachusetts chapter was the first in the nation to start a committee on Ethnic and Racial Affairs and a committee on lesbian/gay/bi-sexual/transgender issues. The Massachusetts Chapter was also the first to launch a Social Work Therapy Referral Service, a free clinical consultation service, and a member-to-member supervision program.

Dr. Brill's belief in the importance of social workers' active involvement in civic affairs led to the growth of social work's visibility in the advocacy world, the State Legislature, and the State administration. Dr. Brill was a founder of the Massachusetts Human Services Coalition, a major advocacy organization for more funding for human services, and she currently serves as its vice president. Dr. Brill also serves as treasurer of the Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center, an organization which fights for fairer taxation in Massachusetts, and is co-chair of the Committee to Save the Department of Social Services and Our Children.

Dr. Brill's expertise in social work ethics made her a national expert on the subject. She has been a keynote presenter, workshop leader, or panelist around the country. Dr. Brill has also provided consultation and organized in-service training courses on a variety of issues for several agencies in New England such as the Salvation Army and the Boston Public Schools.

Dr. Brill's commitment to the field of social work and the people of Massachusetts has been remarkable. Mr. Speaker, I am certain that the entire House of Representatives joins me in congratulating Dr. Brill for all that she has accomplished and in wishing her the best during retirement.

RECOGNITION OF THE J.M.
SMUCKER COMPANY

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the J.M. Smucker Company. The Ohio-based Smucker Company was recently ranked number one on Fortune Magazine's annual "Top 100 Companies to Work For" list.

Founded in 1897 in Orrville, Ohio, Smucker sold its first product—apple butter—from the back of a horse drawn wagon. Today, the company is the market leader for an array of fruit spreads, toppings, beverages and natural foods. Smucker employs some 2,430 people in the U.S. and maintains 12 manufacturing plants worldwide.

Since its inception in 1897, the Smucker Company has grown to earn a national reputation as a premier and model employer. Sustaining job security and stability for employees even through difficult economic times has been a recurring theme in the company's success. In fact, Smucker has never resorted to layoffs to cope with a lagging economy. Still, Smucker continues to enjoy great success. Sales for the company are up 91 percent from last year alone.

I applaud the J.M. Smucker Company for this recognition as an exemplary employer and I wish it continued growth and prosperity.

TRIBUTE TO DIANA POULTON

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor an individual who has been a tireless supporter of education in my congressional district. My congressional district has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live. Diana Poulton is one of these individuals.

Over the last four years, Diana has been actively involved with the Science and Technology Education Partnership (STEP), a non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring students to pursue science and technology careers. As the Honorary Chairman of STEP, I have witnessed first-hand Diana's deep commitment and dedication to building a brighter future for students in the Inland Empire.

The flagship program for STEP is the annual STEP Conference, which hosts thousands of 4th through 8th grade students at a fun-filled learning event dedicated to the exciting world of science and technology. This conference puts thousands of students in contact with some of the top science and technology companies and organizations, which they might otherwise never experience in their school career. With the increasing demands for science and technology workers and the diminished supply in our region, the STEP Conference is one of the largest in California and serves as a spark to ignite the imagination of young minds.

This successful conference takes a great amount of time and energy to plan and Diana is an integral part in the planning and execution of the event. It is not uncommon for her to work after-hours to ensure the conference will be a success. Not only is she an inspiration to the students but also to the volunteers who know they can count on her to answer their questions or help them in any way. Diana serves a vital role to the STEP organization and I commend her commitment to STEP, students and education. As a member of the Science Committee, I am thankful for people like Diana Poulton because she sets an example that will serve as a guiding light for others in the future.

Diana's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the Inland Empire in Southern California. She is part of the heart and soul of STEP and I am proud to call her a fellow community member, American and friend.

HONORING THE RUTHERFORD
COUNTY CHAMBER OF COM-
MERCE'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Rutherford County, Tennessee, Chamber of Commerce, an organization that has helped my home country to be one of the best places in America to live.

As a member of the Chamber of Commerce and former board director, I know firsthand that the chamber can take a lot of credit for the quality of life we now enjoy in Rutherford County. Residents have an opportunity to work at good jobs and send their children to some of the best schools in the Nation, not to mention enjoy all the recreational venues in the area. The chamber's economic development efforts have paid big dividends to the county. And the chamber's advocacy for the business community has been a positive influence in the Tennessee Legislature and has helped me in my legislative efforts in Congress.

The Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce is fortunate to have had so many strong, visionary members in its ranks. Through their leadership and hard work, they have been able to attract top-notch companies to the area. Nissan, for example, is located in Rutherford County. As the largest automaker in the world under one roof, Nissan not only provided thousands of good-paying jobs to the people of Rutherford County, but it also brought countless businesses that supply the automaker with a variety of parts and services.

Through a unique public and private partnership, the Rutherford County of Chamber of Commerce has become one of the best community advocates in the Nation. As the chamber celebrates its 75 years of existence, I commend the organization for all it has done to make Rutherford County such a desirable place to live and raise a family.

RECOGNIZING THE TEMECULA CITIZEN CORPS PROGRAM FOR ITS SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF TEMECULA

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and praise the people of the City of Temecula, who are doing their duty, as citizens, public servants, and elected officials, to make our homes and communities more secure. They have accomplished this through the Temecula Citizen Corps—an innovative new program that was inspired by President George Bush's 2002 State of the Union address. Two years ago, President Bush asked communities to take greater responsibility for their own emergency preparedness. The City of Temecula took this charge to heart and began building what has become a model program for local level homeland security concerns.

The Temecula Citizen Corps program coordinates the efforts of private citizens, neighborhood leaders, public safety agencies, and city officials, to enhance emergency and disaster preparedness. It has trained representatives from each neighborhood in the city on emergency notification methods, damage assessment, and special needs of community residents. It has also trained citizens in first aid, crime prevention, and neighborhood safety.

The program is designed to meet one of the critical homeland security needs: citizen self-sufficiency and self-reliance. In the immediate 72 hours following a disaster, emergency

management agencies are often overwhelmed and unable to deal with all the needs of the affected communities. This program trains private citizens to provide basic emergency care for their own neighborhoods in the critical time immediately following a disaster.

The Temecula Citizen Corps has achieved such impressive results that the Department of Homeland Security considers it a standard setter for local communities. It has also won widespread praise throughout the Southern California region for its efficiency and quality of training and is inspiring many other cities and communities to follow its example. Last week, the men and women of Temecula were recognized publicly by the Secretary of Homeland Security, Tom Ridge, for the excellent program they have developed.

I am extremely proud of the City of Temecula for the dedication and effort they have invested in the Temecula Citizen Corps program. I am pleased to have had this opportunity to recognize them today and I encourage my colleagues to review their program as an example of what is possible when communities decide to take responsibility for their security needs.

HONORING DIANA MASON

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the career of my long-time friend and constituent Mrs. Diana Mason.

Diana began her career in 1963 after graduating from Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, California. As a secretary in the engineering department of the United States Steel Corporation, Diana began what would be three decades of service to US Steel. Two years after her initial employment she transferred to the Industrial Engineering Department and finally in 1967 began working at the San Francisco corporate offices as secretary to the Director of Public Relations of Western States.

Diana continued her exemplary service and in 1979 was promoted to Executive Secretary to Plant Manager and returned to Pittsburg, CA. In 1986, US Steel merged with Pohang Steel Corporation of South Korea to become USS/POSCO Industries (UPI) and Diana began working as secretary to Mr. S.H. Yo, Executive Vice President of UPI.

In 1993, Diana became responsible for bringing UPI to the forefront of the community and began her new job as Manager of Community Relations. In this position she worked closely with the people and businesses of surrounding cities—Antioch, Oakley, and Brentwood.

In addition to her work for UPI, Diana supports several outreach programs including Junior Achievement, Project Read, Choices, and the Pittsburg Seafood Festival. She is also a member of the Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club.

For three decades Diana has dedicated her career to working for US Steel and later UPI. In October 2003, Diana ended her long and successful career and I would like to take the time today to congratulate her on a job well done. I will continue to enjoy my friendship

with her and I have tremendous respect and appreciation for the work she has done on behalf of her company, its employees, and our community.

I encourage my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in acknowledging the career and dedication of Diana Mason.

RECOGNIZING THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY NAACP AND THE CITY OF WEST COVINA FOR COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to commend the work of the San Gabriel Valley National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the city of West Covina for their 5th annual commemoration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. King was a visionary leader who believed and dreamed of a color-blind society in America—a place where interracial and intercultural cooperation triumphs over hatred and ignorance. He helped awaken our nation's conscience of the racial injustice directed toward millions of Americans and reaffirmed our most cherished principle—the principle that all men and women are created equal.

During the 1960s, a time of great unrest, Dr. King emphasized the importance of using non-violence to achieve social and political advancement for all people. Dr. King understood that the means of achieving your goal was as important as the goal you were trying to achieve. Although we have made great strides toward achieving greater equality and opportunity for all since his death, we as a nation and as a people are still struggling to fulfill his dream, and we must do more.

According to Coretta Scott King, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday is not only a celebration of a man who brought hope and healing to America, but it is, above all, a day of service. In honor of Dr. King, let us remember to help the less fortunate, to fight against injustice, and live up to the principle of our great country.

I commend the work of the San Gabriel Valley NAACP and the city of West Covina for organizing the 5th annual celebration to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Events like these remind us that Dr. King's fight is our fight, his dream is our dream, and that one day we will "judge a person by the content of their character and not the color of their skin." Let us keep his memory alive through our actions and deeds.

ADDRESSING THE RECENT "REFORM" OF THE MEDICARE SYSTEM

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the consequences of the Medicare

legislation signed into law in December of last year. I must express my profound disappointment with the outcome of a process that originally promised so much hope. Throughout 2003, there was bipartisan enthusiasm and genuine momentum for change that would safeguard the Medicare system and ensure affordable prescription drugs for every American. It seemed as if we might finally make some real progress. Sadly, the Congress—under relentless pressure from the White House and the pharmaceutical industry—squandered the opportunity of a generation.

Some have characterized the new law as "better than nothing." Nothing could be further from the truth. This was bad legislation, enacted in an underhanded manner. It is extremely expensive, but does little to actually bring down out-of-pocket consumer costs. The consensus for reform was shredded in favor of a complicated system designed by lobbyists for the pharmaceutical industry.

Only a handful of congressional Members even saw the final 700-page document, made available barely an hour before floor debate. Although the bill was initially defeated after the normal 15-minute voting period, the Speaker simply refused to gavel the vote to a close. After more than three excruciating hours—the longest vote ever in the history of the U.S. Congress—he finally closed the vote only after enough arms were twisted to change the outcome. Even then, at 6 a.m. that Saturday in November, the bill passed by only five votes. And with the bill now law, the strongest defense from proponents seems to be: "Don't worry, no one has to sign up, it's all voluntary." That's hardly reassuring for millions of seniors in urgent need.

Because this "reform" does far more to inflate the Federal budget than to help senior citizens or the Medicare program, I voted against it. There is so much wrong with this package that it's hard to know where to begin.

First, it doesn't offer much real prescription drug coverage. To enroll in the new Part D coverage, you must pay an estimated \$35 monthly premium—and still meet an annual \$250 deductible. Up to \$2,200, you also pay 25 percent of the drug costs. After that, you face a coverage gap (the infamous "doughnut hole") where you pay 100 percent until costs reach \$5,044. In other words, older and disabled people will have to spend nearly \$4,000 for the first \$5,000 of annual coverage—paying nearly 80 percent of their prescription drug costs to get any substantial benefit at all. And, these are only first-year estimates; the out-of-pocket cost is expected to rise every year thereafter.

Incredibly, however, if you participate in the new prescription drug benefit, you will not be permitted to buy any kind of supplemental insurance (like Medigap) to cover your share of the costs. Medicare will cover only drugs on a list of preferred "formulary" medicines; and drugs purchased outside the list will not be counted toward your deductible.

On top of all that, the new benefit doesn't even take effect until the year 2006, more than 2 years away. This fact was scarcely mentioned by the bill's proponents during the congressional debate. Seniors need help now, not cynical and uncertain promises for later.

In the meantime, the interim discount cards paraded by the administration promise only small savings for the consumer—if you can figure out how they work. It's not clear who

will offer the cards, what the discounts will be, when and for how long the cards will be available. These decisions will be driven by—believe it or not—the self-interest of pharmaceutical companies and other business entities. The potential card issuers are not required to pass along any resulting savings to consumers. Once enrolled, you must stay with the card for at least a year, even if the issuer stops discounting the medication you need.

It gets worse. This bill does not remotely pretend to address the fundamental issue: the crushing cost of prescription medication. Rather than leveraging the enormous buying power of millions of Medicare recipients, the new law actually bars market competition. And, let's be clear, this legislation was authored by partisans who swear by the catechism of the free market. As enacted, the bill explicitly prohibits Medicare from negotiating with the pharmaceutical industry for better prices and deeper discounts. We know negotiated discounts can work. When the VA negotiates on behalf of this country's veterans, their drug prices drop significantly. It is mind-boggling that 40 million seniors are being deprived—by law—of the same leverage.

Moreover, the bill blocks reimportation of U.S.-produced drugs from other countries at lower prices. It claims to allow Canadian imports, but only if the Food and Drug Administration formally certifies their safety, which is unlikely to ever happen. The FDA has already stubbornly resisted reimportation, forcing local Councils on Aging and dozens of cities and States to take matters into their own hands—although there is not a single documented case of injury resulting from U.S.-produced drugs that have been reimported from Canada.

In fairness, the bill postponed a scheduled 4.5-percent cut in physician reimbursement for Medicare services—easing fears of a wholesale abandonment of Medicare patients. The legislation will ensure physicians receive a 3-percent increase in payments over the next 2 years. However, this is not nearly enough to protect Medicare beneficiaries' access to quality health care providers. And, the bill actually complicates problems that oncologists face in getting adequate reimbursement for crucial cancer drugs and obstacles confronting patients who need access to inpatient rehabilitation facilities.

Despite the coverage limits and other shortfalls, the cost of the legislation is spectacular—projected by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office to exceed \$2 trillion over 10 years. At the same time, homeland security and recent tax cuts have already forced dramatic increases in the Federal deficit, now almost \$400 billion. That is a shocking number, especially when you consider that just three years ago, the budget was boasting a healthy surplus.

Moreover, many fear this new law could lead down a dangerous road toward privatization of Medicare and even Social Security. We saw a similar experiment fail dramatically with Medicare+Choice several years ago, when HMOs and other providers dropped out of the system as soon as costs escalated—leaving seniors to fend for themselves. This new law poses similar risks.

It breaks my heart that the Congress could not achieve real Medicare reform that addressed prescription drug costs. As I look back on my four House terms, very few votes

stand out as genuinely historic in consequence. Along with Presidential impeachment and the Iraq war resolution, the vote on this bill is such a watershed moment. The White House achieved this “victory” by deluding seniors about the impending relief—in the process, jeopardizing hope of genuine reform in the foreseeable future.

As the House reconvenes, I will resume my work with colleagues on both sides of the partisan aisle to address problems with the new law. Older Americans have raised their voices effectively in the legislative arena before. In 1989, a deeply flawed catastrophic benefits bill was repealed. Almost a decade ago, we struggled successfully to restore Medicare cuts that savaged home health care locally and across the Nation. This time, we can expect a steep uphill battle. In his State of the Union address this week, the President vowed to veto any amendments to the new Medicare law. To amend even the most egregious provisions of this bill will require every ounce of outrage we can collectively muster. As cochair of the Older Americans Caucus, a bipartisan group of colleagues focused on issues of particular significance to seniors, please count on my continued and vigorous commitment. I am already working with key House colleagues on specific legislation to repeal the new law's barriers to drug reimportation and negotiated discounts.

HONORING CHILTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Chilton Memorial Hospital of Pequannock Township, Morris County, New Jersey, in my congressional district. Chilton Memorial Hospital is celebrating 50 years of providing excellence in community health care.

Despite its humble beginnings, Chilton's history is a proud one. This 256-bed hospital arose from the dream of Dr. Forrest Chilton II and his registered nurse wife, Betty. During World War II, when gasoline was being rationed and people in the area did not have enough for the drive to the hospital in the city of Paterson, Dr. and Mrs. Chilton set up a small maternity hospital above his office in Pompton Plains. Soon, as more and more of his thankful patients availed themselves of his services, it became clear that a full service hospital was desperately needed in this fast-growing area in northern New Jersey.

In 1947, the good doctor and his wife donated 8 acres of land to build a hospital in memory of their son, Forrest Chilton III, and other heroes who served our country and made the ultimate sacrifice for American's in World War II. That same year, Dr. Chilton formed a board of directors to help prepare a building plan. Seven years later, in 1954, thanks to the efforts of Dr. and Mrs. Chilton, the Board of Trustees, the 20 women who were the original members of the Chilton Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and 20,000 community volunteers who gave of their time and financial resources, the Chilton Memorial Hospital, with 31 employees and 50 beds, opened its doors for the first time in Pompton Plains.

Within 2 months the hospital was operating near capacity and expansion plans were already underway. In that first year, Chilton Memorial admitted 2,536 patients, delivered 787 babies and treated 3,317 people in its emergency room.

Fifty years later, Chilton Memorial's 1,400 employees and 575 associated physicians admit more than 11,000 patients each year, deliver 1,200 newborn babies, perform nearly 6,000 same day surgeries, treat 36,000 people in its state-of-the-art emergency department, and treat an additional 81,000 citizens on an outpatient basis.

Indeed, Chilton Memorial Hospital's tradition of caring and its commitment to the surrounding communities has made it one of New Jersey's best hospitals. Today, Mr. Speaker, Chilton Memorial Hospital is credited with being the first hospital in the State of New Jersey to be awarded a perfect score by the Joint Commission Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, whose surveyors evaluate facilities and procedures at 18,000 healthcare facilities worldwide. Chilton's nursing staff has also won national acclaim for consistently receiving the highest ratings for their competence, compassion, response time, and teamwork.

The future will be no different for Chilton as it continues following in the footsteps of its founder and provides state-of-the-art healthcare to a grateful community. Services like Chilton's family-centered obstetrics program that features home-like labor, delivery and recovery rooms, its renowned pediatric care, free standing same day surgery center, and centers for pain management, endoscopy, cardiac care, sleeping disorders, sports medicine and cancer care, among others, and its strong commitment to health and wellness for older men and women, have helped build Chilton's lasting legacy as a premier quality healthcare provider.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues in the House of Representatives join with me in congratulating Chilton Memorial Hospital, and all of the hospital's outstanding staff, employees, and volunteers, upon celebrating its 50th anniversary.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF DON SUTTON

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of one of my constituents, a 1998 Hall of Fame inductee and now a respected broadcaster for the Atlanta Braves, Mr. Don Sutton.

The Los Angeles Dodgers signed Don as an amateur free agent in 1964. He ended his career in 1998 with 324 wins and struck out 3,574 batters, while never missing his turn in the pitching rotation for the Dodgers, Astros, Brewers, Athletics and Angels.

Don, a four-time All Star and the 1977 All-Star Game MVP, reached double figures in wins in 21 of his 23 seasons and struck out over 100 batters in each of his first 21 campaigns. He pitched in four World Series and posted five career one-hit games.

Don, who never spent one day on the disabled list, kept this body and mind in tip-top

shape, enabling him to start at least 30 games in 20 of his 22 seasons.

Sutton started all but 18 of the 774 career games he pitched, which has led many current and former alltime greats to refer to him as one of the most durable and consistent players of all time. He ranks second alltime to Cy Young in games started.

Don has pitched in over 100 innings through 15 games of postseason play. He pitched in a 10–2 win for the Milwaukee Brewers in the final game of the 1982 season to defeat the Baltimore Orioles and win the American League Eastern Division title.

The tall, lean right-hander put away many of his opponents by throwing his feared fastball and signature sweeping curveball. There have been many drawn comparisons by the games top players, writers, and announcers, who have compared him to other legendary pitchers such as Bert Blyleven and Gaylord Perry. To the hearts and minds of Northwest Floridians, Don will always be second to none.

Sutton came full circle in 1988 when he retired in a Dodgers uniform. This spring, Don will begin his 15th season with the Braves, continuing his highly successful career as a broadcaster.

Don is also known as a great family man and showed his pride during his Cooperstown induction when his final thanks went to his wife, Mary, and their daughter, Jackie. Don was surrounded by many of his close friends, former teammates and coaches, including one of his best coaches, his father Howard Sutton, who taught him how to pitch.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to recognize this special person, Don Sutton, for the example he has set in the sports world, his country, and for Northwest Florida. I offer my sincere thanks for all that he has done for Northwest Florida and the United States of America.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHARLES G.
HAIGHT

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, Spc. Charles G. Haight, 23, of Fort Lewis, Washington, died on December 26, 2003 in Iraq. Spc. Haight was a member of the Army's 14th Engineer Battalion, 555th Engineer Group based in Washington, and was killed when his vehicle struck an improvised explosive device. He is survived by his wife Michelle and his 10-month-old son of Fort Lewis, Washington. He is the son of Donald G. and Lilian Haight of Piedmont, Alabama.

Charles Haight was eager to serve his country, Mr. Speaker, and dreamed of becoming a nurse after college. He attended Pleasant Valley High School in Calhoun County, and was known for his musicianship in the band and his athletic ability on the football field. Like every other soldier, he dutifully left behind his family and loved ones to serve our country overseas.

Words cannot express the sense of sadness we have for his family, and for the gratitude

our country feels for his service. Spc. Haight died serving not just the United States, but the entire cause of liberty, on a noble mission to help spread the cause of freedom in Iraq and liberate an oppressed people from tyrannical rule.

We will forever hold him closely in our hearts, and remember his sacrifice and that of his family as a remembrance of his bravery and willingness to serve.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the House's remembrance on this mournful day.

IN HONOR OF THE GREATER JACKSON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL DINNER AND CITIZEN AWARDS

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise now to recognize an important celebration in my district and the individuals who are being recognized for their special contributions to the community. The Greater Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce, under the leadership of President Susan Milhoan, is hosting its annual awards dinner to honor its 95th year, in addition to the anniversary of the founding of the Republican Party in Jackson in 1854, and the founding of the City of Jackson 175 years ago. At this celebration, several men and women will be recognized with a variety of awards for personal achievement, character, and service to the community.

The Athena Award recognizes women who demonstrate excellence in their profession, assist other women in realizing their leadership potential, and contribute their time and efforts to improving the community. Many D. Otis, owner of Financial Sales and Seminars, is this year's winner, and her involvement in the community includes the Rotary Club, Disability Connections, and her church.

This year's Small Business Person of the Year is Al Cvasin, owner of Great Northern Sentry Company. Since founding his business in 1991, Al has expanded the company from a humble three employees to five separate divisions. Al is an expert and author on security matters and holds seats on the Board of Directors of the National Council of Investigators and Security Specialists and the Michigan Council of Private Investigators. He is also President of the Michigan Contract Security Association.

The 2004 Youth Citizen of the Year is Anthony Ramsey, Jr., a senior at Jackson High School. In addition to being an honor roll student and a member of the football and track teams, Anthony has made time to serve on the United Way Teen Advisory Panel, the Jackson Community Foundation Youth Advisory Committee, and volunteer at the Lily Missionary Church that he attends with his family.

Finally, the Citizen of the Year award goes to Maclay "Mac" Gwinn. After retiring from Consumer's Energy 20 years ago, Mac has given his time and efforts to countless community organizations including the Alzheimer's Association, the Jackson County Historical So-

ciety, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and the Jackson Kiwanis Club. He is the Big Sisters Big Brothers Board President and he has his own "little brother." Mac also helped form a support group for men who care for loved ones stricken with Alzheimer's disease. Other Distinguished Citizens of the Year include Nancy Seydell, Steve Volker, Lisa Lazaroff, Mary L. Miller, and Bob Richardson.

I am very pleased to stand here today before my colleagues in the U.S. Congress to recognize these important milestones in the Jackson community as well as all of these great citizens. Each person is a wonderful role model who has expended a great deal of effort on behalf of the community in a selfless and humble manner. I challenge us all to strive to match their level of commitment and dedication.

COMMENDING SCOTT MALAN

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a true advocate for Pennsylvania's hospitals and patients. For over twenty-five years Scott Malan has tirelessly advocated for increasing the quality of health care available to Americans. He has done so quite successfully, Mr. Speaker.

Most recently, Mr. Malan served as vice president for legislative services at the Hospital Association of Pennsylvania. In this capacity, Mr. Malan directed federal advocacy campaigns, saving Pennsylvania hospitals hundreds of millions of dollars and increasing the quality of care for Pennsylvanians. Mr. Speaker, I had the pleasure of working with Mr. Malan on numerous initiatives over the past few years. In fact, we worked closely to include in the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 provisions which will ensure that Pennsylvania hospitals in rural areas are able to continue to provide quality care to Pennsylvanians. We also worked to include provisions to increase indirect graduate medical education payments to hospitals in order to ensure Americans have access to the most innovative care available. Mr. Speaker, due to Mr. Malan's diligent efforts and the steadfast work of the Pennsylvania congressional delegation, these provisions will be signed into law today by President Bush.

While it may seem, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Malan is at the top of his game, in fact he is currently soaring to new heights. Mr. Malan has brought the expertise and knowledge he has amassed over the past twenty-five years to Triad Strategies, one of Pennsylvania's largest government relations firms. While at Triad Strategies, Mr. Malan will undoubtedly continue to advance policies which will enrich the lives of every American by working to ensure affordable, quality health care in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Mr. Malan the best in his future endeavors and thank him for the dedication he has displayed over the past years to making the lives of my constituents better.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIRTH PLUMBING AND HEATING COMPANY IN BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th Anniversary of Hirth Plumbing and Heating Company in Belleville, Illinois.

Throughout 2004, Hirth Plumbing and Heating Company will celebrate its 100-year Anniversary. On January 15, 1904 George Hirth founded the company in Belleville, Illinois. Mr. Hirth owned and operated the company until his death in 1932.

The company then passed ownership and operation to George Hirth's daughter Mame "Hirth" Neuf and her husband Arthur Nuef Jr. until their retirement. The company was then owned and operated by Elizabeth Anne "Nuef" Terschluse and her husband Herbert E. Terschluse Jr.

Today, Hirth Plumbing and Heating is in its fourth generation of ownership and is operated by Stephen, David and James Terschluse. The company employs 40 people and operates as a plumbing, heating and air conditioning contractor serving the entire metro east with a customer base of over 9000. Hirth has offices in Alton, Collinsville, Columbia, Edwardsville, Freeburg, Granite City, Mascoutah, Jerseyville and New Athens, Illinois and they continue to maintain their home office operations in Belleville, Illinois.

Hirth Plumbing & Heating Company has been in continuous operation by the same family since 1904, providing prompt, professional and courteous service to their customers, family, friends and neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th Anniversary of Hirth Plumbing and Heating Company in Belleville, Illinois.

CELEBRATING DEARBORN'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge, honor and celebrate the City of Dearborn on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary. Incorporated on January 9, 1929, Dearborn's roots as a community date to the mid-19th century. With a balanced mix of commercial, industrial and residential development sewn together by progressive city leaders, excellent schools and a unique sense of civic pride, Dearborn is the epitome of a successful American community.

Modern day Dearborn was created by the consolidation of Dearborn and Fordson cities and Dearborn Township. Henry Ford had a significant attachment or interests in all three jurisdictions and was an important advocate of the consolidation. The area that had served principally as the Detroit Arsenal between 1833-1875, was now poised to take on an identity all its own.

In the 1920 census, the villages of Dearborn and Springwells (renamed Fordson) had a combined population of less than 5,000 residents. It was between these two villages that Henry Ford built the Ford Rouge Complex, at which more than 85,000 men would one day work simultaneously. Such burgeoning manufacturing combined with the unheard of salary of \$5 per day attracted workers literally from throughout the world to the newly formed city of Dearborn.

Such cultural diversity, coupled with Ford's benevolence, helped shape the newly formed city of Dearborn into a model of prosperity, civic virtue and individual opportunity. Dearborn has always provided its citizens with exemplary public service. Dearborn's reputation for public safety and education is second to none. Its residents have transcended cultural, ethnic and religious customs to form strong neighborhood associations that further contribute to the quality and diversity of living in Dearborn.

Dearborn continues to thrive today as a result of such active involvement and partnership from its corporate and individual residents alike. Today, Dearborn is home to colleges and universities, hospital facilities, appealing and expansive shopping areas and business districts, the Henry Ford: America's Greatest History attraction, the Automotive Hall of Fame as well as countless restaurants and numerous specialty and boutique shops.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in honoring Dearborn on its 75th Anniversary. The city of Dearborn is home to vibrant and stable neighborhoods, significant industrial production, cultural and artistic attractions and commercial business opportunities. Taken collectively, in celebrating Dearborn's 75th anniversary, we are really celebrating all the best that America represents.

HONORING RICK KNAPP,
HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rick Knapp, who is being honored on the occasion of his retirement as District 1 Director of Transportation, California Department of Transportation.

Rick Knapp began his career with the California Department of Transportation in 1962. A graduate of the University of Nevada with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering, Rick Knapp accepted a position with the Division of Highways, District 1, in Eureka, California.

In November 1966, he entered the United States Army and served in Vietnam where he designed bridges to replace those destroyed in combat. After two years in the Army, Rick Knapp returned to his engineering duties in Eureka. In 1972, he took a promotion as a Project Design Engineer in Los Angeles. In 1973, he joined the Division of Transportation Planning to help develop the first California Transportation Plan.

In 1979, Mr. Knapp returned to Eureka and in 1994 he became the Director of the 1st District, a region that includes the four northern counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake and

Mendocino. Immediately after his appointment as District Director, he was faced with the biggest earthquake and the most severe winter storm damage in the District in 30 years. With 18 of 23 state highways closed one or more times during the winter, Knapp and his team faced the colossal challenge of restoring and improving the highway system. After directing the repair of 400 damaged locations during difficult winter conditions, Knapp undertook a new program to correct perennial winter road closure locations.

During his tenure as Director, Rick Knapp's accomplishments include the widening and realignment of a two-mile high collision segment of U.S. Route 101 at Gushing Creek through the Redwoods near Crescent City. By securing emergency funding, Knapp made it possible to proceed with the project to relocate Route 101 at the Confusion Hill landslide that will establish a safe and reliable highway at this critical location. As Chair of the Context Sensitive Solutions Steering Committee, he developed a policy for the State of California that promoted flexibility in design and led to new state guidelines on State Highway Main Streets. In May 2003, Rick Knapp received the Charles H. Purcell Award from the California Transportation Foundation for excellence in engineering management.

An avid cyclist, Rick Knapp helped form the Humboldt Bay Bicycle Commuters Association. He was born and raised in Garberville, California. He is married to Jean Hawthorne and has two grown children, Angela and Randy Knapp.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Rick Knapp for his commitment and dedication to his profession and for his 35 years of service to the people of California. We wish him happiness and much deserved rest in his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN KEVIN
SHAUGHNESSY

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Kevin Shaughnessy, who is retiring from the Illinois State Police after 25 years of service.

Captain Shaughnessy entered the Illinois State Police Academy in June of 1978 and was assigned to the Division of Criminal Investigations, Financial Fraud, and Forgery Unit. In 1988, he was promoted to Master Sergeant and became the Squad Supervisor of the Financial Fraud and Forger Unit. From 1986 to 1993, Captain Shaughnessy achieved many successes in his career. He was responsible for coordination and supervision of a multi-agency Fugitive Investigation Strike Team consisting of personnel from the Cook County Sheriff's Police and United States Marshall's Service. The Captain was also responsible for the implementation and administration of a 600,000 grant to investigate welfare fraud in Illinois. Under his supervision, the ISP Firearms/Fugitive Task Force successfully executed ten major round-ups of firearm fugitives. In 1995, Kevin was promoted to Lieutenant and assigned to the District Chicago as Commander of the South Suburban Major Crimes

Task Force. In 1999, Kevin was promoted to Captain and named Commander of District 5 Joliet.

Captain Shaughnessy has received many decorations during his career including the Illinois State Police Director's Award of Honor and the Director's Award of Merit. In 2002, the Captain received the M.A.D.D. Officer of the year for Will County. During his career, Captain Shaughnessy has instructed over 3,000 Law Enforcement Officers on a variety of topics.

Captain Shaughnessy and his wife, Colleen are the proud parents of three children, Ryan, Kelly and Mary Beth. Friends of the Captain say he is an avid golfer and can often be found on his favorite golf course.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to identify and recognize other persons in their own districts whose actions have so greatly benefitted and strengthened America's families and communities.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF REV. LUTHER VINCENT LAITE III

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and service of Rev. Luther Vincent Laite III. Rev. Laite, a pastor and disabled American veteran of the United States Navy. Rev. Laite died on December 7, 2003, of complications from asbestosis, a disease contracted while serving his country in the U.S. Navy.

Rev. Laite honorably served his country for six years aboard the USS *Goldsborough*, and was honorably discharged in 1984.

Rev. Laite served as a pastor for 19 years in Brevard County, Florida. At the time of his death, Rev. Laite was the Senior Pastor of Christian Life Family Church of Brevard.

As a result of Luther's belief that churches must be involved in the life of the community, many women and children in need were helped. There was always room at the Laite family table or in the Laite house for those who had no other place to go.

Luther served on the board of the Protestant Ministries of Florida Institute of Technology and was National Director of Life Coalition International, an international pro-life ministry.

Luther is survived by his wife, Patti; seven children, Lydia Baker, Luther V. Laite IV, Audra Laite, Amanda Laite, Jesse Laite, Josiah Laite and Jonathan Laite; grandchildren, Zechariah Baker and Ethan Baker; his loving parents Luther and Peggy Laite and sister Vicky Stites, her children and grandchildren.

Several hundred people from all over the Nation attended the Luther Vincent Laite III memorial service that was held at Truth Revealed Ministries, Palm Bay, Florida, on December 13, 2003. Burial services were held at the Military Cemetery in Bushnell, Florida on December 15, 2003.

As quoted in Matthew 25:21, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your Master's happiness."

Indeed, Rev. Laite will be remembered by those who loved him as a faithful family man, devoted pastor and loyal friend. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends. We will all miss him.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE QUEEN MARY II

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, January 26, 2004, the world's newest and grandest passenger cruise ship, the Queen Mary II, makes its first international port of call to one

of the world's premier cruise ports, Port Everglades located in beautiful Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Queen Mary II embarked on its two-week maiden voyage on Monday, January 12 following an extraordinary send-off amid fireworks and hundreds of well wishers from its home port of Southampton, England.

Named after her Royal Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the Queen Mary II is a state-of-the-art, luxury passenger vessel. In fact, the Queen Mary II is 1,132 feet in length, 236 feet in height, top speed of approximately 30 knots, and includes a crew of 1,253 and maximum capacity of 2,620 passengers. An impressive list of vital statistics.

It is a great privilege to have the Queen Mary II and her crew visit Fort Lauderdale. Port Everglades remains one of the nation's busiest ports in both commercial and passenger traffic. Port Everglades has become a major embarkation point along the east coast. In 2003, Port Everglades experienced 3,072,343 passengers through its cruise ship terminal generating more than \$89 million in total annual operating revenue. The continued success of Port Everglades is a testament to the financial commitment of the Broward County Board of County Commissioners and the stewardship of Port Director Ken Krauter.

Port Everglades is the port of call for more than 5,400 ships. Port Everglades is home to a number of seasonal or year-round ships representing a wide array of cruise lines; including Carnival, Celebrity, Costa, Crystal, Cunard, Holland America, Imperial Majesty, Mediterranean Shipping, Orient, Princess, Radisson Seven Seas, Regal, Royal Caribbean International, Seabourn and Silversea.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Broward County, Port Everglades, and the residents of South Florida, I welcome the Queen Mary II, Captain Ron Warwick, and crew to Fort Lauderdale on the occasion of entering their first port of call, and wish her and her crew many years of calm and safe seas on the many journeys across the Atlantic.

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, January 22, 2004 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 27

- 9:30 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine the current situation regarding the discovery of a case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy in Washington State as it relates to food safety, livestock marketing, and international trade. SD-106
- 10 a.m.
Budget
To hold hearings to examine the CBO budget and economic outlook. SD-608
- Governmental Affairs
Financial Management, the Budget, and International Security Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the fee structure of mutual funds that may lead to conflicts of interest, mislabeled costs and other practices in the industry that may be harmful to investors. SD-342
- Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine a proposed constitutional amendment to guarantee a functioning Congress, with respect to the continuity of the United States government. SD-226
- Aging
To hold hearings to examine retirement planning. SD-628

- 10:30 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine health issues. SD-430
- 2:30 p.m.
Judiciary
Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine seaport security since September 11, 2001. SD-226

JANUARY 28

- 9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine NASA's future space mission. SR-253
- 10 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Franklin S. Van Antwerpen, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit. SD-226
- 10:30 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine health issues relating to health care costs and the uninsured. SD-430

JANUARY 29

- 10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine current investigations and regulatory actions regarding the mutual fund industry. SD-538

FEBRUARY 3

- 9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the Defense Authorization request for Fiscal Year 2005 and the future years defense program. SH-216
- 10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine fund operations and governance relating to current investigations and regulatory actions regarding the mutual fund industry. SD-538

FEBRUARY 10

- 9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To resume hearings to examine the Defense Authorization request for Fiscal Year 2005 and the future years defense program. SR-325

FEBRUARY 24

- 2 p.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Disabled American Veterans. SH-216

MARCH 4

- 10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentations of the Non-Commissioned Officers Association, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Jewish War Veterans, and the Blinded Veterans Association. 345 CHOB

MARCH 10

- 10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. SH-216

MARCH 18

- 10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentations of the Air Force Sergeants Association, the Retired Enlisted Association, Gold Star Wives of America, and the Fleet Reserve Association. 345 CHOB

MARCH 25

- 10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentations of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, AMVETS, American Ex-Prisoners of War, the Vietnam Veterans of America, and the Military Officers Association of America. 345 CHOB

SEPTEMBER 21

- 10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion. 345 CHOB