

of China. I am convinced that in the long run such an approach is of benefit to the Tibetan people for their material progress. It is encouraging that there is support from various parts of the world for this approach as being reasonable, realistic and of mutual benefit to the Chinese and Tibetans. I am particularly encouraged by the recognition and support that has come from certain quarters of the intellectual circle from within China.

I am happy with our renewed contacts with the Chinese leadership and that the third round of meetings last September shows that gradually our interactions are improving. Now that our elected political leadership is shouldering more responsibility in Tibetan affairs, I have advised them to look into the issues raised by the Chinese side during our third round of talks and to take steps to address or clarify them as needed. We remain hopeful that eventually we will be able to develop the necessary trust and resolve this long-standing issue to our mutual benefit.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express the Tibetan people's gratitude and appreciation to the people and Government of India for their steadfast sympathy and support. I very much feel a part of this nation not only because of the centuries-old religious and cultural ties that India and Tibet enjoyed but also because I and most of the Tibetans in exile lived in India for the past 45 years.

I offer my prayers to the brave men and women of Tibet who gave their lives for the cause of Tibetan freedom.

THE DALAI LAMA,
March 10, 2005.

GENETIC RESEARCH

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, over the past 15 years this body has provided almost \$3 billion for genetic research and the sequencing of the human genetic code.

This project, known as the Human Genome Project, has led to more information about diseases and a better understanding of our genetic makeup.

Advances in genetics have already led to the discovery of genetic markers for heart disease, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, many cases of breast cancer, and a wide variety of other diseases. Along with these discoveries, scientists and healthcare professionals are developing new diagnostics which allow for early treatment, personalized medicine, new cures, and targeted preventative medicine.

Currently, there are over 15,500 recognized genetic disorders which affect 13 million Americans. Just two years after the completion of the Human Genome Project, laboratories are offering 1,042 different genetic tests, almost 700 of which are used for diagnostic purposes.

On average, most Americans have six potential harmful genetic mutations and the coming years hold tremendous promise as a flood of new tests and treatments reach the marketplace. Unfortunately, these new abilities to predict and manage disease also provide opportunities for the misuse of this information. Should individuals and their families run a risk of losing insurance policies and jobs, many may choose not to take advantage of these new healthcare technologies.

Without appropriate protections, this perceived threat could stop Americans from learning about their individual healthcare risks and taking steps which could prevent life-threatening conditions later in life.

For these reasons, I am pleased to support the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2005 which was introduced today by Congresswoman JUDY BIGGERT. This legislation would provide the protections needed to insure that the use of genetic information continues to advance medical treatments and improve our nation's health by prohibiting the improper use of genetic information in employment and health insurance. I look forward to working with my Colleagues on this important issue.

THE 46TH ANNIVERSARY OF TIBETAN NATIONAL UPRISING DAY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2005

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today is the 46th Anniversary of Tibetan National Uprising Day. We honor the many brave Tibetans who sacrificed their lives fighting for freedom, and we demand that the Chinese government release all prisoners of conscience including Tenzin Delek Rinpoche and the 11th Panchen Lama. I am proud that my constituents in San Francisco organize a peace rally and march commemorating this day every year.

When China's People's Liberation Army invaded Tibet in 1949, Tibet was an independent state. The Chinese government imposed an agreement on Tibet recognizing Tibet's autonomy over its internal affairs. But, as the Chinese government consolidated their control, they repeatedly violated the treaty and open resistance to Chinese repression grew.

On March 10, 1959, the people of Lhasa assembled together and called for the Chinese to leave Tibet, thus marking the beginning of the uprising. The Chinese crackdown was harsh. An estimated 87,000 Tibetans were killed, arrested, or deported to labor camps.

In the years since the People's Uprising, more than 1 million Tibetans have been killed and more than 6,000 monasteries and irreplaceable jewels of Tibetan culture have been destroyed. We know that Tibetans are routinely imprisoned and tortured for nonviolently expressing their views. Beatings, prolonged exposure to extreme heat and cold, electroshock, sleep and food deprivation, and forced labor are among the techniques used to torture Tibetan political prisoners.

Last month, the U.S. State Department published its annual "Country Reports on Human Rights." The section on Tibet states that "[Chinese] authorities continued to commit serious human rights abuses, including extra-judicial killing, torture, arbitrary arrest, detention without public trial, and lengthy detention of Tibetans for peacefully expressing their political or religious views."

The Chinese government has not won the hearts and minds of the Tibetan people. Tibetans are as devoted to their traditional beliefs as ever, and the bond between His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan people is fundamental and unbreakable. Attempts to drive a wedge between the Dalai Lama and the Ti-

betan people have failed and have been counterproductive for the Chinese government.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama is the key to peace and stability in Tibet. Envoys of the Dalai Lama have traveled to China and Tibet three times in recent years to continue discussions with Chinese authorities on a permanent negotiated settlement. While open dialogue is a positive first step, it is time for the Chinese government to follow through with substance and not just process. It is time for China to take a step forward into a modern, open and free society.

The survival of the Tibetan identity is an issue of urgent U.S. and international concern. If we are not committed to meeting the challenge of Tibet then we cannot be consistent when we talk about human rights in any other place in the world.

As we honor the brave and heroic Tibetan people, we must heed the guidance of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. He is a constant reminder that the crisis in Tibet is a challenge to the conscience of the world. We have not forgotten the people of Tibet in their struggle. Troops can crush a protest, but they can never extinguish the flame of freedom that burns in every human heart.

PAUL AND JEAN AMOS PERFORMANCE STUDIO DEDICATION AT WSRE-TV

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2005

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it was a pleasure to celebrate a significant milestone in WSRE-TV's history last week as they dedicated their new performance studio in honor of Paul and Jean Amos.

Public television provides valuable commercial-free educational, informational, and cultural programming for communities all across the country. Here in our own backyard, WSRE-TV does a wonderful job of fulfilling the programming needs and interests of the Emerald Coast. As a local viewer and supporter I believe they keep residents connected with the local community, the Nation, and the world in a way that no other outlet can or does.

As we celebrated the dedication of the Jean and Paul Amos performance studio, we recognized that WSRE transcends the typical operation of a public television station. Very few PBS stations around the country can accommodate their viewers within their physical structure. This performance studio is perfect to host forums and engage the public in direct participation to discuss issues important to the community. In keeping with WSRE's mission, former General Manager Allan Pizzato had the foresight to construct this facility to bring the community into WSRE, so it could truly act as a mirror reflecting the interests of the community.

Public broadcasting stations are transforming their mission in order to fulfill the niche of the community and the broadcast world. Just like the Internet is not just used for data gathering, but is now used as a telephone service, cable companies are now offering high speed Internet, and telephone companies are starting to offer cable. Just as

these service providers strive to keep up with growing demands, public television stations must do the same.

Years ago, WSRE recognized the need for change and responded quickly. PBS as an organization continues to provide the core base of educational programming and services, but WSRE-TV takes that service to another level. They understand that with cable's niche program offerings that the role of public broadcasting must become more comprehensive, expanding into community outreach programs such as reading services for the blind, educational offerings and instructional courses transmitted over multi-casted digital channels, educational outreach activities such as the national teacher training institute to provide professional development for teachers, and also services that provide resources for daycare providers to help prepare children for school.

Telecommunications is rapidly changing every day. The possibilities are truly limitless. It gives me tremendous pride, both personally and as a member of the Congressional Public Broadcasting Caucus, to know that my public television station is not only keeping up; it's going above and beyond the basic services required of it.

Under Sandy Cesaretti Ray's dynamic leadership and ingenuity, WSRE-TV continues to achieve its mission, bringing high quality services to its viewers. The panhandle is very fortunate to have had such quality leadership here over the past 35 years. Playing such an important part in the life of our community, I want to thank them for their commitment to excellence, and my sincere gratitude to the Amoses for their generous, heartfelt gift.

**TIBET: 46TH ANNIVERSARY OF
TIBETAN UPRISING DAY**

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today is the 46th anniversary of the Tibetans who died opposing the Chinese occupation, and all Tibetans who suffered due to their religious, political or cultural beliefs or activities.

In 1949 communist China invaded Tibet. The Tibetan people rose up to revolt against Communist rule. In 1959 thousands of Tibetan refugees surrounded the compound of His Holiness the Dalai Lama out of fear he would be killed. In order to try to save his people the Dalai Lama fled to India. His people stayed and were attacked by the Chinese. Thousands of unarmed civilians were killed. During the 1959 uprising an estimated 87,000 Tibetans were killed, arrested, or deported to labor camps.

The harsh brutality still exists in Tibet today. The People's Republic of China does not tolerate Tibetan freedom in any form. Each year thousands of innocent people are imprisoned or put to death under a system plagued with corruption and secrecy. Many Buddhist monks and nuns are in detention for peacefully exercising their right to free expression, association and religion.

I have visited Tibet and I was shocked and saddened by the repression of the Tibetan people. They live in fear that they will be killed, will disappear or will be tortured for ex-

pressing their political and religious beliefs. The Chinese government routinely refuses to allow independent international human rights monitors, including the United Nations, to conduct an investigation into the human rights situation in Tibet.

As co-chair of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, I had the honor of meeting His Holiness the Dalai Lama in 2003. He is a man of great wisdom and vision who has the sole purpose for his people and his country to live free from oppression. He has worked for more than 40 years to promote self-determination for the Tibetan people. The United States stands with him and supports a negotiated settlement through dialogue.

Mr. Speaker, this day is to remind the world that the Tibetan people have been denied freedom for more than half a century. The clock is ticking for Tibet. I know one day we will be able to celebrate the anniversary of Tibetan Freedom Day.

**INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1220, VET-
ERANS' COMPENSATION COST-
OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF
2005**

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2005

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce H.R. 1220, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2005.

Veterans' Affairs Committee Ranking Member LANE EVANS, as well as JEFF MILLER of Florida and SHELLEY BERKLEY, Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, respectively, join me as original cosponsors of the bill.

H.R. 1220 would provide a cost-of-living adjustment to veterans' benefits effective December 1, 2005. This would positively affect more than 2.9 million service-connected veterans and survivors of service-connected veterans. Additionally, the bill codifies the current disability compensation and dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) rates.

The VA Committee periodically reviews the service-connected disability compensation and DIC programs to ensure that the benefits provide reasonable and adequate compensation for disabled veterans and their families. Based on this review, Congress acts annually to provide a cost-of-living adjustment in compensation and DIC benefits.

Mr. Speaker, Congress has consistently provided increases in these rates for every fiscal year since 1976. The adjustment in cost-of-living is reflective of the economic changes annually. This is especially important to those veterans living on a fixed income. The Administration's fiscal year 2006 budget submission includes funding for a projected 2.3 percent increase.

In support of our veterans, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

**HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF BEXAR COUNTY COMMIS-
SIONER LYLE LARSEN**

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions made to the 28th district by Bexar County Commissioner Lyle Larsen.

Commissioner Larsen's career has been highlighted by numerous political appointments beginning in 1991 when he was elected to the San Antonio City Council, and held this position until 1995. In 1996 he was elected by the constituents of Bexar County Precinct 3 to the seat of County Commissioner, which he holds to this day. In 2000 he was appointed by then Governor George W. Bush to the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission.

Bexar County Commissioner Lyle Larsen has fiercely worked with fellow county officials to improve the operation of Bexar County, by monitoring the procedures of department heads. As a member of the Commissioners Court he faces the demanding job of overseeing budgetary, tax, and revenue decisions for positions that are not regulated by elected officials.

It requires an immense knowledge of County Government to be able to govern such a vast territory, and Commissioner Larsen has demonstrated that he can quite eloquently oversee and govern Bexar County.

Commissioner Larsen has not only worked as a diligent officer for Bexar County residents, but has also made notable contributions during his time in public office, especially his work in criminal and juvenile area.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have had this opportunity to recognize the dedication and hard work of Bexar County Commissioner Lyle Larsen.

**IN MEMORY OF MR. JOHN
CRIVELLO**

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John "Bricky" Crivello, who passed away at his home on March 4, 2005. All of us who knew John's lifelong devotion to fishermen's rights, his friends and family, and any official who had a say in the matter, will be remembered within the Monterey community.

Born in Monterey, CA in 1911, Bricky played football, baseball, basketball, golf and track at Monterey High School. During this period he was nicknamed "Bricky" because of his red hair—a name that would remain with him for the next 70 years. After high school Bricky was a fisherman for a short time, but soon joined the Monterey fishing industry. For more than 60 years, he worked as the business agent for the local branch of the International Fisherman's Union.

He was an advocate for more than 900 local fisherman during the industry's boom of the 1940's and 1950's. Although the industry shrank, Bricky remained working in the industry through his 80s. Because he represented