Mr. Feng Shan Ho, an outstanding San Francisco resident who rescued thousands from Nazi destruction during World War II. Mr. Ho died in September 1997 at his home in San Francisco.

Mr. Speaker, Feng Shan Ho left an indelible imprint on the people whose lives he saved. Like the Swedish diplomat and humanitarian, Raoul Wallenberg, and the American diplomat and humanitarian rescuer, Varian Fry, Mr. Ho has shown what an individual can achieve when he has the courage to oppose repression and racism despite seemingly impossible odds.

Feng Shan Ho was the Consul General of China in Vienna in 1938. Following the annexation of Austria by Germany that year, he saw increasing persecution of Jews and other non-Aryans at the hands of the Nazis. Jewish-owned businesses were vandalized and their owners arrested. Jews and other so-called ‘enemies of the Reich’ were sent to concentration camps within weeks of the annexation. Austrian Nazi authorities informed Jews that if they obtained visas for other countries and emigrated, they would be allowed to leave unharmed. Many tried to emigrate, but most found that few countries were willing to permit them entry.

Consul General Ho was appalled at the increasing desperation that he observed. In an act of courage and compassion, he sought to help the refugees. On his own authority as Consul General—and without the permission of his superiors in China—he issued visas for admission to China to any person who requested one. With these visas as proof of destination, Jews could obtain permission from Nazi officials to leave Austria and Germany.

In 1939 Nazi officials confiscated the building in which the Chinese consulate was located because of its Jewish ownership. The Chinese consulate was forced to operate in other, smaller facilities. In 1940 Consul General Ho was transferred to the United States. In 1941, the government of China broke off diplomatic relations with Germany and the Consulate General in Vienna was closed.

After leaving Vienna, Mr. Ho spent the remaining years of his diplomatic service at work in China’s struggle against Japan. His first assignment after Vienna was to Washington, D.C., and he later served at the Foreign Ministry in China’s wartime capital, Chungking. In 1947, Mr. Ho began a nine-year term as Ambassador to Egypt and several other Middle Eastern countries. At the conclusion of the Chinese Civil War, Mr. Ho remained loyal to the Chinese Nationalist government which fled to Taiwan in 1949. Following his term in the Middle East, Ambassador Ho served as China’s ambassador to Mexico, Bolivia, and Columbia.

In 1973 after a distinguished career in the diplomatic service of the Republic of China that spanned four decades, Ambassador Ho retired and moved to San Francisco. On September 28, 1997, at the age of 96, he died at his home there, attended by his wife and daughter.

The story of Feng Shan Ho’s courageous actions in Vienna is currently being told in a traveling exhibit organized by Mr. Eric Saul that is being shown in American and foreign cities. The exhibit was on display at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in Israel in April, and earlier it was on display at my district office of California.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying well-deserved tribute to Ambassador Feng Shan Ho—a great man, a dedicated public servant, and a courageous humanitarian.

CAMPAIN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND
OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 12, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I read with interest an article in today’s Los Angeles Times about media coverage of the U.S. Senate primary in California. In the race to win the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate the news media has provided almost no coverage to the two major candidates. One news station executive said “I can’t afford to have a reporter spend two hours for a story that is low-impact, low-momentum.” It appears that our democratic process has lost out in the ratings game to sex, violence and scandal. This lack of “earned media” coverage has forced candidates to rely solely on paid media advertisements to get out their message. Of course this development is to the more benefit for the candidate who has the most money from personal wealth or from special interest contributions.

This is yet one more example of the need to reform our campaign finance system. Money has piled up to dominate political campaigns more than ever before. Yet, the Republican leadership has continued to delay a debate on campaign finance reform. It is time to allow a vote on campaign finance reform in the House of Representatives. The people of this country are tired of waiting. ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL ARTS COMPETITION PARTICIPANTS HONORED

HON. RODNEY P. FREILINGHUYSEN
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 12, 1998

Mr. FREILINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, once again, I come to the floor to recognize the great success of strong local school systems working with dedicated parents and teachers. I rise today to congratulate and honor 45 outstanding students from across the country.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, each year I award the HON. NICK SMITH SCHOLARSHIP as a special corridor of the U.S. Capitol, and to mount his or her artwork in Congress. The winner of the competition will have an opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C., to meet Congressional leaders and to mount his or her artwork in a special corridor of the U.S. Capitol, and to mount his or her artwork in Congress. The winner of the competition will have an opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C., to meet Congressional leaders and to mount his or her artwork in a special corridor of the U.S. Capitol.

This year, first place went to Emily Schulenburg of Ridge High School, for her outstanding acrylic painting, “Deaconry Livestock.” In addition, ten other submissions received honorable mention by the judges. As usual, the judges had an extremely hard time with the awards process, and they wished that they could declare every entry a winner. Indeed, All of these young artists are winners, and we should be proud of their achievements so early in life.

SPEAK TRIBUTE HONORING RACHELLE TELLER, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH
OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 12, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record