Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Sister Mary Eileen Duffy, in celebration of the joyous occasion of her 60th Jubilee Anniversary, reflecting a ministry in faith, service, and concern for others throughout our Cleveland community.

Sister Eileen taught at St. Joseph Academy and Nazareth High School. In addition to her dedication to teaching, she served as a community administrator and Pastoral Associate at St. Leo the Great Church and St. Colman Church. Sister Eileen also served diligently on the Diocesan Pastoral Council, Commission on Catholic Community Action, the Interfaith Commission and the Sisters’ Senate. In 1972, Sister Eileen was elected as director for the Northwest Deanery.

Inspired by a true calling of spiritual and humanitarian duty, Sister Eileen began her ministry with a strong foundation in education. She inspired that quest for knowledge and awareness in others, especially her students, and consistently touched the lives of countless children of Sister Eileen Duffy. Her strength in leadership, energetic spirit and commitment to helping others, from our children to our elderly, has served to lift the spirits of countless individuals, and continues to radiate faith, hope and light throughout our entire community.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of the 60th Jubilee Anniversary of the Cleveland Job Corps Center. The dedicated staff members and administration of the Cleveland Job Corps Center have been working hard to serve the most seriously injured.

One of the cars involved was already on fire when the Scouts jumped into action, as some of the young men began directing traffic around the scene as others began rescuing children from the burning car. They stabilized the injured children, assessed the immediate injuries, and worked to find a fire extinguisher to get control of the fire.

When paramedics and other first responders from Pike County arrived, they worked hand-in-hand with the Scouts in taking control of the scene. The Scouts also assisted in clearing an area for a LifeFlight helicopter to land and transport the most seriously injured.

These young men, Chris Henry, Paul Hutchens, Neal Wilson, George Boggs, Zack Deckner, and Joseph Fernandez, demonstrated the highest ideals of American and Boy Scout values by stopping to help those in need. They sacrificed their time, and used their skills bravely, and saved lives.

Although tragically, Mrs. Christy Redenz and her 5-year-old daughter died at the scene, the Scouts’ quick action and training resulted in the other children being safely airlifted to local hospitals.

Many people in this life look for opportunities to be heroes, to be something great; but the greatest heroes are those who accomplish great things while doing their duty in the small things.

These young men are true heroes, and I am honored to bring their actions to the attention of this House. President Reagan once said something that is very appropriate in this situation—“Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference.” In the case of these brave young men, they don’t have that problem.

Mr. Speaker, the light of the United States of America will continue to burn brightly as long as we have young men like these surrounding all of us and leading the way.

In honor of the 60th Anniversary of the Cleveland Job Corps Center, the Cleveland Job Corps Center continues to offer a foundation of strength and assistance that supports, educates and guides thousands of young adults throughout the Cleveland community.

The core mission and committed work carried out daily by the staff of the Cleveland Job Corps Center continues to offer a foundation of strength and assistance that supports, educates and guides thousands of young adults away from the shadows of struggle and despair and onto a pathway of personal independence, accomplishment, and the promise of a better life.

The dedicated staff members and local scouts to the rescue.

The $51.8 billion we are about to spend is nearly three times the entire annual State budget of my home State of Georgia, the ninth-largest State in the country with a population of 8.8 million people, and will be spent in about five weeks from what we are being told. According to the Office of Management and Budget, we are spending money at a rate of $2 billion in a day, and the lives of many people will be spent on reconstruction in the affected areas.

I strongly supported the efforts of Congress in allocating the initial $10 billion in immediate relief to keep the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Army Corps of Engineers functioning to assist in the immediate aftermath of the hurricane and flooding. However, I rise in opposition to this $51.8 billion relief package. I do not oppose all funding for the emergency, but one of my major concerns with the government response to disasters in general is the tendency to throw money at problems with very little accountability on how that money is being spent.

I strongly support continued government funding of relief work in the affected areas, but the legislation we are considering is sorely lacking in effective accountability. The legislation allocates funds to Federal agencies with barely any explanation, except for one thing we know—that not a dime of the $51.8 billion will be spent on reconstruction in the affected areas.

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The funding is only for immediate relief efforts. There are only three days to pay for hurricane relief—raising taxes, which will stifle the economy, cutting Federal spending to offset the money; and passing the cost along to our children and grandchildren by increasing the deficit. We need to carefully consider this spending, and work diligently to ensure that the funds are being spent wisely.

I have personally donated to the Red Cross and Salvation Army, as has my staff, and I will continue to support relief efforts. I would prefer that the votes in Congress on spending these disaster dollars take place in $10 billion installments, where we can see how effectively the money is being used. This is an extremely difficult time, and I applaud the leadership both of our country and our other government agencies, along with the military, who have acted so decisively and effectively to alleviate suffering.

We are a great nation, and we will continue to be great and rise above the challenges we face. May God continue to bless America.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 95TH ANNIVERSARY OF ASBESTOS WORKERS’ UNION LOCAL NO. 3

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I call our colleagues’ attention to Asbestos Workers’ Union Local No. 3 from Cleveland, which is celebrating its 95th anniversary on September 24, 2005. Members of Local No. 3 can trace the beginnings of their union back to the earliest day of the modern industrial era with the sudden expansion of steam power around 1880, creating the need for the insulation industry.

An attempt to form a national bond between insulators came in 1900, when the Salamander Association of New York sent out an appeal to related crafts in other cities to form a “National Organization of Pipe and Boiler Covers.” This appeal struck a chord of solidarity and two years later the officers and members of the Pipe Covers Union affiliated with the National Building Trades Council of America and invited other pipe coverers and related trades to join them. The appeal for unity was sent to Cleveland, as well as other targeted cities such as New York, Chicago, Boston, Detroit, and Washington, DC. In all, seven local unions from around the country responded and this resulted in the birth of an international union. The interested locals met for their first convention on July 7, 1902, where they drafted and approved a constitution and elected Thomas Kennedy of Chicago as its first president and the National Building Trades Council as the name for the international union and on September 22nd of that year the American Federation of Labor issued an official charter, recognizing the asbestos workers as a national union.

The group met again in October 1904 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to adopt a constitution and issue local numbers: St. Louis, Missouri No. 1, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania No. 2, Cleveland, Ohio No. 3, Buffalo, New York No. 4, Chicago, Illinois No. 5, Boston, Massachusetts No. 6, and Seattle, Washington No. 7. The charter issued to Local No. 3 in 1910 contained the names of these Clevelanders: Thomas Richards, James Wiley, Phil Frigg, M.O. Tailor, Harry Jacoby, Archie Budd, Harry Morris, Harry Graff, and George Davis. James Dalton, Al Dalton, and Thomas O’Neil of Local No. 3 became officers of the International Association.

Over the years Local No. 3 has fought for better wages, safer working conditions on construction sites, and benefits. Local No. 3 has established funds to help with medical expenses, retirement, apprenticeship and training. At its 95th anniversary and going into its second century, Local No. 3’s goals remain to make a member’s life safer, more productive, and more prosperous; to work to meet the needs of its members, and to educate new members that there is strength and prosperity in solidarity. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Asbestos Workers’ Union Local No. 3 as its officers and members celebrate their 95th anniversary.

RECOGNITION OF 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF CLEO PARKER ROBINSON DANCE STUDIO

HON. MARK UDALL
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 35th anniversary of Cleo Parker Robinson Dance and its founder, Cleo Parker Robinson. Cleo Parker Robinson uses dance as a bridge to unite diverse communities and to counteract language and cultural barriers. A night watching a Cleo Parker Robinson Dance performance is simply unforgettable, making it a well-known gem in the Colorado arts community.

Cleo Parker Robinson Dance has been an essential part of the Colorado arts community since its inception in 1970. The organization includes a professional company, a year-round dance school, an International Summer Dance Institute, and a Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Theater. In addition, CPRD created two programs, Season of Schools and Project Self Discovery, which focus on introducing dance to low-income and at-risk students. Season of Schools serves Denver Public Schools students and students from surrounding school districts with performances and workshops, introducing students to dance as an outlet of expression. Project Self Discovery, funded through a government grant, provides intensive dance study to at-risk youth as an alternative to gangs, drugs, and delinquency.

Cleo Parker Robinson Dance has spent the last 35 years working to strengthen communities in some of Denver’s poorest neighborhoods. Cleo Parker Robinson utilizes the power of dance to find the commonalities that unify communities. Her leadership and dedication shows that with hard work we can continue to move towards a society that flourishes from our cultural diversity.

I want to commend Cleo Parker Robinson Dance for its accomplishments over the past 35 years and for continuing to bring beautiful, unique and innovative forms of dance to eager audiences around the world.

IN HONOR OF THE GOLDEN JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY OF SISTER AUDREY KOCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Sister Audrey Koch, Pastoral Associate at St. Coleman’s Church, on the joyous occasion of her Golden Jubilee Anniversary, reflecting a life-long commitment to educating, inspiring and guiding the youth of our community; and reflecting an unwavering dedication of service on behalf of the most vulnerable of our society.

Sister Audrey’s significant work embodies the teaching profession, social community action endeavors and civic leadership. She taught for 24 years at Cleveland area schools, including St. Ignatius Elementary School, St. Agnes, St. Thomas Aquinas and St. John in Lorain. She also served for 4 years as Principal of St. Coleman School.

While at St. Coleman’s, Sister Audrey directed numerous programs with the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) and taught in the CYO’s preschool. She also taught theology at St. Joseph Academy. In 1991, she embarked on a new ministry through her work with the Catholic Charities Office of Disability Ministry at St. Augustine Parish. In 2003, she returned to St. Coleman Parish as a Pastoral Associate.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of the 50th Golden Jubilee Anniversary of Sister Audrey Koch. The compassionate leadership and service, reflecting faith, hope and kindness, that Sister Audrey continues to offer to others, young and old, is immeasurable in its impact upon the lives of so many, from the very young to our senior citizens. Sister Audrey’s steadfast commitment to healing the lives of others continues to strengthen lives of the people of St. Coleman’s parish and continues to serve as a beacon of light and hope throughout our entire community.