

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MOUNTAIN VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Mountain View Middle School in Rio Rancho, NM. Mountain View was recently chosen by the U.S. Department of Education as a Blue Ribbon School and is one of only 198 schools in the United States that received this prominent award. The Rio Rancho public school system is a model of first-class learning, and Mountain View is a product of this exemplary system. It embodies all the characteristics for which all schools should strive.

It was my pleasure to meet recently with the principal of Mountain View, Kathy Pinkel, and congratulate her personally on this esteemed accomplishment. Joining me in offering congratulations was John Jennings, the mayor of Rio Rancho. On that occasion, Ms. Pinkel described the tireless labors that the faculty and staff have contributed to reach this crest of pride.

This is excellent news for the Rio Rancho community. This is one of the top education awards in the country, and I applaud all those involved in ensuring that education is a top priority in Rio Rancho. I call special attention to the faculty and staff at Mountain View—they obviously have a great passion for what they are doing, and this award is verification of their dedication. Also, community cooperation is crucial in making a school exceptional. I pay special tribute to the parents and also all the citizens of Rio Rancho who continue to be actively involved in the public school system. Such cooperation is crucial in order to make a school exceptional, and the entire Rio Rancho community can be extremely proud of this combined effort.

Blue Ribbon Schools are selected based on their effectiveness in meeting local, State, and national educational goals. Schools chosen for the award must display the qualities of excellence that are necessary to prepare young people for the challenges of the new century. Blue Ribbon status is awarded to schools that have strong leadership; a clear vision and sense of mission that is shared by all connected with the school; high quality educators; challenging and up-to-date curriculum; policies and practices that ensure a safe environment conducive to learning and schools that help all students achieve high standards.

Education is one of my top priorities in Congress. A strong and diverse education is an essential building block for the youth of society, whether it is today, or 100 years from now. Mountain View Middle School has been providing students with the tools to exceed in the tasks they will encounter throughout their lifetimes. It is imperative that we recognize and continue to support this educating process and all of those who contribute to it.

Mountain View Middle School in Rio Rancho, NM, has been a strong influence in the lives of the students they have taught and the entire community they have served. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging this accomplishment. I congratulate Mountain View Middle School on its Blue Ribbon award and thank all those involved for their invaluable contribution to the State of New Mexico and to the entire Nation.

HONORING LIEUTENANT CHARLIE JORDAN

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Lieutenant Charlie Jordan on the occasion of his upcoming retirement planned for August 31, 2000. Lt. Jordan has served 29 outstanding years with the Sterling Fire Department, in Sterling Colorado.

In September 1971, the area native joined the department as a volunteer to fulfill his desire to help his community. Over the years, he learned to follow the great examples of veteran leaders, and as a result on February 5, 1988, Charlie Jordan was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

Additionally, Lt. Jordan has served in a leadership position since 1995 on the board of directors for the Colorado Metropolitan Arson Investigation Association. Lt. Jordan has also been active in both the Logan County Crime Stoppers and American Red Cross.

Mr. Speaker, Lt. Charlie Jordan is a shining example of an individual who has given so much to his community. As a Member of Congress, I am pleased to recognize Lt. Jordan for his outstanding contributions to the Northeastern Colorado community. He is surely an example for us all.

HONORING FIRE CHIEF AL GRAMS

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to celebrate the contributions that Fire Chief Al Grams, of Chino Hills, California, has made to his community.

Chief Grams began his 36-year career as a firefighter with the City of Covina in 1964. He was promoted to Administrative Captain in 1974 and advanced to Battalion Chief in 1981. In 1987, the San Gabriel Fire Authority hired Chief Grams as an Administrative Chief, but he returned to the City of Covina in 1991 as a Battalion Chief. The Chino Valley Independent Fire District gained the valuable experience of Chief Grams in 1991 when he became their Division Chief of Operations. Just three years later, in 1994, he was promoted to Fire Chief.

Under his leadership, the Chino Valley Independent Fire District has witnessed a budget increase from \$11 million to \$13.5 million. The Fire District has also added new fire stations, including the status at Butterfield Ranch.

In addition to his public service, Chief Grams has sought to enrich his community by founding the Chino Valley Fire Foundation Citizens Helping In Educational Fire Safety (CHIEFS). This organization raises over \$30,000 each year to educate the community about fire and life safety. Chief Grams is also a member of the California Fire Chief's Association, Rotary, the International Fire Chief's Association, and he serves on the YMCA Board of Directors.

Chief Grams' 36-year career of fighting fires distinguishes him as a true American hero, worthy of our praise and gratitude.

CONGRATULATIONS, DARLENE L. COX

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating a highly accomplished professional, Ms. Darlene L. Cox, who has been selected to receive a 2000 Congressional Community Service Award for her outstanding civic work in the Tenth Congressional District. I have had the privilege of working with Ms. Cox on community health issues, and her selection to receive this honor is truly reflective of her hard work and commitment to excellence as president and CEO of the East Orange General Hospital.

Ms. Cox is the president and chief executive officer of Essex Valley Healthcare, Inc. East Orange General Hospital in New Jersey, a position she assumed in 1999. Under her leadership, East Orange General Hospital has emerged as a key player in the delivery of quality health care and as a major employer of the community. During the course of a successful career spanning two decades, Ms. Cox has distinguished herself as a leader in the positions of health care executive and nursing administrator. Most recently, she served as Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer at the New York Presbyterian Hospital. Prior to that, Ms. Cox was chief nurse and administrator of Patient Care Services at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ).

While on a sabbatical from UMDNJ from 1991 to 1992, Ms. Cox served as a White House Fellow. In addition to serving as Special Assistant to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, she also served as Executive Assistant

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

to the President of the United States. Ms. Cox represented the University Hospitals as a witness before the House of Representatives Subcommittee of the House Government Operations Committee to discuss the impact of the AIDS crisis on the acute care environment. She has written and published several articles relating to patient care and presented a position paper on the Immigration Nursing Relief Act of 1989 to a Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee. Ms. Cox has held a number of prestigious academic positions. She has been the guest lecturer at various academic forums and was the keynote speaker to the Graduating Class of 1992 at Seton Hall School of Nursing in South Orange, NJ. She is a member of the North Jersey Unit of the Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, The Concerned Black Nurses of Newark, the New Jersey Hospital Association and other professional organizations. She has also participated in 100 Black Women Teen Mentoring and Health Fair projects and is the recipient of numerous professional and community service awards.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Cox and extending our very best wishes for continued success.

TRIBUTE TO MYKE REID

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to join the members of the Virginia Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO in paying tribute to APWU Legislative Director, Myke Reid. Mr. Reid is a native of Portsmouth, VA, and before he became a National Officer, he served many years as an officer of his own Local and State Organization.

Mr. Reid served the Norfolk Virginia Local as Business Agent (Executive Vice President), Steward and Editor; the State of Virginia as President, Legislative Director and Washington Regional Council Chair and Secretary-Treasurer.

Currently, Mr. Reid serves as the Assistant Legislative and Political Director for the American Postal Workers Union, the largest postal union in the world. With over 350,000 members, the APWU has members in every city, town, and hamlet in the United States. Serving in his third term as an elected officer of the union, Mr. Reid works as a lobbyist for APWU, as well as a member of the union's PAC Committee. Prior to his election as the Assistant Director in 1992, Mr. Reid served nine years as Special Assistant to the President of the American Postal Workers Union for legislative and political affairs.

During his tenure at APWU, Mr. Reid has worked to secure passage of Hatch Act Reform, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Federal Employees Retirement System Act, the Spouse Equity Act, the Postal Employees Safety Enhancement Act, the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act and many others. Mr. Reid has diligently worked to protect the viability of the Postal Service and oppose Postal Privatization.

Active in the community, Mr. Reid has been appointed by Democratic Governors of Virginia to the Virginia Employment Commission Advi-

sory Board, and the Virginia Community College Board, as well as the Human Rights Commission by his mayor. He has chaired the Alexandria Democratic Committee for two terms, and the Alexander Redevelopment and Housing Authority Board, also for two terms. He has served on the Democratic National Committee's Platform Committee, and was elected as a Delegate in 1988 and 1992 to the Democratic National Conventions.

He has also served on the board of the National Consumers League, and Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington and recognized on several occasions with inclusion in Marquis Who's Who and by Outstanding Young Men of America. Active as a volunteer for many political campaigns. Mr. Reid was privileged to serve as an "International Observer" during the election of former President Nelson Mandela of South Africa.

Mr. Reid has a B.A. from Norfolk State University and resides in Alexandria, Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I join the Virginia State APWU in recognizing the very special achievements of Myke Reid, whom I have known very well since he came to Washington, DC in 1983 by virtue of my previous capacity as Chairman of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee and currently as Ranking Member of the House Education and Work Force Committee. APWU is certainly well served to have Mr. Reid representing their Union before the Congress of the United States.

HONORING PASTOR EDWARD L. MCCREE, SR.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you and my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives today on behalf of one of Pontiac, Michigan's top citizens. From June 11 through June 18, the congregation of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Pontiac will gather and celebrate the work of its Pastor, Edward L. McCree, Sr., and his 27 years of commitment as Macedonia's spiritual leader.

After graduating from Ferndale High School in 1960, young Edward McCree went on to Detroit Bible College and the University of Detroit. He then uprooted his family to Tennessee, where he attended the American Baptist College. Edward achieved what he considered his mission to possess a thorough education, and graduated from American Baptist College in 1973. Edward was soon ordained at Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Mount Juliet, TN.

Edward returned his family to Michigan that same year, as he was chosen as Pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, where he has remained ever since. During these years, Pastor McCree has reached out to spread the Lord's word to thousands of people. In 1990, he preached in the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education to more than 40,000 people. He also organized a television outreach ministry which also allowed him to reach a wide audience. As Pastor of Macedonia, Pastor McCree has worked selflessly and tirelessly to help his congregation grow physically, emotionally, and spiritually. He is a counselor and confidant to the entire Mac-

edonia family. He is a constant source of guidance to civic and community leaders, and people of all races, denominations, and walks of life. Pastor McCree has improved his church's technological equipment as well as the building itself, and organized the creation of a day care center and emergency food kitchen.

Pastor McCree is known not only throughout the Pontiac community, but throughout the country as a dynamic preacher, leader, lecturer, and community activist. He has served as State Coordinator and Administrative 1st Vice President of the Wolverine State convention, chairman of the American Baptist College Michigan Alumni Chapter, and has been recognized by "Who's Who in Black America."

Pastor McCree's influence is strongly felt in the local community as well. He has worked with the Pontiac Area Urban League, the Mayor's Advisory Committee, the Greater Pontiac Missionary Baptist District Association, and the OIC board of Oakland County.

Mr. Speaker, our community would not be the same without the presence and influence of Pastor Edward L. McCree, Sr. I know that I am a better person and a better Member of Congress because of his commitment to the Lord's work. And I know that our community is a better place in which to live because of Pastor McCree's spiritual mission. I am pleased to ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join in congratulating his 27 years of pastoral service.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4577) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Service, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes:

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Chairman, today we voted on H.R. 4577, the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education bill for fiscal year 2001 (FY 2001). On behalf of the educators, administrators and students in East Texas, I would like to express my strong opposition to the education appropriations outlined in this measure. The inadequate overall funding in H.R. 4577 completely undermines the public prioritization of education as a paramount concern in 2000.

Make no mistake—these education cuts come as no surprise. Beginning with the passage of the House budget resolution for FY 2001, my Republican colleagues have shown their true intentions with regard to education funding. As passed, the budget resolution provide \$56.8 billion for 2001 appropriations for education, training, employment, and social services—almost \$5 billion less than the level provided in the House Democratic budget and the President's budget. The conference agreement on the budget would eliminate Head

Start for more than 40,000 children and their families and provide 316,000 fewer Pell Grants to low-income students by 2005.

If enacted, these cuts would have serious consequences on the future of our schools and our children. Although our children have no legislative voice, they represent our nation's future and deserve our investment in their education today. As it stands, H.R. 4577 would cut funding for reading tours, teacher quality initiatives, bilingual instruction, class size reduction, school modernization, violence prevention initiatives, afterschool services and many other vital programs.

Specifically, the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill would cut \$1 billion in targeted investments to improve teacher quality and recruit new teachers. Further, it would completely repeal last year's bipartisan commitment to hire 100,000 new teachers to reduce class size in the early grades. H.R. 4577 also would ignore our disadvantaged children by eliminating Head Start assistance to 53,000 children, cutting bilingual instruction to 143,000 students, ending college preparation assistance for 644,000 low-income middle and high school students and denying school violence prevention aid to 40 urban, suburban and rural communities.

If enacted, H.R. 4577 would be a grave disservice to our children and the future of our nation. For these reasons and more, I oppose the unsatisfactory education funding levels in this appropriations bill.

Unfortunately, underfunded education initiatives is not the only problem with this bill. Particularly offensive is the language in the bill that would prohibit the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) from using funds to advance its ergonomics standard. Each year, our nation's workers experience almost two million work-related musculoskeletal disorders from overexertion or repetitive motion injuries due to unsatisfactory working conditions. A third of these injuries result in lost workdays and decreased worker productivity.

As a result of limiting funding to implement the ergonomics standard for the past five years, America's workers have lost approximately \$45 million in workers compensation and other related costs while failing to prevent 1.5 million disabling injuries. It is time for Congress to provide relief to the hundreds of thousands of workers who continue to suffer these painful injuries by allowing OSHA to move forward with its safety standard for work-related ergonomic hazards.

H.R. 4577 also fails to provide the requested adequate levels of funding to further workforce development by eliminating employment services assistance for over 400,000 dislocated workers. In addition, this bill cuts millions of dollars of requested funding levels for programs specifically designed to improve working conditions while providing the means to protect employment insurance, wages and pensions. As corporations continue to maximize their profits through mergers, the need for Congress to look after the health, safety and welfare of working families is now more pressing than ever.

Finally, this legislation lacks appropriate funding levels for health care and senior citizen programs. Even as my Republican colleagues bemoan the state of health care, they refuse to fund the necessary programs to increase access and decrease costs. H.R. 5477 denies \$125 million requested by the Presi-

dent for over 250,000 Americans with long-term care needs. This bill eliminates \$36 million to ensure that 1.6 million elderly and disabled receive quality nursing care. Additionally, instead of working to ensure that retiring Americans receive their Social Security benefits in a timely manner, H.R. 5477 cuts Social Security Administrative expenses by \$156 million. The result of this cut will be increased waiting times for 26 million individuals and delayed claims for 100,000 individuals.

H.R. 5477 does not only neglect the elderly and the disabled, but it also targets children for critical health program cuts. Rather than meeting the President's request for funding for mental health treatment services, this bill cuts \$40 million from programs to care for 2,200 children with serious mental illnesses and blocks grants to 50 communities to reach individuals not currently receiving services within the mental health system. Finally, H.R. 5477 falls \$44 million short of the amount needed to adequately address substance abuse treatment for over 28,000 addicted individuals seeking treatment.

Clearly, I cannot support this bill as written. In its current form, this legislation is nothing less than an insult to the American people. It inadequately and irresponsibly allocates money to Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. However, should this bill return from the Senate with the appropriate funding levels, I will gladly support it. I sincerely hope we can work out the problems and pass a responsible bill that responds to the needs of our children, workers, and elderly citizens.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN JACOBS

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to John Jacobs. One of the most well known and respected political journalists in Northern California, Mr. Jacobs recently passed away after a lengthy battle with cancer. His friends and family will gather for a memorial service on Thursday, June 15. I ask all my colleagues to join with me today in saluting John Jacobs.

After attending Lowell High School in San Francisco, Mr. Jacobs graduated Phi Beta Kappa from UC Berkeley in 1972. He earned a master's degree in American history at the State University of New York, Stony Brook, in 1973 and a master's degree in Journalism at UC Berkeley in 1977.

John Jacobs was recognized as a Knight Professional Journalism Fellow at Stanford University in 1984-1985 and a visiting scholar at Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies. It was there that he researched most of his book, "A Rage for Justice," a biography of Phil Burton.

At the beginning of his distinguished literary career, Mr. Jacobs spent a year as a general assignment reporter on the national desk for the Washington Post. He later made his mark writing for his hometown newspaper, the San Francisco Examiner. He wrote for the Examiner for 15 years before joining the Sacramento Bee in 1993 as a political editor.

In his many years in journalism, John Jacobs worked tirelessly to generate public interest in politics. He helped to define politics in

Northern California while defending American democracy. Despite his criticism of ideological politics in this deeply cynical age, his belief in our system shone through. He challenged us to examine the political system from a different perspective. In doing so, he celebrated politics in a time when few others did.

John Jacobs maintained his perspective and generated his positive attitude through his love for his family. His wife (Carol Bydolf) and children (Max and Marguerite) contributed to his caring and generous personality. He refused to use his position to attack or belittle others. He will be remembered for his vigor, his optimism, and his hunger for knowledge in an arena that he truly adored.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to pay tribute to John Jacobs, a truly outstanding member of our community. Mr. Jacobs' columns have become a part of our lives in Sacramento and the Bay Area, and his presence in Northern California will be sincerely missed. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in celebrating his accomplishments and extending our deepest condolences to his family.

HONORING MR. STAN PILCHER

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Mr. Stan Pilcher who is retiring after 35 years of service as an Extension Agent for Colorado State University. His years of dedication in the Washington County office have earned him numerous accolades from his colleagues.

In 1965 Mr. Pilcher graduated from the University of Arizona with a bachelor's degree in entomology and thereafter took his first position in Yuma, CO. The following year he pursued a master's degree from Colorado State University, and upon completion, began work in the Washington County Extension Office.

In northeastern Colorado he is recognized as the primary contact for developing control measures in order to prevent pest outbreaks. Specifically, Mr. Pilcher's essential work fighting against the Russian Wheat Aphid, along with developing Best Management practices for chemigation in the Colorado Clean Water Act, and experiments for environmentally safe biological controls are commendable to the agriculture community.

I wish Mr. Stan Pilcher a very happy retirement, and graciously thank him for his example of steadfast dedication to the agriculture community.

COMMENDING CARL H. LORBEER MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the students, teachers, parents, and support staff of Carl H. Lorbeer Middle School, the newest Blue Ribbon Award school in California's 41st Congressional District.

Carl H. Lorbeer Middle School, located in Diamond Bar, California, is part of the Pomona Unified School District. Home to 950

seventh and eighth-graders, its student body is representative of California's diverse culture. But despite the various backgrounds represented, each student is expected to contribute to a learning environment which demands high expectation. As a result, over 500 students make the honor roll each semester.

The teachers and staff of this school are committed to giving "whatever it takes" to meet the needs of their students. This goal frequently requires involving the parents and community in school activities.

This combination of high expectations for students, committed teachers and staff, and parental involvement has made Carl H. Lorbeer Middle School one of America's Blue Ribbon Schools.

TRIBUTE TO MARY L. CARROLL

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring a special person, Ms. Mary L. Carroll, on the occasion of her retirement from Bell Atlantic after 32½ years of loyal service.

Ms. Carroll began working for the Bell Telephone Company in New Jersey on December 9, 1967, as a telephone operator. In 1972, she was promoted to Service Assistant, a position she held until her retirement on September 17, 1999. Ms. Carroll became active in her union, the Communication Workers of America, where she held a number of key positions. She served as group leader for 9 years, secretary-treasurer for 6 years, and as president for three consecutive terms. She continues to hold that position for Local 1006. Ms. Carroll has earned an outstanding reputation for fairness, leadership, and concern for others.

Family has always been important to Ms. Carroll, who was the oldest of 12 children born to her parents John and Annie Mae of Henderson, NC. She takes pride in her own children, Raymond, Valencia, and Ray and her grandchildren Jovan, Andrea, Ray Sean, and Little Raymond. In addition, she treasures her extended family at Bell Atlantic and the Communications Workers of America.

On June 16, 2000, family and friends will gather in New Jersey for a retirement celebration in honor of Ms. Carroll. Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Carroll on a job well done and in wishing her all the best as she begins a new phase of her life.

THE BACA RANCH

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to bring to your attention the beautiful Baca Ranch which lies in my third congressional district of New Mexico. I have worked very closely with the entire New Mexico congressional delegation: Senator PETE V. DOMENICI, Senator JEFF BINGAMAN, HEATHER

WILSON, the gentlelady from the 1st District, and Representative JOE SKEEN of the 2nd District, to ensure that the Baca Ranch can become part of our citizens' patrimony. It is my hope that very soon this chamber will favorably consider and approve the acquisition of the Baca Ranch that all of us in the delegation have worked so intently for. I believe that we must preserve this natural treasure for the future generations in New Mexico and throughout our country.

New Mexico Magazine is the oldest state magazine in the United States. Every month this periodical publishes articles and items of interest that touch persons who are interested in or feel affection for the Land of Enchantment. The June 2000 issue contains a beautiful layout that includes a description and photographs of the Valles Caldera by Douglas Preston and photographer Christine Preston. The editors of New Mexico Magazine have granted me the honor of inserting the text of this article into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD so that everyone can share in the wonder that is the Baca Ranch.

[From The New Mexico Magazine, June 2000]

BUYING THE BACA

(By Douglas Preston)

N.M. 4, the main road through the Jemez Mountains, climbs through steep canyons and ponderosa forests for many miles. As it reaches the heart of the mountains, a spectacular vista breaks out: a high meadow of incredible vastness, called the Valle Grande, ribboned with streams and ringed by 11,000-foot peaks. Those who stop to admire the view can't help but notice the barbed wire fence and "No Trespassing" signs that indicate this enticing valley and the mountains beyond lie on private property.

This is the Baca Location No. 1, a 100,000-acre ranch embedded within the Santa Fe National Forest. For more than half a century the federal government has tried to acquire this extraordinary piece of land. Last fall the Forest Service and the family that owns the property, the Dunigans, reached a tentative agreement to transfer the property to the American people for \$101 million. All that remains is for Congress to provide the funds. If the deal goes through it will be one of the largest and most important land acquisitions in the American West in decades.

The Baca Location No. 1—also known as the Baca Land and Cattle Company—encompasses one of the legendary geological landscapes in America, known as the Valles Caldera. The Valle Grande and the mountains and valleys beyond are the remnants of a gigantic crater, called a caldera, formed by an eruption more than a million years ago. Much of what we know about volcanic caldera formation comes from decades of exploration of the Valles Caldera. It is one of the world's most intensively studied geological landscapes.

An observer standing on the site of Santa Fe 1.2 million years ago, looking westward, would have witnessed the birth of the Valles Caldera in a cataclysm of breathtaking violence. Before the eruption, our observer would have seen a grouping of interlapping volcanic peaks not unlike the Jemez Mountains today, shaped by earlier volcanic activity. (Polvoderia and Chicoma Peaks in the Jemez today are remnants of these earlier volcanoes.) Contrary to popular belief, there was never a mountain anywhere near as high as Mt. Everest at the site. The highest peaks in this earlier range were probably about 12,000 feet—the same as the Jemez today.

The big blowup started out small—some faint earth tremors, the distant sound of

thunder and a cauliflower of ash rising into the azure sky. Because the prevailing winds were blowing out of the southeast carrying the ash toward Utah, our Santa Fe observer would have had an excellent view. Over the days and weeks, a nascent volcano gradually built up through fresh eruptions, each bigger than the last. And then the climax came.

One or more furious explosions hurled clouds of ash 100,000 feet into the atmosphere, where they formed a gigantic mushroom cloud. The sounds of the explosions were so thunderous that they bounced off the upper atmosphere and echoed around the curve of the Earth, to be heard thousands of miles away. Like a firestorm, the eruption sucked air inward, generating gale-force winds of 75 to 100 miles an hour. The cloud created its own weather system. As it rose in the sky, lightning ripped through it, and it began dropping great columns of rain and sooty hail.

As the magma emptied out from below the Earth's surface, the underground roof of the magma chamber began to collapse. The volcano slumped in, cracking in concentric circles and triggering earthquakes. A gigantic depression formed. The pumice and ash, instead of being shot upward out of a single pipe, now began squirting out of every crack and crevice in the roof of the magma chamber. The eruption became horizontal instead of vertical. Huge avalanches of ash, glowing orange at more than a thousand degrees, raced down the mountainsides at speeds greater than 150 miles an hour, flattening thousands of trees in their path. (The cylindrical holes left by these trees would be found much later by geologists.)

When these superheated avalanches hit the Rio Grande, they vaporized the river with a fantastic roar. The ash probably dammed the river, causing it to back up into a lake. When the water finally burst through, devastating flash floods swept downstream. The spreading clouds of ash created darkness so profound that at midday you could not see the hand in front of your face. When the dust finally settled, our observer in Santa Fe would have seen the outline of the Jemez Mountains much as they appear today, minus Redondo Peak. That mountain eerily rose up later, a blister in the earth pushed up by rising magma that never broke out to make a new volcano. The collapse of the magma chamber left a giant crater, or caldera, which soon filled with water to become a crater lake. Over the years, there were flurries of smaller eruptions, and gradually the lake bottom filled with sediments and lava flows to make a gentle floor. The lake eventually broke out and drained. Grass covered the fertile bottomlands, creating the Valle Grande and other vast grass valleys on the ranch, such as the Valle San Antonio and the Valle Toledo. Although the last eruption took place 60,000 years ago, the area remains volcanically active. Hot springs and sulfur vents scattered across the Baca attest to the presence of magma not far from the surface, seismic data indicates a large body of magma sits about 6 to 10 miles down. The Jemez will very likely erupt again.

The Valles Caldera, contrary to popular myth, is not the largest caldera in the world, or even in New Mexico. There is a larger caldera in the Mogollon Mountains, dating back 25 million years, and an even larger one in the San Juan Mountains. The Jemez eruption, for all its power, was only fair to middling in size. Geologists estimate the eruption spewed out some 300 cubic kilometers of pumice ash. This was big compared to Mount St. Helens (half a cubic kilometer) and Krakatoa (10 cubic kilometers), but smaller than the Mogollon eruption (1,000 cubic kilometers) or the San Juan (5,000 cubic kilometers.) Among geologists, however, the

Valles Caldera will always hold a special place.

Human beings probably first moved into the Jemez Mountains about 12 or 13 thousand years ago. It was richly settled by Pueblo Indians in the 13th and 14th centuries, and some of the largest pueblo ruins in the country can be found there. But by the time the Spanish arrived the Pueblo Indians had largely abandoned the mountains, except for seasonal hunting, to build their pueblos along the Rio Grande. The land passed from Mexican to American ownership through the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848.

Baca Location No. 1 was carved out of public land in 1860, to settle a land claim by the Cabeza de Vaca family. Comanches had run the Cabeza de Vacas off their gigantic Las Vegas land grant, and the Mexican government subsequently regranted the land to others. But the American courts found the original grant legal, and to settle it the Baca heirs were given the right to choose an equivalent amount of land elsewhere in the Southwest. No fools, their first choice was the Valles Caldera, hence the name Baca Location No. 1. (There is a Baca Location No. 2 in eastern New Mexico and other Baca locations in Colorado and Arizona.) The first survey indicated the Baca Location No. 1 comprised 99,289 acres.

While the rest of the Jemez remained public, this vast in-holding changed hands several times in the late 19th and early 20th century. In 1962, a young Texas oilman and entrepreneur from Abilene, James P. ("Pat") Dunigan, heard about the ranch and snapped it up for \$2.5 million, out from under the nose of the federal government, which had been trying to buy it from the previous owner. Dunigan was primarily interested in the Baca's potential for geothermal energy extraction and cattle grazing.

The Dunigan family spent every summer thereafter on the ranch, riding, working cattle, camping and going on field trips with environmental and geological organizations. According to his son, Andrew, it was these summers that changed the way Dunigan thought about the land: "The longer he owned the property," Andrew said, "the more he came to realize just what a unique natural asset it was—that its value was enhanced through conservation rather than development or resource exploitation."

As a result, Dunigan made many changes that greatly improved the health of the land. He undertook a long and expensive lawsuit against the New Mexico Timber Company to terminate its logging of the Baca, which had scarred many hillsides with roads and clearcuts. He halted serious overgrazing by reducing the cattle load from 12,000 to 5,000 head. He also successfully fought the Public Service Company of New Mexico's ill-advised OLE plan to run high-tension transmission lines through the Jemez, which would have cut through the Cerro Toledo highlands, one of the most remote and beautiful parts of the ranch. A prescribed burn program helped maintain the balance between grasslands and forests.

Dunigan's efforts created, among other things, a superb habitat for elk. In mid-century, 107 elk from Jackson Hole and Yellowstone had been introduced in the Jemez Mountains. The elk population grew rapidly. It stands at 8,000 today, many of which summer on the Baca's 30,000 acres of grasslands.

According to his family, Dunigan often expressed his hope that the land would end up going to the American people. In late 1978 he began discussing the sale of the ranch to the federal government, but the negotiations ended when Dunigan unexpectedly died in 1980. The Dunigan family reopened discussions with the government in 1997, but they fell apart in early 1999 over issues of confidentiality.

"But there was a realization on everyone's part," says Andrew, "that we had come a long way and that this was such an important thing that it was worth putting aside our differences." This they did, and the Dunigan family and the government agreed on a price. Final negotiations are in progress, and Congress has made steps to appropriate the funding. The Baca acquisition enjoys strong support from almost every organization in the state concerned with land issues, from the Northern New Mexico Stockmen's Association to the Sierra Club. It has the backing of the New Mexico Congressional delegation from both parties, as well as the Clinton administration. Most importantly, it has the strong support of the people of northern New Mexico. This time around, it seems likely that the deal will go through.

The Baca is a magical place, one of the most extensive high-mountain grasslands in the United States. It is a land of deep fir forests shrouded in morning mists; of sweeping meadows dotted with elk and mule deer; of aspen groves that turn the hillsides gold in the fall; of high mountains echoing with the whistling cry of bald eagles; of clear streams alive with jostling trout. Mountain lions, bobcats, pine martens and black bears prowl its mountain slopes. It hosts a number of rare species, including one found only in the area, the Jemez Mountains salamander. It is also a land of hot springs, obsidian beds, Indian ruins and historic buildings—including several decaying movie sets.

The conversion of the Baca to public ownership will involve an experiment unique in the history of public land management. The Baca will become a trust wholly owned by the federal government, called the Valles Caldera Trust. It will remain a working cattle ranch, so far as that is consistent with the preservation of wildlife, scenery and recreation. Within 15 years it is supposed to become self-sufficient financially. The exact details will be worked out by a board of trustees drawn from groups that normally hate each other: ranchers, conservationists, National Park and Forest Service employees, financial experts, game and fish managers, archaeologists, biologists and commodity industry representatives.

Denise McCaig, the Baca acquisition coordinator for the Forest Service who was instrumental in seeing the deal through, called the arrangement unique and challenging. "Having representatives from these different interests could be helpful, but it could also create difficulties. If they can come to this working toward a common objective, it will be good. But if they come to the position working from their own self-interest, they will have problems." She laughed: "Oh yeah, it will be an interesting experiment."

It has the potential, if it works, of becoming a model for cooperation among normally antagonistic groups concerning other public lands.

Over the years, many people have looked longingly over the barbed wire fence that separates N.M. 4 from the Valle Grande and wondered when they would ever have a chance to explore this splendid country. Even after the land goes into public ownership, it will be two years at least before the details of access and use can be worked out by the trustees. When that happens, this magical landscape, born in fire and violence, will finally be opened to the American public.

HONORING THE AMERICAN JAZZ MUSEUM

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, today the Smithsonian Institute will honor the American Jazz Museum located in Missouri's Fifth District. The American Jazz Museum, previously known as the Kansas City Jazz Museum, is the first museum in the world devoted exclusively to jazz. The gallery showcases the often difficult plight and rare successes of one of America's first original art forms.

The museum, which opened in 1997, is housed in a modern 50,000 square foot complex at the historic 18th and Vine district in Kansas City. Once inside, visitors find interactive exhibits and song samples which tell the story of jazz and its musicians in words, pictures, and sounds. Last year, the complex was visited by more than 350,000 visitors who came from all parts of the city, county, and world to relive the golden age of Kansas City jazz in the 1920's and 1930's. In this era, legendary Kansas City musicians such as Charlie "Bird" Parker, Count Basie, and Jay McShann developed swing and spread the popularity of jazz across the land.

Not only does the museum educate those who come in from the street to learn about jazz, but it also offers 4 symposia each year to learn about a specific jazz musician or topic. These conferences are attended by musicologists and music lovers from around the world. Past symposia have studied Parker, Miles Davis, and the recent revival of swing music. I encourage my colleagues to take a cyber tour of the museum at <http://americanjazzmuseum.com>.

In addition to educating its visitors, the museum has led to a revitalization of the historic area once home to several jazz clubs. The museum itself operates the Gem Theater to showcase today's up and coming musicians. There are now several other clubs and restaurants in the area, with a new commercial and residential complex scheduled to open within the next year. A once deserted urban neighborhood has returned to the days of people streets and late night music as a result of the success of the American Jazz Museum.

A grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the Doris Duke Foundation helped the Museum create JazzNet to establish an endowment and support organizations that preserve and present Jazz nationwide. The museum has applied for other grants for various projects including an academic analysis on the lives of jazz musicians. The study would determine working and living conditions of artists in four major cities, and the research team would identify areas in which support for jazz musicians will be most beneficial in furthering their work.

In three short years, the American Jazz Museum has become an impressive institution. It educates its visitors, entertains in its theater, analyzes the music and its musicians, and revitalized a deserted downtown area. Because of all these accomplishments, the American Jazz Museum is most deserving of special recognition from the Smithsonian Institute, and I congratulate them and wish them continuing success.

TRIBUTE TO DAN SANDEL

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, today we pay tribute to our friend, Dan Sandel, who will be awarded the Yitzhak Rabin Peace Award tonight by Americans for Peace Now. Dan has been chosen for this prestigious award for his many years of leadership and outstanding service in the struggle for peace in the Middle East.

Dan has not only served on the Board of Americans for Peace Now, he has served on many others including the Tel Aviv University Board and the Education for Israeli Civil Rights and Peace Board. His work to provide solutions to the Arab-Israeli conflict would certainly make the reserve officers and soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces who founded Americans for Peace Now in 1978 proud.

In addition to being a peace activist, Dan is a very successful businessman who founded Devon Industries. He not only invented and patented all of the disposable surgical equipment manufactured and distributed by Devon Industries, but he led the company so well that it was hailed as one of the fastest growing companies in the medical industry.

In 1994 after the devastating Northridge earthquake, Dan used his political acumen and understanding of business needs to help the Small Business Administration address the concerns of the local business community. His efforts helped effectuate a change in the law pertaining to the amount of money a business can receive for recovery from a natural disaster.

Dan is also involved with many political, community and charitable programs both in the U.S. and in Israel. The groups he has helped run the gamut from Bedouin communities in Israel to students and faculty in Malibu. He has been particularly concerned with the homeless and has even created a new program called "Fresh Start" which offers homeless people housing and jobs.

It is our distinct pleasure to ask our colleagues to join with us in saluting Dan Sandel for his outstanding achievements and to congratulate him for receiving the prestigious Yitzhak Rabin Peace Award.

IN HONOR OF MARIO DE LA TORRE

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mario De La Torre on the occasion of his retirement after forty years as a member and leader of the Laborer's International Union of North America. Mr. De La Torre's life is an example of the American dream fulfilled and he deserves recognition for his able service to his fellow workers and the San Francisco community.

Born in Mexico, Mario came to the San Francisco Bay Area as a young man. He immigrated to America in search of the opportunity that he knew would come from hard

work and determination. At first he worked a series of jobs, including as a dishwasher and a cook, but he soon found his calling in the construction trades. At age twenty-three, he joined the Laborer's International Union of North America Local 261 and went to work as Laborer for various contractors.

Mario's leadership abilities soon became clear and he rose to the position of foreman. Mario served as foreman for prominent companies where his talents drew the notice of the San Francisco Housing Authority, and he was recruited to assume a leadership role with the agency.

By 1978, Mario had firmly established himself in the community and with his fellow Laborers. Well-respected by his peers, he was appointed that year as Field Representative for Local 261. He then began a second phase of his career as a leader in San Francisco's labor community.

Over the next twenty-one years, Mario held several different positions for the laborer's Local 261, serving as an Executive Board member, a Vice-President, the Business Manager, and eventually President. In all of these capacities, he executed his duties with distinction.

As is the pattern with Mr. De La Torre's life, his able work earned him the recognition of others. In 1991 he was selected for the post of Vice-President of the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council. In 1993, he joined the Executive Board of the Northern California District Council of Laborers and later served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Council. During this time, he also became a Trustee for the Aggregates and Concrete Association and a Delegate to the San Francisco Labor Council.

Mario is a leader within our community, serving as President of the Centro Social Obrero, as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Labor Council of Latin American Advancement, and as an Executive Board member of the Mexican-American Political Association.

Mr. Speaker, I join Mario's four sons, Mario Jr., Oscar, David, and Hugo, in wishing Mario a very happy and healthy retirement. He truly is an American hero.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO GOLDY S. LEWIS

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, this week Goldy S. Lewis will turn 79. I salute her, and wish her a happy birthday and best wishes. Ms. Lewis is the co-founder of Lewis Homes in my district, which now goes under the name of Lewis Operating Corp., and has been active in the real estate development industry since 1955. She is still very active in the business. As we look to providing housing, it is important that we recognize the pioneering efforts of those who have sought to further the American dream of having a place of one's own. Our community is better off, because of it.

A graduate of UCLA, Ms. Lewis has received numerous honors, including American Builder Magazine 1st Award of Distinction, 1963; West End YMCA Homer Briggs Service to Youth Award, 1990; City of Hope Spirit of

Life Award, 1993; Professional Builder Magazine Builder of the Year Award, co-recipient, 1988; National Housing Conference "Housing Person of the Year" Award, 1990; Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Inland Empire, 1990; Woman of the Year, California 25th Senate District, 1989; Distinguished Chief Executive Officer (with husband, Ralph M. Lewis), California State University, San Bernardino, 1991; City of Rancho Cucamonga Ralph and Goldy Lewis Sports Center, 1988; several other parks and sports fields named for the Lewises, including Lewis Park in Claremont. She has been listed in Who's Who in America (with her husband, Ralph M. Lewis), since 1980.

I have been very impressed with the extensive civic commitment of Ms. Lewis and her family. She has served on the City National Bank Advisory Board; UCLA Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Planning Dean's Council; Ralph and Goldy Lewis Hall of Planning and Development, University of Southern California; UCLA Foundation Chancellor's Associates; National Association of Home Builders, Building Industry Association of California, Baldy View Chapter; International Council of Shopping Centers; Urban Land Institute. She has served on the UCR Foundation Board of Trustees since January 1998, and was named (with her husband Ralph M. Lewis) Management Leaders of the Year, 1993.

In summary, it is indeed a pleasure to reflect on her many achievements, and to hope that she has many more, now that we have entered the new millennium.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE EARL T. SHINHOSTER

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Earl T. Shinhoster who tragically lost his life last Sunday, and to offer my condolences to his wife, Ruby, and son, Michael. Earl Shinhoster was a family man and friend on a private level, and a national hero in the civil rights movement through his involvement in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) on a very public level. His efforts were far reaching, and noticed across the nation, including the Sixth Congressional District of South Carolina which I represent.

Born in Savannah, Georgia, Shinhoster grew up in the eastside neighborhoods and graduated from Tomkins High School and Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. His first involvement in the civil rights movement was in the 1960s as a member of the Connie Wimberly Youth Council.

Shinhoster will be fondly remembered for many achievements, but perhaps most for his 30 years of dedicated service to the NAACP. He served in many senior positions, including National Field Secretary. He also served as acting Executive Director and Chief Economic Officer from August 1994 through 1996. During this time, the NAACP went through a period of unprecedented growth going from 600,000 members to nearly 1 million. Shinhoster is also credited with helping the NAACP out of a period of considerable financial instability and internal strife. Shinhoster

was a man of great ingenuity, integrity, and offered leadership to the NAACP in a time when the organization needed him most.

Aside from his service to the NAACP, Shinhoster served as the Ghana Field Director with the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs of Washington, D.C. He helped to implement the Institute's election observation process with the 1966 elections of Ghana's president and parliament. He was also instrumental in election monitoring in Nigeria and South Africa.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Americans he benefited during his lifetime of service, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a man who devoted his entire life to the cause of civil rights and the NAACP. Earl T. Shinhoster will be sadly missed, but his legacy will not be forgotten.

FLAG DAY

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize our nation's flag. June 14th marks Flag Day, and the 223rd birthday of "Old Glory." The flag symbolizes our national unity, our national endeavors, and our national aspiration. There is no better symbol of our country's values and traditions than the Flag of the United States of America. Our flag's proud Stars and Stripes have long inspired our people, and its beautiful red, white, and blue design is known around the world as a beacon of liberty and justice.

Flag Day—the anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777—was officially established by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30th, 1916. While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson's proclamation, it was not until August 3rd, 1949, that President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14th of each year as National Flag Day.

The stars and stripes on the flag represent more than just the original colonies and the number of states in this nation; they represent freedom and independence for Americans. In times of war, young soldiers have died to ensure it will continue to stand for a symbol of freedom. They rush to the front of the battle line to keep it waving strongly above the heads of their fellow soldiers. Our brave Armed Forces members carry "Old Glory" with them as they fulfill their mission to defend the blessings of democracy and peace across the globe; our banner flies from public buildings as a sign of our national community; and its folds drape the tombs of our distinguished dead. The Flag is a badge of honor to all—a sign of our citizens' common purpose.

The next time we rise to pledge our allegiance to our flag, let us also be reminded of our duty as citizens to keep this nation one, where liberty and justice can be enjoyed by all.

RULE OF LAW DETERIORATING IN INDIA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, Newsroom.org reported on June 6 that a group of human rights and religious freedom activists in India issued a written statement saying that political leaders have failed to guarantee the rule of law for religious minorities. This is significant, Mr. Speaker, because these are Indians saying this. The statement follows a similar one from the All-India Christian Council (AICC). The AICC said that it "holds the government responsible for the lack of safety of Christians in various parts of India."

The recent statement was signed by Hasan Mansur, head of the Karnataka unit of the People's Union for Civil Liberties; Ruth Manorama of the National Alliance of Women's Organizations; Sister Dolores Rego, who represents 10,000 Catholic nuns in India; and H. Hanumanthappa, former chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, among others.

The statement said that the Indian government is "incapable of guaranteeing the rule of law for protecting the right to life and security of peace-loving citizens" and "has become so anarchic as to have derailed democracy." Indian human rights activists are saying that there is effectively no democracy in India.

There have been several recent incidents. Just within the past few days a priest was murdered and five churches were bombed. A group of Christians was savagely beaten while distributing religious literature and Bibles. These are just the latest incidents of violence against Christians, a reign of terror that has been going on since Christmas 1998. In March, the Indian government murdered 35 Sikhs while President Clinton was visiting India. Remember that these Indian human rights leaders hold the government responsible for all these incidents. They were carried out by militant Hindu nationalists under the umbrella of the RSS, the parent organization of the BJP, the political party that rules India.

The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs, according to the Politics of Genocide by Inderjit Singh Jaijee of the Movement Against State Repression. And why does a democracy need a Movement Against State Repression? India has also killed more than 20,000 Christians in Nagaland, more than 70,000 Kashmiri Muslims, and tens of thousands of Dalits, Assamese, Manipuris, Tamils, and others. It is holding about 50,000 Sikhs as political prisoners without charge or trial, as well as thousands of others.

It offends me that our government continues to funnel aid to a government that has such a complete disregard for basic human rights. We should immediately cut off American aid to India until everyone there enjoys the liberties that we expect from democratic states. India should be declared a terrorist state. And we should put the Congress on record in support of self-determination for the people of Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and all the other nations seeking their freedom. That is what we can do to ensure freedom and the rule of law in the troubled South Asian subcontinent.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the Newsroom Article of June 6 into the RECORD.

INDIAN HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS CHASTISE POLITICIANS FOR DETERIORATING RULE OF LAW

DELHI, India, 6 June 2000 (Newsroom)—Prominent Indian advocates of human rights and religious freedom accused political leaders in a written statement of failing to guarantee the rule of law for social and religious minorities and appealed to the government to uphold the rule of law and India's constitutional democracy.

The All India Christian Council last week had issued a similar statement expressing concern "about the unabated violence against Christians" taking place in the state of Gujarat and elsewhere. The council said it "holds the central government responsible for the lack of safety of Christians in various parts of India."

Among the signatories of last month's statement were Hasan Mansur, a Muslim intellectual who also heads the Karnataka unit of the People's Union of Civil Liberties, a well-known civil rights group; Ruth Manorama of the National Alliance for Women's Organizations; Sister Dolores Rego, who represents 10,000 Catholic nuns in India; and H. Hanumanthappa, former chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Indians are "deeply disturbed about the virulent, premediated, and recurrent attacks on persons and institutions of the social, cultural, and religious minority communities being carried out in recent months by the Sangh Parivar (various Hindu groups) in different parts of the country," the advocates said. "The unending spate of propaganda unleashed against these communities is a matter of grave concern to us. We are very much distressed about the dubious manner in which the political leaders at the helm of affairs in this country today have been responding to such methodically orchestrated malicious behavior of these communal outfits."

Government at the national and state levels is so disorganized that it is "incapable of guaranteeing the rule of law for protecting the right to life and security of peace-loving citizens." It "has become so anarchic as to have derailed democracy that was built up very assiduously during the past 50 years," the group charged.

The statement comes amid continuing attacks against Christians and Muslims, as well as Dalits, the lowest group in India's caste system. Dalits typically perform the most menial tasks in Indian society and are shunned by members of upper castes.

The rights advocates expressed their shock at recent attacks on Christians and members of the so-called "untouchable" community in India. They took particular note of the murders of seven Dalits who were burned to death by members of the dominant castes in Kambalapalli village in the south Indian state of Karnataka on March 11. Eleven Dalits died in the same way last month in the north Indian state of Bihar.

"We are dismayed at the direction in which the nation is moving," the statement said: ". . . Social, cultural and religious minorities are the constant targets of these atrocious attacks. Recurrence of such assaults has become the order of the day. Inaction, or the lethargic response, to say the least, of the law-enforcing machinery is the maximum that the citizens are (acculturated) to expect from the governance system."

The Christian Council was especially critical of what it called "the whitewashing of communal incidents by the minority Commission" and apathy on the part of the Delhi

government in putting a stop to the violence. "These are not criminal attacks, but planned, deliberate attacks on the Christian community by the elements of the Sangh Parivar," the council said. "The culture of impunity that has been perpetuated is now getting out of control."

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL J. STACK,
JR.

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a personal friend of mine, attorney Michael J. Stack, Jr. in recognition of his commitment to society, the community, and also the legal profession.

Mike Stack, Jr. is the son of the former Congressman, Michael Stack from the Sixth Congressional District (West Philadelphia) of Pennsylvania. He himself is the father of five children and is married to the Honorable Felice R. Stack of the Municipal Court of Philadelphia.

Like his father, Mike Stack answered the call and served in the United States Armed Services with the Infantry in WWII. Mike was recognized for his service with various awards such as: The Good Conduct Medal, WWII Victory Medal, Army of Occupation medal, the WWII Honorable Service Lapel Button, and the Marksman Badge. He was recently chosen "Distinguished Man of the Year" by the Catholic War Veterans.

Mike Stack is also a political leader in the Fifty-Eighth Ward, where he maintains the position of Democratic Ward Leader, and has done so since 1970. As long as I have known him, he has managed to adopt a traditional style of avoiding the limelight so he can have a better view of the passing parade in a ward with 30,000 registered voters. I have been proud to work with Mike in making life better for the people of the Third Congressional District.

Mr. Stack is a trial lawyer, pilot, scholar, published author, law professor, and above all a "seanachi". He functions in all of these roles with ease and a natural grace.

With all of his accomplishments, he still maintains the greatest modesty. The number of people he has assisted quietly throughout the years may never be known, but is surely massive in number.

Mr. Stack attended St. Joseph's University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Economics. Following that, he graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He is currently a senior member of the Law firm, Stack and Stack.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Michael J. Stack, Jr. should be commended for answering the call of duty and serving in the United States Armed Service, and for working in the political sphere for a number of years in attempt to better the City of Philadelphia. I congratulate and highly revere Mr. Stack for all of his accomplishments and most importantly his recent naming of "Distinguished Man of the Year." I offer him my very best wishes both now and for the future.

HONORING MR. WILLIAM
DINSMORE

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special man in the 10th Congressional District. Mr. William Dinsmore of Alamo, California was recently awarded the 2000 Lifetime Achievement Award by the University of California, Santa Barbara Alumni Association.

This 1968 graduate has indeed had a lifetime of achievement. From 1985 to 1995 he served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of The Learning Company and built it into the premier brand of home and school educational computer software products in the United States. Under his leadership, The Learning Company earned more than a hundred awards for the exceptional quality of its product line for children and adults and achieved an extraordinary record of revenue and profitability growth. In 1992, The Learning company was deemed a "company to watch" by Fortune Magazine and was honored by Forbes Magazine as one of the "best small companies in the world."

In 1995 the Learning Company was acquired by Softkey Corporation and yielded the highest price-to-sales ratio ever paid for a software company. This serves as testament to Mr. Dinsmore's success. He is currently using his skills and expertise as a private investor and advisor to select West Coast early-stage companies involved in the Internet, software, and consumer product area.

I take great pride in honoring my constituent, William Dinsmore for his lifetime achievement. His contributions to business and to education have enriched the lives of many throughout the country.

HONORING THE MASTERCARD-
CARE PARTNERSHIP SUP-
PORTING GIRLS' EDUCATION IN
INDIA

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, we have read many accounts of the current economic revolution in India that is being driven by the technology-savvy labor force. While this movement has led to positive developments in India, there is still a serious gender-based educational divide, resulting in low literacy and education rates among women. Narrowing the divide can have a powerful impact, as noted in a recent World Bank report, *Engendering Development*. The study concluded that one of the best ways to fight world hunger and encourage global economic growth is to educate girls and women.

Today, Thursday, June 15, CARE, one of the world's largest relief and development organizations, holds its annual Capitol Hill event, "CARE Packages from Congress." At that event, CARE will announce that a donation from MasterCard International, which is headquartered in my Congressional district,

will support the completion of a six-year project for girls' education in India. The funding will provide primary education to thousands of young women in India this year. It will support 120 formal equivalent education centers serving 300 villages in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, states with the highest illiteracy rates in India. The gift is part of MasterCard's ongoing philanthropic efforts to serve youth and to improve access to education in the United States and internationally.

The project will enable 3,000 girls from the poorest areas in rural India to have access to primary education, and an estimated 25 percent of them will move on to mainstream education. Targeting girls between the ages of 6 and 14, the project plans school schedules, recruits and trains teachers, designs curricula and materials and involves the community to overcome the traditional obstacles to girls' education. With a female literacy rate of only 40 percent (compared to 64 percent for males), India has 196 million females who cannot read or write. In some rural areas, the rate for women drops to 12 percent. Currently, the school drop out rates for girls is 57 percent at the primary stage, 57 percent at the middle stage, and 74 percent at the high school stage, according to CARE statistics.

MasterCard's gift will enable CARE to provide valuable information about this alternative education program for girls to the Indian government so that it can be replicated. I congratulate CARE and MasterCard for their commitment to this very important cause.

HONORING JANET CARLSEN OF
NEWMAN, CALIFORNIA

HON. GARY A. CONDIT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, I rise here today to recognize the recipient of the John T. Silveira Award for 2000, my good friend, Janet Carlsen.

Janet is being recognized on Saturday, June 17th by the Newman Chamber of Commerce for her unselfish commitment to the community. Janet served as a member of the Newman City Council for twelve years. She then served 10 years as the first woman Mayor of Newman. Janet has never ceased to work on behalf of those who cannot help themselves. She has served with distinction on Gustine-Newman Soroptimist International, Orestimba 50-Plus Club, Newman's Women's Club, Newman Garden Club, Orestimba High School Booster Club, Rebekah Lodge, Newman Chamber of Commerce, Gustine Chamber of Commerce, the Newman Fall Festival Committee and the Stanislaus County Commission on Aging.

In 1993, Janet was recognized for her many civic contributions when the Newman City Council declared March 2, 1993 as Janet Carlsen Day. I consider it an honor to again recognize my dear friend, Janet Carlsen, for her fine leadership and dedication to our community.

COMMENDING ROGER HOLMES—
RECIPIENT OF THE 2000 NA-
TIONAL WETLANDS AWARD

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Roger Holmes, a friend, former Director of the Fish and Wildlife Division at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and a recipient of this year's National Wetlands Award. The sky blue water of Minnesota's ten thousand plus lakes have kept their sparkle because folks like Roger Holmes built a lifetime career around preserving Minnesota's precious resources.

A product of Minnesota's schooling, Roger received a bachelor's degree in zoology from the University of Minnesota where he also conducted graduate study in wildlife management. For the next 41 years, Roger received an even better education from the school of hard knocks learning how to combine on the ground know-how with academic knowledge, and at the same time, apply it to the political process. From his early days as a biologist on up to Assistant Supervisor at the Minnesota Conservation Department, and to his most recent position as Director of the Fish and Wildlife Division at the MDNR, Roger remained courageous and passionate, yet in tune with the bureaucratic process. In short, he knew his way around, suffered fools poorly, and made many directors and legislators look good along the way.

I had the pleasure as a State Representative of working with Roger during his stint with the Section of Game and Fish at the MDNR to pass the landmark Minnesota Outdoor Recreation Act with State Senator Willett, and enacting new protections for Minnesota nongame species. Throughout this time, Roger was outspoken and objective, not always giving answers that we "policymakers" wanted to hear during our brain storming sessions. Although the facts may not always have been pleasant, this process and Roger Holmes' forthright intellectual responses were translated into sound policy; the good result of a true public servant and defender of the environment.

More recently, Roger was one of the state's most outspoken supporters of the Conservation and Reinvestment Act which would provide \$350 million annually to the Pittman-Robertson fund for wildlife conservation and restoration. Receiving positive feedback from Holmes and other committed MDNR employees provided a good foundation for me to enter into negotiations for this legislation. Roger Holmes will not have the pleasure of directly using these funds, but it should be noted that indirectly this program is part of the legacy that Roger has shaped. Roger has become a fixture at the MDNR, and will be sorely missed in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, Roger Holmes deserves our utmost gratitude and admiration for all his hard work and dedication over the years. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Roger Holmes on this prestigious National Wetlands Award, and in wishing Roger, his wife Barbara, and his three children, Kristin, Brad, and Greg, all the best as they embark on a new beginning.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 60TH AN-
NUAL AMERICAN LEGION FLAG
RAISING DAY PARADE

HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th Annual American Legion Flag Raising Day Parade cosponsored by the American Legion and the Joint Veteran's Affairs Committee of West New York, NJ, in cooperation with the townships of North Bergen, West New York, and Guttenberg.

By honoring our veterans and our flag, the American Legion Flag Raising Day Parade expresses the enduring pride that we Americans feel in our country and our way of life; we can thank our veterans for both.

The two veterans organizations sponsoring this patriotic parade are vital to the preservation and celebration of American heritage. They understand the power and value of our history: Yesterday, they served in the armed services to preserve America; today, they serve in our communities to preserve our heritage.

It is important that we never forget our past and those who fought for our freedom and our future. That is why we remember and honor those who fought and died for our country—it is the least we can do for their sacrifice.

Today, I extend my gratitude to those who have come together to honor America's veterans, and I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the 60th Annual American Legion Flag Day Parade.

HONORING KATHI McDONNELL-
BISSEL FOR OUTSTANDING
SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to join the Milford Senior Center as they celebrate their 30th Anniversary and pay special tribute to an outstanding individual, and my dear friend, Kathi McDonnell-Bissell.

The senior community of Milford, Connecticut is indeed fortunate to have such a dedicated individual working on its behalf. As the Executive Director of this tremendous organization, Kathi has transformed the Milford Elderly Services Agency. When she first came to our community, the Elderly Services Agency was run by two full time and one part-time staff members and located in a church basement. Today, centered at the Milford Senior Center, the agency has grown into a quasi-municipal office, working with the Mayor and city officials to ensure that the ongoing needs of the elderly are a priority in the community. Kathi has been the driving force behind this incredible transformation—her unwavering commitment leaving an indelible mark on our community.

Kathi's extraordinary record of service to the residents of Milford extends beyond her work at the Senior Center. She has been an instrumental force in bringing a number of social

service programs to Milford, as well as creating a city-wide network of social services. She has played an integral role in the development of the city's first food bank, furniture exchange, and emergency housing programs. Kathi also began a city-wide project to ensure that no child in the city of Milford would go to bed hungry. Her many contributions to the entire Milford community are truly invaluable.

Kathi has been recognized by numerous local, state and national organization for her tremendous work—a remarkable tribute to her outstanding commitment to public service. Perhaps more importantly, behind the myriad of awards, citations, and recognitions, one can always find the warm, nurturing character that has endeared Kathi to everyone who has had the pleasure and privilege of working with her. I cannot begin to express my thanks and appreciation for the assistance that she has given to me, my staff, my family, . . . our community.

I am honored to stand today and join the family, friends, and community members who have gathered today to pay tribute to Kathi McDonnell-Bissell. I am sure I speak for many in saying that her undaunted spirit and vision has been an inspiration to us all. The Milford community is truly indebted to her for the compassion, generosity, and commitment she has shown.

OLAYA DANCE STUDIO

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to an integral part of our cultural community, the Olaya Dance Studio of corpus Christi, Texas. They will be holding their annual recital this weekend on Saturday, June 17, and I want them to know how much we appreciate what they do.

In the Coastal Bend of South Texas, Olaya Dance Studio contributes mightily to the entertainment of the area through the dancing of children. It is, after all, children who fascinate us as well as entertain us, and teach us a little bit about ourselves.

The dancers at Olaya range in age from 3 through adult. They do a host of dances but are known particularly for Flamenco, which is Spanish classical dance, and Folklorico, traditional Mexican dances from different regions in Mexico. There are nearly 100 dancers, and Olaya Dance Studio attracts both boys and girls.

There are certain times of the year when people around Corpus Christi just cannot get enough of these talented young people. These dancers perform a valuable cultural community service. South Texans celebrate two holidays that are unique to the Southwest Border, Cinco de Mayo and the 16 de Septiembre.

Cinco de Mayo pays homage to a great Mexican battlefield victory over the French in the 19th Century. The 16 de Septiembre celebrates Mexican Independence Day. On these two holidays, and for many other holidays throughout the year, including birthdays, anniversaries or other special occasions, the Olaya dancers are in great demand. They will even go to dinners held at homes of area restaurants to perform for special events.

Olaya Dance Studio is run by Olaya Solia, a director, choreographer, and performer who is dedicated to children and educating them through dance.

I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Olaya Dance Studio for the contribution they make to the community of Corpus Christi and the Coastal Bend.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S. 761, ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the conference report to the Electronic Signatures in Commerce Act.

This legislation will revolutionize how financial services are provided by allowing business transactions to be started and finished on-line; bringing together technology and the economy.

In addition, S. 761 increases the efficiency and ease of conducting financial business.

Imagine applying for a home mortgage or a car loan on-line. S. 761 not only eliminates unnecessary paperwork, it will save consumers time when they are applying for loans, insurance policies, and other financial services. No more waiting in line, no more being put on hold on the telephone, and no more waiting for applications to be mailed to you. Just the push of a computer key and consumers are able to complete and mail their applications to their financial institutions.

Due to State restrictions, only 1 percent of all mortgage and insurance transactions nationwide occur on-line. By removing these restrictions and allowing consumers to sign contracts on-line through an electronic signature, we can increase the number of automated transactions and reduce the heavy clerical and storage costs of paper files.

I am pleased that language was added to S. 761 which established "consumer consent" provisions requiring that consumers be given a choice as to whether they want to receive legal notices and records electronically or in writing. In order to prevent fraud, consumers would also have to grant or confirm their consent electronically before they would be allowed to receive electronic notices and records.

More Americans than ever before are relying on the Internet to conduct business transactions and manage their personal finances. S. 761 will play a vital role in e-commerce and in helping the United States to maintain its role as a technology leader in the global economy.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on final passage of S. 761.

IMPACT AID/TRIO

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. WATTS. Mr. Speaker, today I support two very important federal education pro-

grams: the Impact Aid program and the TRIO program.

Impact Aid is one of the oldest federal education programs, dating back to 1950. Impact Aid compensates local educational agencies (LEAs) for the substantial and continuing financial burden resulting from federal activities. These activities deprive LEAs of the ability to collect property or sales taxes from these individuals, for example members of the Armed Forces living on military bases, even though the LEAs are obligated to provide free public education to their children. Therefore, Impact Aid is a federal payment to a school district intended to make up for a loss of local tax revenue due to the presence of non-taxable federal property.

Nationwide, there are approximately 1,500 federally impacted school districts that are educating 1.3 million federal children. In Oklahoma, there are 287 Oklahoma school districts with federal property. Considering the staggering number of federally impacted children, it is abundantly clear that the federal government has an obligation to federally impacted schools.

Impact Aid is one of the only federal education programs where the funds are sent directly to the school district, and therefore, almost no bureaucracy. In addition, these funds go into the general fund, and may be used as the local school district decides. As a result, the funds are used for the education of all students, and there is no rake-off by states or the federal government to fund bureaucrats.

In addition, it is imperative that America's students not only receive a K-12 education, but also a secondary education. The TRIO programs provide services and incentives to increase students' secondary and post-secondary educational attainment. The support services offered by TRIO are primarily to low-income students, first generation college students, and disabled students. Students from low-income families are significantly less likely than other students to persist in college once enrolled and to graduate. While access has been expanded and college campuses have grown more diverse, the problem of college attrition continues to contribute to the gap in educational attainment between disadvantaged students and their classmates.

Because they offer a wide range of support services, the TRIO programs have an extensive history of success. Examples of support services include instruction in reading writing, study skills, math and other subjects; academic counseling; career options; assistance in the graduate admission and financial aid processes; and mentoring. TRIO has assisted countless numbers of students by helping them to succeed in obtaining undergraduate and graduate degrees from institutions of higher learning. A good education opens up doors of opportunity to thousands of students who otherwise would never have a chance at a productive future.

By increasing its support, the federal government can assist schools everywhere in providing a quality education to thousands of children across the country. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting an increase in funding for the Impact Aid and TRIO Programs. Millions of students depend on these programs for a quality education. Let's not disappoint them.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIR BALANCE PRESCRIPTION DRUG ADVERTISEMENT ACT OF 2000

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Fair Balance Prescription Drug Advertisement Act, a bill to deny tax deductions for unbalanced direct-to-consumer (DTC) pharmaceutical advertising placing more emphasis on product benefits than risks or failing to meet Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act requirements.

This bill will ensure that prescription drug advertisements provide the public with balanced information concerning product risks and benefits. For example, the bill requires that pharmaceutical ads utilize equivalent space and type size in print ads and equal air time in broadcast media—such as television, radio and telephone communication systems—for risks and benefit descriptions. Today, most drug advertising emphasizes product advantages while failing to clearly—if at all—explain often numerous potential disadvantages.

By denying any tax deduction for such advertising, this bill will encourage drug companies to halt these harmful practices that have been shown to increase health care expenditures, mislead the public, adversely affect physician prescribing practices and lead to unnecessary injuries and deaths. Responsibilities of the FDA and Treasury Departments are to be clearly delineated through regulation.

Since the FDA loosened its DTC advertising requirements in 1997, drug companies have doubled their advertising budgets and spent billions extolling the benefits of their products. DTC advertising increased nearly 20-fold during the 1990s. Last year, drug companies spent nearly \$2 billion advertising to consumers, with \$1.1 billion for television ads alone.

As one would expect, such advertising has a direct impact on drug expenditures. DTC advertising leads to more physician office visits, increased patient requests for expensive, brand name drugs—even where a generic drug is available—and over-prescribing of optional "lifestyle" drugs. Americans spent more than \$100 billion on prescription medicines last year—i.e., about 10 cents in every health care dollar. U.S. sales for the antihistamine Claritin, No. 1 in DTC advertising, were \$2.3 billion last year, while the well-advertised heartburn medication, Prilosec, brought-in \$3.8 billion in sales. Not surprisingly, drug spending increased at a rate of about 15%–18% last year and is on the rise.

Contributing to overall increased expenditures, drug prices continue to soar. On average, prices for the 50 most-prescribed drugs for senior citizens increased at twice the rate of inflation over the past six years—with some drug prices increasing at four times the rate of inflation. Business Week reports that the hikes in drug prices are not only tied to new "wonder pills," but also to the drug industry's bloated advertising budget.

Such spending is particularly troublesome since consumers receive inadequate information about the drugs they purchase. More and more commonly, both television and print ads have become the subject of ridicule due to

their inaudible or illegible short list of warnings. A recent cartoon in the Washington Post mocked the typical concluding remarks of a prescription drug TV ad: "WARNING: This drug commercial will be followed by a disclaimer that may cause nausea, disgust, and serious doubts." A typical Washington Post newspaper ad for Prilosec highlights the drug benefits on a full-page, large print, color ad, and includes a prominent \$10 rebate offer. Yet the most important drug information—warnings, contraindications, indications, usage, precautions and adverse reactions—appear on the next page of the paper, separated by two, full columns of World News and in type size that is almost too small to be read by the naked eye. Unfortunately, such advertising has become the norm.

Although the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations and guidelines currently regulate drug advertisements, pharmaceutical ads most often fail to provide the public with adequate information about potentially dangerous drug side effects. RxHealthValue is a new, independent group, representing more than 30 consumer groups, private employers, purchasers, health care providers, labor unions and academics. Last month, this organization recommended that the FDA "develop standards for full disclosure of drug risks and benefits information for all prescription drugs advertised directly to consumers." The group also called for specifying that "fair balance" means that full disclosure of risks and side effects is given equal print or air time as the description of benefits in the same communication.

I would also like to insert in the RECORD a May 3, 2000 USA Today article providing further evidence of the need for adequate information about drug risks. According to the article, less than 1% of physicians have seen a drug label in the last year. And "in many cases, patients never even see the package insert, and when they do, the tiny typeface and medical jargon often leave them more confused than ever." These inserts are jam-packed with important warnings and most often go unnoticed. The article reports that drug labels are complex and fail to provide patients and doctors with critical information. Consequently, many patients and doctors fail to read drug labels, leading to inappropriate prescribing, illness and even death.

The article also cites the recent withdrawals of Rezulin, Posicor, Duract and the anticipated removal of Propulsid as evidence that both patients and physicians are unaware of critical drug information. The FDA noted that after altering Rezulin's label to recommend monthly liver function tests, less than 10% of patients had the tests. And 85% of the 270 Propulsid-related adverse side-effects reported to the FDA (including 70 deaths) occurred in patients with risk factors already listed on the drug's label. Similarly, all but one of the 12 cases of adverse events (including four deaths) occurred among patients who took the drug for longer than the recommended ten days.

Adding importance to the need to provide accurate, balanced advertising is the fact that the news media often misses the facts. According to a study featured in this month's issue of the New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM), newspaper and television medical reporting is often inadequate or incomplete. The NEJM found that the media often lacks or

omits critical information about drug risks, overstates the benefits, cites medical experts without mentioning their affiliation with the drug industry, and fails to provide adequate information about drugs in general. The analysis of 207 recent news stories revealed more than half as completely silent about drug risks or side effects. It is clear both patients and medical professionals need comprehensive drug warning information.

In the event that any drug company claims that changes in tax treatment will directly decrease their investment in research and/or lead to higher drug prices for consumers, I would refer to a recent study that proves how preferential their tax treatment really is today. The nonpartisan Congressional Research Service (CRS) analyzed the tax treatment of the pharmaceutical industry and found taxpayer financed credits contribute powerfully to lowering the average effective tax rate for drug companies—by nearly 40% relative to other major industries between 1990 to 1996.

There should be a responsibility attached to such preferential tax treatment and accurate, balanced advertising on matters affecting people's lives should be an easy obligation to meet.

The need for this bill is clear. In an environment where the Institute of Medicine (IOM) reported between 48,000 to 98,000 people die every year due to medical errors—with medication errors accounting for one out of 131 outpatient deaths and one out of 854 inpatient deaths—providing medical professionals and consumers balanced information about drug risks and side effects is critical.

By denying tax deductions for unbalanced prescription drug ads, we can change pharmaceutical company behavior to ensure that their advertising includes clear, life-saving information that will better inform the American public, reduce health care expenditures and save lives. I look forward to working with my colleagues to make this a reality.

[From USA Today, May 3, 2000]

COMPLEX DRUG LABELS BURY SAFETY MESSAGE

(By Rita Rubin)

If all the information that's supposed to be on prescription labels actually were printed there, pill bottles would have to be 2 feet high. At least.

Most people don't have medicine cabinets the size of refrigerators. So drug labels have evolved into package inserts, those tightly folded sheets of paper covered with fine print detailing risks and benefits. In many cases, patients never even see the package insert, and when they do, the tiny typeface and medical jargon often leave them more confused than ever.

Prescribing and taking medicine has never been more complicated, and critics say patients are becoming sick or dying as a result.

Recent drug withdrawals suggest that doctors, never mind their patients, aren't keeping up. Either they're overlooking warnings scattered throughout inserts or they're not even reading the leaflets.

"Less than 1% of physicians have seen a label in the last year," cardiologist Robert Califf, director of Duke University's Clinical Research Center, estimated at a recent Food and Drug Administration advisory committee meeting.

In less than two years, three widely prescribed drugs have been pulled from the market in part, at least, because doctors ignored the package inserts. A fourth will disappear from drugstore shelves this summer for the same reason.

FDA critics say the agency, which regulates package inserts, expects too much of the leaflets. Instead of withholding approval of potentially dangerous drugs, critics say, the agency sends them to market with inserts jam-packed with warnings.

"Should we have relatively dangerous drugs and simply warn people that they might kill or seriously injure them?" asks Thomas Moore, a health policy fellow at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. "My perception is that the top management of the FDA seems to have a more permissive view than we have historically had."

He and like-minded FDA-watchers are quick to tick off Propulsid, Rezulin, Posicor and Duract, four drugs whose inserts underwent multiple revisions as new safety concerns came to light. In each case, the manufacturer also mailed "Dear Doctor" letters to alert physicians of label changes.

Apparently, though, some doctors never saw the warnings, and patients died. The last three drugs are now off the market, and Propulsid, which is used to treat severe heartburn, will follow them by mid-August.

"FDA has an almost ritualistic belief in labeling changes, as if they have some magical property to change behavior," says Jerry Avorn, chief of the division that tracks adverse medication events at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. "There is very little data to support that belief."

The FDA's own research backs Avorn. In a "talk paper" in January, the FDA noted that 85% of the 270 Propulsid-related adverse side effects reported to the agency—including 70 deaths—occurred in patients with risk factors already listed on the drug's label, such as congestive heart failure or use of antibiotics or antidepressants.

And after Rezulin's label was changed in late 1997 to recommend monthly liver function tests, the FDA found that far fewer than 10% of patients had the tests.

Apparently, even the agency's expert advisers don't always follow the package insert instructions.

At the recent advisory committee meeting, an FDA staff member had to remind urologists on the panel about how to treat patients with Muse, an injectable impotence treatment. Instead of sending men home with a prescription, doctors are supposed to administer the first dose in their office so they can watch for possible side effects.

FLAWED SYSTEM

In many cases, package inserts "are far from perfect," acknowledges Rachel Behrman of the FDA's medical policy office. "We are working hard to improve that."

Recognizing that patients as well as doctors need to read package inserts, the FDA hopes to make them "more user-friendly, more informative, more consistent," she says.

"If you flip through the PDR, the Physicians Desk Reference, the medication bible that reprints package inserts for nearly all prescription drugs today, some of our labels are very good, and some are not."

The older the drug, the more likely its package insert is to fall in the latter category, she says; until recent years, comprehensiveness superceded clarity.

Still, "the best available science is often not communicated adequately to practicing doctors to shape their prescribing decisions," says Avorn, who lectures Harvard Medical School students on the subject.

Rezulin, a diabetes drug, looked so dangerous that Avorn and his colleagues advised diabetes doctors at their hospital to stop prescribing it a year before Parke-Davis, at the FDA's urging, pulled it from the market.

"I'm astonished that the additional year of product life even existed," Avorn says.

Why does the FDA approve such medications and allow them to stay on the market? "There are very strong economic and political pressures when a company has spent hundreds of millions of dollars to develop a drug," Avorn says.

Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories yanked Duract, a painkiller in the same class of drugs as ibuprofen, naproxen and others, from the market in June 1998 after reports of four deaths and eight transplants resulting from severe liver failure. According to the company, all but one of the cases occurred among patients who took the drug for more than 10 days, against the label's advice.

Just two weeks before Duract came off the market, Roche Laboratories pulled Posicor, which is used to treat high blood pressure and chest pain.

Taking Posicor with any of a number of commonly used drugs, including some heart disease treatments, could lead to potentially fatal heartbeat irregularities, the same problem that led to Propulsid's impending withdrawal.

As with Propulsid, changes to Posicor's label were designed to minimize the drug interaction risk.

"In principle, drug interactions can be addressed by appropriate labeling; however, with respect to Posicor, Roche Laboratories believes that the complexity of such prescribing information would make it too difficult to implement," the company wrote in a "Dear Doctor" letter announcing Posicor's withdrawal.

At least one drug, sorivudine for shingles, never made it to the U.S. market because of concerns about the effectiveness of label warnings. The pill was withdrawn in Japan after 15 users died in just its first month on the market. They had developed aplastic anemia, a blood disorder, after taking sorivudine with a common anti-cancer drug.

Three years later, Bristol Myers Squibb representatives argued before an FDA advisory committee that a "black box warning"—like the ones on cigarette packages—would adequately minimize sorivudine's risks.

"No one was convinced that it would work," says Raymond Woosley, chairman of pharmacology at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., and a member of that committee, which recommended not approving sorivudine.

Because a drug already on the market, acyclovir, provided a similar benefit with far less risk, the agency followed the advisory committee's recommendation, the FDA's Behrman says. "We believed zero deaths was the only acceptable number."

RISK VS. BENEFITS

Rezulin, on the other hand, was the first drug of its class. FDA officials have said the agency sought to remove that drug from the market only after similar, safer medications became available.

"I've heard that line, but I don't buy it," Avorn says. "It's as if we don't have other medications to treat diabetes."

The risk/benefit issue arose at the FDA advisory committee meeting, where panelists recommended approval of Uprima, which would be the second impotence pill on the market.

Pre-market studies showed that the drug can trigger fainting, especially when taken with alcohol, so committee members suggested a black box warning against drinking on Uprima's label.

But panel member Thomas Graboys, who had to leave the meeting early, says he would have voted against Uprima, partly because of concerns about the label's ability to protect patients.

When the condition a drug treats isn't life-threatening, only the lowest level of risk is

acceptable says Graboys, director of the Lowry Cardiovascular Center at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Much inappropriate prescribing could be eliminated if doctors actually read package inserts or looked up the drugs in their PDRs before prescribing them, Woosley says.

Instead, they rely on memory, a Herculean task when one considers that one doctor might prescribe scores of drugs. But that's what they're taught to do in medical school, Woosley says. Doctors wrote nearly 3 billion prescriptions last year; the number is expected to reach 4 billion annually by 2004.

"We've got to start by changing the way we teach people," he says. Among his students, "the kid who gets the 'A' is the one who says 'I don't know, but I'll look that up and get back to you.'"

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4578) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes:

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of Mr. SUNUNU's Amendment increasing funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program for the FY2001 Interior Appropriations Bill. The government has an unpaid obligation to the towns and counties containing lands owned by the federal government, since these are areas that counties do not own and cannot tax. Without PILT, local governments would be forced to eliminate essential public services that benefit residents and visitors in their respective counties.

The federal government owns large portions of lands in many of the counties that I represent in Utah. For example, 93% of Garfield County is owned by the federal government. Our state uses a vast majority of the PILT reimbursements to support education. For FY2001, Utah plans to spend 49.5% of the state budget on K-12 education, among the highest in the nation. But even with this huge commitment, Utah ranks dead last in per student spending with an average of \$4,008 per year compared to the national average of \$6,407. With this much of the state owned by the federal government, Utah relies heavily on this PILT funding.

I understand that it is difficult to reconcile the many needs in the Interior budget with the limited funds available, but the PILT program has not been sufficiently funded in the past. I urge you to consider the federal responsibility and the needs of Utah's students as you cast your vote on this amendment.

HONORING SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF PHOENIXVILLE, PA

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I rise to congratulate Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania on the momentous occasion of its Centennial Jubilee. This year, Rev. Msgr. John Galyo and the parishioners of the Church celebrate the 100th anniversary of their parish.

Founded by Slovak immigrants in 1900 as a place to worship in their native tongue, Sacred Heart Church quickly developed into a cohesive faith community. However, the growth of the parish, both spiritually and physically, did not come without hard work, determination, and the pride of its people.

The original wooden church was destroyed by fire in the 1920s. Through the tremendous sacrifices of its selfless parishioners, a new brick building was constructed and opened for services by 1929. It remains a house of worship to this day, giving testimony to the undying spirit of the Sacred Heart community.

Although Slovak is no longer the main language spoken by the parishioners, their pride in the Slovak heritage lives on. In fact, Sacred Heart is one of only a few remaining Slovak parishes in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Over the course of the century, Sacred Heart has been both a blessing and an inspiration to Southeast Pennsylvania. It emerged from humble beginnings and has clearly prevailed through the often turbulent tests of time to become a thriving and enduring spiritual family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Msgr. Galyo and the parishioners of Sacred Heart Church as they celebrate a century of tremendous achievements. May they enjoy bountiful blessings and good fortune for many more years to come.

IN HONOR OF DIANA MARIE
FALAT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Diana Marie Falat upon her reception of the Gold Key Award at the National Scholastic Art Exhibition in Washington, DC.

Diana's ceramic pieces have won several awards in the Cleveland area, including three Gold Keys, a Silver Key, and an Honorable Mention, as well as various monetary awards. For her piece entitled "Petunia", Diana was named in the Top 25 at the Ohio Governor's art show. This weekend, Diana will be honored at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts National Scholastic Art Exhibition with a Gold Key award—the highest award ever achieved in art by a Berea School District student.

Diana's accomplishments are not limited to the field of art. Diana, age 18, is a recent graduate of Berea High School in Berea, Ohio where she was a member of the National Honor Society, RSVP, and the Big Sibs program. She earned a varsity letter in her senior year for girls' golf, and is an accomplished figure skater as well. For the past two years, she has also attended Cuyahoga Community College. In the fall, Diana will attend Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, where she plans to continue her ceramics and figure skating. Diana's involvement in her school, her community, athletics, and the arts are a testament to her commitment to better herself and the world around her.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring Diana Marie Falat for her many various achievements, and especially on her reception of the Gold Key award at the National Scholastic Art Exhibition at the Kennedy Center.

KOREAN SUMMITT

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mark the historic occasion of the summit between President Kim Dae Jung of the Republic of Korea, and Chairman Kim Jong Il of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Much has been written about this unprecedented meeting between the leaders of the two Koreas; what has happened has encouraged not only Korean people, but those of us who are concerned about human rights and humanitarian matters as well. And I hope the course these leaders chart in the months ahead will be a model for other former adversaries to follow.

A reconciliation like the one that has now begun in Pyongyang holds great promise for expanding freedom and prosperity for Korean people on both sides of their border. That is something that Koreans have longed for; it is also something that many Americans are eager to see—especially the hundreds of thousands of Korean-Americans who have enriched the communities of our Nation, and the tens of thousands of active-duty military men and women, and their families.

I first met President Kim when he was living in exile in the United States. Together with many of our colleagues and former colleagues, I tried to help him with the work he was doing to promote human rights for his people. While I have not met Chairman Kim, I have worked with his people on the humanitarian projects that have been an important focus for the DPRK in recent years. So I have a special appreciation for Koreans' and Korean-Americans' sense that this moment is a moving one.

Still, I don't think any outsider can understand how Korean people feel this week. It's hard to imagine how much those in the north and the south have suffered—from food shortages in the north, human-rights concerns in the south, and for both the pain of being torn from their families and their countrymen.

I hope that President Kim will be generous in providing the tangible necessities— food, fertilizer, medicines—that will help so many people in the north. I hope that Chairman Kim

will continue to demonstrate courage and confidence in helping separated families reunite. As an American, I also hope that Chairman Kim will take the military steps needed to reassure Koreans living in the south, and U.S. troops stationed along the border, that the years ahead will be peaceful ones.

As important as the specific steps that have come out of this summit are, though, the most important long-term result will be this first step toward healing this divided nation.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has an important role to play in supporting this extraordinary peace initiative. I strongly believe we should lift economic sanctions against North Korea, as President Clinton promised to do nine months ago. I think we should accept Koreans' leadership in the decisions we make together as long-time allies. And I hope the United States will continue to respond generously to the United Nations' relief efforts, and that we will expand our relationship with North Korea's people in other ways.

I have visited many places where people are hurting. One thing I have learned is that—no matter where they live—people who survive terrible hardships have one thing in common: they remember who helped them through their difficulties, and they cannot forget who found excuses to let their friends and families die.

I have been especially proud of our country in refusing to let the political differences we have with North Korea prevent us from upholding our humanitarian tradition of responding generously to the people in need there. Now, with this summit, Koreans in the south have demonstrated to their brothers that they are not going to stand by and let them suffer. I hope the past three days will create the goodwill the leaders of these nations need to improve the lives of their people over time—and to ease the serious suffering of Koreans in the north immediately.

Both North Korea and South Korea have made tremendous progress in a very short time. It is easy to forget the economic strides South Korea has made in the past 30 years, and the diplomatic achievements North Korea has made as it re-orient its economy away from its longstanding alliances and toward a future that is marked by better relations with other nations.

The work ahead will not be easy, but Koreans I know are some of the toughest, hardest-working people I have ever met. I am confident that, if they set themselves to this work, they will accomplish it. And I hope that our country will contribute to their success.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO REAUTHORIZE THE STATE CRIMINAL ALIEN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the purpose of introducing legislation to reauthorize the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program. This program is a valuable one that has done much to address the costs incurred by states and localities in incarcerating illegal criminal aliens since its creation in 1994 under

the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act.

The proposal I offer today is a simple one. This bill reaffirms our belief in the value of this program and strengthens our commitment to it by increasing significantly the authorized funding level over the next four years. The authorized level for this program has increased each year since 1995, when it was set at \$130 million. This year, \$340 million was authorized.

I propose today to increase the funding level for this program to \$850 million a year. This increase, I believe, acknowledges the importance of supporting programs which have proven to be successful. More importantly, I believe it aids us in meeting our responsibility at the federal level to assist states and localities in the effort to keep our communities safe. I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this initiative.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF COLONEL CARROLL F. POLLETT

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a great United States Army officer and soldier, Colonel Carroll F. Pollett, and to thank him for his contributions to the Army and the country. On Friday, June 23, 2000 Colonel Pollett will relinquish command of the Army's 3rd Signal Brigade which is stationed at Fort Hood, Texas in my district for assignment to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, DC.

Colonel Pollett began his military career in the enlisted ranks attending basic training and earning his credentials in the Signal Corps from the bottom up with such jobs as Radio Operator, Team Chief, Operations Sergeant and Platoon Sergeant. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Signal Corps following his graduation from Officer Candidate School and has commanded troops as a Signal Platoon Leader, Company Commander, and Battalion Commander before taking command of the 3rd Signal Brigade. Carroll has served in staff positions from company level to the Department of the Army and along the way found time to earn a bachelor's degree and two master's degrees. He has served at numerous posts both in the United States and Europe during times of peace and war.

Carroll is a consummate professional whose performance personifies those traits of courage, competency and commitment that our nation has come to expect from its Army officers. We are saddened that he will be leaving, but we will wish him Godspeed and good luck in his new assignment.

Let me also say that every accolade to Carroll must also be considered a tribute to his family, his wife Dayna and their two sons, Derek and Brian. As a wife and mother, Dayna has been a true partner in all of his accomplishments.

Carroll's career has reflected his deep commitment to our nation, and has been characterized by dedicated selfless service, love for

soldiers and their families and a commitment to excellence. I ask Members to join me in offering our heartfelt appreciation for a job well done and best wishes for continued success to a great soldier and friend—Colonel Carroll F. Pollett.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO GRANT FEDERAL CONSENT
TO THE KANSAS AND MISSOURI
METROPOLITAN CULTURE DIS-
TRICT COMPACT

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, today I announce my intention to introduce legislation to grant the consent of the Congress to the Kansas and Missouri Metropolitan Culture District Compact, a successful project I have worked on for over a decade.

In 1987 I sponsored enabling legislation in the Missouri House of Representatives to establish a bi-state cultural district for the Kansas City metropolitan area of five counties in Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas. This unique effort in our nation provides a secure source of local funding for metropolitan cooperation across state lines to restore historic structures and cultural facilities. Through the next seven years I worked closely with my counterparts in the Kansas State Legislature, the Mid-America Regional Council, KC Consensus, and civic leaders and elected officials to secure State and Federal approval. When the Bi-State Metropolitan Cultural District Compact was finally sent to the U.S. Congress for authorization in 1994, I appeared in Washington, D.C. in support of passage of this Compact, along with my co-sponsor, Missouri State Senator Harry Wiggins.

I am proud to seek approval of the continuation of the Kansas and Missouri Metropolitan Culture District Compact. Approval of new State and Federal legislation to extend the Compact is necessary for three reasons. First, the existing Bi-state Contract sunsets at the end of the 2001 which means the local revenue stream will end unless new legislation extends the authority. Second, the new Contract expands the cultural definition to include sports facilities important to the region. Finally, with the consolidation of the governments of the City of Kansas City, Kansas and Wyandotte County into the unified government, the Kansas representation on the Bi-State Board was decreased by two Board Members. Consequently, Missouri currently has an advance of two votes. The new law corrects this inequity so that membership on the Board is balanced with half of the Members from each state.

Over the past four years the Greater Kansas City area has seen the successes of the original Compact. It has made possible the restoration of Union Station which is one of the Midwest's greatest historic landmarks and the largest preservation project currently underway in the United States. The restoration project has been a unique example of a bi-state, private-public, local-federal partnership. Continuation of the Compact will allow the metropolitan area to further this productive alignment for successful arts and cultural ini-

tiatives in the region, and I expect more will be done in Kansas using the revenue in the next phase of the Compact.

Mr. Speaker, I am requesting the House join me in supporting this worthwhile and successful effort in our districts by granting federal consent of the Kansas and Missouri Metropolitan Culture District Compact.

CONGRATULATING FRESNO
COMPACT

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fresno Compact for being awarded a "1999 Distinguished Performance Award," by the National Alliance of Business (NAB). This award designates Fresno Compact as the number one local business-education coalition in the United States for 1999.

Fresno Compact is a broad-based coalition of leaders from business and education, whose focuses are to improve student achievement and to bring business leaders and educators together. The Compact helps coordinate such programs as the high school "employment Competency Certification" and the Chamber of Commerce's business partnership programs. It also participates in school-to-career activities of the State Center Consortium and works with the Business Education Committee.

Fresno Compact began its alliance more than ten years ago. It focuses on influencing educators to provide teaching that better prepares students for the workforce. According to NAB President Robert Jones, Fresno Compact is a "catalyst that focuses the attention of Central California business, education and political leaders on long-term, cooperative programs that are designed to raise student achievement levels and provide skills needed by local employers."

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Fresno Compact for being awarded the "Local Coalition of the Year" award. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Fresno Compact many more years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JULIE
WILLIAMSON

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize one my district's finest teachers, Ms. Julie Williamson. A first grade teacher at the Pioneer School in Neoga, IL, Ms. Williamson recently received the award for "Illinois Ag in the Classroom Teacher of the Year" by the Illinois Farm Bureau. She was chosen as the recipient from a group of more than 1000 Illinois teachers.

Ms. Williamson's method of teaching allows students to learn about and appreciate the benefits of agriculture. She teaches her students where the products come from and how the products reach them in their everyday

lives. She wants children to understand the connection between the farm and the table. Ms. Williamson believes that people need to understand where their food originates in order to be more appreciative of the people who supply it. Some of the activities that she brings into her classroom are: bread making, field trips to local farms and orchards, and honey-making with live bees. Ms. Williamson's next step will be to attend the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Ag in the Classroom Conference in Salt Lake City.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say congratulations to Ms. Julie Williamson on her excellent accomplishment. Due to her dedication to her students and community, it is clear that Ms. Williamson is an asset to Illinois and the educational system.

HONORING PROFESSOR MARGARET
MURNANE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I honor one of my constituents, Margaret Murnane, who is a physicist at the University of Colorado at Boulder. This week Professor Murnane received a "genius" award from the MacArthur Foundation for her work in optical physics. She is one of just twenty-five Americans named as MacArthur fellows this year.

Professor Murnane has developed a camera-like laser that emits pulses of red light. Applications of this laser technology range from laser surgery to monitoring water content in cooking. Additionally, this laser can aid scientists visualize processes that are too fast for the human eye to detect, such as chlorophyll harvesting sunlight, which is a process in plant growth.

When she was a child, her father used to give her math puzzles to solve. Without a doubt, this practice contributed to her passion for science. This shows what a little parental involvement can do to further the development of a child's mind.

Professor Murnane's contributions to science, education and technology will have a large impact on our society for years to come. I am pleased to honor her today for her accomplishments.

COMMEMORATION OF THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE START
OF THE KOREAN WAR—A SPE-
CIAL TRIBUTE TO THE 503D
FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
OF THE 2D INFANTRY DIVISION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the courageous Americans who fought and died in defense of freedom in the Korean War. On June 25th, we will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the start of that conflict—the so-called "Forgotten War"—which claimed more than 35,000 American lives.

On behalf of President Clinton, I will co-chair, with Veterans Administration Secretary

Togo West, a Presidential Mission to Korea to represent the people of the United States during the anniversary commemoration ceremonies in Seoul. We will be accompanied on that mission by some of my comrades-in-arms with whom I served during my wartime tour in Korea, members of the 503d Field Artillery Battalion of the 2d Infantry Division.

The battalion landed in Korea in August 1950, arriving in time to participate in hard-fought battles that defeated the North Korean offensives against the United Nations forces on the Pusan Perimeter. When the Chinese entered the war in November with massive ground assaults against UN forces in North Korea, the 503rd and rest of the 2d Infantry Division fought their way out of encirclement by the Chinese near Kunu-ri.

The battles in North Korea exacted a terrible price—the 503d lost almost all of its equipment and nearly half of its men. But in early 1951, overcoming many obstacles, the battalion rebuilt itself into a combat-ready unit, and played a major role in the 2d Infantry Division's stubborn stand against a far stronger force during the May 1951 Chinese offensive, an action that earned the entire division a Presidential Unit Citation.

During the battalion's fifteen months in Korea, members of the 503d received nineteen Silver Stars, four Distinguished Flying Crosses, and seventy-nine Bronze Stars. The battalion suffered 512 casualties, including 150 men who died in Communist prison camps and 79 who remain listed as missing in action.

The 503d, a Black unit, lived up to its motto of "We Can Do It," serving with heroic valor in the face of relentless attacks by the enemy. In doing so, it shattered the biased and unfair negative stereotypes attached to Black fighting men and women in Korea and earlier wars.

Mr. Speaker, today I pay special tribute to my brave and loyal Brothers who served in the 503d Artillery Battalion, and join with them in saluting all of our comrades-in-arms in Korea, whom we will never forget.

PRESIDENTIAL MISSION TO THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION MEMBERS OF THE 503D ARTILLERY BATTALION—JUNE 25, 2000

Ronald Chatters, Samuel Gilliam, Harvey Ginn, Robert Greer, Hezekiah Gregory, Walter Jackson, William Jackson, Elgin Miller, Donald Minter.

Henry Mitchell, Charles B. Rangel, Leroy Sykes, James Thompson, John Worley, Robert Lee Wyatt.

COMMENDING DR. RAMEK HUNT,
DR. GEORGE JENKINS, AND DR.
SAMPSON DAVIS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw to the attention of my colleagues a remarkable and powerful story about three young men who have been selected as recipients of my Congressional Community Service Award. They have also received Year 2000 Essence Award for outstanding community service and have been honored by the organi-

zation 100 Black Men. Theirs is a success story rooted in their youthful friendship and nurtured over the years by mutual support and shared determination to reach their goals against all odds.

Thirteen years ago, three teenage boys from the streets of Newark, New Jersey made a pact that they would encourage, support and stand by each other until each graduated from medical school. With hard work, tenacity, and determination to overcome all obstacles, an amazing thing happened—these three friends realized their youthful goal. Their impossible dream came true. Last year, Ramek Hunt and Sampson Davis received degrees from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, and George Jenkins graduated from UMDNJ Dental School.

Growing up, Dr. Ramek Hunt lived in Orange, Newark and Plainfield, New Jersey, eventually returning to and settling in Newark. There, he attended University High School and clearly succeeded, but the path to success was often rocky. He began to focus on his future when a recruiter from Seton Hall University visited his school and spoke about careers in medicine and dentistry. George Jenkins encouraged Ramek and Sam to go with him to Seton Hall and become doctors.

Dr. George Jenkins was born in South Carolina, but has lived in Newark, New Jersey since the age of two. He first lived in the Stella Wright Housing projects and then moved to the High Park Gardens Co-op, where he still resides. Dr. Jenkins presence in the Newark community is a source of inspiration for young people who look to him as a solid role model.

Dr. Sampson Davis was born and raised in Newark, New Jersey where he excelled at academics and sports at an early age. As a young man, he reached for the stars, determined to succeed not only for himself, but for the good of the entire community.

Even today, the three friends meet together with the young people of the community and they share a new goal—to open a health clinic in their old neighborhood. Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in commending these remarkable young men, who have set such a fine example of determination to succeed as well as dedication to community service. Let us express appreciation for their work and extend best wishes for continued success to Doctors Ramek Hunt, George Jenkins and Sampson Davis.

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI FIRE
DEPARTMENT

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, we all have probably heard the favorite saying of the former Speaker of the U.S. House, Tip O'Neill, "that all politics are local." Taking this quip to heart, the actions of William Markgraf, the Fire Chief of Columbia, Missouri, show that in this rapidly shrinking world, even strong international relations can be encouraged locally.

Recently, Chief Markgraf informed me about a remarkable relationship that he has formed

with another firefighter from Moers, Germany. The story begins about 12 years ago, when a volunteer firefighter named Michael Stroinski from Moers trained and worked with the Columbia Fire Department during their Spring Fire School. Moers, which is about 15 minutes outside of Dusseldorf, has a fire department that is largely composed of volunteers and serves nearly 125,000 people. For the last twelve years, Michael has returned nearly every year to Columbia, sometimes bringing as many as six of his company-mates from Germany with him to train, work and live with members of the Columbia Fire Department. In kind, Michael has repeatedly extended a similar invitation to Chief Markgraf and others from the C.F.D., who have gratefully accepted, resulting in a vibrant exchange program between Moers and Columbia firefighters.

This July, Moers will be celebrating the 150th Anniversary of its central fire station and has invited members of the Columbia Fire Department to attend this celebration. For this reason, I would like to send my thanks and the thanks of those in this chamber to the people of Moers, Germany for the hospitality they have extended to my constituents. In addition, I would like to recognize Michael Stroinski, Captain of Moers Fire Station One, for his meritorious service to his city and the people of Columbia in the line of duty, as well as for his role in fostering a partnership and good relations between these two international communities.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that this anniversary celebration will be as successful as the relationship formed between Columbia and Moers, and I wish Michael and the other German firefighters many safe returns to Columbia, Missouri.

HONORING MS. BOOS' SECOND
GRADE CLASS FROM EVER-
GREEN AVENUE SCHOOL

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, today I commemorate a special occasion in which 38 children from Evergreen Avenue School have excelled in the classroom. Ms. Boos' second grade class is a remarkable group of young people. I wish the best of luck and continued success in school to Vanessa Adams, Natasha Barnett, Armand Brown, Roberta Burns, Adrienne Curry, Amber Darling, Brittany Feldman, Ashley Hecht, Ashley Kersey, Markie McDonald, Samantha Miller, Allen Moore, Scharron Nock, Brandon Rivera, Nicholas Schoning, David Viereck, Rashon Warrington, Jaquel Williams, Conner Wisely, Chloe Berger, Brittani Brydges, Robert Carter, Francis Connor, Shaneyce Cordy, Ashley Demarco, Thomas Hair, Hailey A. Headrick, Nicole L. Miller, Phillip Morris, Joseph Nunn, Nicole Pentz, Kelsey Serra, Renia Singleton, Angela Vincent, Amy Lynn Watson, Alexander Weiss, Darnell Whye, Analya Young.

COMMEMORATING CHESTERFIELD
MISSOURI

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the city of Chesterfield, Missouri which celebrated its birthday on the 1st of June.

Throughout its 400-year history, the area of Chesterfield, Missouri has cultivated a deep tradition and distinguished itself as one of St. Louis County's fastest growing communities. Chesterfield's most famous citizen, Frederick Bates, settled there in 1819 and served as Secretary of the new territory. This area remained a collection of rural communities influenced by German settlers throughout the 19th century and for most of the 20th century. In the 1960's, Chesterfield began aggressive development that paved the way to the prosperous city it is today. The city officially incorporated in 1988 and its economy and community continues to thrive.

Mr. Speaker, as a resident of Chesterfield, it gives me great pleasure to recognize this outstanding city and its citizens for their contributions in making our community a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

I would like to wish the city of Chesterfield a happy birthday and hope for the area's continued success in the new century.

TRIBUTE TO ANNA WANG

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Anna Wang, a Supervising Librarian at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters. Mrs. Wang is retiring after 32 years of dedicated service to the library and the community. I join her family, friends, and grateful colleagues in honoring her for her talents and skills that she has shared with our community.

Mrs. Wang has worked diligently to select, process and organize the largest Chinese language collection in a public library in New Jersey. This collection, housed in the Shrewsbury, Marlboro, Holmdel, and Manalapan libraries, has been a vital resource for the people of New Jersey.

Mrs. Wang has also coordinated Chinese ethnic festivals with local schools and the Friends of the Monmouth County Library; she has arranged an exchange program with the National Central Library in Taipei, Taiwan; and she has obtained numerous dollars in federal grants for these programs. Her talents and hard-work will be sorely missed by the entire community.

Mrs. Wang is one of those truly amazing individuals who devotes all of her time to public service. In addition to her tremendous accomplishments at work, Mrs. Wang manages to serve as president of the New Jersey Chinese Book Club. She is also a columnist for the New Jersey Sino Monthly Magazine and the Global Chinese Times. And she is the author of three books.

I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in thanking Mrs. Wang for her and contribu-

tions to New Jersey, her dedication, and her hard work, and I wish her a happy productive retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, I apologize for my absence recently from the House of Representatives on June 13, 2000.

On June 13, 2000, I was unavoidably detained at a school event for my youngest son, and unfortunately missed one recorded vote. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye for Roll Call vote 265.

HONORING HOWARD M. FEUER
FOR HIS 40 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY AD-
MINISTRATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Howard M. Feuer for his long and distinguished career of service to the Social Security Administration. Next week, Mr. Feuer will retire after 40 years of service to the Agency.

In this era of frequent career changes, Mr. Feuer's 40 years of service should be duly noted. He is one of the most respected and experienced Area Directors in the Social Security Administration. For half of his 40 year career, Mr. Feuer has served as an Area Director. He oversees the operations of 26 field offices in Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk Counties in New York State, including a staff of over 800 SSA employees.

Throughout his career with Social Security, he has received many awards, including a Commissioner's Citation for his dedication to achieving the administration's goals of service to the public and value of its employees.

Howard Feuer earned a BBA and an MBA from CCNY-Baruch College. He has held many positions in both Social Security offices and the New York Regional Office. Mr. Feuer has been an innovator, embracing technological enhancements and maximizing the efficacy of his Area's resources. He has been a mentor to many of the management staff in the Region and is a recognized leader among Area Directors throughout the country. For 25 years, he has been directly involved in labor relations activities, including contract negotiations on the regional and national levels.

Howard M. Feuer is a man of incredible vision and foresight. His career has been dedicated to a level of service and efficiency that has no comparison. His commitment to the achievement of the goals of the Social Security Administration has been demonstrated in his unceasing efforts to improve the quality and productivity of his offices. Howard Feuer is now retiring from government service after a distinguished career. I know that his absence will be felt by staff nationally, regionally and locally.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending Howard M. Feuer. With his retirement, the American public will be losing one of its most dedicated public servants.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district on June 12, 2000, and June 13, 2000, to attend a family funeral. I missed recorded votes for H.R. 4577, making appropriations for FY 2001 Labor/Health & Human Services/Education, and H.R. 4079, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a comprehensive fraud audit of the Department of Education.

I ask that the record reflect that, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes numbered 258, 260, 261, 263, 265, 266, 267, 269. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes numbered 259, 262, 264, 268.

EDUCATION IN MINNESOTA

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I speak on behalf of myself and Mr. HOEKSTRA of Michigan. The Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the House Education and Workforce Committee conducted an oversight field hearing Monday, June 6, 2000, in the State of Minnesota.

Among the most informative presentations made before the member participants was one delivered by Mr. John H. Scribante, a Minnesota businessman and an honorable American.

Mr. Scribante's passion for children and their need for first-rate learning opportunity was most impressive and we hereby submit for the RECORD the remarks of Mr. Scribante regarding the important topic of school reform.

Mr. Speaker, we commend the excellent observations and conclusions made by Mr. Scribante to our colleagues and submit the following for the RECORD.

EDUCATIONAL FASCISM IN MINNESOTA

(A Statement Submitted by John H. Scribante—Entrepreneur; Respectfully submitted to the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations Committee on Education and the Workforce—June 6, 2000)

STATEMENT

We're gathered here this morning at a very interesting time . . . 56 years ago today, D-Day, 2,500 Allied soldiers died in Normandy fighting Fascist Germany for the freedom for Americans to pursue liberty. This offers us a unique perspective on this monumental issue of educational change. We're poised at the beginning of the 21st century, and while the rest of the world is abandoning central labor planning, Minnesota is driving through

School-to-Work programs for central control of its economy against the will of the people.

Consider that in just over 200 years, this country became the Greatest Nation on Earth. We've had more Nobel Prize recipients than any other industrialized nation. We've sent men into outer space and brought them back alive, and our science and technologies are copied worldwide. Those who accomplished these incredible feats were the product of an education system that emphasized academics, not life-long job training.

I've been to Eastern Europe, I've seen the life destroying results of governments trying to plan the economy and control education, and I've spoken to people who have been subject to their central controls. This is not what America was founded on . . . and besides; it has been proven not to work. Those of you who have sworn to uphold the United States Constitution will be hard pressed to support such a system of tyranny.

Today in Minnesota, the best interests of children have become secondary to the interests of bureaucrats, un-elected non-profits, and economic forecasts. In many districts, children are already being required to choose a "career cluster" by the end of 8th grade that will determine their secondary school curriculum. This system is a radical shift towards government central planning.

We don't know what we will learn tomorrow. We can be sure that at any particular time, we are overlooking valuable information and opportunities. Our knowledge is incomplete and resources are, undoubtedly being misdirected. We have a 225-year proven method for discovering and correcting these errors called Capitalism. Entrepreneurs search out instances where resources are being underutilized and redirect them to those that produce profits . . . nothing else approaches its power to stimulate discovery. Since we don't know today what we may learn tomorrow about educational methods and knowledge, we need entrepreneurship in education.

History has proven, time and time again, that where competition does not exist, mediocrity thrives. Nowhere is this truer than in many of America's public schools.

If you must have government-funded education, at least leave the private schools and home schools alone to compete for ideas and innovation.

BUSINESSES HAVE BEEN DUPED

Businessmen and women are being told that they can and should become partners in the education of our children. With tax funded incentives, subsidies, reimbursements, and free training . . . how can these businesses resist?

According to the Minnesota School to Work publication called Making Connections, page 11: the SCANS report instructs business to "look outside your company and change your view of your responsibilities for human resource development. Your old responsibilities were to select the best available applicants and to retain those you hired. Your new responsibilities must be to improve the way you organize work and to develop the human resources in your community, your firm, and your nation."

The Minnesota STW program seeks 100% employer compliance and further provides a "Work-Based Learning Coordinator" to "help" me in my "responsibilities" of complying with this lunacy. Who is running my business anyway? I've got all the capital at risk . . . Just leave me out of this mess.

This experiment may be very attractive in the short run . . . but business will pay in the long run in higher taxes to fund these programs, in less educated people and a loss of economic freedom. Productive labor is their goal, not an educated populace. This will be the end of a free America.

My company needs entrepreneurial minds and intellectual capital. People who can think, read, write, and add. I interview many young people who are products of Minnesota schools, and they cannot solve simple conversion equations. Who is training students for what I need? What is wrong with teaching people how to think? I don't need work skills . . . I need people who can think of great ideas and be willing to put their knowledge to the test!

Why is it that the government vigilantly looks for predatory pricing, anticompetitive, and monopolistic behavior in the private sector, and yet it is the greatest offender?

To quote Ralph Moore "The REAL credit in life should go to those who get into the ARENA—if they fail, they at least fail while DARING TO BE GREAT. Their place in life will never be with those COLD AND TIMID SOULS who know neither victory nor defeat."

In a free market economy, consumers ultimately determine what is produced. What school or government bureaucrat could have predicted ten years ago how many webmasters we would need today? From the information I've seen from the Department of Labor's SCANS reports, they're planning on teaching manure spreading, car washing, working the fryer at the diner and how to take a message off an answering machine.

In St. Cloud, MN, the STW program has already put a company out of business and severed off the arm of a 17-year-old student running a machine on a STW assignment.

School-to-work is a dangerous shift in education policy in America. It moves public education's mission from the transfer of academic knowledge to simply training children for specific jobs. And most tragically, the job for which it will train will have little or nothing to do with that child's dreams, goals, or ambitions.

Parents, however in this three way partnership with business and the State may be troubled knowing that their children are the pawns that the educational system trains to meet the needs of industry.

The economic goals of bureaucrats should never be promoted over the virtue and importance of knowledge. School to work transition issues would disappear if schools focused on strengthening core curricula, setting high expectations, and improving discipline and forgetting about retrying failed ideas.

THE RESULT

The sad truth is, in exchange for federal chump change, the state of Minnesota sold out its commitment to high academic standards and agreed to follow national standards based on moral relativism, politically correct group thinking, and getting kids out of the classroom to work in local businesses, beginning in kindergarten.

Our state threw out a system of education that worked brilliantly for most all Minnesota youngsters. It worked brilliantly, that is, until approximately 35 years ago when Minnesota public education started flirting with the progressive, trendy movement away from high academic standards. Under the Profile of Learning, high academic standards are practically banned from the classroom.

In 1993, the Minnesota legislature repealed 230 education statutes, thus creating a structural vacuum to make way for the new Federal Goals 2000 system already in the works. This left Minnesota without tried and true standards.

There are no longer any course requirements for any child in Minnesota. No 4 years of English, no 4 years of history, no 3 years of math, or a year of geography, or years of science. Most public schools don't have a

copy of the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution and few even mention them in classes.

This system is really nothing new. Tyranny has always waited in the wings, ready to step to center stage at the first hint of apathy towards freedom.

For over 230 years we've enjoyed the finest freedom and prosperity the world has ever known. Yet we were warned by Edmund Burke that, "The eternal price of liberty is vigilance." As a people we've been asleep at the switch, and now our entire nation, not just Minnesota, has signed on to this crazy new system of totalitarianism, where everyone is under government's control, from cradle to grave.

This system has been tried around the world, across the centuries. But it is radically new for those of us used to freedom. This new system has more to do with fascism than freedom.

Now we need to work to eliminate the entire STW & Goals 2000 system, while there is time. As Sir Winston Churchill wrote to convince the British to join in the fight against Nazi Germany.

"If you will not fight for the right—when you can easily win without bloodshed, if you will not fight when your victory will be sure—and not too costly, you may come to the moment when you will have to fight—with all the odds against you—and only a precarious chance of survival. There may be even a worst case. You may have to fight—when there is no hope of victory, because it is better to perish than to live as slaves."

THE 102ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. NAVY HOSPITAL CORPS

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, the tradition of Naval enlisted medical personnel goes back to the navy of the 13 Colonies in the Revolutionary War, before they even declared independence. These medical sailors were known by many designations: first the Loblolly Boys, whose job it was to sound the bell for daily sick call aboard ship, and to spread the floor of the sickbay with sand so that the ship's surgeon would not slip on the blood there.

Later they were known as the Surgeons' Stewards, the Apothecaries, and the Baymen. Then, on June 17, 1898, in the midst of the Spanish-American War, Congress authorized The Hospital Corps of the United States Navy. They were and still are the only "Corps" in the U.S. military composed entirely of enlisted members. Since that founding, Navy Corpsmen have had the responsibility and the honor of caring for the Fleet and the Marines.

The first corpsman to earn a Medal of Honor was serving with the Marines in China when the U.S. took part in the intervention there to end the Boxer Rebellion at the turn of the last century.

Between the turn of that century and the onset of World War I, corpsmen sailed around the globe with President Teddy Roosevelt's Great White Fleet, landed in Nicaragua with the Marines, and a second corpsman earned the Medal of Honor in San Diego Harbor a few years later, aiding his shipmates when the *USS Bennington's* boiler exploded.

Corpsmen took care of navy shore parties during the Moro Uprising in the Philippine Islands and hit the beach with the Marines during the seizure of Vera Cruz, Mexico, in 1914.

In both of these actions corpsmen were again honored by Congress. Corpsmen took care of the Marines when they landed in Santo Domingo, and then in Haiti for the first time.

Then in the "Great War," the "War to End All Wars," corpsmen were with the fleet, hunting U-boats in the first Battle of the Atlantic. They earned two more Medals of Honor in that war, serving with their Marines in the barbed wire and poison gas hell of the trenches and forests of France.

Between the World Wars, corpsmen went ashore with the Marines in Nicaragua a second time. Then at Pearl Harbor several corpsmen, still tending to their shipmates' wounds, were and still are entombed within the *USS Arizona*. And as the globe tore itself apart during World War II, they were serving with the fleet in Pacific actions against the Imperial Japanese Navy and with the Atlantic Fleet again combating the German U-boat menace. They were aboard hospital ships, on medevac planes, and manning hospitals and clinics around the world. And they were in every landing on every invasion beach from North Africa to Normandy, and from Guadalcanal to Japan.

During the battle for the island of Iwo Jima a corpsman helped raise the Stars and Stripes atop Mt. Suribachi and was then immortalized along with his Marines in the statue that is now the Marine Corps Memorial just across the Potomac River in Arlington. And after Iwo Jima and the last major battle of the war, on the island of Okinawa, seven more Medals of Honor were hung 'round the necks of corpsmen.

Corpsmen were again in action as the Cold War turned hot on the Korean Peninsula. They served alongside their Marines, from the early bleak days inside the Pusan Perimeter to the Inchon Landings, up to the frozen Chosin Reservoir, and back down to the stalemated trench warfare along what became the DMZ. And they earned five of the seven Medals of Honor awarded to the Navy during those three bitter years.

Corpsmen were aboard the *USS Nautilus* when she surfaced at the North Pole, and they accompanied their Marines ashore in Lebanon for the first time and then to the Dominican Republic. They were aboard the hospital ships off the coast of Vietnam. While ashore there, again in action with the Marines in the sweltering jungles and rice paddies, corpsmen earned their 19th, 20th, and 21st Medals of Honor.

Corpsmen were with their Marines hitting the beach in Grenada, and then going ashore in Lebanon for the second time. Over a dozen corpsmen were killed there at the Beirut Airport by the terrorist truck bombing of the Marine barracks. They sailed aboard the hospital ships and served again with their Marines in the invasion of Panama, and in Desert Shield/Desert Storm aboard the ships of the Fleet, manning hospital ships in the Persian Gulf and ashore staffing Navy forward fleet hospitals, and on the front lines in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Iraq.

Just in the last decade they've accompanied their Marines ashore in Haiti yet again, and for famine relief in Somalia. They've cared for Haitian refugees in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and for Kurdish refugees in Guam. They've carried on their healing traditions with the fleet hospitals in the bitter conflict in the former Yugoslavia, and gone at a moment's notice with the Marines to evacuate American and allied nationals from countless hot spots around the globe. They've held their heads high as they helped to safeguard health and heal injury and disease throughout the Fleet, with the Fleet's Marines, for all their families, for military retirees, and in hundreds of isolated duty stations flung across the globe, even to the South Pole.

Just two years ago, Congress awarded another corpsman the Medal of Honor, this one belatedly, for his actions in Vietnam. It was the 22nd such honor awarded to Corpsmen, who've won more Medals of Honor than any other rating in the military. This is even more remarkable for the fact that all of these Congressional honors were earned while helping others, and that in so doing they never fired a weapon except in defense of their patients. And of the 22 men so honored, 10 gave their lives in earning that honor, sacrificing their lives to save others.

Saturday is the Hospital Corps' 102nd Anniversary. And after more than a century, the sons and daughters of corpsmen, and the grandchildren of corpsmen, are now serving their country as Corpsmen, carrying on the long, proud, honored tradition of their forebears.

And as they celebrate this landmark in time, they do so in camaraderie with their teammates in healing, the Navy's dental technicians, nurses, doctors, dentists, and administrators, scientists, and clinicians of the Medical Service Corps, with their partners throughout military medicine, and with all those they've cared for. They look back in pride at the good they've accomplished and remember fondly all those who've made them what they are, establishing these traditions of helping and of serving, whenever and wherever help and service are needed, sacrificing much—and too frequently sacrificing all—to do so. And finally, they look eagerly ahead to a future full of challenges unimagined, and more opportunities to do what they do best: to care for those who need them.

And so, Happy 102nd Birthday, United States Navy Hospital Corps!

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S. 761, ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to clarify a provision contained within S. 761, the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act. Mr. Speaker, the final conference agreements strikes title III of the House bill (H.R. 1714) with respect to electronic records, signatures or agreements covered under the federal securities laws because the title I provisions of the conference agreement are intended to encompass the title III provisions. The reference in section 101(a) of the conference agreement to "any transaction in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce" is intended to include electronic records, signatures, and agreements governed by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all electronic records, signatures, and agreements used in financial planning, income tax preparation, and investments. Therefore, the conference agreement does not need to single out or treat differently electronic records, signatures and agreements regulated by federal securities laws in a separate title.

IN HONOR OF 70 X 7 EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY'S UPCOMING TRIP TO LATVIA

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the 70 X 7 Evangelistic Ministry's upcoming trip to the former Soviet Republic of Latvia.

The 70 X 7 Evangelistic Ministry was founded by Rev. Gregg W. Anderson, who lives in Highland Heights, in Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District. Next month, Reverend Anderson will make his eighth missionary visit to Latvia. Reverend Anderson and his team will spend 2 weeks (July 11–27) ministering to people in Latvia's prisons and missions and providing humanitarian aid to the prison system.

Today I commend Reverend Anderson and his team for their commitment to helping those in need. I also commend Dr. iur. Viltold Zahars, the Head of the Latvian Prison Administration. Without his cooperation, these humanitarian trips of goodwill would not be possible.

I ask you to join me in commending these fine people, and wishing the 70 X 7 Evangelistic Ministry a safe and productive journey.