

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor tonight to rise in support of the CAFTA agreement, DR-CAFTA. It is important in three broad areas. One is trade. It is important to American manufacturers that the tariffs that they currently pay with goods and services built and made in the United States are sold into these countries.

It is also important for the agricultural interests in this country that we continue to send American goods and products into these countries for use under the Caribbean Basin Initiative.

It is also important from a national security standpoint. These are fledgling democracies in Central America. America is a safer place if we have democracies in place than if we have other forms of government. This trade agreement will help undergird these democracies and help them stand against influences like Hugo Chavez of Venezuela who does not have America's interests in his plans.

It is also important from an immigration standpoint. The Caribbean Basin Initiative will expire on its own terms in 2008. If those jobs created under that initiative go to other parts of the world like Thailand or the Philippines, then the people currently holding those jobs will feel pressured, percolating up from Mexico and entering this country illegally, to find work.

So, given the importance the impact of CAFTA will have on these broad areas, I stand in support of it and urge my colleagues to support it also.

#### ENCOURAGING ROVE TO LEAK

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, a lot has been made lately about leaks coming from the White House. The outing of Valerie Wilson was admittedly an egregious act.

But I, for one, would like more leaks, not less. I am not looking for the kind of leaks that tripped up Karl Rove and Scooter Libby.

Mr. Speaker, it would have been useful if someone had leaked the true cost of the Medicare prescription drug program. They told us it would cost only \$400 billion when they knew all along that the real cost was much higher. The American people would be asked to pay \$800 billion.

It certainly would have been nice if some brave soul in the White House had told the American people that the President's tax cuts would raid the Social Security Trust Fund. We are still waiting for someone to leak the President's plan on Social Security.

So, Mr. Speaker, I say, do not stop here, Mr. Rove. Dishing the names of our own national security agents may be your idea of political "fair game," but turn up that leaky faucet and tell us what we really need to know, and start with the truth.

#### AID FOR HURRICANE VICTIMS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) for very informative debate on H. Con. Res. 175 to focus on the African Americans of Latino descent in the Caribbean and places surrounding the United States.

I rise today to remind my colleagues that our neighbors to the south, from Jamaica to the coast of Mexico, certainly Haiti and certainly Cuba, over the last 7 days have faced very difficult times with the number of hurricanes that have hit their shore. I know that we faced enormous impacts last year to the State of Florida, but the resources that are utilized in those countries are so unequal.

As we debate the Foreign Relations Authorization bill, I hope we will be reminded of the enormous need. In Cuba, for example, 600,000 people were displaced. We come to find out that the offer from the United States was only \$50,000. I think that America can do better, and I would hope that humanitarian aid can really come from the people of the United States, somewhat similar to the tsunami relief. These are our neighbors. This is the third border of security.

So Jamaica and Haiti that are in crisis with the hurricane and other devastating aspects, I would hope that we would respect the idea that we are our brothers and sisters' keeper, and aid these individuals who are now suffering because of natural disasters.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### WORKING TO IMPROVE NICS SYSTEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk again about the National Instant Criminal Background Check. We know that the States are the weak link as far as getting background checks into our NICS system. We have seen so many times that thousands of people are slipping through the system because the States do not have the money to bring up their computer systems to be able to give the information to the NICS system here in Washington.

We know that the NICS system works. We know that over 700,000 people have been denied guns, those that

should not be able to buy them but, again, a system is only as good as the database that it has.

The NICS system did pass here in the House on a voice vote going back to 1999. Unfortunately, the Senate ran out of time, so I have reintroduced it, and I am hoping that we might be able to get it through here again on a suspension bill.

Some facts: Twenty-five States have automated less than 60 percent of their felony convictions. We know that people that are felons or who have been mentally institutionalized should not be able to buy a gun. Unfortunately, a tragedy that was in my own State of New York on the island in Nassau County where I live, a person was able to buy a gun legally because the States did not give the NICS system the information that he should have never been able to buy a gun.

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Unfortunately a shooting happened in a local church, Our Lady of Lourdes, and two people were killed, a priest and a parishioner at a morning mass. We know that mental health problems and restraining orders did not come up on the NICS system and that is a shame. When you think about what can be done to certainly deter those people that should not be able to buy a gun, and especially today in today's world that we are looking at. I know the debate here in the House all the time is the suspicion that we are trying to take away the right of someone to own a gun. I happen to believe in the second amendment. I happen to believe that people if they want to own guns should be able to. But again, we must look at those that should not be able to buy guns.

When we talk about the health care system in this Nation, we know it costs this health care system, our health care system, our taxpayers' health care system over \$1 billion a year because of gun violence in this Nation. And unless we open up the dialog a little bit differently and start to trust each other that we can do a better job, we should be doing a better job, and that is only going to happen if we help the States.

We know that when a judgment comes down against a person in the courts or there is a restraining order, the majority of States do not report that to the NICS system. When someone does a crime in Texas and they come to New York and buy a gun it is not brought up through the system. So we have to do a better job. We can save lives. We can save money on the health care system.

And by the way, I happen to think it is very important that we also look at how we look at our terrorisms that we are trying to deal with in the next few days. You know, when we talk about the PATRIOT Act coming up, I think that the debate will be about some civil liberties being taken away.

But yet when we look at gun ownership we should be making sure that

those that are not supposed to have a gun, and this goes back to the 1968 Gun Control Act, the bill follows it, the NRA has supported this bill. We have good bipartisan support certainly in the other body and I am hoping that before the session ends that we can bring this bill up.

H.R. 1415, the NICS Improvement Act, will give grants to the States so they are able to be able to bring their systems up to par so here in Washington we will have the information that we need. You know, again, I hope that in time that we will be able to change the debate on gun violence in this country. We can save lives. We can save certainly on health care costs for this Nation if we can have a good honest debate on the health care system with the gun system.

#### YOU ONLY PASS THIS WAY ONCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise to pay tribute to a very, very special American, a very good friend of mine who died last week after battling a very cruel and mean disease, ALS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, better known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

Wayne Arnold was a friend of mine and he was a friend of many. In fact, I remember when I first got involved in politics Wayne Arnold was one of my first supporters, and I will always be grateful for that.

But Wayne was a very special American in so many ways. I would like to say that he was a believer. He was a doer and he was a giver. He was involved in so many things in the Rochester area. He was an accountant. By the time he retired he was a partner in one of the largest firms in Minnesota. He was active in the Chamber of Commerce. He was active in his church. He was active in education issues. But he was not just active. He got things done.

I think perhaps one of the greatest tributes to Wayne Arnold in the Rochester area is what he did in helping to really spearhead the building of a memorial there to all of the soldiers and all of those who have contributed so much, and we have this marvelous memorial which is largely because of people like Wayne Arnold. When he heard about this, that we were going to build this special memorial at Soldiers Field in Rochester, Minnesota he not only got behind it, he became the treasurer. He helped raise the money. He did so much on that and so many other fronts.

I also want to submit for the RECORD and I want to thank Greg Sellnow of the Rochester Post Bulletin, and I would like to submit for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a copy of a piece that he wrote last week about Wayne Arnold, and the title of which was the

philosophy that Wayne Arnold lived by. The title is "You Only Pass This Way Once." And he sort of branded that philosophy on all of his children and many of the people that he knew and worked with. And in it I think he meant that you only get an opportunity to do the right thing every so often, and you have got to take advantage of those opportunities to do the right thing.

I talked to Wayne shortly after he learned that he had ALS and he was not sad. He was not morbid. He was not angry. He saw it as a challenge. In fact, in the article that Greg Sellnow has written about him, he said that he had sent him an e-mail a couple of years ago. And in that e-mail Wayne Arnold said to Greg, I look at this disease as a gift, he wrote in an e-mail about 2 years ago, not many people have the luxury to be able to prepare like this.

Wayne Arnold was a very special person. He did so much for our community. He did so much for us. He did so much for me.

I would like to close by just saying that I have no doubt that Wayne was greeted at the gate with those words, "Well done, oh, good and noble servant."

[From the Post Bulletin, Jul. 16, 2005]

#### YOU ONLY PASS THIS WAY ONCE

(By Greg Sellnow)

Wayne Arnold had a motto. "You only pass this way once," he told his five children and 12 grandchildren over and over again.

It was a didactic, life-guiding philosophy that had so much resonance in Wayne's family that one of his grandsons had it tattooed on his back.

"What he meant was that you'll only be in a certain situation or a place in your life once," Wayne's son Mike told me the other day. "And you should try to leave it a better place or a better person. It was the same way he felt about his community."

Wayne, who died Tuesday at the age of 70, lived that motto. His family, his community and many of the hundreds of lives he touched have all been bettered by his presence among us.

I first met Wayne in August 2003 after he sent me an e-mail about the upcoming Walk to Defeat ALS. On the day I talked to him at his northwest Rochester home, he'd had a busy morning. He'd sent out 44 e-mails to friends, relatives, former customers and acquaintances asking them to participate or donate to the annual fundraiser.

Wayne had been diagnosed with ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, about six months earlier, and he'd made fundraising for the Minnesota Chapter of the ALS Association the newest beneficiary of his seemingly unending energy and passion.

At the time, I remember trying to put myself in Wayne's place. I tried to imagine what I'd do if I'd been diagnosed with a fatal illness that usually claims its victims within three years of diagnosis. I figured that maybe I'd travel, visit some of the places I'd wanted to see, spend time with my family and enjoy the rest of my life as best I could.

But I couldn't really imagine myself doing what Wayne was doing—sitting in front of a computer or at the phone for hours and hours raising money for a cause—a cure for ALS—he knew couldn't help him.

It all made sense for Wayne, though. It fit perfectly with his life's philosophy.

"I look at this disease as a gift," he wrote me in an e-mail two years ago. "Not many

people have the luxury to be able to prepare like this."

Wayne helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the state ALS group, and he recruited others to get involved. They include his son Mike, who is the organization's treasurer.

I don't pretend to know what it means to be an ideal citizen. But I have to think Wayne came pretty close. He was one of the most committed, involved people I've met during my time in Rochester. He met his wife, Donna, when both were students at Lourdes High School, and after they married the couple decided to stay in their hometown. They remained deeply committed to Lourdes and Rochester for the next half century.

After serving a stint in the U.S. Coast Guard, Wayne became an accountant, retiring as a partner in the firm of McGladrey & Pullen in 1996. By then, he'd served on the boards of more than a dozen community, business and church organizations. He was recognized by the Jaycees as one of the 10 Outstanding Young Men of Minnesota. He served as president of the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce. He was a founding committee member and secretary treasurer of the Soldiers Field Veterans Memorial. The list goes on and on.

"I can't get enough of it," Wayne told me the last time we talked, in September 2004. "I've got to be doing something."

Through it all, though, Wayne set aside plenty of time for his family. Just three weeks ago, he traveled to Montana to attend the wedding of his godson.

"You only pass this way once." What a powerful motto around which to base one's life.

And death. Wayne donated his brain and spinal cord for research into a cure for ALS.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my special order at this time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

#### APOLOGIES FOR IRAQ AND KARL ROVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago I gave a speech about the importance of apologizing for doing something wrong, one of the first lessons that we are taught as children actually. Our capacity for saying I am sorry is part of what makes us a functioning and civilized society.

Here in Washington, every time a Democrat uses strong rhetoric to condemn the politics or the policies of the Bush administration there is a relentless pressure from the Republicans for