

that gives the recipient the opportunity to avoid further taxes.

In 1991, Congress passed the Telecommunications Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), which protected consumers from unsolicited commercial faxes and permitted legitimate businesses and organizations to fax fundraising requests, advertisements, dues renewal notices, and other pertinent information to individuals with an established business relationship. For the past ten years the Commission has continued to follow its 1991 interpretation deeming such publications invited or permitted devoid of any discernable measure of complaints from the general public.

In 2003, the FCC revisited the issue of unsolicited commercial faxes and determined that an "express invitation or permission" must be in writing and include the recipient's signature. Compliance with the FCC's 2003 decision requires every business, association, and charity to obtain written permission from anyone receiving commercial faxes.

Starting on January 1, 2005 the FCC's ruling goes into effect. A majority of the businesses and organizations would be forced to shoulder considerable financial and logistical burdens. Consequently, the Commission's 2003 decision would require everyday customers, requesting specific information such as vacation packages from travel agents or menus from local restaurants, to submit a written, signed statement consenting to the receipt of such publications. Obviously, many small businesses, charities, and associations are concerned with the FCC's recent interpretation and its impact on their lives.

In practice the FCC's 2003 decision would be devastating to a myriad of small businesses that rely heavily on fax publications and advertisements. It has been estimated that two-thirds of small business owners will be required to obtain consent forms from greater than 100 separate fax numbers in the first year alone. Research indicates that if enacted, the "FCC's new rules would cost small business owners at least \$5,000 in the first year and \$3,000 per year in compliance. In addition, the FCC's decision would require greater than 27 staff hours in order to obtain customers' initial consent and 20 hours each year thereafter.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4600 seeks to reverse the FCC's overly burdensome, expensive and unnecessary interpretation. The current measure is necessary to strike a proper balance between an individual's right to protection and privacy from unsolicited and invasive faxes with a business's need for communication and right to free enterprise. I encourage all my colleagues to support this bill.

TRIBUTE TO MR. STEVEN R.
HEAPE

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Steven R. Heape, a proud member of the Cherokee Nation. He was born in Long Beach, California on March 25, 1951. His family eventually moved to Fullerton, where Steven graduated from Fullerton Union High School. Steven also attended Fullerton Junior

College as a Business Administration Major, while working as a Major Account Representative for Armor Food Company.

His interest in motion picture production eventually led him to produce the film titled, "Location to Recovery," one of the first education docudramas to be released from 16mm film to VHS videotape.

In 1994, Mr. Heape and business partner Chip Ritchie formed Rich-Heape Films, Inc., certified by the Cherokee Nation to focus on the history and preservation of the American Indian culture. Today, Rich-Heape Films is an internationally recognized firm with several award-winning films to its credit. The American Indian Chamber of Commerce awarded it the 2003 American Indian Business of the Year.

In August, Mr. Heape was one of five Native American filmmakers invited to participate in the strategic film and video content planning for the new Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. In March 2004, Mr. Heape began the most challenging project of his career, producing a two-hour PBS documentary on the Indian Removal Act of 1830, better known as the Cherokee Trail of Tears scheduled for release in 2005.

On September 12, Mr. Heape is being recognized by the Little Eagle Free Foundation for his contribution and philanthropy in preserving the languages, history and cultures of Native Americans.

It is only fitting that Mr. Heape is to be commended for his extraordinary efforts to document and preserve Native American culture and the part played in American History.

CONGRATULATING MAGNOLIA
PARK UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Magnolia Park United Methodist Church for 75 years of ministry in the City of Burbank.

Magnolia Park United Methodist Church is located in the middle of Burbank's film and television studios as well as its famed Media District. Since 1929, it has been serving the community on the corner of Magnolia and Catalina. It is a welcoming, diverse, and inclusive congregation. The church actively sponsors youth groups such as the Boy and Girl Scouts, Brownies, and Cub Scouts. It strongly supports the Burbank Temporary Aid Center with financial services and food items. The church is also a proud member of the Burbank Chamber of Commerce, and gives several essential community agencies like Kedren Headstart, and Kids of Rock Theater a home.

Magnolia Park United Methodist Church encourages meaningful service in the local community as well as the international community through world missions. The church is not only locally supportive of the Walter Hoving Home, it also partners in missionary work in Nigeria. The church reinforces the importance of unity, charity, dedication, and family.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in celebrating Magnolia Park United Methodist Church's 75 years of exemplary service and ministry, and for its immense com-

mitment to its parishioners in and beyond the City of Burbank.

RECOGNITION OF CPL.
CHRISTOPHER BELCHIK

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Cpl. Christopher Belchik, who was recently killed in the Iraq Province of Anbar.

Cpl. Belchik was a 30 year old native of the Godfrey-Alton area in southern Illinois. He was killed on August 22nd in what is believed to be an ambush that resulted in a mortar detonation killing him and two other soldiers.

Cpl. Belchik was a 1992 graduate of Alton High School, in Alton Illinois. Not enough can be said about the great sacrifice this man made for his country, he made the ultimate sacrifice. He is survived by his wife, Mary Belchik; his mother, Lynn Lenker of Godfrey; his father, Stephen Belchik of Staunton; his brother Brian Belchik of Alton and his sister, Julie Prats of Chicopee, Massachusetts. My thoughts and prayers go out to his families and loved ones.

Cpl. Belchik gave his life in an effort to improve the lives of others. This sacrifice should never be forgotten. Cpl. Belchik, along with so many other brave men and women, put their lives on the line day in and day out. My sincere thanks goes out to them all. God bless them, and may God continue to bless America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I missed roll call votes 422 and 423 on September 7, 2004 and rollcall vote 424 on September 8, 2004. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on all three votes—rollcall vote 422, H.R. 4381, the Harvey and Bernice Jones Post Office Building Designation Act; roll call vote 423, H.R. 4556, the General William Carey Lee Post Office Building Designation Act; and roll call 424, on ordering the previous question for H. Res. 754, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5006) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

Additionally, I would like to voice my support for H.R. 5005, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, for additional disaster assistance. The House of Representatives passed this important legislation last night. Without this action, FEMA would have run out of money and not been able to help those in need.

Mr. Speaker, all of our thoughts and prayers go out to the families in Florida and elsewhere along the East Coast as they recover from

Hurricanes Charley, Frances and Gaston and Tropical Storm Bonnie. H.R. 5005 will provide FEMA with an additional \$2 billion to ensure that they can continue providing without interruption the much needed support and assistance to the victims of these storms.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN LOWELL, MICHIGAN

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the congregation of the First Baptist Church in Lowell, Michigan, which celebrates the 150th anniversary of its formation on Sunday, September 19, 2004.

The First Baptist Church was started on Sept. 18, 1854, meeting for worship originally in the Lowell Schoolhouse under the leadership of their first pastor, the Rev. A.C. Powell. In 1860, the congregation moved into its own building, which was erected by the congregation members themselves. By 1866, the congregation boasted 74 active members.

In 1898, the nearly 40-year-old building was moved approximately 20 feet and expanded to hold about 400 people. The congregation flourished in the community and sent many young men out for church mission work throughout the country. However, by the late 1930s, the church saw major declines in its membership and it temporarily closed its doors. In the early 1940s, the church reopened as a struggling mission church under the Rev. Mel Stadt.

In 1949, the Rev. M.K. McIver took the pulpit, and the church saw such resurgent growth that the old building soon was deemed outdated and inadequate. By 1967, a new church building was dedicated and continues to serve as the church's home today. In 1983, a new auditorium was added and, through the years, staff continued to change and new positions were added.

In the past decade, the church has undergone a three-phase renovation that has added space for programs and staff, while hosting five new missionaries since 1999. Today, the church continues to thrive under the leadership of Pastor of Ministries Rev. W. Lee Taylor and Youth Pastor Wayne Haines.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure that you and all of my colleagues will join me in congratulating Rev. Taylor, Pastor Haines and the members of First Baptist Church for their 150 years of service and worship in Lowell, Michigan. They have been blessed in their ministry, and their community has been blessed by their presence.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF COLCHESTER (CT) VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, our Nation's firefighters stand ready to protect lives and

property 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Firefighters have no holiday because the types of disasters they face can happen anytime.

In Connecticut's Second District, which I am proud to represent, the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Colchester has issued a proclamation recognizing the Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Company's 150 years of service. I come to the floor of the House of Representatives to add my voice to thanking all the members, past and present, of this wonderful Fire Company.

The Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Department was established in February 1854, by Nathaniel Hayward. Mr. Hayward donated 200 feet of hose to the fire department, providing the Borough of Colchester agreed to buy the first fire engine. In October of that year the first hand pumper was purchased.

The company grew over the years. In 1913, the first gasoline water pump was purchased. In 1934 the fire station expanded to two engine bays, and by the 1960s the station had four bays. In 1974 the first paid firefighter was hired, and in 1989 the dedication of a new fire station, on Old Hartford Road, took place. In 1993 the fire department began handling emergency medical services, and in 2004 the town of Colchester appointed the first paid fire chief, Walter Cox, who leads more than 125 volunteers.

But despite these changes, one thing has remained constant. Today, as in the past, those who wear the uniform of the Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Department have only one goal—to protect the people of their community.

I once saw a bumper sticker that said: "On the eighth day God created firefighters." That's not much of an exaggeration. How many of us would go into a burning building to save a total stranger? How many of us would run towards danger while others are running the other way?

It takes a special person to be a firefighter. For 150 years the dedicated professionals of the Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Department have provided quality service. Through their selfless efforts they make their community a better place in which to live, work and raise a family. I urge this Congress to join me in honor of 150 years of the Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Department.

CONGRATULATING THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY ON ITS SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate The College of New Jersey on its Sesquicentennial. The College of New Jersey's academic tradition reaches back to 1855 when it was established by the state legislature as the New Jersey State Normal School. It was the first teacher training school in the state and the ninth in the nation. Governor Rodman Price, sometimes called the founder of the New Jersey Normal School, promoted

the idea of a training institute for New Jersey's teachers and mobilized support among influential state leaders.

Originally located on Clinton Avenue in Trenton, the Normal School flourished in the latter 1800s, expanding both its academic offerings and physical facilities. In 1925, the first four-year baccalaureate degree program was established. This change marked the beginning of The College of New Jersey's transition from a normal school to a teachers' college and was accompanied by a change in physical surroundings. In 1928, a beautiful 210-acre tract of land in Ewing Township was purchased as a new site for The College.

Today, education—and higher education in particular—is more important than ever to solving the most pressing problems of our communities and the country. Access to an affordable, quality education is inseparable from our economic prosperity, national security, and civic health.

I believe that The College of New Jersey is part of the solution to our pressing problems. In a world where other nations are investing far more of their resources in education and research, and are producing graduates who rival our own in many areas of manufacturing and development, a high quality education is essential to our future success.

But higher education is more than just the means to achieve higher earning potential or to raise revenue; it is also a life-enriching experience. A key component of the university mission is to foster the academic and personal development of students civic engagement and community service, where students learn how to be active participants in democracy, as well as team athletics and student government, where students gain valuable leadership experience.

The policies that we craft to enhance and advance education must close the achievement gap between the rich and the poor, and minority and non-minority students. They must help to recruit and retain top young college graduates into teaching, nursing, and other high priority fields to meet the country's needs. Our policies must also make a quality college education accessible and affordable for all Americans, and harness the power of higher education to move this country forward.

The College of New Jersey is leading the way in accessibility and affordability. The College of New Jersey emphasizes the undergraduate experience. Academic programs are designed to provide students with an undergraduate education of exceptional quality. More than fifty liberal arts and professional programs are now offered through The College's seven schools; Art, Music and Media; Business; Culture and Society; Education; Engineering, Nursing; and Science.

Today, The College provides academically prepared student with a challenging undergraduate education and a rewarding residential experience, small classes, and a prestigious faculty. Once again, I congratulate The College of New Jersey on its Sesquicentennial and I look forward to another one hundred and fifty years.