

I'd like to congratulate Angelin, who has won awards at the Galveston County Science and Engineering Fair, the Houston Science and Engineering Fair, the state of Texas Science and Engineering Fair, for her research project, entitled "Math Semantics." She has been selected to present her research findings, which looked at how age, gender, and profession affect math proficiency, at a national science fair here in Washington, D.C., in June.

It is the bright future and promise of students like Angelin, who make teaching worthwhile and rewarding experience. Good luck at the national competition, Angelin!

84TH COMMEMORATION OF ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, April 24 marks the commemoration of the massacre of the Armenian people in Turkey during and after the First World War. More than 1.5 million people were expelled from their homes and marched to their deaths in what is recorded as the first of this century's state-ordered genocides against a minority group. Tragically, at the close of the century we again bear witness to the universality of human cruelty and fanaticism as the Kosovar Albanians are ethnically cleansed from their homeland.

We must remember, we must reflect and we must learn. One of the great thinkers and advocates of our time—indeed, the conscience of this century—Elie Wiesel, has said that "indifference makes humans inhuman; indifference is always the friend of the enemy; indifference is not only a sin, it is a punishment." We must not be indifferent, Mr. Speaker, we must also act.

We remember the Armenians and their suffering, the incomprehensible magnitude of their loss. We honor those who perished. Yet, Mr. Speaker, we also remember the survivors and are inspired by their sacrifice, their strength and their creativity in building a future for the Armenian people. Today, independent Armenia guarantees the security and future of the nation and is a beacon of hope to Armenian people everywhere. Its people work tirelessly to strengthen democratic institutions and build a flourishing market economy to ensure peace and prosperity for generations to come. It is my hope, Mr. Speaker, that those to come will not have to sacrifice as their ancestors have. It is also my hope that the parties to the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh will renew and redouble their efforts to reach a negotiated settlement and to help bring peace and prosperity to the entire region.

Mr. Speaker, the Armenian people did not "disappear," as their persecutors intended. They survived and they flourished. Their strength of spirit, endurance and prosperity of the Armenian people give hope for the future to all of us—especially those who suffer now.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of Child Abuse Prevention Month. There is nothing more important than the safety and protection of our children. To highlight the seriousness of this issue, the month of April was declared Child Abuse Prevention Month by President Reagan in 1982.

In 1997, nearly one million children were victims of either neglect, physical, emotional or sexual abuse. In many cases, the children experienced all of these abuses. What is even more shocking is that in 1996, a little more than three children died each day as a result of child abuse or neglect. These numbers are startling and in my opinion are unacceptable. Our children deserve to grow up in an atmosphere that is not filled with fear and violence.

The good news is that child abuse is preventable. Through the proper assistance we can put an end to this monstrous action. Children represent the most vulnerable and precious part of our society and we must do what we can to protect them.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the seriousness of this issue and supporting actions to prevent this problem from getting bigger.

IN HONOR OF THE SHERWIN- WILLIAMS CO.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sherwin-Williams Co., and its charitable arm, the Sherwin-Williams foundation, as one of Cleveland's most charitable corporate partners.

The company not only employs thousands of people in the greater Cleveland area, but also contributes significant funds and strong support for some of the region's most deserving organizations. The CEO of Sherwin-Williams, Jack Breen, has just completed his twentieth year with the company. Mr. Breen has been the recipient of a number of awards, including top honors from the Wall Street Transcript in the Building Materials Industry. In 1996, he was inducted into the Business Hall of Fame sponsored by Cleveland Magazine's Inside Business. This award is presented to individuals who not only have achieved business success, but who generously shared that success with the community. Mr. Breen is a native Cleveland, and during his time with the Sherwin-Williams Co., the stock price has increased about 50 times and earnings per share have increased dramatically.

Beginning on April 26, 1999, Sherwin-Williams will again demonstrate its commitment to the Northeast Ohio community through a week-long "Spruce Up Our Parks" program which will benefit Cleveland's Lakeshore State Park. Working in conjunction with Keep America Beautiful, Inc., Sherwin-Williams will underwrite the cost of paints and supplies that will

be used to beautify various structures throughout Edgewater, Gordon, Euclid Beach, Villa Angela, Wildwood, and Mentor Headlands parks.

Sherwin-Williams will also coordinate with Keep America Beautiful to oversee the work of more than 500 students from area high schools who are serving as volunteer painters for the event. The participating high schools include: Lakewood, St. Edward, St. Ignatius, Glenville, John Hay, Collinwood, Benedictine, Villa Angela-St. Joseph, Harvey, Riverside, Kirkland, and Mentor High Schools.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring the good work the Sherwin-Williams Company is doing to help beautify the Cleveland area and parks across the country.

ROUND TOP, TX, DEDICATES A NEW POST OFFICE

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, dedication ceremonies will soon be held in Texas to mark the completion of a new postal facility in Round Top, TX. This is the first new post office in this city since the 1968 dedication of the old one.

The route this new post office took from blue print to completion expresses the basis of being a Texan and an American. The U.S. Postal Service approached Round Top with a pre-designed post office building that had apparently been designed in Washington without the input of the people of Round Top. In true Texas fashion the people of this city stood up to say this new building would be in their town for their use and therefore insisted that it reflect the city in which it would be built. As a result, they now have a beautiful new building that reflects their history as a community and as Texans. Since Round Top has had a post office since the days of the Republic of Texas, it is only fitting that this new building points to the proud heritage of our great state.

Our Founding Fathers intended for decisions to be made as close to the people as possible. By rejecting plans that had no connection to their city, the people of Round Top continue to live up to this great tradition.

Mr. Speaker, Postmaster Carol Oritz and her community are deservedly proud of their new post office and the history behind it. As our great state continues to grow and our major cities get even larger, we would be wise to remember the people of Round Top and other such communities.

It is fitting that the new post office in the Texas town of Round Top today flies an American flag that very recently flew over our nation's capitol building.

TRIBUTE TO THE ANCIENT ORDER
OF HIBERNIANS DIVISION 21 AND
LADIES ANCIENT ORDER OF HI-
BERNIANS DIVISION 22

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to pay tribute to the Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 21 and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 22 on the occasion of its Annual Hibernian Dance.

This event is not only a festive happening, it is a chance for all of us to celebrate and pay tribute to Mary Anne Kirby and Patrick (Pat) M. Moynihan who have been named as "Hibernians of the Year" by the Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 21 and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 22. This year's honorees truly represent the best of what our community has to offer.

Mary Anne Kirby, an active member of the Ladies Ancient Order of the Hibernians Division since 1980, was born in Lyrecompane, County Kerry, Ireland. After attending Renagown National School in County Kerry, Mary Anne immigrated to the Middle Village section of Queens and relocated to Rckaway Beach in 1962. Mary Anne was married on June 28, 1958 at the Resurrection Ascension Church in Rego Park to her late husband, Timothy Kirby, who was a member of the men's Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 21. With her loving husband, Mary Anne raised four wonderful children and currently takes great joy in the accomplishments of her four grandchildren.

Patrick (Pat) M. Moynihan was born in Dublin, Ireland in 1937 and is the second eldest of a family of nine. After immigrating to New York in 1957, Pat was inducted into the Army where he served with honor and distinction in the Armed Forces Medical Corps until his discharge in 1963.

Since his arrival in New York, Pat has been active in the Irish-American community. He is a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 21 and has served as the group's financial secretary, treasurer, historian and president. Pat has also served the Queens County Board of Hibernians as their organizer, historian, chairman of the grievance committee, chairman of the publicity committee, recording secretary, and vice president. He has also served as the chairman of by-laws and resolution committees at several biennial convention of the Queens County Board and has been a delegate to numerous state and national Hibernian conventions.

Both of today's honorees have long been known as innovators and beacons of good will to all those with whom they come into contact. Through their dedicated efforts, they have each helped to improve my constituents' quality of life. In recognition of their many accomplishments on behalf of my constituents, I offer my congratulations on their being honored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 21 and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 22.

A TRIBUTE TO RON WOHLWEND
UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ron Wohlwend of Morris, Illinois, as he retires from his duties as President of the Grundy County National Bank.

In 1981, Mr. Wohlwend was elected as President of the Grundy County National Bank and has maintained that position for 18 years. Mr. Wohlwend joined the Bank in 1966 where he began his career. His integral role in the Bank's activity has contributed to its reputation in the community.

Mr. Wohlwend has served the banking industry well. He has been a member of the American Bankers Association's Community Banker's Council, the Illinois Bankers Association's Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Mr. Wohlwend also was the Chairman of the Association's Federal Legislative Committee and chaired the Banker's Advisory Committee at the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin.

Outside of the banking industry, Mr. Wohlwend has been a pillar of the city of Morris and Grundy County communities. Among the organizations Mr. Wohlwend has served are the Grundy County United Fund and the Morris Cemetery Association. He was President of the Grundy County Chamber of Commerce and served as Treasurer of Morris Community High School District #101, Saratoga Grade School District #60C, the Grundy Area Vocational Center, the Morris Cemetery Association, and the Grundy Economic Development Council. He is currently a member of the Grundy County Farm Bureau and serves on the Board of Directors of Illinois Valley Industries, the Morris Hospital Foundation, the Morris Downtown Development Partnership, Breaking Away, and the Joliet Junior College Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is fitting and appropriate to honor the achievements and years of service of Mr. Wohlwend. I wish Mr. Wohlwend's wife Jackie; his children Mary, Laura, and David; and his grandchildren Reilly and Taylor good will in the future. Also, I wish Mr. Wohlwend continued success with any future endeavors and hope he continues his leadership roles in the Morris and Grundy County communities.

IN CELEBRATION OF EARTH DAY
1999

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and ask my colleagues to join me in a commitment to the preservation of our environment as we celebrate Earth Day 1999.

We have made great strides in the conservation of our dwindling wilderness resources. I would like to thank Forest Service Chief Michael Dombeck for his decision to halt new road construction in roadless forest areas across the United States, and for his contin-

ued leadership in the preservation of these irreplaceable resources.

As someone who cares about protecting our environment, it has been frustrating to watch my colleagues in the majority pepper appropriations bills with language which would never pass Congress on its own merits. These special interest riders historically benefit only a few wealthy landowners and private interests; they do nothing for the good of our environment.

I ask my colleagues to join me and vote against any bill that will do damage to our environment. Our policies should help us to leave a legacy of clean air and water to our children and teach them the value of leaving that legacy to their children. I would sincerely hope that my colleagues share in my concern. Otherwise, they will take their place in history as the party that allowed the destruction of our nation's greatest resources.

Let's work together to ensure an environment in which our children can thrive.

IF IT WORKS, DON'T BREAK IT

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, if it isn't broken, don't fix it. If it works, don't break it.

I'm speaking in reference to the Social Security debate. Currently, some in Congress are looking at proposals to prevent the program's anticipated bankruptcy 32 years from now. In order to buy the system a couple more years of financial solvency, some of our colleagues are considering levying a new tax on state and local government employees who are currently covered by their own pension plans. They want to force newly-hired state and local government employees who would otherwise enjoy independent pension and disability programs with good returns to participate in Social Security which offers neither security nor a good investment opportunity.

If that isn't bad enough, by mandating new state and local employees into Social Security, they will short-circuit state and local programs by shutting down the capital stream necessary to maintain current benefit levels. Mandating Social Security will, in essence, break what isn't broken while failing to fix what is.

Mr. Speaker, five million state and local employees and two million retirees are covered by alternative plans. In Ohio, Colorado, California, Massachusetts, Nevada, Maine, Alaska, and Louisiana, over half of all state employees are covered by their own plans. In Texas and Illinois over one million employees are covered under state and local plans. Every state is impacted because about 75 percent of all public safety employees are not covered under Social Security. In Colorado there are more than 200,000 state, education, and local government employees who are outside of the federal retirement system.

These state and local disability and pension systems were developed because the original Social Security Act of 1937 excluded state and local governments from Social Security coverage. This was to avoid raising a possible Constitutional question of whether the federal government could tax state and local governments. Congress later amended the law to