

among businesses attempting to operate in Ukraine. Such malfeasance can most properly be attributed to Ukraine's years under Soviet rule, where such practice was commonplace, and does not reflect the overall will or potential of the nation. Rather than turning our backs on a promising democracy because it retains unfortunate remnants of a failed, oppressive political doctrine, it is my belief that we should instead continue to engage this aspiring, recovering independent nation and encourage the constructive reform Ukraine has already initiated.

Rebuking Ukraine for its greatest challenges, rather than assisting her with them, is counterproductive and could send the signal to other nations that America has lost confidence in Ukraine's ability to further reform its system. Such an outcome could defeat years of progress in this important democracy, and weaken the beneficial relationship between our two nations. It is essential that the United States continues to work toward ensuring an economically viable Ukraine which is critical to continued peace and stability in the region.

#### WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY: ORGANIZING AWARD

#### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 1998*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United Domestic Workers of America/AFSCME, AFL-CIO, as they are honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO for their contributions to the labor movement and to the community as a whole.

The UDW Organizing Committee is being recognized by the Labor Council with its "Organizing Award" for their historic organizing drive in which they made over 10,000 house visits and signed up 3,200 home care workers in a record 3½ months last summer.

These home care workers, who provide domestic and personal care services to the elderly and disabled, earn minimum wage with no benefits. While they give their service in caring for the sick and infirm, they have no sick leave, no health insurance, and no retirement. Even though their work is controlled by the county and paid by the state, they are not recognized as permanent employees. They are called independent providers and have no employee rights.

To correct this situation, the new members of UDW have set up organizing committees in San Diego's five supervisorial districts, prioritized their demands for improving their jobs, trained 30 new delegates for the UDW State Convention, and initiated a membership service program to include emergency assistance, legal consultations, life and medical insurance, and representation at benefit appeal hearings. UDW is also working on legislation and local initiatives to establish legal recognition and collective bargaining rights for independent providers.

Having completed these successful accomplishments, UDW is now in the second phase of its campaign to organize the remaining 6,000 independent providers.

As a friend and supporter of UDW for many years, I want to sincerely congratulate the

UDW Organizing Committee and its members on receiving this significant award from the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council for your many long hours and labor-intensive work in the cause of justice!

#### HONORING BLISSFIELD'S NATIONAL HEROES

#### HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 1998*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to four of my constituents who have demonstrated the true meaning of community service. So many people talk about the need to get involved and pitch in when they see a problem, but in my district is blessed to have four young people who put those words into action.

This week, the Make A Difference Day committee, organized by USA Weekend, named the group of Christi Stoker, Natalie Eisenmann, Amanda Nicolai, and Stephanie Powell among ten recipients of a national award from the Make A Difference Day Foundation.

These girls offered some helping hands to a homeless shelter in Toledo, not too far from their hometown of Blissfield, Michigan. The girls, who are 13, organized a coalition of community members to donate books, games, wallpaper, and other materials to make this shelter more of a home for the kids and their parents who sought refuge there. They ended up collecting more than \$800 in contributions for the shelter.

And, these special young people didn't stop there. They helped a young girl at the shelter and her mother find a place to live. The girls still stay in touch with the family to whom they gave this precious gift.

Mr. Speaker, we are a nation that turns famous people into heroes—TV and movie stars and our national journalists. But to me, America's true heroes are those who devote time and energy in their communities to give or offer assistance and compassion to those who need it.

Few people who have performed that task better than Christi Stoker, Natalie Eisenmann, Amanda Nicolai, and Stephanie Powell.

#### HONORING ARTHUR MITTELDORF

#### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 1998*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Arthur Mitteldorf, a devoted conservationist and warm friend and respected member of the community.

Mr. Mitteldorf's contributions cannot be measured. Throughout the years, he freely gave of his time and knowledge to environmental advisory committees. He wrote persuasive articles and commentaries on topics such as air quality, hazardous materials, and the consequences of building dams. His presence will be sorely missed by members of the Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club, where he put words to the views of many.

Early in life, his aesthetic sense found expression in music. While obtaining a degree in chemistry from Brooklyn College, Arthur played the cello in orchestras and chamber ensembles. His life as a cello player was set aside to become a businessman, and he rose to become president and chief executive of Spex Industries, Inc in Edison New Jersey. Later in life he returned to his music as a member of the Chamber Music Society of the Monterey Peninsula and of the Carmel Music Society.

Arthur Mitteldorf and his wife Harriet undertook a project that was two years in the doing. Together they searched Carmel Valley for a stand of redwoods that would epitomize the beauty of the area. In 1990, having found a majestic tract, they donated 1,100 acres of redwood dotted canyons and hills to the Big Sur Land Trust. It is now known as the Mitteldorf Preserve. The Preserve not only provides a refuge for flora and fauna, but has become the centerpiece of the Land Trust public outreach, multiplying the Mitteldorf's contribution by setting an example to others to join them in their love for the land.

Arthur Mitteldorf's generosity, his staunch defense of the environment, and his commitment to his community will be sorely missed by all who knew him. Our hearts go out to his family. We can take solace in the knowledge that his contributions will enrich generations into the future.

#### RECOGNIZING HELEN DILLARD

#### HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 1998*

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the accomplishments of my constituent, Mrs. Helen Dillard of Eldorado, Illinois. She is celebrating her fiftieth year serving the people of Illinois as a laboratory technologist, and I want to commend her on reaching this exceptional milestone.

As co-chair of the House Rural Health Care Coalition, I am pleased to see that my constituents are helping to truly make a difference in the medical community. For twenty years, Helen worked at the Farrell Hospital, and for twelve years she served the Hardin County General Hospital. She then went on to Pearce Hospital, and is currently working at the Harrisburg Medical Center, where she has impressed her co-workers with her diligence, skill and personality.

In addition, Helen is a model citizen in her hometown community. She participates in a wide range of activities and never hesitates to lend a hand to friends and neighbors. Helen is a faithful Christian and community leader who devotes her time and talent to the local church as an accomplished pianist, organist and singer.

Helen's kind generosity and dedication has brought her respect and admiration at work and at home. Mr. Speaker, please join with me in recognizing Helen Dillard for her milestone fifty years of service to the medical community and to the people of Eldorado.