IN HONOR OF ROBERTO C. GOIZUETA

HON. NEWT GINGRICH OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, today I join my fellow Americans and citizens worldwide in celebrating the life of Roberto C. Goizueta, chairman and chief executive officer of Coca-Cola for the past 16 years, who passed away on Saturday.

Roberto embodied the American dream. Born the son of a sugar refinerly owner in Havana, Cuba, he earned a chemical engineering degree from Yale University in 1953. The following year, he answered an anonymous ad in a Havana newspaper seeking a chemical engineer. That ad had been placed by the Coca-Cola Co. On the Fourth of July, 1954, he joined the company in Havana in the technical department.

Roberto Goizueta was a corporate genius. Under his bold leadership, Coca-Cola has been named "America's Company of the Year" and "Best Managed Company in the World." In 1996, Fortune magazine declared that "under Roberto's leadership, Coca-Cola has grown from a $4 billion company to $150 billion today, with a 48 percent increase in sales in just 10 years." The company's growth came through exceptional leadership. "For me, looking into your eyes this morning is like looking into a mirror . . . a mirror that takes me back 26 years . . . back to a hot, muggy day in 1969 at the Federal Building in Atlanta, Georgia. Together, we share a truly magical gift . . . the magical gift of freedom . . . and with it, its corollary we refer to as 'opportunity.'"

When my family and I came to this country, we had to leave everything behind. Back in Havana, our family photographs hung on the wall. Our wedding gifts sat on the shelves. Every material property we owned . . . overnight became government property. But amid this turmoil, two treasured possessions remained mine because they simply could not be taken away by the newly arrived Cuban rulers.

Firstly, even though I had to leave behind my diploma from Yale . . . and even though I had to leave behind the specially engraved dictionary I earned as valedictorian of my high school graduating class . . . I carried with me, safely in my head, the meaning of that diploma and of that dictionary. I still had my education. And, secondly, even though the Havana Coca-Cola bottling plant where I had worked had burned to the ground, it wasn't just any job. It was a job that I had worked hard and applied my skills, and ultimately earned the opportunity to lead not only a large corporation, but an institution that actually symbolizes the very essence of America and American ideals. Not a bad story . . . but what has it taught me? It has taught me a great deal. But first and foremost, it has taught me that opportunity always comes accompanied by obligations.

The first obligation implied in opportunity is that you must seize it, and mold it into a work that brings value to your society. To do otherwise is not just a waste . . . it is a crime against the human spirit. Squandering what the rest of the world covets is not only foolish . . . it is immoral.

The second obligation that naturally follows and requires you to must live it: you must carry it on your back all day long. You must sense the opportunity in your nostrils with every breath, and you must see it in your dreams when you are asleep. Because even though opportunity—much like freedom itself—is born only out of ideals . . . it is nurtured only by action. Without action, opportunity and freedom soon shrivel and fade to a slow death.

Finally, the third obligation that inherently comes with opportunity is that you must defend it. As Thomas Jefferson said, "The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants." But the tree of liberty must also be irrigated—irrigated every single day—with the sweat of the brow of enterprising men and women . . . men and women working hard to further prove the inherent superiority of a democratic society . . . working hard to demonstrate the lasting stability of a democratic capitalist system . . . working hard to preserve the sanctity of private property . . . working hard to continue to show the world that people can indeed be trusted with governing themselves.

And so, I challenge you and every other citizen across our nation—whether native born or naturalized, born or individual obligations . . . to embrace your individual obligations as if the fate of the United States depended on it.

And you know why? Because—in reality—it does.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES BUTLER

HON. JOSE E. SERRANO OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. James Butler, president of Local 420 Municipal Hospital Employees Union, DC37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO. On October 11, Mr. Butler was presented with a key to the city of Puerto Rico. This is for his work in the local 420 held a dinner dance in Manhattan to celebrate.

Mr. Butler has long been part of the struggle for equal opportunity for minorities within the labor movement through active membership in the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, PUSH, NAACP, Urban League, and SCLC Labor Committees. He served on the executive board of CBTU's New York chapter as well as the New York Consumer Assembly's board of directors.

As vice president of the 120,000 member District Council 37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Mr. Butler represented AFSCME as a delegate to the Public Service International Congress in Singapore, Zimbabwe, Finland, and the Labor Committee in Puerto Rico. He is co-chair of AFSCME's Health Advocacy Committee, where he represents the interests of more than 350,000 health care workers nationwide.

Throughout his life, Mr. Butler's philosophy has been one of helping those in need without expecting anything in return. He would often say: "I have devoted my life to helping health care workers. Health care workers help the ill, but when they are ill there is no one to help them. They work under the kind of stress that most people can only imagine."

In the past several years, Butler and his local have waged a battle against threats to privatize public hospitals in New York City. They recently saw their efforts pay off with a victory in stopping the privatization of Coney Island Hospital. In June, Jim Butler and his members boarded the "freedom bus" from New York to Quincy, FL, to march for justice with the muashroom workers of the United Farm Workers.

Under his leadership, local 420's political action arm also took on its own. It has increased its education and registration drives. Annually, the local registers thousands of voters and directly involves hundreds of union members in political campaigns.

Jim Butler resides in Astoria, NY with his wife, Elcida. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. James Butler for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of
the labor movement and of the African-American community.

LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE AND SIMPLIFY HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENT BILLINGS UNDER MEDICARE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing a bill which would provide for the revenue neutral payment of self-administered drugs furnished as part of a hospital outpatient department [HOPD] service under the prospective payment system currently being developed for HOPD's.

The Balanced Budget Act passed this summer started the slow reform of HOPD payments by establishing a prospective payment system [PPS]. This PPS is designed to bring some control to the rising costs of these services and to ensure that the patient only pays 20 percent of the total cost of the HOPD service. Currently, Medicare beneficiaries are paying about 47 percent of the total cost of these services—far above the normal 20 percent Part B copayment. Unfortunately, the HOPD fix will take over 20 years to achieve. The long phasein was due to the cost of the fix to the Medicare trust fund plus its impact on hospital revenues.

PPS system will include most of the costs of seeking treatment in an HOPD. But it will not cover the cost of self-administered pharmaceuticals—such as Tylenol—in the HOPD, since Medicare generally does not provide insurance against drugs which can be taken without the aid of a doctor or medical staff. Thus in addition to sending the patient a bill for the 20 percent HOPD copayment, the hospital will need to send the patient a separate bill, often for a rather small amount, to collect the charge for the drug.

The American Hospital Association has suggested that this is just an extra wave of paperwork and that the cost of such drugs should be included in the total cost of the procedure as determined under the new PPS system. Just as pharmaceutical drugs are covered under a hospital inpatient admission under the DRG PPS payment system, so should HOPD self-administered drugs be covered under the new HOPD PPS system. The legislation provides that this consolidation of bills will not increase the total cost of the procedure. In other words, the hospitals would rather absorb the cost of the drug in the current cost of the procedure than endure the paperwork hassle of separately billing for small amounts.

This proposal was sent to the BBA conferees very late in the process, and it was not included because more time was needed to consider it. I think it is a simple, straightforward proposal to simplify the life of patients and hospital accountants, and I hope we can include it in the next Medicare bill that is considered by the Congress.

WORLD POPULATION AWARENESS WEEK

HON. SAM FARR
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to recognize October 26 through November 1, 1997, as "World Population Awareness Week". The purpose of this week is to educate the public about the impact of world population growth on resources and environment. Many communities have issued proclamations and I want to commend the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors and the mayor of the city of Santa Cruz for their recognition of this important week.

Family planning programs are critical in our efforts to reduce population growth, protect the environment, assist in the sustainable development of poorer countries, and improve the health of women and children. Without such programs, the population of the Earth will double within one lifetime—and many scientists believe our present world population of 5.8 billion may already be reaching the limit that our planet can sustain.

World Population Awareness Week will teach and inform the global community of the need to bring the world's population into balance with the Earth's resources and environment. The world's population continues to grow by almost 90 million a year, mostly in underdeveloped nations, but population growth concerns developed nations as well. A citizen of the United States uses far more resources and energy than a citizen from an underdeveloped nation. In order to ease the pressures human development puts on our fragile environment, we need to adopt sustainable development practices. The World Commission on Environment and Development, The Brundtland Commission, in 1987 defined sustainable development as the ability * * * * * to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.* * * * * * *

I think sustainable development can be expanded to include preserving the integrity and beauty of the natural environment for enjoyment of current and future generations, economic vitality, human health and well-being, and community prosperity and social justice. As we recognize World Population Awareness Week, we must be mindful of the need to adopt sustainable development initiatives to balance our planet's dwindling natural resources with our population growth so that future generations can prosper.

A TRIBUTE TO EULA KAY BURRY BRIGGS

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR
OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the life of an outstanding individual who spent most of her 85 years in our district. Mrs. Eula Briggs was born in Greenville County, SC, but moved to Madison County, NC, where she was 14 years old. At the age of 18 she married Clarence W. Briggs and reared three sons, all of whom she was very proud. Lee Roy, the oldest, taught school for a while before going to work for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. Bruce earned his law degree, served as a State senator and also as a superior court judge. Her youngest son, Bill, worked several years, for the State of North Carolina and is currently the Madison County court of clerk.

As a member of the Madison County Republican Women's Club, Mrs. Briggs was presented the Woman of the Year Award by the North Carolina Federation of Republican Women in 1987. She was the last charter member of Calvary Baptist Church in Mars Hill where she was active in the Women's Missionary Union and taught the nursery Sunday school class for many years. She was affectionately called Granny Briggs by all in the church.

Mrs. Briggs passed from this life on September 23, 1997. During her life she was a homemaker and devoted to her family, church, and community. She worked diligently to see that all of her sons received an education, and she was adored by her five granddaughters, Ashley, Grayson, Kelli, William, and Lydia. She was indeed a virtuous woman as described by King Solomon in Proverbs 31. * * * * * Her children arise up, and call her blessed * * * ; a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised * * * * * * * * * * * * *

CONGRATULATING THE CLAY COUNTY HIGH PANthers

HON. BOB RILEY
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 21, 1997

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with enormous pride to congratulate and commend my hometown football team, the Clay County High School Panthers, on breaking the Alabama record for the most consecutive wins in high school history. This 2A classified team, with 42 players, claimed their 51st straight victory on Friday night, October 17, over Reeltown High School with a score of 43 to 16.

This victory is an enormous credit to the CHHS football team, as well as to their parents, the cheerleaders, the band and the student body, who have taken part in making this success possible. As a former player for the Panthers myself, I can appreciate the amount of work and sacrifice these young men have had to make in order to achieve this goal and applaud all their efforts in reaching this point.

Regardless of what happens in each of their lives, this is an honor and a memory that no one will ever be able to take away from them. I would also like to commend the Clay County High School coaching staff: Coaches Danny Horn, Jerry Weems, Garey Reynolds, Chris Herron, Chuck Freeman, Steve Burkhalter, and Bradley Cline. These men have molded each of these players into exceptional athletes and taught them the importance of teamwork, loyalty, dedication, and drive. And once the crowds stop cheering and the band no longer plays, it will be these lessons that will shape these teenagers into the men they will become. The Panthers have made their school, their coaches, and their entire town swell with