

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ART WEINTRAUB

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Arthur E. Weintraub for his distinguished professional career, spanning nearly five decades. As Art prepares to retire from his position as President of the Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association, I would like to recognize and thank him for his tremendous leadership in the Hudson Valley region of New York, including his more than 23 years of service to this important regional hospital organization. Prior to this position, Art worked as Executive Director of the Hudson Valley Health Systems Agency, and earlier as Senior Vice-President of Mid-Hudson Pattern for Progress. Before moving to the Hudson Valley, Art also worked with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and later held a senior planning position with the Tri-State Regional Planning Commission. Art's broad expertise in regional planning and health care policy and management have made him an invaluable resource to our region and to the many hospitals and communities that are served by Normet.

Over the course of more than two decades, Art has skillfully balanced the interests of our local community hospitals in a seven-county area of the Hudson Valley, working to find common ground among institutions with a wide array of challenges and in some cases, competition among themselves. Through Art's careful and persistent efforts, Normet has served as an effective advocate to help our public hospitals meet serious challenges and maintain their financial stability in a quickly changing and demanding environment. Under Art's leadership, Normet has promoted important public policy initiatives that improve and strengthen our regional hospitals, helping to ensure the continued availability of quality health care services for the fast growing Hudson Valley region.

Art has received numerous honors over his career including being named a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow for study at Princeton University in 1977. He has been honored by the American Red Cross, the Arthritis Foundation, the Greater Hudson Valley Family Health Center, area chambers of commerce and a host of community service organizations. In 1997, he was selected national chairman of the U.S. Conference of Metropolitan Hospital Associations, and in 2004 received the Award of Distinction as the Hudson Valley Healthcare Executive of the Year.

In addition to his leadership at Normet, Art has volunteered a great deal of time and energy to improving our region. Recently, Art was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs to an advisory panel for the VA Campuses at Montrose and Castle Point. Over the years, Art has served in a variety of community service positions, including as presi-

dent of the Newburgh Consolidated District Board of Education and as co-chair of the Community Partnership for a Healthy Westchester Task Force. He has served as an officer on the governing boards of numerous organizations and institutions, including St. Luke's Hospital, the American Health Planning Association, Westchester Health Foundation, Mid-Hudson Pattern for Progress, Pace University Nursing School and Law School Health Advisory Boards, Business School Advisory Board of SUNY New Paltz, Hudson Valley Technology Development Center, Greater Hudson Valley Coordinating Council, Metropolitan Transportation Authority Management Advisory Committee, Orange County Charter Review Commission, Orange County Child Study Center Advisory Board and Congregation Agudas Israel. He is also a Charter Member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Art received his Bachelor's Degree from Hunter College, and a Masters Degree from New York University's Graduate School of Public Administration. He also completed the Executive Program in Health Policy and Management at Harvard University's School of Public Health. Art currently is an adjunct professor at the New School University's Graduate School of Management, and has held faculty appointments at New York Medical College and Vassar College. He has had numerous articles on health and environmental policy issues published in professional journals.

In addition to these numerous professional credentials, it must be noted that Art is personally regarded as a friend to many of us in the Hudson Valley. He inspires great loyalty in the members of his association and affection from the countless others with whom he has worked over the years, including many of my colleagues in the New York congressional delegation. He will be sorely missed by those of us who have had the pleasure of working with him.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to congratulate Art Weintraub and his family on his upcoming retirement after so many years of service to the Hudson Valley Region. I would like to take this opportunity to offer my very best wishes to Art for a healthy and happy retirement along with my deep appreciation for his vision, dedication and hard work over his impressive career.

SUPPORTING GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL HEPATITIS B AWARENESS WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 5, 2005

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for increased awareness and education around the potentially life-

threatening disease, hepatitis B. Hepatitis B is the most common liver infection in the world, and approximately 5,000 Americans will die from complications of this disease in 2005.

The hepatitis B virus is extremely infectious. In fact, it is 100 times more infectious than the HIV virus. Twelve million people in the United States are already infected, and an additional 100,000 more will become infected this year. In my home state of Wisconsin, nearly 600 cases of hepatitis B are reported each year.

This disease is easily transmittable through blood and blood products, bodily fluid, from mother to newborn, unprotected sex, and intravenous drug use. Furthermore, this disease is especially dangerous because many people are completely unaware that they may have come into contact with it until they develop more serious complications such as cirrhosis of the liver or liver cancer. Less than ten percent of Americans suffering from hepatitis B are receiving proper treatment for their disease.

Last week, I was proud to join my colleagues in supporting House Resolution 250, Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Hepatitis B Awareness Week. Though vaccinations, increased awareness and education initiatives surrounding hepatitis B, this disease is largely preventable. During the week, community events across the country will bring together patients, public health advocates, physicians, and at risk populations to increase awareness and bolster education efforts on preventive measures and disease management.

As we recognize National Hepatitis B Awareness Week, I am hopeful that we can join together and work towards an end to this life-threatening disease.

SUPPORTING GOALS AND IDEALS OF A ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 142, honoring Rotary International on the occasion of the organization's one hundred year anniversary. I am proud to note that the Rotary Club was founded in 1905 by Paul P. Harris in my hometown of Chicago, Illinois. Over the past century, the Rotary Club has grown into one of the largest nonprofit organizations in the world.

Rotary's Membership includes 1.2 million professional and business leaders who belong to 31,000 clubs in over 165 countries. These members adhere to the Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self," through community service projects, high moral conduct, and promotion of international good will.

In 1985, Rotary International launched PolioPlus, an effort to immunize the children of

• 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.

the world against Polio. Rotary's efforts in conjunction with the WHO, CDC and UNICEF have nearly eradicated the disease, reducing worldwide incidence from 350,000 cases in 1988 to 1,266 cases in 2004. By the end of 2005, PolioPlus will have donated over \$500 million to this remarkable effort. Since its inception in 1947, the Rotary Foundation has awarded over \$1.1 billion in humanitarian and educational grants, focusing on international humanitarian service programs and educational and cultural exchanges.

The scholarship program established by Rotary International is the largest privately-funded source of international scholarships in the world. Through this program, 8,000 secondary school students have studied abroad, 35,000 students have participated in the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars program, and 46,000 young professionals have explored careers in other countries.

Next month, over 37,000 members representing 150 countries will attend the 2005 Centennial Rotary International Convention in Chicago as apart of the greatest celebration in Rotary's history. On behalf of the people of Chicago, I would like to welcome these members to the birthplace of their organization.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Rotary International and all of its members worldwide for their impressive accomplishments over the past one hundred years in the areas of community service, Polio eradication and international exchange. I look forward to another hundred years of commendable service to the country and the world.

HEALTH INSURANCE CRISIS

SPEECH OF

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the hopes that this day might mark a turning point for our nation's health care. I'm proud to join my friend from Pennsylvania and my co-chairman of the House 21st Century Health Care Caucus, Mr. Murphy, in introducing the 21st Century Health Information Act.

Mr. Speaker, we politicians love to say that we have the best health care system in the world. It's true that we have the best medicine in the world, practiced by the best people in the best facilities. But the system we have makes it harder rather than easier to deliver the best care at the lowest cost.

The status quo is not sustainable. Hundreds, of Americans die every day as a result of preventable errors or health care-acquired infections. Nearly half the time, patients aren't given recommended care. Doctors and other providers face extraordinary bureaucratic demand that, coupled with tightening reimbursement rates, leave them with less time to—treat patients. Administrative costs consume 30 cents on the health care dollar. Duplication, inefficiencies, and unnecessary care result in some regions of the country spending 60% more than others on Medicare, on a risk-adjusted basis, with worse health outcomes and patient satisfaction.

Whether you're worried about Medicaid, access to prescription drugs, malpractice pre-

miums, the uninsured—you name it—the trend lines are going in the wrong direction because we aren't set up to get the best possible health outcomes at the lowest possible cost.

We are living in the information age, and information technology is the underpinning of any effort to improve the long-term quality, safety, and efficiency of health care. And that's why I'm hopeful that the legislation we introduce today will begin the much needed transformation of health care.

Today can be the beginning of the end of us having to fill out that confounded clipboard every time we go to the doctor.

Today can be the beginning of the end of the 150 million calls pharmacists make to doctors every year to clarify handwriting on prescriptions.

Today can be the beginning of the end of the bureaucratization of the practice of medicine, letting physicians get back to what they love, and what we need them to do: take care of patients.

And today can be the beginning of the end of seeing hundreds of thousands of Americans die unnecessarily because our system isn't set up to deliver the safest, most effective care despite the best efforts of doctors and nurses.

This bill is the first bipartisan legislation that addresses some of the systemic obstacles that have hindered the movement of health care into the information age. It is based on a regional approach, catalyzing a process that will bring together providers, patients, health plans, employers—all stakeholders—locally to do three crucial things: first, figure out how to collaborate on getting IT into physicians' hands; second, build a secure, confidential health information network to allow information to be shared as appropriate and authorized; and third, begin coming up with strategies to make sure we get the right care to the right people at the right time as efficiently as possible.

This bill will make sure that the federal government, in addition to getting the process rolling with grants, carries its own weight as a stakeholder in every community. And it takes down existing barriers by accelerating the process of standards adoption to ensure that information can be exchanged across platforms and creating narrow safe harbors in the Stark Act and anti-kickback law.

A key to making this work, Mr. Speaker, is ensuring that privacy is a key priority as we move into an electronic medium. Electronic health records can be significantly more secure than paper records. Unlike with paper, we can create audit trails so we know whenever someone accessed a record. We can set up authentication systems to ensure that people are only able to access the parts of records that they need to see. While people understandably worry about security breaches and hackers, it's a lot easier to limit unauthorized access to electronic records than paper records that are passing through countless hands as they are filed, copied, faxed, transcribed, or simply left lying around. We can and must ensure that privacy and security are paramount as these systems are designed.

It is also important to note that under this bill, no physician will be required to implement anything unless he or she wants to. Physicians will have a key decisionmaking role in deciding how networks will be structured and what information will be shared. The bill does not require the use of a common platform or

product but accelerates the development of interoperable electronic medical records and other products so physicians can choose products that are right for them. Well-designed systems should simplify physicians' compliance with HIPAA, not expand their potential liability, and should give doctors new tools to streamline billing, eligibility checks, patient tracking and notification, and public health and quality reporting.

We received a vast amount of help an input on this legislation from too many quarters to mention individually. I would like to single out, however, a distinguished former colleague of ours, Speaker Newt Gingrich. He has been a terrific supporter of this legislation, and I know both the gentleman from Pennsylvania and I are grateful for his help and that of his staff.

Mr. Speaker, with the President's support for health IT, with David Brailer and Secretary Leavitt laying out a vision that's very similar to this bill, with our colleagues in both the House and Senate increasingly interested in health IT, we are poised to finally begin the belated transformation of our health care system.

Each of us, whether as patient, provider, taxpayer, or health care bill-payer, desperately needs to see our health care system to produce better value for the dollar. The stakes are enormous and I look forward to working with my colleagues to see that we meet this challenge, starting today. Thank you.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 5, 2005

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of Holocaust Martyrs, and Heroes Remembrance Day. Known as Yom Hashoah in Hebrew, this solemn day commemorates the anniversary of the beginning of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. This year is of particular import, as it marks the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Nazi concentration camps. I join my distinguished colleagues in remembering the victims of the Holocaust while vowing that such a horror shall never again take place.

In remembering the six million victims of the Holocaust, we must recommit ourselves to fighting against the evils that led to the Holocaust; anti-Semitism, racism, bigotry, and intolerance. This commitment requires that we tell the story of the Holocaust to our children and grandchildren. We owe nothing less to the survivors and to the brave men who fought to liberate the Ghettos and the death camps.

I rise also to condemn the rising tide of anti-Semitism around the globe and to demonstrate the United States' lasting commitment to the elimination of such bigotry and ignorance. It is essential that each and everyone of us takes action to prevent such atrocities and vigorously pursues justice for the victims of acts of hatred and inhumanity. The crimes against humanity that were perpetrated by the Nazis must never be forgotten, lest we allow such evil to spread again.

We must also remember the handicapped, homosexuals, gypsies, political dissidents, and even Poles who were murdered in the Nazi "Final Solution," simply for being different. The

Nazi hatred for anyone considered different stands as the antithesis of the values of freedom and liberty that we hold so dear.

It is also important to recognize the sacrifices, service, and dedication of Allied soldiers and underground fighters that resulted in the defeat of the Nazi regime and the liberation of the concentration camps. We are indebted to the service of these brave souls who fought against evil to stop the death and destruction of the Holocaust.

Mr. Speaker, today we mourn the innocent lives lost and vibrant communities destroyed by the Holocaust. We also honor those heroes of the Warsaw Ghetto who faced certain death when they fought against the Nazi's planned extermination of their community. With our solemn remembrance of the atrocities of the Holocaust, we empower a new generation to ensure that such crimes are never again repeated.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO VIVIEN SPITZ

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor Vivien Spitz for her dedication and devotion to the court reporting profession over the past six decades. She has given so much to the court reporting profession and gained the admiration of friends and colleagues.

Vivien Spitz has played a valuable role in preserving history and documenting events of epic proportion throughout her career. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters of the National Court Reporters Association. Ms. Spitz was an Official Reporter of Debates and Chief Reporter in the United States House of Representatives from 1972 to 1982. During this time she reported Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter, and Reagan on their State of the Union Addresses to the Nation.

Vivien also reported all foreign Heads of State who addressed Congress during this period including King Juan Carlos of Spain, President Anwar Sadat of Egypt, and Prime Minister Itzhak Rabin of Israel. She reported President Carter's establishment in 1978 of the President's Commission on the Holocaust, appointing Elie Wiesel as Chairman. She was also the first woman reporter in the U.S. Senate on temporary assignments during 1969, 1970, and 1971 out of her Denver district court.

By contract with the United States War Department, Ms. Spitz reported the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials in Germany from 1946 to 1948, including the Nazi Doctors Case. She recorded verbatim the words that came from the mouths of witnesses and victims who survived the heinous experiments "in the name of scientific medical research" conducted by doctors who had taken the Oath of Hippocrates to heal and cure, turned into doctors who became torturers and murders. Through the record that she helped to create this serious tragedy will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Vivien for her years of work and dedication to her profession. The history that she has preserved through her devoted work as a court reporter will never be forgotten.

SECURE ACT OF 2005

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, today, following two school bus crashes that resulted in multiple injuries and fatalities in the last month, I reintroduced the SECURE Act of 2005, which requires all school buses to have safety belts.

Just yesterday, 23 children were injured in a bus crash in Missouri. Video from another accident in 2003 in Ohio shows 30 children literally falling out of their seats and being thrown against the other side of the bus. How can we say that our school buses are safe? We cannot wait for another tragedy to occur. It is time for Congress to take action.

Since we were old enough to ride in cars, we were taught to buckle our safety belts. We have taught our children these basic safety lessons to potentially save their lives during collisions. Yet, one of the most frequent forms of transportation used by school-aged children is not equipped with any life-saving safety belts. How can we not give our children the safest possible ride by assuring that all school buses are equipped with safety belts?

Currently, only six states require safety belts on school buses, including California, which was the first state to require three-point safety belts. The remaining states use the "compartmentalization" method to secure the safety of the occupant. This method assures a reasonable level of safety in frontal crashes; however, a 1999 report by the National Transportation Safety Board found that compartmentalization does not adequately protect passengers from lateral impact and rollover crashes because passengers do not always remain completely in their seats. Also, the national Highway Traffic Safety Administration concluded that there is less trauma to the head and neck of passengers wearing 3-point safety belts.

Many people argue that the cost of installing safety belts on school buses is too high, when in fact it is only about \$1.80 per child. That is a minimal cost to pay to protect a child's life.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in co-sponsoring this legislation. We should not offer our children anything less than the safest ride to school each day.

CORRECTING MISCHARACTERIZATIONS IN PRESS REGARDING ASSISTANCE FOR PALESTINIANS

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to correct mischaracterizations in the press regarding assistance for the Palestinians included in the fiscal year 2005 Emergency Supplemental that passed Congress on May 10. As my colleagues are aware, the conference agreement includes \$200 million in assistance for the Palestinian people. Contrary to statements of others, this is the amount requested by the President.

Several recent articles and editorials have inaccurately portrayed the way in which Con-

gress provided this funding. The inaccuracies contained in these articles do not reflect the intent of the Administration or Congress and threaten to undermine the good work of the United States in supporting a lasting peace in the Middle East. These inaccuracies must be corrected.

First, the President did not request the \$200 million as a direct payment to the Palestinian Authority. As Administration officials have repeatedly stated publicly and in communications with Congress, this funding was requested predominantly for projects that benefit the Palestinian people. For instance, Secretary Rice on February 16 testified before the Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee and on February 17 before the House International Relations Committee that most of these funds would be used for projects, not direct payments to the Palestinian Authority. In fact, the supplemental conference agreement includes a chart highlighting how assistance should be provided on a project-by-project basis. This chart directly tracks the justification material provided by the Administration to support its supplemental request and establishes a mechanism for proper Congressional oversight and intent.

Second, it is simply incorrect to call an additional \$200 million of U.S. taxpayer assistance a "no-confidence vote" for Mr. Abbas. There is widespread Congressional support and confidence in Mr. Abbas which is reflected by the \$200 million provided in the supplemental and the \$75 million provided in the fiscal year 2005 appropriations bill. This constitutes a nearly three-fold increase in U.S. assistance to the Palestinian people in just six months. As the final bill makes clear, these funds are provided with the same terms and conditions that have applied to Palestinian assistance in years past. Under these terms, the President may provide direct payments to the Palestinian Authority only if he certifies to Congress that such assistance is important to our country's national security interests.

Finally, the final bill requires that \$50 million of the assistance should be provided to Israel to improve the movement of people and goods to benefit the Palestinian people. A stable Palestinian state must be built on economic development, and economic development must be built upon a smooth flow of goods and people to and from the Palestinian territories and Israel. The Congress also made it clear that infrastructure will have to be developed in both the Palestinian and Israeli territories.

Mr. Speaker, it concerns me that editorial boards of certain newspapers would make such strong statements about our lack of support for the Palestinian people based on inaccurate information. These issues are too delicate and too important to be damaged by careless journalism.

TRIBUTE TO DR. IAN HARRIS, IN RECOGNITION OF THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise to today to congratulate a distinguished

constituent of the Fourth Congressional District, Dr. Ian Harris, who was recently honored for 30 years of service to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Dr. Harris serves on the faculty of the School of Education at UW-Milwaukee. He is currently chairperson of the Department of Educational Policy and Community Studies, and was the founder of the Peace Studies Certificate Program. He is widely known in national and international circles for his work in the field of peace research.

The hallmark of Dr. Harris' work is his dedication to non-violence and peaceful methods of conflict resolution. He has published numerous articles and books, including one that offers peacebuilding strategies for educators and community leaders who work with young people.

Dr. Harris' approach is certainly relevant to the needs of young people in my district. I thank him on behalf of the students he teaches at UW-M, as well as the broader Milwaukee community.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 5, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day. This year, the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II, serves as a solemn reminder of the tragic events that resulted in the murder of six million Jews and millions of other men and women. Today, we honor their memory and sacrifice.

Yom Hashoah is a sad day, but it also has a message of hope. It evokes memories of the lows of humanity and what can happen when the world turns its back to oppression. It reminds us of the suffering of millions who endured the evils of discrimination and racism. The entire world was impacted by the terrible events of World War II. We remember and honor the many individuals and their loved ones who suffered simply because of their religion or ethnicity.

This occasion is also a time for hope because we honor the memory of the past by passing down the lessons we have learned to future generations so that such tragic history will never repeat itself. Today, many events are taking place around the world to remind us of the events that took place during World War II and to unite all people together against racism, bigotry and hate.

The Days of Remembrance Ceremony was held in the Rotunda of our Nation's Capitol, a fitting place to spread the message of justice and freedom and to remember the heroes who gave their lives in the fight for freedom and democracy only 60 years ago. I am proud to stand here today to honor the memory of the victims in hope that the world will never again witness these atrocities.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important day for all mankind to stand together against racism, hate and intolerance and I urge all my colleagues to take a moment to reflect and remember.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR JOSEPH CHIUSOLO

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to take this opportunity to direct your attention to the life of a remarkable individual, Mayor Joseph Chiusolo of Cedar Grove, New Jersey, who was recognized on Friday, May 6, 2005 as Man of the Year by UNICO National.

Joseph Chiusolo was the son of a fire captain and spent his formative years living in Jersey City. He attended catholic elementary school before moving on to the Hudson County Vocational School in North Bergen. Mayor Chiusolo has accredited much of his success and accomplishments to his adolescent experiences in Jersey City which inspired him to dedicate his life to enhancing the lives of others.

At the age of 14, Joseph began volunteering his time at the Secaucus Ambulance Corp. and the American Red Cross. Upon reaching his eighteenth birthday, he became an Emergency Medical Technician at the Jersey City Medical Center. Joseph continued to work hard and eventually his sacrifices and efforts were rewarded.

In 1978 he became Assistant Director for the American Red Cross Disaster Services. He was primarily responsible for the coordination of emergency disaster responses in Jersey City and Hoboken. While serving at this post, in 1979, Joseph arrived at the scene of a burning building before the Fire Department and subsequently rescued the occupants.

After this experience, he vowed to do all he could to educate people about Fire Safety. It was at this time, that Joseph started a T-shirt screen printing business in the basement of his parents' home which became known as "Turn Out Fire and Safety." He became a major supplier of Police, Fire, and EMS uniforms as well as protective clothing throughout the tri-state area.

Joseph Chiusolo moved to Cedar Grove, New Jersey in 1989 and immediately volunteered his time to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. He quickly became a fixture within the town and was elected by the residents to serve on the town council in 1997. Since that time, Joseph has served two terms as Deputy Mayor and two terms as Mayor.

As a former mayor and the Congressman for the Eighth Congressional District of NJ, I cannot think of another individual who has given more to Cedar Grove. Thus it is only fitting that he be honored, in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on Earth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the Township of Cedar Grove, Joseph's family, friends, and me in recognizing the outstanding service of Mayor Joseph Chiusolo.

IN MEMORY OF RAMON WAGNER

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and accomplish-

ments of Ramon Wagner, a Milwaukee resident and an advocate for low-income people whose legacy will live on despite his untimely death on April 15, 2005.

Mr. Wagner, who founded Community Advocates in 1976 and served as its Executive Director, dedicated his life to serving the Milwaukee community. For almost 30 years, Community Advocates endeavored to be a place where people in need could come for help. In service of Mr. Wagner's vision, Community Advocates developed and implemented a range of services that help low-income families cope with the everyday challenges of living in poverty.

Low-income people throughout Wisconsin can thank Mr. Wagner for helping to organize the moratorium on natural gas shut-offs during the winter months. He negotiated an agreement with the gas company after an elderly woman died in her unheated apartment in 1984, because her landlord had not paid the heating bill.

Mr. Wagner will be remembered as a champion of services for low-income people, but he also leaves a strong legacy in his efforts to strengthen the network of service organizations. He understood that connecting to others' efforts would magnify the impact of scarce resources.

Ramon's was a well-lived life. I salute him for his dedication to serving others.

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING MEMBERS OF GARY INDIANA, BRANCH OF NAACP

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize and commend the members of the Gary, Indiana, branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). On Friday, May 13, 2005, the Gary NAACP will hold its 42nd Annual Life Membership Banquet and Scholarship Dinner at the St. Timothy Fellowship Hall in Gary, Indiana.

This annual event is a major fundraiser for the Gary branch of the NAACP. The funds generated through this activity, and others like it, go directly to the organization's needed programs and advocacy efforts. The featured speaker at this gala event will be Attorney Dennis Wayne Archer. Attorney Archer will be honored with the Roy Wilkins Award. Archer is the Immediate Past President of the American Bar Association. He is the first person of color to hold the position as president of the ABA. Attorney Archer is also the former Mayor of the City of Detroit.

Attorney Fred Work will be honored with the Benjamin Hooks Award. Attorney Work is a distinguished attorney who has provided legal services to many citizens, not only in the community of Gary, but also throughout the State of Indiana. Attorney Work was the first African-American Judge in Lake County. Work was also the first African-American to graduate from Vanderbilt Law School and the first African-America to be nominated by the Democratic Party for statewide office.

The Gary NAACP would also like to recognize the accomplishments of the West Side

High School girls basketball team. The team's record is 24–4. The team's winning accomplishments include: the Gary Holiday Tournament, the Northwest Conference, the East Chicago Sectional, the Valparaiso Regional, and the Elkhart Semi-State finals. Those team players I would like to applaud are Michelle Hamblin, Isabell Rhenwick (recipient of the 2004–2005 Patricia L. Roy Mental Attitude Award) Ashley Cheairs, Ashley Gates, Farren Congress, Candise Matthews, Shanee' Butler, Erica Simpson, Jaime Sherls, Lecreia Hudson, Loreal Brown, Jasmine Brown, Moenesha Headen, Sydney Pettigrew, Ashley Woods, Nicole Moore, Britney Peeples, and Britney Harris. I would also like to recognize Head Coach Rod Fisher and Assistant Coaches Darryl Brandford, Erza Alexander, and Arnetta Gates. Their leadership both on and off the basketball court is a valuable resource to the girls on the West Side girls basketball team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the new life members as well as the other members of the Gary NAACP for the efforts, activities, and leadership that these outstanding men and women have championed to improve the quality of life for all residents of Indiana's First Congressional District.

CONGRATULATING YVONNE EWELL
TOWNVIEW MAGNET SCIENCE
AND ENGINEERING SCHOOL ON
BEING SELECTED AS ONE OF
THE NATION'S TOP SCHOOLS BY
NEWSWEEK

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Yvonne Ewell Townview Magnet School for Engineering and Science for receiving the extraordinary honor of being ranked as one of the top schools in the country.

Each year, Newsweek chooses this distinct group from a pool of more than 27,000 high schools in America. Newsweek unveiled its current list in the latest, May 16th edition.

The Best High Schools list is assessed by using a ratio based on the number of Advanced Placement (AP) and/or International Baccalaureate (IB) tests taken by all students at a school in 2004, divided by the number of graduating seniors. This formula is said to indicate a wide measure of students' readiness for higher level work. Based on this formula, Townview was ranked # six in the nation, and number one in the State of Texas.

I am absolutely delighted that Townview has received a recognition I have long touted.

Located in my district of Dallas, Texas, Townview Magnet is one of the most diverse schools in the state. More than two-thirds of Townview's student body consists of minorities.

For the last four consecutive years, Townview has ranked number one in the nation, in the number of minority students to pass advanced calculus.

It has been discussed on numerous occasions and in numerous venues that the United States will not be able to lead—nor for that matter, successfully compete—in the global

economy if we cannot put a stop to the continuing shortage of highly qualified scientific and technology brainpower in this country.

In response to this, in 2003, under the tutelage of Dr. Da Hsuan Feng, I partnered with the University of Texas at Dallas to sponsor a lecture series designed to expose Dallas-area high school students to the best and brightest minds in mathematics and science in order to promote career opportunities in those fields. Various leaders in these fields have participated in the lectures series, including, world-renowned sickle cell researcher, Dr. Betty Pace; Nobel Laureate, Dr. Russell Hulse, and the remarkable Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson, President Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

This honor is of particular significance, as I have long championed the need for more emphasis in science and math education, particularly for young children. I believe these students and others like them will become tomorrow's leaders in the fields of science and technology. Showing students the importance and the value of the science and technology fields is a life long process.

It cannot happen overnight. It begins here and now. I implore our community leaders to also encourage science education in young men and women.

I would like to commend Townview's Science and Engineering School principal, Richard White and Executive Principal Alice Black for their "leadership and commitment to these students.

Mr. Speaker, again, I congratulate the students, teachers, principals and parents of Townview Magnet School in Science and Engineering on this distinguished honor.

LEGISLATION TO TREAT EMPLOYMENT TAXES PAID TO THE EU BY EMPLOYEES OF THE EU AS INCOME TAXES PAID TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY FOR PURPOSES OF THE FOREIGN TAX CREDIT

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to correct an outdated tax law that is forcing a husband and wife of 27 years from my district to live thousands of miles apart during what should be the golden years of their retirement together. In introducing this legislation, however, I seek to not only assist the couple in my district who has brought this inequity to my attention, but also to assist any other families facing the same problem.

Mrs. Novella Wheaton Nied, a U.S. citizen and native Taosena, and Veit Nied, a German citizen, called my attention to this issue early last year. The Nields have been married almost 30 years and have lived overseas in various countries for the length of their marriage until September 2001. Mr. Nied, an economist, retired in September 2001 from the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium. The couple decided to return to Taos, New Mexico, Novella's home, for their retirement years, but learned upon Veit's approval of permanent resident status in the United States that his pension from the European Commission would be subject to double taxation—the initial tax by

the European Commission, and again by the U.S. should he choose to make his residency here.

Double taxation on his pension will create a hardship for the Nields in their retirement—both financially and emotionally. As a result, Mr. Nied did not accept the permanent resident status and has been traveling back and forth between Germany and the United States, being very cognizant and diligent about following U.S. immigration and taxation laws, and therefore has not stayed longer than 120 days per annum in the United States, which would render him liable for taxes in this country. This unfortunate living situation has been ongoing since 2001 when they learned of the double taxation and have been seeking a solution that would allow them to once again live together.

During this time, the Nields have corresponded with the IRS seeking a solution to the problem, to no avail. I have consulted with the IRS, as well as with the Congressional Research Service, seeking a solution short of introducing legislation, but it has become clear that only legislation will remedy this problem.

The IRS tax code is outdated and does not recognize such multinational organizations as the EU for purposes of the foreign tax credit. As a result, the Nields, and most likely other families in the United States, find themselves in this unfortunate predicament. The United States has tax agreements with many countries to prevent double taxation, as well as provisions in the tax code that allow resident aliens who pay taxes to a foreign country to claim the foreign tax credit that reduces their U.S. income taxes. Unfortunately, the EU does not qualify as a foreign country for purposes of the foreign tax credit.

As such, today I am introducing legislation that amends the Internal Revenue Code to treat employment taxes paid to the European Union by employees of the European Union as income taxes paid to a foreign country, for purposes of the foreign tax credit. This bill will allow Mr. Nied, and others in his situation, to qualify for the foreign tax credit.

Mr. Speaker, this is a simple bill that brings a section of the tax code up to date with the changes in international political institutions. While it certainly will help Mr. and Mrs. Nied, this legislation will also help other families who face the same situation. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and pass it quickly to allow the Nields, and others, to be permanently reunited so that they may enjoy their years of retirement in the company of their loved ones.

COMMENDING NATIONAL
HEPATITIS B AWARENESS WEEK

HON. TED STRICKLAND

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to lend my support for House Resolution 250, supporting the goals and ideals of a National Hepatitis B Awareness Week.

We possess the weapons to combat hepatitis B, including vaccination and treatment. For those infected, treatment options exist that are designed to stop the progression of liver disease and reduce liver damage. It is encouraging that educational programs like the "Aim

for the B" campaign during National Hepatitis B Week will raise awareness about chronic hepatitis B. I am also impressed with community forums scheduled this week to educate those currently living with the disease as well as their doctors about new and improved methods that can prevent its transmission and progression to liver disease.

As we recognize National Hepatitis B Awareness Week, I encourage Americans who may be at risk for chronic hepatitis B to get tested for the disease and to understand there is a large group of patients who do need treatment right now. With increased awareness, education and treatment for the disease, we can help stop the progression of hepatitis B to liver damage and liver disease.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in reflecting on the importance of the work being done to combat chronic hepatitis B and recognize the fact that this is a preventable and treatable disease. I appreciate the opportunity to convey my support for House Resolution 250 and to recognize the need for more federal attention on hepatitis B.

HONORING THE WORK OF
MOHAMMED JAFFER

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to honor Mohammed Jaffer. Mr. Jaffer is a talented photographer and a dedicated individual whom I have had the pleasure of knowing for years.

Mr. Jaffer was born in Hyderabad, India to a family wedded to the camera. His father, the late M.A. Rahim, was a renowned photographer, widely admired for his skill and vision. It was a popular belief that no one in the state of Andhra Pradesh could be deemed truly famous until Mr. Jaffer's father had photographed them.

Having grown up in a house where everyone looked at the world through a camera lens, it was only natural for Mr. Jaffer to follow suit. Not content to limit himself to his hometown or even his home country, he set himself a much broader goal. Accordingly, at the tender age of 19, he graduated from Nizam College in Hyderabad and came to the United States with just his camera and a dream. Mr. Speaker, it turns out that the United States has proved to be a land of opportunity for Mr. Jaffer.

Within a year, he formed his own news photo agency, SnapsIndia, and was well on his way to becoming the most-widely published Indian photographer in the country. In the next 15 years, Jaffer photographed various prime ministers and heads of states from different South Asian countries and around the world, as well as United Nations meetings and World Summits in New York.

Having established himself in America, he began to cover high-profile events around the world such as the 1991 Cricket World Cup in Australia and New Zealand, the 1992 Australian National Laser Sailing Regatta, the U.S. Open in tennis for the past 7 years, the 1996 Americas Cup in San Diego, as well as beauty pageants and fashion shows worldwide.

The highlight of Mr. Jaffer's career, however, came when he was invited to accom-

pany President Bill Clinton to India in March of 2000. As part of the White House entourage, Mr. Jaffer had access to the President that no other Indian photographer could lay claim to. For five days, he photographed President Clinton in some of the most picturesque, and historic locations on earth, capturing the leader of the Free World in both private, pensive moments and at spectacular public events.

In 2001, Mr. Jaffer once again accompanied President Clinton to India when he visited areas in the western state of Gujarat that had been devastated by an earthquake. President Clinton, who had admired the photos, inaugurated the exhibition of Mr. Jaffer's photos of the presidential visit at Regent Wall Street hotel in New York on June 12, 2001. That same year, Mr. Jaffer covered the inauguration and oath ceremony of President George W. Bush.

Having established SnapsIndia, the first news photo service specialized to cater to the South Asian community in the United States, Mr. Jaffer has fulfilled the dream his father started 25 years ago when SnapsIndia was first established in Hyderabad, India. With SnapsIndia Jaffer has woven bridges and contributed to strengthening the ties between India and the United States through photojournalism.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL
GROUNDS FOR NATIONAL PEACE
OFFICERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2005

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 136, a resolution that honors and celebrates the 24th Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service Observance Day on May 15, 2005. As a former police officer, I salute those law enforcement officials who died in the line of duty in 2004 and continue to honor those police officers who gave their lives in past years. As a member of the Congressional Law Enforcement Caucus, I strongly support critical funding for programs, such as the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, to hire additional police officers and help law enforcement acquire the latest crime-fighting technologies. I will continue to be a strong supporter of the law enforcement community and will advocate on behalf of public safety in Congress. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

RECOGNITION FOR KENTUCKY
COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the philanthropic work of forty high-school students at Kentucky Country Day School in Louisville, Kentucky whose original fund-raising work on behalf of local organizations won them nationwide recognition for cur-

riculum innovation in February 2005 by the Washington, D.C.-based National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS). Kentucky Country Day School was one of three schools nationally to receive this prestigious honor through the Leading Edge Program run by NAIS. The Leading Edge Program was created to explore, encourage, support and reward exceptional and innovative achievement in the areas of community relations, curriculum innovation, equity and justice initiatives and technology. This award is a testament to Kentucky Country Day School's commitment to developing and enhancing the leadership skills of the youngest and brightest among us through its unique Philanthropy course.

Philanthropy is no easy endeavor. Andrew Carnegie once said, "I resolved to stop accumulating and begin the infinitely more serious and difficult task of wise distribution." With a \$10,000 grant, these high school students began this "serious and difficult task" by creating a mission statement to help define their purpose and goals for The Artemis Fund, the charitable trust which they themselves operated. As trustees, these students were faced with the challenge of raising funds through telephone solicitations and establishing rules and procedures for giving and selecting worthy causes to fund.

Since the course's inception in 2001, The Artemis Fund has dispensed just over \$19,000 to local organizations. This year, among the recipients chosen by The Artemis Fund were The Deaf Oral School and Youth Alive, a western Louisville after-school reading program.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most exciting things for me to see is the building up of our youth through positive and enriching programs that last far longer than the prescribed semester. Life-impacting education serves as a bedrock for creative ideas that one day will be used to transform the way we, as a society, interact and live. I am proud to know that these students have learned more than how to accumulate and dispense funds. Indeed, they have learned to lead by example and commitment, following through on their stated goals. This opportunity to learn about "hands-on philanthropy" will serve them well into adulthood. We can all take an important lesson from their great achievement and service to their community. I am delighted to recognize the Kentucky Country Day School for this momentous accomplishment.

THE RETIRED PAY RESTORATION
ACT AND THE MILITARY SUR-
VIVING SPOUSES EQUITY ACT
(H.R. 303 AND H.R. 808)

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. MACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our greatest national treasure—our veterans. Throughout our Nation's history, brave men and women have been committed to protecting our freedom, security and prosperity. It is only right for us to do all we can to help those who have fought to keep us free. That is why I rise in support of two thoughtful and prudent pieces of legislation: H.R. 303—The Retired Pay Restoration Act of 2005 and H.R.

808—The Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act, sponsored by Mr. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS and Mr. HENRY BROWN, respectively.

Mr. Speaker, these two critical pieces of legislation are smart, balanced and respectful of the time served by our Nation's veterans and the sacrifices made by their families.

The Retired Pay Restoration Act would address a policy that has long been unfavorable to the men and women who have returned home from battle. This legislation will let our disabled veterans receive not only the disability compensation they deserve, but the retired benefits they have toiled long and hard to receive. It is incumbent upon us to mark the time given by these brave individuals with appropriate legislation, such as this, that honors their courage and dignity.

I am also proud to support and cosponsor the Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act. This common sense bill ensures surviving husbands and wives of our veterans will still be able to count on the consistent income earned by their spouses in service to our country.

Mr. Speaker, with the passing of the War Supplemental last week, this body came together to raise death benefits for our soldiers and sailors who have made the ultimate sacrifice. I was proud to enthusiastically support that measure. It is with that same spirit that I ardently urge my colleagues to again put politics aside, come together, and pass these patriotic and dutiful pieces of legislation to support our proud veterans.

RECOGNIZING THE MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to acknowledge the contributions of a very special church in Louisiana's 7th Congressional District. For over fifty years, the Mount Olive Baptist Church has been an important part of the Lake Charles community, making countless contributions to the moral fabric of Southwest Louisiana. Today I want to praise this church especially for its commitment to the education of our youth. For the past twenty-five years, Mount Olive has run scholarship program that has allowed students in my district to become better educated and productive members of our society.

In 1980, Brother Charles Ellis came to the delegation with the idea of providing educational scholarships for children of the community. Under the supervision of Reverend N.D. Lee, the congregation began awarding scholarships to local students for \$400. Today the church awards scholarships of \$1,000. So far, over seventy students have benefited from this program.

This marks the 25th year that Mount Olive Baptist Church has supported the educational dreams of students. The church has taken upon itself the mission of improving their community in the most important way possible—by seeing to the education of tomorrow's leaders. I thank Mount Olive Baptist Church for this tre-

mendous service and wish them all the best in continuing to set such a fine moral example in Southwest Louisiana.

CHRONIC FATIGUE AND IMMUNE DYSFUNCTION SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, May 12th is Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Awareness Day.

Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome afflicts more than 800,000 Americans. CFIDS, also known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) and myalgic encephalomyelitis, is a complex and debilitating medical disorder characterized by profound exhaustion, intense widespread pain, and severe problems with memory and concentration. It usually lasts for years, and many never recover. Because the symptoms of CFS are common to other conditions and no diagnostic test exists, it is often overlooked by health care providers. In fact, government studies show that only 15 percent of those who have CFS have been diagnosed by their doctor. It is even more difficult for CFS patients to get appropriate symptomatic treatment.

The cause of CFS is not yet known. Much of what we do know about CFS has been documented by researchers funded by the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Here are some facts: women age 30-50 are at greatest risk for developing CFS, and Latinos and African Americans are at greater risk for CFS than Caucasians or Asians. Children can get CFS too, although it is more common in teens than younger children. The condition may begin suddenly, as with the flu, or it may build gradually over time. Physical or mental exertion makes symptoms worse.

Individuals with CFS are severely impacted by the disease and, according to CDC studies, their functional status is the same as or worse than those suffering from obstructive pulmonary disease, coronary heart disease, osteoarthritis and severe depression. People with CFS often lose the ability to maintain full-time employment, attend school and participate fully in family life. The Nation's economy is also seriously affected; the annual direct cost of lost productivity due to CFS is \$9.1 billion, an amount equivalent to Wal-Mart's annual profits.

There is hope. The Department of Health and Human Services has chartered a CFS Advisory Committee that meets quarterly to discuss research and service to people with CFS. The CDC is conducting promising research that may lead to a diagnostic test for CFS. Other researchers are following important leads that may improve treatment and deepen understanding of the way CFS affects various body systems. However, in fiscal year 2004, just \$15 million was spent by the Federal Government to conduct research on this devastating illness. CFS consistently ranks at the bottom of NIH funding charts and even during

the period when Congress was doubling the NIH budget, support for CFS research declined.

Many challenges remain and more federal funding is needed to answer basic questions. It is time for Congress to do more to help them. I urge my colleagues to earmark \$10 million for CFIDS research in the next annual appropriation for the National Institutes of Health. CFS warrants the support of this Congress and we must find a way to help hundreds of thousand of Americans get back to work. Let's not wait another day.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL BRESLIN, JR.

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding individual, Michael Breslin, Jr. who was recognized on May 10, 2005 for his lifelong dedication to litigation and the legal community.

It is only fitting that Michael Breslin, Jr. be honored, in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on Earth, for he has a long history of caring, leadership, creativity, and commitment to his noble profession.

A premier legal mind, "Jerry" as he is affectionately called, has let a few fundamental principles guide his career. He consistently makes a concerted effort to reach out into the community to make his services available. Mentoring and serving as a role model to the youth of Northern New Jersey has been his top priority. Lastly, he has never taken for granted his success or exploited his position for personal gain. Rather his humility seems to heighten with each passing year.

Michael Breslin has shared his invaluable knowledge and experiences as a Civil Trial Attorney by frequently lecturing at the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in the area of Civil Trial Practice techniques. As the borough attorney for Northvale, Dumont, Bogota, and Closter, Borough Prosecutor of both Palisades Park and Elmwood Park, and the former president of The Bergen County Bar Association, Michael Breslin's commitment to his community is unparalleled.

Michael Breslin exudes professionalism and dedication. Over the years Michael has been confronted by a wide array of obstacles and in each instance he has proven his resiliency. As a member of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority, he truly displayed his innovative flare while supervising the constructing of the Meadowlands Arena.

The job of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to learning about and recognizing the efforts of individuals like Michael Breslin. As a fellow alumnus of Fordham University, I am proud to bestow this honor onto Michael Breslin.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Michael's family and friends, all those who have been influenced by Michael, and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service of Michael Breslin, Jr.

CHILDREN'S VISION IMPROVEMENT AND LEARNING ACT

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the travesty of preventable vision loss in our nation's children.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently reported that millions of children do not receive the vision evaluations recommended by top medical organizations, placing them at greater risk for permanent vision loss, as well as physical and emotional difficulties.

Undiagnosed vision problems can lead to permanent vision loss and learning difficulties.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology recommends a vision evaluation in the pre-school years. Yet, the study finds that only 1 in 3 children received one before entering kindergarten.

It is a national disgrace that only a small number of children are actually receiving the preventative care, recommended by our own medical guideline, they need to ensure healthy vision.

One eye doctor who read the report called it, "a wake-up call to both primary care providers and eye care professionals." It is clear that we must do better.

Mr. Speaker, in many cases, vision loss can be avoided with early diagnosis and treatment. For the sake of our nation's young people, we need to make sure that children receive the necessary preventative vision care.

Amblyopia is a serious vision problem that affects nearly one-half million preschoolers and is the leading cause of vision loss in young Americans. I recently met with seven-year-old Kennedy Biederman. She is a prime example of what can happen when a child doesn't get proper visual evaluations.

Throughout her childhood, no one noticed that Kennedy couldn't see well. Despite multiple visits, her pediatrician did not notice, her teachers did not notice and neither did the nurses that screened her vision at school. Like many others, she simply slipped through the cracks.

At age 5½, Kennedy happened to visit an eye doctor because of a small injury. The doctor performed an eye exam and diagnosed amblyopia. He also found that Kennedy was legally blind in her left eye and that her "good" eye had only 20/80 vision. "I don't know how she was even functioning at school," her father said.

Mr. Speaker, we have the best medical system in the world. We must do better so that more children don't wind up in the same position as Kennedy. The best way to do that is by making sure that children receive an eye exam from an eye doctor.

An eye exam measures a number of visual skills that are critical to a child's healthy vision, such as using both eyes as a team, the ability for the eyes to focus properly when reading a book or viewing a computer, and the ability for the eyes to move properly when reading across a page of print.

As the National Amblyopia Youth Spokesperson, Kennedy, and her parents Jason and Jill Biederman, will have a great opportunity to share their story. I commend them for their ef-

forts to raise public awareness and believe that with their help, we can make a difference in the lives of children nationwide.

The CDC states that approximately 1.8 million children under the age of 18 (2.5%) are blind or have some form of visual impairment. Many cases of visual impairment could be eliminated simply through more timely diagnosis and treatment.

In order to address this egregious situation, in the last Congress I introduced legislation to provide states with resources they need to increase the number of children that receive an eye exam. More than 100 of my colleagues cosponsored the legislation, as did more than 60 organizations nationwide.

Yesterday, I proudly reintroduced, the Children's Vision Improvement and Learning Act, H.R. 2238.

This bill would work to address these issues by offering grants to all states to provide eye exams and necessary follow-up care; developing and distributing educational materials on state children's vision programs; and ensuring that these new initiatives complement, not supplant, services provided under Medicaid and SCHIP.

As Congress works to improve the educational opportunities available to children in this country, the need to remove outside impediments to learning must be addressed to achieve long-term success.

DELIVERING MAIL—COLLECTING HOPE

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to gratefully acknowledge and thank the National Association of Letter Carriers, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), the AFL-CIO, America's Second Harvest, and the United Way of America for their extraordinary efforts in organizing and carrying out the largest single food drive in the world: the annual National Association of Letter Carriers National Food Drive.

The food drive will again take place on the second Saturday in May, which this year falls on May 14th. The timing of the drive is no coincidence; it comes at a time when most food banks are low on supplies, having exhausted their collections from the holiday season. Last year the food drive collected an incredible 71 million pounds of food for donation to food banks, pantries, and shelters across the country.

As you can imagine, it takes an army of volunteers to collect that amount of food. This year USPS, with help from the Campbell Soup Company and Valpak Direct Marketing Systems, is distributing more than 150 million mailings promoting the drive and encouraging donations. On May 14th, donations will be collected by letter carriers along their mail routes in all 50 states.

This year's food drive has an added urgency and importance. The food drive largely supplements the inadequate support the Federal government has provided to our nation's citizens facing financial difficulty. Families around the nation are struggling to get by—family wage jobs are scarce, energy prices are at record highs, and government support

mechanisms are increasingly being axed by this Administration and this Congress.

When we think about letter carriers, first class comes to mind. From now on, we should think of letter carriers and everyone involved in this as world class, because that's what they are. Please join me in donating food on May 14th and acknowledging the spirit of America that will be carried from door to door. May this year's food drive be the safest and most abundant collection yet.

185TH BIRTHDAY OF FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate what would have been the 185th birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. This week also marks the 3rd annual National Nurses Week, which will be observed May 6th through May 12th.

The 2.7 million registered nurses in the United States bear the primary responsibility for the care and well-being of hospital patients and are the largest single component of the health care profession. Unfortunately, our nation faces a serious shortfall in the number of nurses available; too few nurses are caring for too many patients. According to a report by the Department of Health and Human Services, our nation could face a shortage of 800,000 nurses by the year 2020. As our population ages and as health care costs continue to escalate, government, hospitals, and policy advocates must work together to combat this problem.

The theme of National Nurses Week 2005 is Nurses: Many Roles, One Profession. In addition to their tireless hands-on efforts caring for patients, nurses are constantly involved in health education, research, business, and public policy. Having met with numerous nurses from the 29th district of California, I know first hand the needs of nurses of America. That is why I support House Resolution 245, which will recognize the important contributions of nurses to the health care system and the goals and ideals of National Nurses Week. I ask my colleagues to please join me in honoring some of America's greatest heroes, our nurses.

TRIBUTE TO THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Congressional Youth Leadership Council (CYLC) on the occasion of their 20th Anniversary. Founded in 1985, the Council has long been committed to inspiring America's youth to achieve their full leadership potential.

CYLC has educated over 200,000 individually selected young men and women representing all 50 States, the District of Columbia, the American territories, and over 100

countries around the world since its founding. From my district alone, we have had more than 200 students participate in this outstanding and innovative program and in the entire State of Maryland over 1,600 students have had this terrific opportunity.

These energetic and dedicated young men and women are academically well-rounded, involved in their schools and communities, frequently interested in careers of government and service, and eager to develop their leadership skills. In addition to representing all corners of the country and globe, they are culturally, racially, and economically diverse.

The Congressional Youth Leadership Council programs bring thousands of students to Capitol Hill each year in an effort to deepen their understanding of the realities of government, citizenship, and service. I know my colleagues and our staff appreciate the opportunity to discuss important local, national, and global issues with these bright and eager young students.

Essential to the success of these and other CYLC programs is the focus on learning through experience. Students are challenged with simulations, role playing, and debate. They are charged with applying those experiences to abundant opportunities for personal interaction among each other and with today's leaders. The greatest outcome of this type of educational experience is open dialogue, perspective sharing, and cultural exchanges that increase understanding, cooperation, and teamwork.

The Congressional Youth Leadership Council inspires and energizes young men and women who return to their homes, communities, and schools with the tools and commitment to be effective leaders both today and for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating CYLC on 20 years of positively impacting the lives of America's youth, our next generation of leaders.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2005

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, today my House colleagues and I are reintroducing the Patients' Bill of Rights. This bill will protect patients from the unscrupulous activities of HMOs and hold them accountable if their negligent actions harm their patients.

Although we have worked on this bill now for seven years, we have been thwarted at every turn by the Republican leadership, the Administration, and the insurance industry. We need to get this bill back on track.

President Bush promised his support for such a bill during his 2000 Presidential campaign. But in the end, it was his efforts that killed our bipartisan bill in 2001.

In spite of this setback, we remain undeterred. Working families have waited long enough for the rights they deserve that would be protected under this bill.

We were optimistic the Supreme Court would clarify the law on the side of patients, allowing state HMO accountability laws to stay in force. But the Supreme Court ruled against

patients, leaving a situation where at best HMOs may or may not be held accountable in state court and at worst HMO attorneys will use this ruling to avoid accountability altogether. This court decision only further underscores the need for action.

Unfortunately, it appears now that some in Congress not only want to protect the HMO status quo, but go further, under the guise of "medical liability reform," to make it more difficult for patients to get justice. Such reform would not only apply to cases of medical malpractice by physicians, but also severely limit accountability of HMOs and drug manufacturers.

We need a Patients' Bill of Rights to protect Americans from crafty HMO attorneys who avoid accountability by keeping victims and their families tied up in court for years. Without this needed legislation, only foreign diplomats, the mentally insane, and HMOs will be exempt from the consequences of their decisions.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF BRANDON W. BURNER ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Brandon W. Burner of Tiffin, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Brandon's offer of appointment poses him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2009. Attending one of our Nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Brandon brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of West Point cadets. While attending Tiffin Columbian High School in Tiffin, Ohio, Brandon has attained a grade point average of 4.06, which places him at the top of his class of more than two hundred students. While a gifted athlete, Brandon has maintained the highest standards of excellence in his academics, choosing to enroll and excel in Advanced Placement classes throughout high school. Brandon has been a member of the National Honor Society, Honor Roll, and has earned awards and accolades as a scholar and an athlete.

Outside the classroom, Brandon has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Brandon has earned letters in both Varsity Football and Track and Field. He was named Honorary Captain of the Varsity Football team, selected as a 2004 delegate to the American Legion's Boys State and attained the rank of Eagle Scout as a sophomore. Brandon's dedication and service to the community and his peers has proven his ability to excel among the lead-

ers at West Point. I have no doubt that Brandon will take the lessons of his student leadership with him to West Point.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Brandon W. Burner on his appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Brandon will do very well during his career at West Point and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the Nation.

HONORING MR. RON CHAPMAN

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of his many loyal listeners in the Dallas-Forth Worth and the Fifth Congressional District of Texas, today I would like to honor my friend, Mr. Ron Chapman, for his many years of outstanding broadcasting and community involvement. With his wit, wisdom, and welcome voice, Ron Chapman has helped wake up, inform, and entertain millions of North Texans for the past 45 years.

Ron Chapman came to Dallas in 1959 and began working for KLIF-AM. In 1965, he joined WFAA-TV and for 2 years he hosted the teen dance show Sump'n Else! In the late 1960's, Ron helped bring KVIL to the top of the ratings as both the morning host and program director. Although he left KVIL in 2000, he did not go far. Ever true to his Dallas audience he moved to KVIL's sister station, KLUV-FM. There his morning show continued to consistently rank in the top 10.

Ron Chapman earned the very first National Association of Broadcaster's Marconi Award for Personality of the Year in 1989. As a testament to the quality of his work and his commitment to excellence in broadcasting, Ron Chapman was also inducted into the Texas Radio Hall of Fame in 2004. One of his radio colleagues described Ron as "the benchmark" of what morning radio should be, and I am sure his many listeners agree.

Ron Chapman is more than just a radio personality, to the people of North Texas, he is our friend. As the Congressman for the Fifth Congressional District, and as one of his many loyal fans, it is my distinct pleasure to honor Ron Chapman today in the United States House of Representatives.

Ron, many thanks for all that you have done over your distinguished broadcasting career. You will be fondly remembered and you will be deeply missed on the airwaves by the people of Dallas.

IN HONOR OF ARTHUR DOUGLAS' FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO ST. MARK'S SCHOOL OF TEXAS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the commemoration of Arthur Douglas'

half-century of service to St. Mark's School of Texas. I am proud to represent St. Mark's School of Texas in the 32nd Congressional District of Texas, and join my colleagues in honoring this historic achievement by Arthur Douglas.

Arthur Douglas was born in the Yorkshire town of Bradford in 1916. As a boy, he kept birds and developed his artistic skills. In 1932, Arthur won a national scholarship and matriculated to the Bradford College of Art and Crafts, from which he graduated in 1937. After Bradford, Arthur taught at the Leeds College of Art and Drawing and the Shipley School of Art (1937–1940), Avoncraft College (1940–1946), the Dudley Grammar School (1946–1949), and Victoria College on the Isle of Jersey (1949–1955).

In 1955, Arthur followed Victoria College colleagues D.G. Thomas and Norman Blake to join the St. Mark's faculty. He taught six days a week, instructing students in art, Spanish, English literature, and handwriting (then a required course through sophomore year). Within 3 years, Arthur transferred to the Science Department where he taught 1st through 8th grade science on the second floor of Davis Hall. By 1960, a new science center was built with a greenhouse designed by the noted architect, O'Neil Ford. While attractive, it was a horticultural disaster and Arthur became a key member of the team responsible for designing a new Greenhouse containing a room of bromeliads and succulents, a tropical room, and a room specifically for cacti. In 1963, Arthur devoted much of his time to seventh grade life science, a course he would teach for the next 2 decades.

Cecil Green, who was President of the Board, admired Arthur's work and asked him to design the planting for the Math/Science courtyard. He used part of his own collection to illustrate the four natural growing areas of Texas. In 1969 Arthur developed and implemented plans for the Aviary. For his vast knowledge in the natural sciences, P.O'B. Montgomery, Jr. '38 appointed him "Curator of Living Materials," a title he holds to this day.

The Class of 1972 honored Arthur by dedicating the Marksmen to him. As they wrote, "Mr. Douglas is a unique man at St. Mark's. Nowhere in our community is there to be found an individual as involved with the students, as humorous, and at the same time, as scholarly. . . . he is a fine and outstanding individual."

Without seeking it, Arthur's knowledge of ornithology and the natural sciences made him internationally renowned. From the 1960's through the 1980's, he wrote articles and regularly appearing columns for the English weekly magazine *Cage and Aviary Birds*. He wrote and illustrated articles for *The Canary & Finch Journal* and *The Journal of Yorkshire Cactus Society*. For his research on the artificial feeding of insectivorous birds in captivity, he was elected a Fellow of the London Zoological Society in 1969. Arthur has written numerous articles and translated Seventeenth century ornithological works into English from Italian and French. In 1978 he was invited to make a presentation at the 1st International Symposium on Birds in Captivity. Arthur continues to catalog and illustrate birds and is currently on his fourth volume of compilations. He has been a member of the Avicultural Society, the Royal Horticultural Society, the Arizona Native Flora Society, and the Audubon Society.

In 1963 Arthur met Alice Taliaferro, a substitute teacher at St. Mark's. They married in 1965 and he helped raise her two children Alan Douglas of Dallas and Anne Poole of Muenster. Alice died in 2000 after 35 years of marriage.

He retired from teaching in 1982, but Arthur continues to be an important member of the St. Mark's faculty. He takes care of and gives tours of the Greenhouse and Aviary, instructing boys on the wonders of the natural world. Faculty and students alike appreciate Arthur's encyclopedic knowledge, English wit, and considerable charm. For 50 years, Arthur Douglas has embodied St. Mark's commitment to the pursuit of excellence and has taught by example what it means to be an inspiring teacher, a caring mentor, a true gentleman, and a great friend.

RECOGNIZING A RECENT SPEECH
BY REPRESENTATIVE ROSA
DELAURO AT GEORGETOWN UNI-
VERSITY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recent speech that my good friend and colleague from Connecticut, Congresswoman ROSA DELAURO, gave at Georgetown University on April 19, 2005. Representative DELAURO plainly and passionately conveyed her opposition to privatizing Social Security. Moreover, Representative DELAURO clearly lays out how the values instilled in her by both her parents and the Catholic Church led to her opposition to privatizing this vitally important program that has kept millions of seniors out of poverty since it was signed into law in 1935. I applaud the Congresswoman's ability to connect her faith with her public service.

I would like to take this opportunity to insert Congresswoman DELAURO's speech into the RECORD and would encourage all my colleagues to take a few moments to read it.

It is always good to be here at Georgetown among friends—so many good, young Democrats engaged in the process, fighting for change, who understand the stakes of today's political debates and want to take part in them. As the future of the country, no one has more riding on them than you. You know better than anyone that their outcomes will determine the course of this country for decades to come.

And as College Democrats, you are committed to the values of our Party. Not only are you working to elect Democratic candidates, perhaps more importantly, you are encouraging involvement and building excitement within the Party, providing your peers with the skills and experiences necessary to reinvigorate the Party from the grassroots. That is something very precious—and so important right now.

Tonight, I wanted to discuss the values that not only unite us Democrats but as Americans—particularly as to how they have shaped and informed the Social Security program over the years. Indeed, we hear so much about the importance of values today—but oddly enough, little about what they are, where they come from and what their implications are in government and society. And so tonight, I would like to speak

about that nexus between values and public policy, a little about how my values shaped my own views and led me into public life, and how in the Social Security system we find a true reflection of those values in the pursuit of the common good.

We can all agree that values encompass so much more than the cultural flashpoints with which they are often associated in the media today. Values should not be reduced to one or two political issues. Rather, they are so much broader than that—the guiding principles on which we conduct our lives. Given to us by our parents and to them by their parents, one's values are what give life meaning. They ground us and provide the ethical framework within which we conduct our lives and raise our families.

Mine were given to me by my parents, who came to this country as Italian immigrants. In our household, I was constantly reminded of the value of working hard to get ahead and giving back to a country that had given so much to us. My father, who dropped out of school in the seventh grade, largely because students made fun of his broken English, went on to become a proud veteran of this country—he served his community. He sat on New Haven's City Council, as did my mother, who served there for 35 years—well into her 80's.

Working in a sweatshop sewing collars for pennies before going on to a life of public service, my mother was a driving force in my life and career. But to be sure, faith played a large role in shaping my values as well, having attended Catholic school from elementary school to college. It was there that I learned to nourish my mind and my heart—to reach out, to work hard, to fulfill my potential and be whatever I wanted to be. But it also taught me about right and wrong, personal responsibility and how to nourish my community, my neighbors—to give something back to my world, to the people of that world.

In a broader sense, it was the church that bound us together as a community in my neighborhood—in our schools, in our hospitals. My father received communion daily—and lived his faith with commitment. Our local parish and our kitchen table were our community center—where people gathered to share their lives and help one another. Every night around my family's kitchen table, I saw how faith could serve as the nexus between family and community. There, I would witness firsthand how my parents helped solve the problems of people in our neighborhood.

With my parents' example and my Catholic upbringing, I learned the vital connection between family, faith, responsibility, community, and working for the common good—that values learned at home and at church effected change at the community level both profound and undeniable. It showed me that government can and must play a critical role in helping people make the most of their own abilities and how to meet their responsibilities to each other and society as a whole.

My own story is hardly unique. Many of these values have helped shape America's public policy over the course of our nation's history. Indeed, many of the economic and social achievements of the past century have their roots in this vision of opportunity and responsibility, community, a recognition of our obligations to each other—including Medicaid, Head Start, the child tax credit, and the GI Bill, to name but a few.

Perhaps the ultimate legislative expression of our nation's shared values and those I learned growing up is Social Security, which for 7 decades now has tied generation to generation, ensuring that those seniors have a secure retirement after a lifetime of work. Social Security was born in part out of

FDR's appreciation for Catholic Social Teaching and Monsignor John Ryan's role in advocating programs based on the social letters of Pope Pius the Eleventh and particularly Pope Leo the Thirteenth's *Rerum Novarum*, which read, "Among the several purposes of a society, one should try to arrange for . . . a fund out of which the members may be effectually helped in their needs, not only in the cases of accident, but also in sickness, old age, and distress." In that respect, Social Security was the embodiment of those teachings—a declaration that our human rights are realized in community.

Such sentiments were reflected in FDR's words to the Congress in 1934, when he said, "We are compelled to employ the active interest of the Nation as a whole through government in order to encourage a greater security for each individual who composes it."

For FDR, Social Security was one way we could promote and maintain our shared values by rewarding work and ensuring a decent retirement for those who have worked a lifetime. And by depending on and encouraging younger generations to take responsibility, too, Social Security reinforced the idea that in America, we do not leave every man or woman to fend for himself or herself—that we do not tolerate the impoverishment of our senior population. Those are our nation's values and they are perpetuated by the very construct of our Social Security program.

Indeed, with the first Social Security check issued, poverty among the elderly began to drop. In the 1950s, more than 30 percent of elderly Americans lived out their last years in poverty—today that figure is about 10 percent, with 2 out of 3 seniors today relying on Social Security as the prime source of their monthly income, including three-quarters of all elderly women.

And Social Security is not just for people like our parents and grandparents—a third of the 47 million people who rely on the program are the disabled, widows and children. All told, that is 47 million people—parents, grandparents, widows and children—who do not have to rely solely on their families for financial support because they have the help of Social Security.

For women who on average earn less and spend less time in the workforce, Social Security is a blessing. Women comprise nearly 60 percent of all seniors on Social Security—a majority of whom would be living in poverty without it. More than half of all women receiving benefits do so as the spouse of a retired worker, but for 4 in 10 women living on their own, the program accounts for 90 percent of their retirement income.

So essentially, Social Security functions not only as a safety net for older Americans, but in a way, for the rest of us—a kind of family insurance guaranteeing that we can live our own lives and raise our own children, confident that our parents and loved ones have something to rely on and can live independently of us. It is without a doubt the most successful, efficient middle-class retirement program we have—a "national achievement" that we can be proud of as individuals and as members of a good and decent society.

Yet today, the commitment to opportunity and community out of which Social Security was created has frayed. For sure, a coarseness to our culture today in our politics and in the media has deepened divisions in society. But I think it goes deeper than that. Today, pleas for community and the common good have taken a backseat to appeals to self-interest, sometimes greed, and extreme individualism—policies that make us more unequal and divided. And where government was once seen as a vehicle for our shared values, today it is often viewed with suspicion and mistrust.

Indeed, no debate is more symbolic of the forces at play in today's society than the one

surrounding the future of Social Security. Despite the program's unqualified success, the president wants to change it. The reason he gives is that in 2018, benefits being paid out begin to exceed what Social Security is taking in in payroll taxes, even though Social Security will be able to pay 100 percent of benefits until 2041. Even after 2041, the Social Security Trust Fund does not go bankrupt, because the program will still be able to pay between 70 and 80 percent of its benefits.

Congress must address the funding shortfall in the middle of the century. Yet what President Bush is proposing is that we radically change this successful program—privatizing Social Security by diverting a third of payroll taxes that pay benefits today into private, individual accounts that can be invested in the stock market.

I think the Catholic Bishops had it right, when they wrote extensively on this issue at the end of the 1990's as Republicans were advocating for Social Security's privatization. The Bishops said then that Social Security had been established as an insurance program in which, quote, "society as a whole buffers the individual and collective risks that workers and their families face." They went on to say that turning Social Security into an investment vehicle for individuals, quote, "does not guarantee an adequate or assured retirement program" for our senior population.

But that is precisely what President Bush wants to do. He wants turn Social Security into an investment program—a tool to create personal wealth. And I fail to see how a program benefiting our national community, rooted in values that promote the common good and reinforce the idea that we are all in this together, is improved by private accounts. These values go to the heart of what I believe as a Democrat and as a Catholic.

Besides, privatization does nothing to address the expected shortfall in the current Social Security system—the reason President Bush brought up privatization in the first place. In fact, by taking money out of the trust fund to create private accounts, the president's proposal makes the problem worse. Secondly, privatization will balloon our half-trillion dollar deficit by as much as \$5 trillion in the next 20 years because we will still have to pay benefits to current retirees at the same time we are taking money out of the system to create private accounts. That means higher interest rates for buying a house, a car or going back to school.

Third, we would be eliminating the program's guaranteed benefit and requiring benefit cuts that the Administration itself has estimated will be as steep as 40 percent—all for a plan that does not even address the underlying problem. The amount retirees get from Social Security is already modest—about \$955 per month, \$11,500 per year, enough to pay for most basic needs, but hardly enough to get by on alone.

And for women, for whom Social Security has been such a success, the effects of privatization would be disastrous, as confirmed by a recent report by the National Women's Law Center. For 29 percent of women, Social Security is the only retirement package available. Privatization would replace the program's progressive benefit structure with private accounts based only on a worker's contributions to the account—cutting the average widow's benefit in my state of Connecticut to a paltry \$518 per month.

And privatization is not only a bad deal for our mothers and grandmothers—but for young women as well. For all our gains, women still earn less—77 cents for every dollar men earn—even though we live longer. And the Social Security Administration itself predicts that 65 years from now, 40 per-

cent of married women will still receive benefits based on their husband's higher earnings record.

You might be asking—but what about the increased benefits from the stock market? Well, you do not get to keep the full Social Security and the full private account. The average private account would be taxed at 70 percent through monthly deductions from your Social Security check. This privatization tax would come on top of the benefit cuts that will affect all Social Security beneficiaries.

It is complicated, but when you retire, you essentially have to pay the money you put into your private account back to the government. So, at the same time that the private accounts would be adding to your income, a large portion of that additional income would be offset dollar for dollar through reductions in your guaranteed Social Security check. And that would be regardless of how well your private account performed.

But well beyond the financial implications of privatization—and there are many—are its moral implications. As The National Catholic Reporter editorialized recently, what we risk losing with privatization is so much more than money. We risk losing the agreement that we have maintained for the past half-century that we are all in this together. We risk losing faith with the understanding that all workers—poorest to richest—contribute to something in common and that everyone gets something in return. And we abandon the sense that despite differences in political outlook and social standing, we all believe that is good for society to guarantee a minimum standard of economy security for its oldest, disabled and widowed citizens. That is what privatization risks.

As someone who has had the privilege of serving in the Congress of the United States for over a decade-and-a-half, representing more than a half-million people, I believe that government has an obligation to play a role in making opportunity real—a moral obligation. I do not believe in every man or woman for himself or herself. I believe in values like shared responsibility and personal responsibility. I believe in what we can achieve together. Those are the principles at the core of Social Security. They are what drive me—they are what drive you. They are what drive each of us as Democrats and Americans.

The fight to preserve Social Security and make it as successful in the 21st Century as it was in the last is a struggle that every American has a stake in—but no one more than the younger generation. This is a defining challenge for us—a statement about the kind of country we want America to be. As Franklin Roosevelt told Congress, Social Security is a "return to values lost in the course of our economic development and expansion."

That is our challenge today, as well—to bring change, while affirming our values as Americans and as Democrats. Indeed, in 1983, bankruptcy was only a year off—one year, not 37. Back then, Congress and President Reagan worked together on a bipartisan commission that ensured Social Security would be solvent for generations. And they did it not by changing the fundamental nature of the program but by making minor adjustments to the benefits and financing structures.

In my view, that is the example of bipartisanship we should draw upon. With so much at stake for our communities and the country, I believe we need that kind of bipartisanship in this debate—one that achieves consensus, strengthens the program's guaranteed benefit in retirement and reflects our nation's shared values. Because this fight is

not only about stopping the bad idea that is privatization—it is about promoting and maintaining the good idea that was and is Social Security.

As students looking forward to lives of your own, raising families and embarking on careers, you have been given a remarkable opportunity—to put the values your parents instilled in you to use in society, in whatever career you choose.

My challenge to you today is: how are you going to seize this opportunity—to give back and have a say in this debate which is so important to our shared values? What role will you play in ensuring future generations have the quality of life you and your families have had? I do not pretend to have all the answers. But if my own experiences have taught me anything, it is that bringing our values to the public sphere is not a matter of expediency but of moral and civic obligation—a call I hope each of you choose to answer.

Thank you for this honor and this opportunity.

BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IS RENAMED IN HONOR OF JUSTICE THURGOOD MARSHALL

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an important day in Maryland history. Yesterday, in Annapolis, legislation was signed into law renaming our State's largest airport the "Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport."

Born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1908 and educated in our State's public school system, Thurgood Marshall devoted his life to the pursuit of equal justice for all Americans. Named "Thoroughgood" at birth after his great-grandfather, a former slave who had fought for the Union Army during the Civil War, Marshall later shortened his name to "Thurgood." After graduating from Lincoln University, Marshall received his law degree from Howard University in 1933, and set up private practice in Baltimore before joining the Baltimore NAACP.

His remarkable career spanned several decades, during which he served our country honorably. His work as Director-Counsel of the NAACP laid the groundwork for some of the most historic civil rights decisions in our Nation's history. He also achieved international stature as a champion of equal rights around the world. President John F. Kennedy nominated Marshall to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in 1961. President Lyndon B. Johnson named him U.S. solicitor general in 1965 and nominated him to the Supreme Court in 1967. Justice Marshall served as the first African American Justice from 1967 until he retired in 1991.

Thurgood Marshall passed away in 1993 at age 84, and his body lay in state at the Supreme Court where thousands of mourners came from across the Nation to pay tribute to him. Renaming this international airport for him now serves as another fitting tribute to such a great Marylander and a great American. It will also serve to enlighten travelers from around the world that Baltimore was his home. Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowl-

edge the extraordinary bipartisan effort in our state legislature—and particularly recognize the leadership of Delegate Emmett C. Burns, Jr.—that led to enactment of this law, and encourage all of my colleagues in Congress to use the Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport for their next flight home.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN CHARLES "CHUCK" McATEE

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Captain Charles "Chuck" McAtee. After leading a life devoted to public service, Captain McAtee passed away on Friday, April 8, 2005 from acute leukemia.

In his life, Captain McAtee was committed to the principle of country before self. When duty called, he answered, serving proudly and honorably as a United States Marine in the Korean War. His experiences in Korea inspired him to later lead the effort to ensure the dedication of the Northeast Kansas Korean War Memorial in Topeka in 2003. He also generously shared his love of country with others, such as his financial support to Marine Junior ROTC programs.

Following active military service, Captain McAtee pursued two of his great interests in life—public service and the law. He first demonstrated a devotion to law through his work for the law firm of Eidson, Lewis, Porter & Haynes in Topeka, Kansas. He also used his legal knowledge serving as an officer to the 1st Marine Division Association.

Captain McAtee later became involved in public service at the age of 27, working as a special agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He then transitioned into State government, combining his passion for law and law enforcement through service as the Director of Penal Institutions for the State of Kansas—a position that would define the remainder of his life.

As Director of Penal Institutions for the State of Kansas, Captain McAtee played a major role in the case of the Clutter family murders and bringing their killers to justice. The murders eventually became the subject of author Truman Capote's book *In Cold Blood*. Captain McAtee's position brought him in close contact with the convicted murderers in the Clutter case, receiving frequent uncensored correspondence from them and visiting with them during their time on death row.

Captain McAtee also demonstrated leadership and commitment to public service by representing the Republican Party as a candidate for Congress in 1972, and as a candidate for Kansas's Attorney General in 2002.

Although his experiences took him around the world and into the national spotlight, he never abandoned the values instilled in him by his parents, neighbors and friends in the small, Kansas hometown of Mahaska. The principles of hard work, integrity, and justice that had been engrained in him in his youth, guided his efforts throughout his life.

Captain Charles "Chuck" McAtee was a true public servant who fit the situation within

which he was called to serve. I join his many friends in extending my deepest sympathies to his family during their time of loss.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall numbers 162 and 163 on May 10, 2005, I was on Congressional travel and unable to cast my vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted the following:

Rollcall no. 162, H. Res. 193, in Support of the Assembly to Promote Civil Society in Cuba, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall no. 163, H. Res. 142, Supporting the Goals of Rotary International Day, I would have voted "yea."

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF MARY B. GUZOWSKI ON HER APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young woman from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Mary B. Guzowski of Tiffin, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Mary's offer of appointment poises her to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2009. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young women and men have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Mary brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of Air Force cadets. While attending Tiffin Columbian High School in Tiffin, Ohio, Mary has attained a grade point average of 3.72, which places her in the top ten percent of her class of over two hundred students. While a gifted athlete, Mary has maintained the highest standards of excellence in her academics, choosing to enroll and excel in Advanced Placement classes throughout high school. Mary has been a member of the National Honor Society, Honor Roll, the Marching Band, the Symphonic Band and has earned awards and accolades as a scholar and an athlete.

Outside the classroom, Mary has distinguished herself as an excellent student-athlete by earning letters in both Varsity Soccer and Swimming. She has also remained involved in her community by coaching elementary soccer, serving as a church lector and assisting her peers as a Teen Advisory Board Member. Mary's dedication and service to the community and her peers has proven her ability to

excel among the leaders at the United States Air Force Academy. I have no doubt that Mary will take the lessons of her student leadership with her to the United States Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mary B. Guzowski on her appointment to the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Mary will do very well during her career at the United States Air Force Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing her well as she begins her service to the Nation.

A TRIBUTE TO UNIVERSITY OF
REDLANDS PRESIDENT, JIM AP-
PLETON

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true leader for quality higher education in California, University of Redlands President, Jim Appleton. Over the past 18 years, Jim Appleton has helped a small liberal arts college gain a national reputation for excellence and progressive thinking.

The University of Redlands was established by the American Baptist Church nearly 100 years ago in what was then a small farming community east of the growing Los Angeles urban area. In the intervening century, both the city of Redlands and the University have grown in population and sophistication. The university is now an independent liberal-arts school, and the community is known throughout Southern California for its historical housing districts and support for the arts.

The University of Redlands was already becoming a modern institution when Jim Appleton was named president in 1987. Its student body had grown to 1,280, and its endowment was a respectable \$24 million. It had been rated highly in the widely-read survey of colleges by the U.S. News and World Report magazine.

Jim Appleton came to the University of Redlands from the University of Southern California, where he had been a faculty member, vice president for student affairs and vice president of development. He brought a can-do spirit from that national powerhouse institution.

Appleton balanced the university's books in 1989 for the first time in years. A new ball field was added in 1994, and a new NCAA-quality aquatics center opened in 1996. Overall, the college has invested \$140 million in new facilities in the past 18 years—compared to \$21 million in the previous 20 years. The building program is continuing with a new science center, new environmental studies center and new mathematics facility. Along the way, many of the college's historic structures have been renovated and modernized, as well.

New academic programs include Environmental Studies, Race and Ethnic Studies, and Theater. The college has increased its full-time faculty by 40 percent, and has added professional schools in business and edu-

cation. Three graduate degree programs are now offered—in music, communicative disorders and in geographic information systems—the latter a collaboration with the internationally known GIS company ESRI, which is also headquartered in Redlands.

The success of the university is easily measured: The student body today is 2,450 in the undergraduate schools, and an additional 1,965 in the graduate programs. The endowment is now in excess of \$107 million, and the university has raised \$70 million of a \$100 million Centennial Campaign begun in 2004.

As a member of Congress representing Redlands, I have been pleased that my colleagues have seen fit over the years to provide federal funds to further innovative programs at the university. The returns on the investment have ranged from informative studies on desert environment systems to new methods for teaching technology to classroom teachers. I have found it especially rewarding to work with my friend Jim Appleton, who has shown such dedication to his university and to the city we both call home.

Mr. Speaker, after 18 years as president, Jim Appleton has decided to “retire” and become university chancellor. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his years of service to the education of our young people, and wish him and his wonderful wife Carol the utmost success in their future endeavors.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
MAYOR JACK FENTON

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Mayor Jack Fenton has provided outstanding service and contributions while serving as the Mayor of Zanesville from 1995 to 2005; and

Whereas, Mayor Fenton served his community as Assistant Fire Chief from 1978 to 2005 and served as Director of Public Safety for the City of Zanesville and the Zanesville/Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce; and

Whereas, Mayor Fenton has worked selflessly and with dignity as an integral part of the community through 46 years of public service.

Therefore, I join with Mayor Fenton's family, friends, the residents of Zanesville, and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in commending Mayor Jack Fenton for his exceptional work and years of service, and wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

HONORING DR. JAMES TERRY

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exceptional achievements of Dr. James Terry, Superintendent of the Mesquite Independent School District. On January 10th of this year, Dr. Terry announced his in-

tention to retire at the end of the school year bringing a close to his long and distinguished career as an educator. For the past 42 years, his students have been at the heart of each of his decisions. Dr. Terry has been a strong role model and exceptional educator for the children of east Texas as both a teacher and administrator. The students, parents, and teachers of the Mesquite Independent School District will greatly miss his leadership and educational vision.

Although his career has steered him through both Beaumont and Dallas, Dr. Terry and his wife Frances Louise Gilbert quickly settled in their eventual home of Mesquite, Texas. His first assignment in Mesquite was as a math teacher, but before long he moved into a variety of administrative positions before assuming the responsibility of Superintendent in July of 2001. Along the way, he amassed a trophy case of awards including the 1999 Administrator of the Year Award from the Texas Professional Educators and also earned the Golden Deeds for Education Award in 2004.

Dr. Terry, who received his undergraduate, masters, and a doctorate degree from East Texas State University in Commerce, Texas, has always believed that proper education required a hands-on approach. Upon assuming the role of superintendent, he immediately set out to visit each of the 42 schools in his district to share his plans and vision for the upcoming school year. Since that time, he has always made it a priority to spend some time at each of the schools and with the more than 34,000 students for which he is responsible.

On top of his numerous accomplishments in the classroom and in the superintendent's office, Dr. Terry has also demonstrated his commitment to public education through his membership and leadership roles in several educational organizations. Over the course of his career, he has served on the President's Education Advisory Council for the Texas A&M University System and in the Regents' Initiative for Excellence in Education through Texas A&M—Commerce. In addition, he was a member of the Executive Council of the East Texas School Study and has served as president of the North Central Texas Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development.

As the Congressman for the Fifth District of Texas, I am pleased today to recognize my friend, Dr. James Terry for his many years of public service and for the outstanding contributions he has made to make his community and his country a better place. Dr. Terry, on behalf of all of the constituents of the Fifth District, especially those in Mesquite, I would like to extend our most sincere thanks and praise for a job well done.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
GREGORY ANTHONY D'ANGELO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Gregory Anthony D'Angelo, beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, WW II Veteran, and dear friend and mentor to many. Mr. D'Angelo's life was framed by kindness, tenacity, integrity and heart, and although he will be

greatly missed, he deeply touched the lives of everyone he knew.

Mr. D'Angelo was a true renaissance man, whose mastery of the carpentry trades, artistry in the boxing ring, and expertise in the field of aeronautical mechanics belied his kind and compassion heart. His main focus was always his family. Together, Mr. D'Angelo and his beloved wife of 54 years, "Millie," raised their five children.

A devoted husband and father, Mr. D'Angelo worked diligently to provide for them. Whether driving a truck, climbing into the boxing ring, or creating the Prehistoric World Diorama at Disneyland, Mr. D'Angelo did so with commitment, heart and grace. Though unimpressed by awards and accolades, his work at Disneyland captured the attention, honor and respect of Mr. Walt Disney himself. In addition to Mr. Disney, Mr. D'Angelo captured the honor, respect and love of those who loved and knew him best—his family and friends.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Gregory Anthony D'Angelo. I offer my deepest condolences to his wife and companion of 54 years, Millie; his children, Joseph, Kathleen, Annie, John and Susan; his daughters-in-law, Robyn and Susan; his sons-in-law, Charles, Willie and Curt; his 12 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren; his sister, Stella; and to his extended family and many friends. Mr. D'Angelo left this world with a legacy that shines love and light upon his family, friends and community. His joy of life, caring heart and concern for others defined his life and will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved well, today, and for all time.

THE INDENTURED SERVITUDE
ABOLITION ACT OF 2005 INTRO-
DUCTORY STATEMENT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Indentured Servitude Abolition Act of 2005. At a time when the President and many Members of this House are discussing legislation to greatly expand the number of foreign workers who come to the United States legally for work, we must ensure that they are not indentured servants who owe unconscionable fees to recruiters.

One hundred and forty years ago, the American Civil War ended. Slavery and involuntary servitude were prohibited throughout our nation by the adoption of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution. And yet, as has been well documented in the press, thousands of men (and especially women) endure abuse as indentured servants because, as a condition of securing a job, they must pay exorbitant fees to labor recruiters—fees it can take years to payoff. The problem of recruiter-related indentured servitude has been well publicized in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, but it is a problem throughout this country, and it will grow as more guest workers are permitted. Foreign labor contractors lure workers to the United States by promising them a better life with decent wages and good jobs in

exchange for thousands of dollars in fees. Instead, workers arrive in the U.S. only to find that they were cruelly deceived. They earn unlivable wages for menial jobs to which they never agreed, with no insurance or health care, and deeply in debt to the recruiter for bringing them to their new home.

Sadly, those are the least of their worries. Workers endure sweatshop conditions and back-breaking work for inhumanly long hours. They are forced to work through illness and injury with only one day of rest per week. Employers automatically deduct the majority of their weekly pay for room and board, often for living situations not fit for animals and starvation rations, leaving workers with a few dollars if not further in debt. And that is when their wages are not withheld, a frequent occurrence. Most distressing of all, many workers suffer physical violence at the hands of their employers and are threatened if they should try to leave. Unable to pay off debt manufactured by the recruiters and their employer and fearing for their lives, workers are trapped.

This is not an exaggeration: it is the disturbing reality for thousands of workers in this country. This is not employment opportunity: it is indentured servitude, and it should not be occurring in the United States in 2005. Just this week investigations into La Mode Inc., a Saipan company that unlawfully suspended operations while owing workers back wages of more than \$395,000, revealed that Chinese employees were required to pay recruitment fees of \$4,500 to \$8,000 for the privilege of working at a job that pays barely \$3 an hour, and then being unlawfully terminated before the expiration of their contract, cheated out of their pay, and abandoned in a strange land.

This deplorable practice not only undermines living standards, it ruins lives. It is a violation of basic human rights that leaves workers as indentured servants, forcing them to endure a form of modern day slavery. The Indentured Servitude Abolition Act of 2005 will end this cruel practice by providing for tough legal accountability for foreign labor contractors and employers.

The "Indentured Servitude Abolition Act of 2005" holds recruiters and employers responsible for the promises they make to prospective employees, and discourages employers from using disreputable recruiters. The bill requires employers and foreign labor contractors to inform workers of the terms and conditions of their employment at the time they are recruited. It makes employers jointly liable for violations committed by recruiters in their employ. It imposes fines on employers and recruiters who do not live up to their promises and authorizes the Secretary of Labor to take additional legal action to enforce those commitments. Employers and recruiters are prohibited from requiring or requesting recruitment fees from workers and are required to pay the costs, including subsistence costs, of transporting the worker.

The bill discourages disreputable labor contractors by requiring the Secretary of Labor to maintain a public list of labor contractors who have been involved in violations of the Act and by providing additional penalties if employers use a contractor listed by the Secretary as having been involved in previous violations of this Act and that contractor contributes to a violation for which the employer may be liable. The remedies provided under the "Indentured Servitude Abolition Act" are not exclusive, but

are in addition to any other remedies workers may have under law or contract.

The legislation I am introducing has been endorsed by the Farmworker Justice Fund, the National Employment Law Project, and the AFL-CIO. The National Employment Law Project notes that "labor recruiters currently enjoy a near total lack of accountability for the workers' job conditions" and that the bill performs "an important service by requiring both the users of the labor and the recruiters themselves to inform workers on the job conditions they can expect."

The Farmworker Justice Fund notes that the legislation addresses, "the new reality of global labor migration. . . . In many cases foreign workers who are recruited for U.S. jobs suffer harsh abuses in the form of huge debts, usurious loans, threats of violence, false promises, and illegal wages and working conditions. . . . We must gain control over labor migration and this is one important step toward that goal."

Is it too much to ask that people who live on American soil, making products for American consumption, be treated like American workers? Our basic respect for human rights demands that we act now to protect these workers. I am pleased that 24 of our colleagues have joined me as original cosponsors of this bill. I am hopeful that all of our colleagues, on both sides of the aisle, will add their support to this critical legislation to end the despicable practice of slavery in the United States once and for all. Mr. Speaker, I urge Members of the House to join me and co-sponsor the Indentured Servitude Abolition Act of 2005.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF MI-
CHAEL H. PERSIANI ON HIS AP-
POINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Michael H. Persiani of Perrysburg, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Michael's offer of appointment positions him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2009. Attending one of our Nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Michael brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of Air Force cadets. While attending St. John's Jesuit High School in Toledo, Ohio, Michael has attained a grade point average of 3.90, which places him near the top of his class of nearly two hundred students. While a gifted athlete, Michael has maintained the highest standards of excellence in his academics, choosing to enroll and excel in Advanced Placement classes throughout high school. Michael has been a member

of the National Honor Society, Honor Roll, French Club and has earned awards and accolades as a scholar and an athlete.

Outside the classroom, Michael has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Michael has earned letters in Varsity Hockey and Tennis. He was named Captain of the Varsity Hockey team and served as President of the French Club. Michael's dedication and service to the community and his peers has proven his ability to excel among the leaders at the United States Air Force Academy. I have no doubt that Michael will take the lessons of his student leadership with him to the United States Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Michael H. Persiani on his appointment to the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Michael will do very well during his career at the United States Air Force Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO EXTEND ELIGIBILITY FOR
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
PENSION BENEFITS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing two bills that pay tribute to those service personnel who have nobly served our Nation in times of conflict. In both cases, the legislation extends pension benefits to those veterans who served in harm's way, though not in a time of declared war.

Under current law, you may only draw a full pension if you served in combat during a declared period of war. This distinction served its purpose well during many of America's 20th Century engagements, as our involvement in those wars was clearly defined. World Wars I and II and the Vietnam War are prime examples.

However, American service personnel have served—and faced heavy fighting—in conflicts that have not been declared “war” by our government. Case in point is Korea. Our Armed Forces lost 33,741 dead in that conflict, even though President Truman called our participation a “police action” and never asked Congress for a formal declaration of war.

The point of the matter is that while war is not always clearly defined, the sacrifice of our service personnel is.

With the support of the American Legion and noted West Virginia veteran John Peters, I introduce these bills to correct what many believe is an inequity in determining veterans' pension benefits. The first bill would provide the basic guarantee of a pension to those who served in Korea, Lebanon, Granada and Panama. In each case, American service personnel were faced with significant danger and, again in each case, American lives were lost. With this in mind, I believe it is imperative that our government provide veterans of those conflicts with appropriate pension benefits.

The second bill I am introducing would extend pension benefits to those servicemen and women whose actions earned them the Expeditionary Medal. For those who are unfamiliar with what an Expeditionary Medal is, or the actions for which it is awarded, the Joint Chiefs of Staff must determine that the service personnel is engaged where hostile action by foreign armed forces is imminent. Again, I believe those who have put their lives on the line in defense of our country, especially when recognized by the Joint Chiefs, deserve the benefits a military pension provides.

The United States has sent service personnel to all corners of the globe to defend our freedoms and way of life. In all cases, our troops have served nobly and honorably. In several cases, war has been declared officially—and those who participated in those actions certainly deserve to receive a military pension for their sacrifice. However, American personnel have also served in conflicts not officially declared war, and have been faced with incredible dangers. To these veterans I say you deserve the same pension benefits afforded your brothers and sisters in arms who participated in declared wars. I urge Congress to pass these critical bills.

WILLIAM “LES” BROWN: A LEGACY
OF INSPIRATION AND ACTIVISM

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, later this month, people in Chicago will gather to celebrate the life and achievements of William “Les” Brown. Les Brown had an enormous influence on the way our nation thinks about homelessness. He was a person of intelligence, creativity, passion and caring who showed that we can each make a difference in helping to create communities that provide support and opportunities for every individual. I am fortunate to have known and been inspired by Les and I, like many Chicagoans, will miss him.

Les Brown was best known as the founder of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, formed in 1980 with the help of the Travelers and Immigrants Aid Society, the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, and other service providers. Karen Singer, executive director of the YWCA Evanston/North Shore, called him the “moral compass” of the movement to end homelessness. Ed Shurna, the current executive of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, acknowledges him as “the chief strategist and idea man behind most of the Coalition's successes” in providing housing, jobs programs and health care for the homeless.

A social worker, former Air Force medical corpsman and a blues pianist, Les Brown used all of his skills to push for solutions. While others ignored the problem, he taught us that homelessness can be solved and that individuals living on the street deserve to be treated with dignity. In 1983, he organized the first national conference on homelessness in Chicago. In 1984, he underwent a heart transplant but never let that slow him down or limit his dedicated activism. For his entire life, he fought to keep this issue at the top of the polit-

ical agenda, reminding us that the homeless are not nameless beings or numbers, but infants and children, working mothers and fathers, returning veterans and those living with illnesses who deserve our support and a safe, decent place to live.

Les Brown grew up in rural Georgia, where he learned his values from his parents, who taught him the values of fairness and social justice. It was the love of the land that he developed in childhood that gave him the inspiration for “Growing Home,” an initiative that helps the homeless learn job skills at an organic farm in Marseilles, Illinois. According to Les, “Homeless people often are without roots. They're not tied down, connected, not part of their family anymore. Our organic farming program is a way for them to connect with nature—to plant and nurture roots over a period of time.

When you get involved in taking responsibility for caring for something, creating an environment that produces growth, then it helps you to build self-esteem and feel more connected.”

There are concrete reminders of Les Brown's accomplishments throughout the Chicagoland area—low-income housing units that would not have been built without him, organizations and coalitions that would not exist but for his leadership, initiatives like Growing Home that grew from his vision. Some of the best evidence of his legacy can be found in the people he touched and motivated and who will carry on his work.

Les Brown had an enormous impact and influence on the people he met, creating a generation of advocates who will follow in his path. One of them, Fred Friedman, wrote the following in commemoration:

LES BROWN'S LEGACY

Les Brown died the other day. I did not know him very well or very long but he was very dear to me.

I first met Les when I was still living in a homeless shelter. As you might guess, it was at a meeting about homeless youth. Later, he was kind enough to see me in the office of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless. I was trying to decide what, if anything, to do with my life. At that meeting, I told him that people, including myself, sometimes had trouble seeing me as anything other than a mentally ill homeless person. He said that he understood, and that some people had trouble seeing him as anything other than a person with a bad heart. I am sure that was a lie. Who could think Les had a bad heart? However, it was incredibly kind.

I got to know him a little better at many endless Continuum (of Care) meetings. Eventually, he nominated me for the Governing Board of the Continuum. Still later, he, along with Paul Selden and I, founded Next Steps, NFP. Still later, I got to hear him play a mean Jazz piano.

I do not know his family, or if he left any property to them, but I do know that he left me a great legacy. Les saw people without homes and tried to find them homes. He saw hungry people and tried to feed them. He saw people without power, and tried to empower them. He saw people without hope and tried to give them hope. He took his work, but not himself, seriously. He could disagree without being disagreeable. He understood that good people could disagree with him, and that he could be wrong. In short, Les left me a legacy of trying and working, even when trying and working seems silly. In other words, he left me legacy of hope. I promise to use that legacy to continue his fight, until no one

goes to bed hungry, and everyone has a home and hope.

IN HONOR OF THE MONTEREY
COUNTY HEAD START PROGRAM

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 40th anniversary of the Monterey County Head Start Program. The program provides a comprehensive child development program to preschool children whose families live below poverty level. The Monterey County Head Start Program is dedicated to serving and supporting the communities of Monterey County through educational development of children that fully prepare them for school and their experiences in life.

The Monterey County Head Start Program originated in Castroville in June 1965 with the help of the Community Action Agency. The program expanded to Salinas and Seaside in 1975 with grant support from the Monterey County Office of Education. Now, the Head Start Program operates 26 preschool centers in Monterey County, providing services to well over one-thousand children and their families. Their goal to provide the highest quality program for the children and families in the county has been very successful.

Every child in the Head Start Program is provided the highest quality child development program based on the internationally acclaimed, research-based High Scope Curriculum. Physical and dental examinations are given to each child, as well as an individualized educational program to suit each child's needs. The program also offers the Early Head Start Program which is designed to provide assistance to qualifying pregnant women, infants, and toddlers; as well as parent education for nutrition, first aid, and self-sufficiency skills. Truly, this is an inclusive program that has enhanced the lives of so many residents in the 17th district.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Monterey County Head Start Program for forty years of outstanding service. The Head Start staff performs an exceptional job daily facilitating school readiness for children and fostering lifelong independence and personal responsibility for low-income families. The Monterey Head Start Program provided services to over thirty-thousand children and families in the rural and urban communities of Monterey County, and our community is immensely grateful for their contribution.

TRIBUTE TO BILL HORNER, JR., A
RESPECTED NEWSMAN

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the passing of a distinguished gentleman. Bill Horner, Jr., the former publisher of The Sanford Herald, was a great North Carolinian. He died last month after a 3 year battle with cancer, and is survived by a fine and lov-

ing North Carolina family. I ask permission to submit for the RECORD several newspaper reports on this sad occasion.

BILL HORNER JR., 67, NEWSMAN WAS
PUBLISHER OF THE SANFORD HERALD
(From the Associated Press)

SANFORD.—Bill Horner Jr., the middle man in a family tradition of publishing The Sanford Herald, died Thursday of cancer, the newspaper reported. He was 67.

Horner died in Sunset Beach, where he had moved after his retirement 7 years ago.

Beginning in the 1960s, William Edward Horner Jr. worked in all departments of the paper before he finally followed in the footsteps of his father, Herald founder W.E. Horner, as publisher in 1991.

He retired April 1, 1998, when the newspaper was sold to Paxton Media Group, a family-owned company based in Paducah, Ky. His son, Bill Horner III, is the current publisher.

Horner was born in Sanford and graduated from Sanford Central High School. As a youth, he delivered the Herald on his bicycle and later spent afternoons and evenings working in the mailroom.

He earned an English degree at UNC-Chapel Hill in 1959, working in the newspaper industry during the summers.

Horner served 2 years in the Navy after graduation, then returned to the Herald at the behest of his father, who told his son he would start as a printer's devil.

"I had some idea of what a printer's devil was," Horner wrote in 1980, "and it didn't sound nearly as flashy as being a lieutenant (jg) in the U.S. Navy."

But he came home nevertheless, working in the print shop and then moving on to other parts of the newspaper, including the newsroom.

He gradually assumed a greater role in the management of the newspaper, taking over major decisions about the business upon W.E. Horner's semiretirement in 1966 at the age of 65.

"Bill was very kind and supportive to me over the years, and I always considered him more of a friend than as my boss," said R.V. Hight, who began work at The Herald in 1979 as sports editor and now serves as special projects editor.

"He loved this newspaper and was a strong leader as both general manager and publisher. I am grateful to have known Bill, and I shall miss him."

In addition to his son, he is survived by his daughter, Belinda Horner Cooper of Hampstead; close friend Carol Bowman of Sunset Beach; sisters Louise Horner Bowles of Greensboro and Nancy Horner Hulin of Carolina Beach; four grandchildren; and two nieces and a nephew.

The family asks that, in lieu of flowers, people consider making donations to the Lower Cape Fear Hospice & LifeCareCenter, 10 Doctors Circle, Suite 4, Supply, NC, 28432, or to the charity of their choice.

A memorial service is scheduled for 11 a.m. Tuesday at St. Luke United Methodist Church.

[From the Sanford Herald]

FORMER HERALD PUBLISHER, 67, DIES

SUNSET BEACH.—Former Herald Publisher Bill Horner Jr., who oversaw the newspaper's conversion from "hot-type" to "cold-type" offset printing, died Thursday of complications following a three-year battle with cancer.

William Edwin Horner Jr., 67, was the son of Herald founder W.E. Horner, who died in 1994, and father of current publisher Bill Horner III. A memorial service is planned for 11 a.m. Tuesday at St. Luke United Methodist Church, where Horner was a member.

The Rev. Bob Yandle, a friend of Horner's for many years, will officiate.

Diagnosed with esophageal cancer in the fall of 2001, Horner underwent surgery for the disease on two occasions and was in remission for a time, but the cancer returned and his health declined steadily in the last year.

In addition to his son, he is survived by his daughter, Belinda Horner Cooper, of Hampstead, and her husband Billy; his special friend Carol Bowman of Sunset Beach; sisters Louise Horner Bowles of Greensboro and Nancy Horner Hulin of Carolina Beach; and grandchildren William E. "Zachary" Horner IV, Addison Horner and Karis Horner, children of Bill III and his wife, Lee Ann. Also surviving are nieces Cheryl Hulin Brown of Knightdale and Laura Bowles Warren of McLean, Va., and nephew Jim Hulin of Jamestown.

In addition to his father, Horner was preceded in death by his mother, Nannie Andrews Horner, in 1978.

Horner was born in Sanford and graduated from Sanford Central High School, completing his high school degree while working afternoons and evenings in the mailroom of The Herald. Upon turning 12 years old, he took a bicycle paper route that served 125 customers in a section of downtown Sanford near the family home. Following high school, he attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, earning a degree in English in 1959.

During his college years, he stayed close to the newspaper business—working one summer as a reporter for The Raleigh Times, the now-defunct sister newspaper of The News & Observer, and another selling subscriptions door-to-door in rural Kentucky for The (Louisville) Courier-Journal.

After his graduation from Chapel Hill, Horner—who was a part of the Reserve Officer Training Corps during his college years—was commissioned as an ensign and called up for a two-year hitch with the Navy. He spent most of that time aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Forrestal as chief disbursement officer on the ship's supply officer staff.

Horner wrote in the 50th anniversary edition of The Herald in 1980 that while aboard the Forrestal, his duties ranged "from being disbursing officer in charge of the ship's finances and safes, in which I kept more than \$7 million in cold, hard cash, to being an assistant stores officer when about all I had to do was check storerooms to make sure the pliers, wrenches and ballpoint pens were counted correctly."

Eventually promoted to the rank of lieutenant (junior grade), Horner was about to disembark in Naples, Italy and fly back to Norfolk, Va., for mustering out when he wrote he "received THE letter from the 'old man'—not the Navy one, the Herald one."

Horner said his father detailed plans in the letter for his son to come back to the newspaper to formally learn the trade—beginning with the job of "printer's devil" in the newspaper's "back shop," and then learning to operate a linotype machine, before moving to the other departments of the operation.

"I had some idea of what a printer's devil was," Horner wrote in 1980, "and it didn't sound nearly as flashy as being a Lieutenant (jg) in the U.S. Navy."

By then, he was married to his first wife, the former Shirley Prendergast, whom he met in the Navy, and Horner eventually worked his way through all departments of the newspaper, even serving as interim editor for a period in 1964.

One of his experiences that same year as a reporter, he'd later say, showed him the importance of a newspaper's role in the community.

He was assigned to cover a gathering of the local chapter of the Ku Klux Klan, which was

active in Lee County at the time. After being searched for weapons and a camera, Horner was allowed to enter the area where the Klan was preparing for a cross burning. He furiously scribbled notes about what he saw, and when it was all over with, he headed back to his car. "I got stopped by one of the Klan's security guards on the way out," he'd later say. "They searched me again and found my notebook. They wanted to see what I had written, so I showed it to them—but I handed them my notebook upside down. One of the guards looked at it for awhile—nobody could read my handwriting except me—and gave it back and said, 'OK, you can go.' I came back and wrote the story."

Horner gradually assumed a greater role in the management of the newspaper, especially upon W.E. Horner's "retirement" in 1966 at the age of 65. The elder Horner never really left the business, keeping an office and writing the "Good Afternoon" column nearly every day until the mid-1980s. But he did leave the major decisions about the business to his successor. The son eventually succeeded the father as publisher in 1991 and retired on April 1, 1998, when the newspaper was sold to Paxton Media Group, a family-owned company based in Paducah, Ky.

"Bill was very kind and supportive to me over the years, and I always considered him more of a friend than as my boss," said R.V. Hight, who began work at The Herald in 1979 as sports editor and now serves as special projects editor. "I shall forever be indebted to Bill for hiring me and for the encouragement he gave me over the years. He loved this newspaper and was a strong leader as both general manager and publisher."

"I am grateful to have known Bill and I shall miss him."

Robert Stone worked at The Herald for 44 years, retiring in 1996.

"He understood that a local newspaper is all about local news," Stone said of Horner. "And I think, really and truly, he understood better that the employees were the important part of the organization."

Charlie Welborn, a partner with the accounting firm of Davenport, Marvin, Joyce & Co., was a best friend of Bill Horner III and eventually became the newspaper's accountant—and a close friend of Bill Jr.'s as well.

"Bill was a very successful businessman who carried on the tradition of The Herald that was founded by his father," Welborn said. "I enjoyed the business relationship that we had, but more importantly he was a very good friend. I visited him often at the beach and he was always interested in the news from Sanford/Lee County. He would reminisce about his career, family and friends. I will miss him greatly and feel that I am a better person for having known him."

A former member of the Kiwanis Club of Sanford and the Rotary Club of Sanford, Horner was a lifelong member of the General Alumni Association of UNC and was also active on the boards of directors of several local organizations, including Southern National (and later BB&T) Bank.

He served a term as a director for the North Carolina Press Association—an organization for which both his father (in 1939) and son (in 2002) both served as president—and was a member of St. Luke United Methodist Church.

Horner moved to Sunset Beach a few months after his retirement and became active as a member of the board of directors of the Providence Home Family Emergency Teen Shelter in Southport, and played a key role in the organization's fund-raising efforts.

He enjoyed sailing and for many years held a private pilot's license and built and flew his own remote-control airplanes. He was an experienced gardener and ham radio oper-

ator, and once talked to explorer and adventurer Thor Hyerdahl during one of Hyerdahl's ocean-crossing raft trips, as well as to King and Queen Hussein of Jordan. He enjoyed reading and classical music and was a keen observer of current events and world politics.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested friends consider making donations or memorials to the Lower Cape Fear Hospice & LifeCareCenter, 10 Doctors Circle, Suite 4, Supply, N.C., 28432, or to the charity of their choice.

Arrangements are by Brunswick Funeral Services in Shallotte and Rogers-Pickard Funeral Home. The family will receive friends following the memorial service at the home of Bill Horner III.

[From the Dunn Daily Record]

STATE LOSES RESPECTED NEWSMAN

Please allow us to note the passing of a friend and colleague in North Carolina's newspaper community. Bill Horner Jr., former publisher of The Sanford Herald in neighboring Lee County, died Thursday after a three-year battle with cancer.

At just 67, Mr. Horner died in Sunset Beach, where he had moved after his retirement seven years ago.

Having grown up in a newspaper family, Mr. Horner stayed close to the business during his college years, working one summer as a reporter for The Raleigh Times, the now-defunct sister newspaper of The News & Observer, and another selling subscriptions door-to-door in rural Kentucky for The (Louisville) Courier-Journal.

After graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1959, Mr. Horner—who was part of the Reserve Officer Training Corps during his college years—was commissioned as an ensign and called up for a two-year hitch with the Navy. He spent most of that time aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Forrestal as chief disbursement officer on the ship's supply officer staff.

After his military service, he returned to The Herald at the behest of his father, Herald founder W.E. Horner, who told his son he would start as a printer's devil.

He worked in the newspaper's print shop and then moved on to other parts of the newspaper, including the newsroom. He gradually assumed a greater role in the management of the newspaper, taking over major decisions about the business upon his father's semi-retirement in 1966 at the age of 65.

Having worked in every department of the paper, Mr. Horner took over as publisher in 1991. He retired on April 1, 1998, when the newspaper was sold to Paxton Media Group, a family-owned company based in Paducah, Ky. His son, Bill Horner III, is the current publisher.

Bill Horner Jr. was a respected newspaper man who built on the success of his father. Under Bill Horner Jr., the newspaper made strides in technology and in its community service, consistently winning awards from the North Carolina Press Association.

"Bill was very kind and supportive to me over the years, and I always considered him more of a friend than as my boss," said R.V. Hight, who began work at The Herald in 1979 as sports editor and now serves as special projects editor. "He loved this newspaper and was a strong leader as both general manager and publisher. I am grateful to have known Bill and I shall miss him."

Another longtime Herald staffer, Robert Stone, worked at the newspaper for 44 years, retiring in 1996.

"He understood that a local newspaper is all about local news," Mr. Stone said. "And I think, really and truly, he understood bet-

ter that the employees were the important part of the organization.

With his passing, the Sanford community—and that state's newspaper community—has lost a dear and respected friend.

CONGRESSMAN KILDEE RECOGNIZES AMERICAN RED CROSS EVERYDAY HEROES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today on behalf of one of our country's most honored and respected organizations, the American Red Cross. Each year, the Genesee-Lapeer Chapter of the Red Cross acknowledges individuals who have shown tremendous courage, kindness, and selflessness through acts of goodwill and heroism. Twenty-five such people will be honored May 13, at the 2005 Salute to Everyday Heroes.

Everyday Heroes are chosen by the Red Cross from several categories: Fire, Law Enforcement, Emergency Medical Response, Community Good Samaritan, Youth Good Samaritan, Adult Good Samaritan, and Workplace Good Samaritan. Nominees are selected for acts of bravery related to fire, rescue, and lifesaving, and are awarded to those who live in Genesee or Lapeer Counties, or if the rescue occurred in one of the two counties.

Deputy Lawrence Fields is this year's Law Enforcement Everyday Hero, and Lieutenant John Speck is the Emergency Medical Response Hero.

Good Samaritan Awards will be given to: The Honorable Judge Duncan Beagle (Community), Robert Duffy (Workplace), Deputy Dave McDonald, Christopher Tanner, Jerry Scheddel, and Raymond Hile (Adult), and Matthew Harris (Youth).

Those receiving the Fire Everyday Hero Award include: Tony Windham, Chad McBride, Jim Bennett, Jasen Stevens, Firefighters Edward Reynolds, Jeffery George, Jeremy Gilbert, Michael Gist, Robert Parrish, Michael Rose, Tony Terry, and Robert Winford, Lieutenants Yaskuo Hall and Martin Juarez, and Captain Raymond Barton.

A special Spirit of Heroism award will be given posthumously to Ms. Cherica McLemore of Flint. Ms. McLemore's life was tragically cut short last January, as a car struck her after she stopped to help victims of another crash.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud these courageous men, and the life of this caring young woman, for all they have done for others. Through their actions, they gave a priceless gift—a second chance at life. Their contributions are deserving of the highest respect, and I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to please join me in recognizing them for who they truly are—heroes.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT "BOB" BURGER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize longtime community resident Robert

"Bob" Burger for his leadership, determination and dedication as a community leader in Toledo, Ohio.

Bob Burger, "Mr. Neighborhood," who recently turned 80 years old, has given unselfishly of his time and ability to help rebuild and revitalize our city, particularly the East Toledo neighborhoods. Beginning in his home community of East Toledo and then extending his reach for community betterment city wide, he started this quest back in 1972 when he founded River East Associates and served as its first president. Mr. Burger also played a major part in the creation of River East Revitalization Corporation in 1974; that organization helped create a comprehensive plan for redevelopment of East Toledo's main business district along Main Street, Front Street and Starr Avenue.

Mr. Burger is particularly well known in our community as a director of the Neighborhood Improvement Foundation of Toledo, Incorporated (NIFTI) from 1978 through 1994. He is also well known in our community as a veterans leader. He is currently commander of the Arthur Daly American Legion Post 334 and he previously served as commander of the Veterans of Foreign War Post 2510 in 1974 and 1975.

No one of us can ask more than to be given the years to do good for others. Bob Burger's patriotic dedications have yielded exactly that—and inspired an entire city to take hold of itself and transform its parcel by parcel, block by block into the Toledo for tomorrow. The power of his gentle personality, his kindness, skill, and vision have helped enlarge and build forward a real ethic of community in Toledo. How fortunate we are.

Such are his contributions to our community that Toledo City Council has begun the process of renaming a portion of Starr Avenue as "Bob Burger Avenue," which is only appropriate because it is located in the heart of the River East Main business district that Mr. Burger has done so much to promote and advance. For his part in revitalizing one of our great communities, I wish to recognize the contributions of Robert Burger and congratulate him on having a street renamed in his honor. It is particularly appropriate to name a major arterial in his home community in his honor for surely he has been a lifeline to the citizens of the community.

CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL
NURSES WEEK

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, as I rise today to celebrate National Nurses Week, May 6–12, 2005, I would like to start off by reciting a passage of a poem written for Florence Nightingale—the original nurse who began the revolution that would bring us the health care we know today:

Now God sent this woman to succour the
brave
Some thousands she saved from an untimely
grave
Her eyes beam with pleasure, she's boun-
teous and good
The wants of the wounded are by her under-
stood.

Mr. Speaker, while this poem was a dedication to the care and ease the "Lady-in-Chief," as Florence Nightingale was called during the Crimean War, brought to the soldiers as they laid in pain, it can easily be applied to the nurses that are thoughtfully attending to the needs of the sick and wounded today.

From a mere ache in the neck, to recovery after surgery, nurses are the ones who are consistently by their patients' side, taking care of their daily needs. By the time a patient leaves, his or her nurse will know not just what the patient needs in order to complete his or her medical treatment, but what makes the patient laugh and what makes the patient cry. A great nurse makes the difference between a tolerable stay in the hospital and endurable pain, or an insufferable wait and excruciating agony.

Today, our country relies on the tender care of 2.4 million nurses, who are truly the silent heroes of our health care system. Their diverse occupation provides comfort to women and men of all ages, illnesses, and professions, beginning from their first day on earth to their very last. Nurses across this country deserve the same support and consideration as they have given to us, and as I stand here today to honor their tireless work and selfless acts.

Mr. Speaker, I also ask my colleagues to join me in giving their undivided attention to the crisis of nurse shortage in our nation.

Mr. Speaker, as health care costs continue to rise, and as the number of uninsured has climbed to its highest number ever of 45 million Americans, nurses across this country are being overstretched and underappreciated. Consequently, the backbone of our health care system is starting to falter, as the number of registered nurses drops to its slowest growth rate since 1980.

Enrollments in nursing schools are not meeting the demands of the population, and job burnout is causing current nurses to leave the profession. According to the June 2001 issue of *TrendWatch* published by the American Hospital Association, 75 percent of vacancies in hospitals nationwide are nursing positions.

Mr. Speaker, for the first time in history, the nurses of our country are suffering in a wounded profession. Let us work together to ensure that incentives are provided so that the younger generation considers becoming a part of one of the oldest and most venerable professions again. Let us be at the side of our nurses as they are at our side during our time of need.

It took nurses 29 years before they were able to get a week of recognition for all of the hard work they put into our society year-round. Let us make sure it doesn't take another 29 years before we start tending to the needs of their profession. They need more training, more research and more resources—I hope our budgets begin to reflect these priorities.

Lastly, I want to recognize our colleagues who served as nurses prior to joining us in the House of Representatives—EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, LOIS CAPPS and CAROLYN MCCARTHY. I applaud your tireless work in raising nursing issues to a level of national significance, thereby improving our nation's healthcare delivery system.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MAURIZIO
IZZU, NEW AMERICAN CITIZEN

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Mr. Maurizio IZZI of Rome, Italy, and in welcoming him as he becomes a fellow American citizen. On May 11, 2005, Mr. IZZI will take the oath of allegiance at Faneuil Hall in Boston. On Saturday, May 14, family and friends will gather to celebrate this milestone in Mr. IZZI's life.

Mr. IZZI follows in the tradition of his great aunt, Maria Valente, who became a citizen in 1961 and now resides in Arlington, Massachusetts. In the year 2000, Mr. IZZI took his first job in the United States at the Empire State Building as a Configuration Management Consultant. On May 20, 2000, he married his lovely and charming wife, the former April Peloquin. They now reside in Hopedale, Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, we are all fortunate to live in this land of opportunity, and Mr. IZZI embodies the qualities that have made our nation great: a spirit of perseverance, industriousness, devotion to family and love of country. It is a pleasure to welcome him as a fellow American citizen.

IN HONOR OF MR. JOHN PEDRO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of California Highway Patrol Officer John Pedro, an influential member of the Santa Cruz community. On June 3, 2002, Officer Pedro was tragically killed in a traffic collision that occurred while attempting to overtake and initiate an enforcement stop on a vehicle. Officer Pedro is survived by his wife Colleen, daughter Sara, mother, Kay and sisters, Kathy and Tammy.

Officer Pedro was born in Watsonville, CA on June 17, 1965 and graduated from Watsonville High School in 1983. He obtained an Associate of Arts Degree in Liberal Arts and Music. Officer Pedro joined the United States Military as an Army Reservist in 1989. He subsequently transferred to the Air Force Reserves in 1991. While playing trombone for the Air Force Band, he met the love of his life, Colleen. Officer Pedro married Colleen on March 27, 1993. They were soon blessed by the birth of their daughter, Sara, on March 19, 2000.

Officer Pedro entered the California Highway Patrol Academy on July 31, 1989 and graduated on December 21, 1989. His first assignment was with the San Jose CHP. He also worked in the Redwood City CHP, Hayward CHP, Coastal Division, Gilroy Inspection Facility, and Santa Cruz CHP. Throughout his career as an officer, Officer Pedro had always expressed a desire to develop his expertise in the field of commercial vehicles, specifically focusing on highway safety and enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I am joined by Officer Pedro's family and friends to honor his life and contributions to the community. In appreciation for

his duty, the California State Senate via Concurrent Resolution No. 67, officially designated the location of State Route 1 between Harkins Slough Road and the Pajaro River Bridge, in Santa Cruz County, as the "CHAP Officer John Pedro Memorial Highway". Through this dedication, our community will eternally remember the sacrifices made by Officer Pedro and others who have laid down their lives to fulfill a pledge of unwavering dedication to the people of the State of California

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, last week, on Roll Call vote 150, I was not able to vote. Please let the record show that had I been present, I would have voted Yes on House Resolution 210, supporting the goals of World Intellectual Property Day and recognizing the importance of intellectual property in the United States and worldwide.

IN TRIBUTE TO MIGUEL
CONTRERAS

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleagues from California, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. GEORGE MILLER, Mr. BACA, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. CAPPS, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. COSTA, Ms. SUSAN DAVIS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Mr. FILNER, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. HONDA, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. LEE, Mr. LOFGREN, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Ms. NAPOLITANO, Ms. ROYBAL-AL-LARD, Ms. LINDA SÁNCHEZ, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. STARK, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. THOMPSON, Ms. WATERS, Ms. WATSON, Mr. WAXMAN, and Ms. WOOLSEY, to pay tribute to Miguel Contreras, who died unexpectedly on Friday, May 6, 2005. As Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor and a Vice President of the California Labor Federation, Miguel was a friend to many of us in Congress from California. More importantly, he was a staunch champion for working families in Los Angeles and throughout the country whose leadership brought much needed vigor to our Nation's labor movement.

As the son of migrant farmworkers, Miguel grew up in Dinuba, California, where he worked in the Central Valley's fields from the age of 5 alongside his parents and 6 brothers. Following his parents' example, Miguel became active in the labor movement, where his skills were recognized by the legendary Cesar Chavez, who hired him as a union representative for the United Farm Workers. For 6 years, Miguel worked under Chavez, gaining critical leadership, strategic, and political skills at the helm of one of our Nation's greatest civil rights heroes.

Miguel later joined the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees' (HERE) Union Local 2 in San Francisco, where his coordination of a citywide major hotel walkout led to the biggest wage and benefit increases in history for the 14,000 member local union. His efforts spread beyond California to hotel organizing efforts in Nevada and New York.

Following a 3 year stint as political director of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, Miguel was elected Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Federation in 1996. As head of the Federation, Miguel oversaw the operation of 350 local unions and more than 800,000 union members. Under his leadership, the Federation became a powerful voice for working families throughout Los Angeles, leading successful organizing and wage improvement campaigns for janitors, bus drivers, mechanics, trauma center workers, and thousands of other workers.

As the first Latino elected to head Los Angeles County's powerful labor organization, Miguel opened the door for thousands of Latino and immigrant workers throughout Southern California to the union movement and better wages and health benefits. In doing so, he transformed the face of not only the labor movement in Los Angeles, but of local, city, and State elected officials, and, inevitably, the city and State as well.

The Los Angeles County Federation of Labor has become a model for union organizations across the Nation. At a time when union membership is waning in other areas of the country, it grew quickly in Los Angeles County under Miguel's leadership. The superior labor organization he developed in Los Angeles and its successes are just a part of Miguel's enduring legacy to those most in need in our society.

As Members of the California Congressional delegation, we honor Miguel as champion for working families. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife, Maria Elena Durazo, and his sons Michael and Mario, during this difficult time.

Miguel Contreras's passing is not only a tremendous loss for working families in Southern California, but also throughout the Nation. His tremendous strategic skills and dedicated passion to improving the lives of others are rare and will be missed sorely by thousands of working men and women he called his brothers and sisters.

COMMENDING THE MARINE CORPS
OFFICERS OF THE 11TH SPECIAL
BASIC COURSE ON THEIR 54TH
REUNION

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Marine Corps officers of the 11th Special Basic Course who are celebrating the 54th anniversary of their commissioning with a reunion during the week of May 12-15, 2005.

The officers of the 11th Special Basic Course (11th SBC) at Quantico, Virginia, start-

ed training in the fall of 1951 and completed their training in March 1952. Although the class was a relatively small one, with just over two hundred officer candidates, they represented one hundred and eight different colleges and universities. Candidates from 36 States, the District of Columbia and Guam were in this class, making it one of the most representational Marine Corps basic officers' courses.

During the Korean War the class had its share of officers who distinguished themselves in combat. Rod Skinner, Harvard '51, was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously for valor. John Word received the Navy Cross, the second highest award that our Nation can bestow for courage. Others were awarded the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart. The class also had its share of men wounded and killed in combat action.

Although only a comparatively few members became regular officers, many served and retired from the Reserves while pursuing careers in law, education, religious ministry, athletics, engineering, business, and politics. Among those who were career officers of the Corps was a former Member of Congress, the Honorable Ben Blaz, Notre Dame '51. Ben served 30 years in the Marine Corps and achieved the rank of Brigadier General before retiring and subsequently embarking on a political career. He was one of my predecessors as the Congressional representative from Guam in this, the House of the People.

It is a great honor for me to memorialize the visit of these Marine veterans, their families and friends, to the capital of our Nation for whom they carried their swords in her defense.

Our Nation owes a debt of gratitude to those who have served and to those who currently wear the uniform of our armed forces. We therefore welcome the Marine Corps officers of 11th Special Basic Course (11th SBC) on their reunion and we recognize their contributions to our Nation.

The Marine veterans and their families include: Robert Altick, Leslie Altick, Al Bailey, Mary Bailey, Charles Bentzen, Constance Bentzen, John Bickley, Anne Bickley, V. Ben Blaz, Ted Brothers, Charles Clifford, David Curry, Natalie Curry, Frank Delaney, Martha Delaney, Thomas Fallon, Mary Fallon, Marshall Figgatt, Alan Figgatt, Benis Frank, Marylou Frank, Tina Cooper, Erika Helgeson, William Keating, Robert Land, Joan Land, Thomas Land, James Land, John Lussenhop, Kay Lussenhop, Gene Moyers, Fern Moyers, Herbert Oxnam, Betty Oxnam, Richard Paschal, Len Paschal, Jordan Peck, Henry Pruitt, Mary Pruitt, Thomas Qualls, Chayne Stinemetz, Larue Stinemetz, Spatz Thomaidis, Virginia Swisher, Stanley Wilson, and Barbara Wilson.

To the Marine Corps officers of the 11th SBC and their families, may you always know that our Nation appreciates the sacrifices that you have made and that your patriotism continues to inspire the generations of Marines who follow in your footsteps. Semper Fidelis.

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, May 12, 2005 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 13

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

Closed business meeting to continue markup of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006.

SR-222

MAY 17

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee

To hold closed hearings to examine nuclear security.

S-407 Capitol

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation.

SD-366

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Investigations Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine the United Nations' Oil-for-Food Program, the illegal surcharges paid on Iraqi oil sales, and the nature and extent of the 2003 Khor al-Amaya incident.

SD-562

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the current legal and regulatory requirements and industry practices for credit card issuers with respect to consumer disclosures and marketing efforts.

SD-538

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine measures that have been taken since September 11, 2001, to secure our nation's ports, focusing on the implementation of the Maritime Transportation Security Act and vulnerabilities that remain in the maritime transportation sector.

SR-253

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Retirement Security and Aging Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Administration's recommendations for the Older Americans Act Reauthorization.

SD-430

2 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine analysis of national in-patient satisfaction survey, focusing on questions that have been raised regarding the cost and survey burden on patients of a survey of all hospitals in the United States proposed by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship Subcommittee

Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security Subcommittee

To hold joint hearings to examine strengthening our national security, regarding the need for comprehensive immigration reform.

SD-226

MAY 18

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation.

SD-366

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine eco-terrorism specifically examining the Earth Liberation Front ("ELF") and the Animal Liberation Front ("ALF").

SD-406

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine a breakdown in safeguards against fraud and abuse in FEMA's Disaster Relief Program, focusing on FEMA's response to the 2004 hurricanes.

SD-562

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine issues relating to the taking of land into trust.

Room to be announced

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine issues relating to protecting the judiciary at home and in the courthouse.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Regulation NMS designed to strengthen our national market system for equity securities, focusing on recent market developments.

SD-538

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider the proposed Workforce Investment Act Amendments of 2005, and pending nominations.

SD-430

MAY 19

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider comprehensive energy legislation.

SD-366

Environment and Public Works

Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Endangered Species Act.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To continue hearings to examine Regulation NMS designed to strengthen our national market system for equity securities, focusing on recent market developments.

SD-538

1 p.m.

Foreign Relations

International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 883, to direct the Secretary of State to carry out activities that promote the adoption of technologies that reduce greenhouse gas intensity in developing countries, while promoting economic development.

SD-419

MAY 24

2 p.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Education and Early Childhood Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine issues relating to American history.

SD-430

3 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine money laundering and terror financing issues in the Middle East.

SD-538

MAY 25

10 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine the U.S. Grain Standards Act.

SR-328A

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-430

MAY 26

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine issues relating to the 21st century workplace.

SD-430

SEPTEMBER 20

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.

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CANCELLATIONS

MAY 17

10 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Thomas C. Dorr, of Iowa, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development, and to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

SR-328A