

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

U.S. CIVILIAN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (CRDF) MARKS ITS FIRST DECADE OF CONTRIBUTING TO A SAFER WORLD

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in marking the 10th anniversary of the U.S. Civilian Research and Development Foundation (CRDF). Established in 1995, the Foundation was created to employ in peaceful scientific pursuits scientists from the former Soviet Union.

The Congress adopted legislation in 1992 to create the CRDF to provide grants for joint scientific research between scientists from the countries of the former Soviet Union and the United States. The effort is to fund non-military research and development projects, to provide employment and advancement of science with scientists that otherwise might be forced to seek employment with rogue nations using their knowledge and experience with weapons of mass destruction and other military research in order to support their families. In 1995 the CRDF was formally established by the Director of the National Science Foundation. Since that time the organization has put former Soviet scientists to work on a myriad of peaceful projects that have contributed to a better life for people around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, the current Chair of the Board of CRDF is Gloria Duffy from the San Francisco Bay Area. In the Clinton Administration, Gloria was U.S. Special Coordinator for Cooperative Threat Reduction and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, and there she focused on preventing the spread of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons from the countries of the former Soviet Union.

After serving in the Department of Defense, Gloria became the President and CEO of the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, the nation's largest, oldest and most distinguished civic forum. Under Gloria's able direction, the Commonwealth Club organizes some 400 forums each year on public policy issues which are held in person, on radio and television, and on the Internet.

One of the best examples of exactly what CRDF does and of the creative talent that goes into its work is an article by Gloria Duffy that appeared in The Commonwealth (September 15, 2005), the publication of the Commonwealth Club. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the article, "Teeth Whitening and Terrorism," by Gloria Duffy be placed in the RECORD, and I urge all of my colleagues to read it.

[From the Commonwealth, Sept. 15, 2005]

TEETH WHITENING AND TERRORISM (By Gloria C. Duffy)

Peter the Great began the long and distinguished history of Russian science in 1724, creating the Russian Academy of Sciences in

St. Petersburg to ensure that Russia kept pace with the rest of Europe in contributing to the scientific discoveries of the age. During the Cold War, the Soviet Union continued to pour funds into science. But under the Soviets, much of Russia's superb scientific training and research was turned to military purposes, to create nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. The majority of scientists worked for the government.

When the Soviet Union disintegrated in 1991, the cash-strapped governments of the former Soviet states had little money to continue supporting the work of their chemists, physicists, geologists, mathematicians and biologists. So they abruptly cut the scientists' funding. This personal disaster for the scientists was also tragic for their societies, which could benefit so greatly from their contributions to medicine, industry and the quality of life.

Of particular concern to the international community: because of their work during the Cold War, hundreds of thousands of these scientists had critical knowledge of how to build weapons of mass destruction. In an era when terrorists and rogue countries are seeking nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, these legions of unemployed or underemployed scientists present a very real threat. One story from the early 1990s, perhaps apocryphal, tells of a plane load of Russian scientists stopped by authorities on the runway at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport, bound for Iran, or North Korea or Iraq.

Enter a Riverside, California, Congressman, George Brown, with a bright idea. An industrial physicist and chairman of the House Science Committee, in 1992 Brown wrote legislation creating the U.S. Civilian Research and Development Foundation (CRDF). Set up as a nonprofit, non-governmental organization by the U.S. National Science Foundation, CRDF would fund collaboration between the U.S. and former Soviet scientific communities, the two greatest scientific groups in the world, which had been cut off from one another during the Cold War. CRDF would help scientists in the FSU to continue their contributions to world scientific knowledge, and to create more prosperous economies in their region. The Foundation would employ former Soviet weapons scientists on civilian research projects, giving them an alternative to selling their knowledge to other countries or terrorist groups.

Congressman Brown died in 1999, but CRDF was born in 1995 and will celebrate its 10th anniversary in Washington, D.C. in October. In the past decade, the Foundation has raised and channeled \$249 million, in taxpayer dollars, private foundation and corporate funding, for joint scientific research. CRDF has run research competitions and given hundreds of grants for American-FSU research. It has provided travel grants for scientists from the 12 former Soviet states to attend conferences or visit colleagues in the United States, in many cases for the first time in their lives. CRDF has provided major scientific research equipment—spectrometers, lasers, electron microscopes—to consortia of researchers across Eurasia, who share use of the equipment.

CRDF has funded fellowships for young scientists at Russian universities and built a geodynamic research facility in Kyrgyzstan. It has refitted an oceanographic vessel, the

Professor Kaganovskiy, so teams of U.S. and Russian researchers can measure the health of the Arctic Ocean's Pollock fish population. CRDF has launched a collaborative research project on treatment of HIV/AIDS. It has funded joint research by an Ohio start-up company and a Russian institute on advanced cancer detection technology, and funded training of Russian hospital staffs in infection control to prevent the spread of tuberculosis. After 9/11, CRDF established a joint U.S.-Russian research project on defense against bioterrorism, tapping the considerable Russian knowledge growing from their longtime biological weapons program.

CRDF has done all of this with low overhead, and with matching funds from the governments in the former Soviet countries. And the Foundation has paired scientists with companies and investors to explore the commercial potential of the joint research, so that it will eventually help the economies of that region and beyond. Some CRDF research projects have produced commercially viable products, including an energy-saving cryogenic process for refrigerating produce during transport that is already in use in the United States. My personal favorite among these success stories is teeth whitening strips. Every time you see a TV ad for these, think about how the method for making these strips adhere to the teeth came from one of CRDF's U.S.-Russian research projects.

And with terrorists on the hunt for nuclear weapons, CRDF has recently broadened its geographical range to provide former weapons scientists in Iraq and Libya with productive civilian alternatives for their skills.

On October 18, Marta Brown, widow of the late congressman, will be in Washington to help CRDF mark its 10th birthday. Kudos to Congressman Brown for a great idea, and to the U.S. and foreign officials, CRDF's dedicated staff, the participating scientists, funders and investors, and the volunteers who serve on its board for building this unique institution.

HONORING COAST GUARD AIR STATION SAVANNAH FOR ITS RESPONSE TO HURRICANE KATRINA

HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. House of Representatives and the citizens of Georgia's 12th Congressional District commend the heroism of the crews of Coast Guard Air Station Savannah for their lifesaving efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Thanks to Coast Guard Air Station Savannah's immediate response in a time of need, 376 American lives were saved. Our nation will remain forever grateful to the following Coast Guardsmen for their selfless and noble actions: LCDR Mark Jones, LCDR John Hollingsworth, LT Steven Foran, LT Ryan Allen, LT Chris Howard, LT Matt Walker, LT Tim Eason, LTJG Andy Kirkpatrick, AST2 Scott Beitel, AST3 Matthew Laub, AST3 Jonathon Ardan, AMTCS

● 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.

Bryant Denning, AMT1 Chuck Hyland, AMT1 William Breiner, AMT1 Philip Vanhornbeck, and AMT2 Brandon Weaver.

RECOGNIZING THE COLONIAL LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY OF COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Colonial Life and Accident Insurance Company of Columbia, South Carolina has provided tremendous support to our neighbors in the Gulf Coast region.

Colonial recently provided the following description of the company's relief and recovery efforts. As Colonial continues to respond to this crisis, I am proud to recognize the company's generosity and service:

COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY RESPONSE TO HURRICANES

Like millions of others across the country, Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Company was shocked by the suffering and devastation caused by the recent Gulf Coast hurricanes, one of the greatest natural disasters in U.S. History. The company was concerned both for its several hundred contracted sales agents in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas, and for its many thousands of customers who lost possessions, homes, jobs, and even loved ones.

In response, Colonial quickly announced that customers in affected areas will receive a grace period for premium payment through year-end 2005. Colonial took this action proactively before the states mandated grace periods and went well beyond the minimum state requirements. The company continues to work with employer and employee customers on a case-by-case basis to ensure their coverage continues and their claims receive priority attention. Colonial call center representatives have special instructions of supporting telephone calls from plan administrators and policyholders in the disaster areas, and the company has added new options to its automated phone system to ensure these calls are directed to the right places quickly.

The company also is supporting its sales agents in the affected areas, many of whom not only suffered personally but also have lost their business base for many months or possibly years to come. The company is making financial arrangements to help offset the lost commissions to these independent contractor agents and also is helping many of them find other temporary work opportunities. Colonial also established a special company-matched relief fund at a local bank to provide financial support to these agents in greatest need.

On a local level, Colonial employees are actively involved in drives to collect food, clothing and other vitally needed supplies for hurricane victims. The company is matching two-for-one employee donations to the American Red Cross and Salvation Army.

Colonial is committed to helping its producers and customers during this difficult time.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIENNA WOMAN'S CLUB

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vienna Woman's Club located in Vienna, Virginia.

The Vienna Woman's Club is a service and civic organization that was formed under the name of the Vienna Hills Woman's Club by 22 women on October 12, 1955. The following year, the group became affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs in January of 1956, and membership was expanded to all Vienna women. The club meets the third Wednesday of the month, and is responsible for numerous projects that enhance and contribute to the Vienna community.

Some instrumental projects the club has participated in for years include the club's scholarship program and the Policeman of the Year award. The Vienna Woman's Club inaugurated its scholarship program in 1962, and since that time has awarded approximately \$100,000 in scholarships to Vienna high school students. In 1967, the club awarded its first Policeman of the Year award. Each year, the club recognizes a Town police officer and holds a banquet in his or her honor. The recipient also participates in the annual Vienna Halloween Parade, which is enjoyed by many Northern Virginia residents.

In addition, the club has helped to improve the community by helping to establish a branch of the Fairfax County Library, furnishing a room at Fairfax Hospital for a more comfortable stay for hospital patients, and has set up eye testing clinics for pre-school children. Some philanthropic events the club has participated in include the Annual Harvest Bazaar and Craft Fair, to which the proceeds are donated to the scholarship program, and contributing a generous donation to the Vienna Community Center. The club members have also worked to promote holiday cheer by acting as hostesses at the Annual Christmas Sing-Along held at Wolftrap Farm Park.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate the Vienna Woman's Club on 50 years of success. They have served the interests of their community well, truly meriting recognition. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding their past accomplishments and in wishing the club continued success in the many years to come.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN CALLS ON ALL SIKHS TO SUPPORT FREEDOM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, recently, the Council of Khalistan issued an open letter in which it called for all Sikhs to work for independence for Khalistan. The letter cites abuses against the Sikh Nation such as the torture of Jagtar Singh Hawara, who had a

cigarette forced into his mouth in contravention of a Sikh religious tenet and was forced to desecrate the Sikh holy scripture, the Guru Granth Sahib. This shows that there is no freedom and no tolerance for religious minorities in Hindu-dominated India. And unfortunately, whichever party is in power, the imposition of Hindu theocracy continues. The latest atrocities have occurred under the secular Congress Party, not the openly Hindu nationalist BJP.

It is outrageous that such atrocities against human beings are still occurring in the twenty-first century, Mr. Speaker. The civilized nations of the world must step in to put a stop to this tyrannical brutality.

We must do whatever we can to help all people live in freedom. We can start by ending our aid and our trade with India and by publicly demanding a free and fair vote to settle the question of independence for Khalistan and all the nations of South Asia the democratic way. Separating from India appears to be the only way that the Sikhs of Punjab, Khalistan, the Muslims of Kashmir, the Christians of Nagaland, and so many other minority groups will ever have a chance to live in the freedom that is their birthright as human beings.

I would like to introduce the Council of Khalistan's open letter into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues. It goes into much more detail than I am able to go into here. I urge my colleagues to read it carefully.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN,
Washington, DC, October 12, 2005.

ALL SIKHS MUST WORK FOR THE LIBERATION OF KHALISTAN

DEAR KHALSA JI: WAHEGURU JI KA KHALSA, WAHEGURU JI KI FATEH!

Recent events have underlined again the importance of liberating our homeland, Khalistan. All Sikhs must work toward that goal.

Recently, the Council of Khalistan completed its highly successful annual convention. There was great enthusiasm for Khalistan. There have been marches in Punjab demanding a free and sovereign Khalistan. Over 30,000 Sikhs were present at the raising of the Khalistan flag on the anniversary of the Golden Temple attack in June. 35 Sikhs were arrested and many were charged at that time for making speeches and raising the flag. On Republic Day the same thing happened. Sikhs were charged and arrested for raising the Sikh flag and making speeches in support of Khalistan. This blatant attempt to put an end to the Khalistan movement through the use of naked intimidation will not work.

Recently, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh apologized to the Sikh Nation for the Indian government's massacre of Sikhs in Delhi in November 1984. Over 20,000 Sikhs were killed in these massacres while Sikh police were locked in their barracks and the state television and radio issued a call for more Sikh blood. Manmohan Singh's apology squarely establishes India's guilt and it is greatly appreciated. Now we await the apology for Operation Bluestar and the withdrawal of all Indian occupation forces from Punjab, Khalistan.

Captain Amarinder Singh became a hero of the Sikh Nation by asserting Punjab's sovereignty and preserving Punjab's natural resource, its river water, for the use of Punjab farmers by cancelling Punjab's water agreements. This action is saving Punjab from the Hindu regime's plan to make Punjab a desert and eliminate the Sikh Nation, the Sikh people, the Sikh culture, and the Sikh religion.

from the face of the Earth. The Delhi government, which is always a Hindu majority government whether the BJP or the Congress Party is in power, has never treated Punjab fairly. The government is determined to destroy the Sikh religion and the economy of Punjab.

A recent report issued by ENSAAF entitled Fabricating Terrorism through Illegal Detention and Torture shows that India is still illegally detaining and torturing Sikhs on false charges of "militancy." Yet India claims to have ended the "militancy" years ago. Why are there still Sikhs who are being arrested and tortured on these charges?

Jagtar Singh Hawara is a hero of the Sikh Nation. The Sikh Nation is proud of him. He is a living martyr whose name will be written in golden letters in Sikh history. According to the Indian Express of July 13, 2005, the Delhi police stuffed cigarettes in his mouth, in violation of the Sikh religion, and forced him to desecrate the Guru Granth Sahib. His attorney, Arvind Thalmar, expressed concern that Sardar Hawara could be eliminated in a fake encounter like so many thousands of Sikhs before him. This treatment is a deliberate affront to the entire Sikh Nation. How would Sardar Hawara's captors feel if they were forced to eat beef (cow meat) prepared by Halal?

Sikhs will never get any justice from Delhi. The leaders in Delhi are only interested in imposing Hindu sovereignty over all the minorities to advance their own careers and their own power. Ever since independence, India has mistreated the Sikh Nation, starting with Patel's memo labelling Sikhs "a criminal tribe." What a shame for Home Minister Patel and the Indian government to issue this memorandum when the Sikh Nation gave over 80 percent of the sacrifices to free India.

The Sikhs in Punjab have suffered enormous repression at the hands of the Indian regime in the last 25 years. Even now, the capital of Punjab, Chandigarh, has not been handed over to Punjab. It was built as Punjab's capital but remains a Union Territory. The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984. Over 50,000 Sikh youth were picked up from their houses, tortured, murdered in police custody, then secretly cremated as "unidentified bodies." Their remains were never even given to their families! 52,268 Sikhs sit in Indian jails as political prisoners without charge or trial, according to the Movement Against State Repression (MASR.) Some of them have been in illegal custody for 20 years! Even those sent to prison for life for murder only serve 16 years. According to Amnesty International, tens of thousands of others are also being held as political prisoners. We call for the immediate release of these Sikh political prisoners and all political prisoners in India. The Indian government must return remains to grieving Sikh families.

The attack on the Golden Temple, the murder of over 20,000 Sikhs in June 1984, diverting Punjab's river water to Hindu states without compensation, giving Punjab farmers lower prices for their produce, and other abuses have left Sikhs with no other choice but to sever all ties with Delhi and finally reclaim our lost sovereignty in a free and independent Sikh state called Khalistan, as declared on October 7, 1987. That is our destiny. Remember that the Guru gave us sovereignty: "In Grieb Sikhin Ko Deon Patshahi."

The time has come for the Sikh Nation to take its seat among the nations of the world at the United Nations and send its ambassadors to almost 200 countries around the world. This will promote the interests of the Sikh Nation and the Sikh religion worldwide. The Sikh diaspora will gain tremen-

dous respect within their host countries when we have our own independent, sovereign country and representatives at the United Nations.

The Sikh Nation must beware of Sikh puppets of the Indian government. Such puppets do not serve our interests. If you want to be remembered as a true Sikh, Mr. Prime Minister, you will fire the Hindu militants from your government, release all political prisoners, and make compensation to the families of the victims of Indian government genocide against the Sikhs.

Nehru promised that Sikhs would have "the glow of freedom" in northwest India, but as soon as independence was achieved, he told Sikh leaders that "things have changed." His Home Minister, Patel, sent out a memo calling Sikhs "a criminal tribe." That is why no Sikh representative has ever signed the Indian constitution.

We must bring back our Khalsa spirit. We must commit ourselves to the greater well being of the Sikhs Nation and to the cause of freedom. We must remember our heritage and tradition of "Khalsa Bagi Yan Badshah" by committing ourselves to the cause of freedom for our Sikh brothers and sisters. Will you commit yourself to this cause, Prime Minister Singh, or will you be a tool of the regime that has unleashed a brutal genocide on our people?

Last year's seminar on Khalistan held in Chandigarh shows that the flame of freedom still burns brightly in Punjab in spite of the Indian government's brutal repression. Always remember our heritage: Raj Kare Ga Khalsa; Khalsa Bagi Yan Badshah. We call on you to take these necessary steps to bring the glow of freedom that was promised to the Sikhs to fruition. That is the only way that you can be considered a good Sikh in alignment with the gurus.

Panth Da Sewadar,
DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President, Council of Khalistan.

CONGRATULATING PASTORS RANDALL AND SHARLENE HOLTS ON THIRTY YEARS OF MARRIAGE

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and pay tribute to two people who are bound both by marriage, and by their service to God and our community. It is one of these ties that I want to recognize today, for Pastors Randall and Sharlene Holts of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church are celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary.

Reverend Randall E. Holts is the Senior Pastor of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Miami. Since 1985, Pastor Holts has served as the Chief Administrator responsible for administering the spiritual and temporal affairs of the church. Under his dynamic leadership the congregation has grown to more than 2,500 members. In addition, in 1997, Pastor Holts and his leadership team organized and established the "New Hope Development Center, Inc.", a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. The mission of NHDC is to foster self-sufficiency of families through economic empowerment, and delivering human and social services to improve the quality of life for residents in the community.

Mrs. Sharlene D. Holts currently serves as Pastor of Women's Ministry at the New Hope

Missionary Baptist Church of Miami, Florida. In December of 1995, Mrs. Holts heard and accepted the call of God summoning her to the Gospel Ministry. Since that time, she has faithfully prepared herself in prayer and study of the Word to do God's will.

Pastors Randall and Sharlene Holts were high school sweethearts, and are currently partners in life, as well as, ministry. They are the proud parents of Shontel Holts-Rich, Ericka Holts and Randall Holts, Jr.

Each is a valuable contributing member of the South Florida family, and together they have truly emerged as leaders helping to foster the empowerment of a people and an overall better quality of life in our community. Our prayers and good wishes go with them for many more happy, productive years in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF BARBARA SEAMAN ON THE OCCASION OF HER 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of Barbara Seaman, a great New Yorker, groundbreaking author, perceptive reporter and researcher and dear friend of mine. On October 2, 2005, many of Barbara's friends and colleagues will gather to celebrate her 70th birthday. I am very pleased to offer my best wishes to Barbara for a truly memorable and enjoyable afternoon.

I have heard it said more than once that Barbara Seaman is to women's health what Ralph Nader was to automobiles. Barbara's contributions to the welfare of women throughout the world have been simply extraordinary: she was the first reporter to expose the serious health risks posed by the birth control pill, and she pioneered efforts to allow women to take control of their own health care decisions.

Barbara's 1969 book on the dangers of oral contraceptives, *The Doctors' Case Against the Pill*, spurred a U.S. Senate hearing on the topic, though patients harmed by the pill were not allowed to testify. The hearing became known as the "Boston Tea Party" of the women's movement when female audience members' demands to be heard repeatedly brought the proceedings to a halt. As a result of Barbara's work, the Federal Government required that health warnings be placed on oral contraception packaging and advertisements, a first for any prescription drug.

Barbara also strives to make sure that women have the information they need to make good decisions about a range of health topics, including contraception, childbirth and infant nutrition. Indeed, *The New York Times* commented that "Barbara Seaman triggered a revolution, fostering a willingness among women to take issues of health into their own hands."

In the 1980s, Barbara was essentially blacklisted from magazines by pharmaceutical companies who would not advertise in publications that carried her stories. Her relentless insistence on questioning the safety and effectiveness of their products earned her their

condemnation and our praise. Barbara took advantage of this forced lull by turning to biography. Her book on the life of the novelist Jacqueline Susann was made into a television movie starring Michele Lee.

Cited by the Library of Congress as the author who raised sexism in health care as a worldwide issue, Barbara Seaman is a co-founder of the Women's Health Network, a non-profit organization devoted to giving women a greater voice in the health care system. In addition to the works cited above, Barbara is the author of *For Women Only: Your Guide to Health Empowerment, Free and Female and Women and the Crisis in Sex Hormones*. Her most recent book, published in 2003, is *The Greatest Experiment Ever Performed on Women: Exploding the Estrogen Myth*, which presaged recent studies that proved that estrogen was doing more harm than good for menopausal women.

I continue to be in awe of Barbara Seaman's contributions to the public good. A native of Brooklyn and currently an Upper West Sider, Barbara's life and accomplishments are a reflection of the strength and vitality of New York City itself.

I would like to join Barbara's friends and family in marking this special occasion; I trust that she will be surrounded by the warmth of happy memories, good cheer and loving friendships. Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Barbara Seaman, a friend to all Americans and a force for women's health.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POLISH SATURDAY SCHOOL IN CHEEKTOWAGA, NY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and salute the Msgr. P. Adamski Polish Saturday School in Cheektowaga, NY, which will celebrate its 50th Anniversary on Saturday, October 15. The school was founded thanks to the commitment of people belonging to the Polish Teachers Federation and the Polish Veterans Union. They were deeply convinced that only an educational institution which provides instruction in the Polish language, history and culture could keep their identity alive.

Classes were held for the first time on October 1, 1955 at the Polish Union House. From the very beginning, the school was extremely successful and six weeks after opening, it moved to the premises of St. Stanislaus Parish, where it stayed for more than 40 years. Since 1996, the site of the school has been located at the parish of St. John Gualbert in Cheektowaga.

Since its creation many people: parents, chaplains and teachers, put much effort to make the Polish Saturday School a well-functioning educational institution. Its authorities have always tried to provide high quality teachers and staff and a positive learning environment for its students.

Today the school consists of 86 students and 10 teachers. Its main goals are to teach the language and culture of Poland, and to

help people both young and old reconnect with the Polish tradition of their parents and grandparents. In order to better achieve these aims, the school runs kindergarten for children beginning at 4-years-old and provides classes for adults in learning the Polish language and history. The Polish Saturday School is an accredited institution and its students complete their education with an examination, which gives them three Regents credits honored by every public high school in the NY state.

The Director of the school is Mrs. Mira Szramel, and all organizational issues belong to the Parents' Board and its Chairman, Krzysztof Sokolowski. The school, a nonprofit institution, is financed thanks to the small tuition fees from parents and the donations from various Polonia organizations and individuals. Invaluable help comes from the Chaplain of the school, Father Tadeusz Bocianowski and Parochial Vicar, Father David Bialkowski.

The 50th Anniversary, also called the Golden Jubilee, is a wonderful occasion for paying tribute to those who throughout these past years created the school community and taught young people the Polish language, culture and tradition. Their hard work and devotion will never be forgotten by Polonia. From its foundation, the Polish Saturday School was focused on teaching children but also served the local Polish community. During the past 50 years, the school has built a strong presence among Polish-Americans in Buffalo. Students have always actively and willingly participated in the life of Polonia, preparing national and religious celebrations. They and their parents are proud of their Polish roots, cultivate their tradition and thus enrich the great diversity of American culture.

The 50th Anniversary celebrations on Saturday, October 15, will consist of two main events. There will be an artistic program prepared by students of the school, as well as short speeches by invited guests. The official program will be followed by dinner and a dance with music played by 'Polanie'. On Sunday, October 16 there will be a special Mass at St. Stanislaus Church, celebrated by Bishop Edward Grosz and by the Chaplain of the Polish Saturday School—Father Tadeusz Bocianowski. These celebrations will be an important event not only in the history of the school, but also in the history of Polonia in Western New York.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL REVIEW'S SUCCESS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as a subscriber of National Review since high school I know personally its historic impact on American culture providing for conservatism to be the respected political philosophy of today.

Despite withering assaults, the majority achievement of conservatism today is largely due to the courageous intellect of William F. Buckley, Jr.

I am grateful to be identified as a National Review Republican. On October 8th, The Washington Times' lead editorial chronicled its significance:

NATIONAL REVIEW AT 50

National Review met the world on Nov. 18, 1955, on an upbeat note. "There is, we like to think, solid reason for rejoicing," began founder and longtime editor William F. Buckley Jr., which was just a little odd. No one, liberals and conservatives alike, could quite understand Mr. Buckley's enthusiasm. Surely, with America's destiny in the competent hands of social planners and international bureaucrats, conservatism was dead. What, then, is the point of a conservative journal, especially one greeting the world with a wink and a smile? Mr. Buckley appeared to concede the point, admitting "it seems altogether possible that did National Review not exist, no one would have invented it. Nevertheless," he added, in what would become the right's rallying cry, National Review "stands athwart history, yelling Stop, at a time when no one is inclined to do so, or to have much patience with those who so urge it." And with that the standard was raised, the battle joined, and the rest, as they say, is history.

This week in Washington, National Review celebrated its 50th anniversary. Once more there is, we're sure Mr. Buckley still thinks, solid reason for rejoicing. The world has changed: Communism, not conservatism, is dead or dying; the social planners, not the capitalists, have retreated to the universities; and America (not the international bureaucracies) has spread freedom throughout the globe. Of course, more needs to be done. But 50 years ago, few conservatives would have predicted the country could ever get this far. "It is idle," Whittaker Chambers wrote to his friend, Mr. Buckley, in 1961, "to talk about preventing the wreck of Western civilization. It is already a wreck from within." Even if Chambers' prognosis was a bit too shrouded in doom, it was still a lonely time to be a conservative. With its trademarked irreverence and schoolyard sense of mischief, National Review "crashed through," as Mr. Buckley put it, to break the dangerous lock liberals had taken for granted and offer the "non-licensed non-conformists" (i.e. conservatives) a place to call home.

So to say that National Review had something of a monopoly on the conservative audience is true, since there was simply nothing else. It also diminishes the peculiar challenge Mr. Buckley and his staff faced—namely, just what was conservatism? On Thursday, President Bush lunched with Mr. Buckley and others to mark the occasion, during which he described this three-ring conservative circus: "[Mr. Buckley] had voices that included ex-communists who knew better than most the threat posed to America by the Soviet Union. He had voices such as free marketers who knew that markets could deliver better results than bureaucracies. He had voices from traditionalists who understood that a government of and by and for the people could not stand unless it stood on moral grounds."

By combining these [still] feuding factions into a political philosophy with mass appeal, National Review worked to remake the Republican Party. To do this, as well as to purge the extremists, it made poking fun at liberals almost a sideshow.

With 50 years behind it, how has National Review done? Columnist and former NR editor George Will called it "the most consequential journal of opinion ever," which is no overstatement. On the Internet, in multimillion-dollar institutes and in Washington, conservative ideas are ubiquitous. They brought Ronald Reagan to the White House, who in turn brought down the Evil Empire. It is as true today as it was in the dark days of 1955 that one's conservative journey usually begins with National Review. May it remain so for another 50 years.

HONORING MEL J. RIDDLE, NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mel Riddle, the MetLife/National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) National High School Principal of the Year.

Dr. Riddle, the principal for J.E.B. Stuart High School in Falls Church Virginia, was named National High School Principal of the Year and will be recognized in Washington, DC, during the Principals' Institute for State and National Principals of the Year on November 11–12, 2005.

Dr. Riddle received a Bachelor of Arts in Education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a Master of Arts in Educational Administration from George Mason University. He received his doctorate in Educational Leadership from George Peabody College of Vanderbilt University. He has served Fairfax County Public Schools for over 33 years, first as a social studies teacher and then serving as assistant principal in three area Fairfax County High Schools before taking the head position at J.E.B. Stuart High School in 1997.

He is a member of numerous educational associations including the National Association of Secondary School Principals, and the Association for Supervision and Curriculum and Development. He has been invited to speak all over the country to share his experience with other educational leaders, and has been recognized by the International Baccalaureate of North America and featured in National Geographic Magazine.

During his tenure, J.E.B. Stuart High School moved from being one of the lowest achieving schools in Fairfax County to becoming a NASSP Breakthrough High School. Dr. Riddle's campaign to achieve literacy for all students has been a success. He integrated annual pre- and post-testing of all students, and established a reading lab and mandatory after-school tutoring for at-risk students. He and his staff developed a differentiated approach to increase adult and student contact outside the normal classroom setting, creating a school of achievement while creating a sense of community. The school now serves as a national model for serving disadvantaged and diverse students. In addition, Dr. Riddle has worked with the PTSA in successfully growing the school's scholarship fund, to help graduates achieve their dreams of higher education.

Dr. Riddle has dedicated his life to ensuring that all students are given the opportunity to achieve success. Over the past 33 years, he has made a lasting impact on thousands of students and truly deserves recognition for his achievements. I am proud to know him and to have the opportunity to work with him.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Dr. Mel Riddle and congratulating him on this distinguished achievement.

HONORING GENERAL NARINDER SINGH, A FREEDOM ACTIVIST

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I note the passing of General Narinder Singh, a leader in the struggle for freedom for the Sikhs in Punjab, Khalistan. General Narinder Singh was an army general who became an activist for his people in his retirement. He frequently spoke out against the atrocities committed against the Sikhs in India. On a visit to the United States, General Narinder Singh said that "Punjab is a police state." Unfortunately, it is still a police state today.

Punjab police recently have arrested numerous Sikhs, held them incommunicado, and tortured them on charges of militancy. This is the same "militancy" that India claimed to have eradicated several years ago! In June, 35 Sikhs were arrested and many more were charged for making speeches in support of freedom for Khalistan, the Sikh homeland, and raising the Sikh flag in front of over 30,000 cheering Sikhs. Even a former Member of Parliament was arrested for making a speech. The same thing happened in January at a protest on India's Republic Day. Mr. Speaker, does this sound like the act of a tyranny or a democracy?

We must not just watch while India forcibly suppresses the freedom of Sikhs and other minorities. The time has come to stop our aid and our trade with India. It is also time to enact a formal resolution calling for a free and fair plebiscite on the question of independence. The essence of democracy is the right of self-determination.

Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan recently published an excellent press release on the passing of General Narinder Singh, which I would like to place in the RECORD.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN

IN MEMORY OF GENERAL NARINDER SINGH

Washington, DC, October 12, 2005—General Narinder Singh, a strong spokesman for an independent Khalistan, died recently. He was 86. He served in the army and became an activist for the Sikh Nation after his retirement. He spoke out for human rights and for freedom for Khalistan, the Sikh homeland that declared its independence on October 7, 1987. General Narinder Singh travelled to countries such as the United States in support of these causes. He participated in political events in Punjab, Khalistan, aimed at securing freedom for the Sikh nation. "General Narinder Singh will be sorely missed," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. "We salute his courage and we honor his memory. On behalf of the Sikh Nation, I extend deepest sympathies to his family," Dr. Aulakh said.

General Narinder Singh correctly called Punjab "a police state," and it remains one to this day. India has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984. In addition, India has also killed more than 90,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, and thousands of Christians and Muslims elsewhere in the country, as well as tens of thousands of Assamese, Bodos, Dalits ("Untouchables," the dark-skinned aboriginal people of South Asia), Manipuris, Tamils, and other minorities. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian gov-

ernment's murders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide." The Movement Against State Repression (MASR) reported that 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners in India without charge or trial, some since 1984! Amnesty International reported that tens of thousands of other minorities are also being held as political prisoners. We demand the immediate release of all these political prisoners.

Cases were registered against dozens of Sikhs for raising the Sikh flag at the Golden Temple on the anniversary of the Golden Temple attack in the presence of more than 30,000 Sikhs. Warrants have been issued for their arrest. The flag of Khalistan was also raised on Republic Day, January 26. 35 Sikhs were arrested at that time. Some of them have been denied bail.

Recently, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh formally apologized to the Sikh Nation for the genocide against the Sikhs in November 1984 in which over 20,000 Sikhs were killed in Delhi and surrounding areas while Sikh police were locked in their barracks and Indian radio and television called for more Sikh blood. This apology establishes the Indian government's responsibility for the genocide against the Sikh Nation. India must end its occupation of Khalistan, which is the root cause of this genocide. Sikhs are a sovereign nation and they are fighting for their freedom.

In September 1995, Indian police arrested human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra following his report exposing the government's policy of mass cremation of Sikhs, in which over 50,000 Sikhs have been arrested, tortured, and murdered, then their bodies were declared unidentified and secretly cremated. He was murdered in police custody. His body was not given to his family.

"Only a sovereign, independent Khalistan will end the repression and lift the standard of living for the people of Punjab," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. "Democracies don't commit genocide."

"The flame of freedom still burns bright in the hearts of Sikhs despite the deployment of over half a million Indian troops to crush it," Dr. Aulakh said. "As Professor Darshan Singh, a former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, said, 'If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh.'" Dr. Aulakh noted. Last year, Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh signed a bill cancelling the agreements that allowed the diversion of Punjabi water to non-riparian states. The bill asserted the sovereignty of Punjab. Sardar Atinder Pal Singh, a former Member of Parliament, held a seminar on Khalistan in Punjab. It was well attended and featured outstanding presentations, including one by Professor Gurtej Singh, IAS, Professor of Sikhism. There have been several recent marches through Punjab demanding the establishment of an independent Khalistan. "The Khalistan movement is on the rise and India is on the verge of disintegration," Dr. Aulakh said.

History shows that multinational states such as India are doomed to failure. Countries like India's longtime friend the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and others prove this point. India is not one country; it is a polyglot like those countries. In Forbes magazine, Steve Forbes wrote that India is doomed to disintegrate like the Austro-Hungarian Empire. "India is not a homogeneous state," he wrote. "Neither was the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It attacked Serbia in the summer of 1914 in the hopes of destroying this irritating state after Serbia had committed a spectacular terrorist act against the Hapsburg monarchy. The empire ended up splintering and the Hapsburgs lost their throne." India is doomed to fall apart just as Austria-Hungary and the others did.

“The best way to honor the memory of General Narinder Singh is to continue to pray for and work for our God-given birthright of freedom,” Dr. Aulakh said. “We must continue to press for our God-given birthright of freedom,” he said. “Without political power religions cannot flourish and nations perish. India claims to be a democracy. It is time it recognized the right of self-determination for all people in South Asia.”

**TRIBUTE TO CORA EAVES
BRAYNON**

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Mrs. Cora Eaves Braynon, a true leader whose rich legacy will enhance our community for many years to come.

Cora Braynon spent her entire career in public health—as a nurse, educator, administrator and as a North Broward Hospital District Commissioner. Mrs. Braynon received a bachelor's degree in nursing from the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama and a Master's in Public Health from the University of Michigan.

Mrs. Braynon was appointed to the North Broward Hospital District Board in 1999 and reappointed in 2003. Her last role was that of Vice Chair. Mrs. Braynon also served on numerous District committees including the Executive Committee, Joint Conference Committee, Minority Business Enterprise Committee, and the Quality Assessment/Oversight Committee.

Prior to receiving the appointment as Commissioner of the North Broward Hospital District, Mrs. Braynon was the first black Registered Nurse employed by the Broward County Health Department. She served as Senior Executive Nursing Director for 18 years and retired in 1994. Mrs. Braynon was also an instructor at Broward Community College, Florida Atlantic University and an adjunct faculty member of Barry University Adult and Community Education Program. She also served on the Advisory Council on Nurse Education, Division of Nursing for the Public Health Services, Department of Health and Human Services.

Aside from her commitment to public health, Cora Braynon served 52 years as a life member of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., a public service sorority. She was a pioneer in developing programs to help safeguard the health of teenage mothers and their babies. Her interests were reflected in her sorority work where she implemented the Reaching Adolescent Parents Program. She was also devoted to the Delteen youth program where she mentored many young women on their role and commitment to finer womanhood. Cora Braynon, the immediate past president of the Broward County Alumnae Chapter, served three terms as President. Additionally, she served on regional and national committees of the sorority.

Cora Eaves Braynon, a woman of great accomplishment, leaves behind a large and accomplished family, including her beloved husband, Ronald A. Braynon; three children: Oscar Braynon, Sr. (Patricia), of Miami, Florida; two daughters: Andrea A. Braynon, of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida and Terri Braynon

Glasford (Jason), of Miramar, Florida; one sister, Carrie Eaves Evans (Willis), of Louisville, Kentucky; one brother, Frank Eaves (Ella) of Prospect, Kentucky; one brother-in-law, Roger Forbes of Fenton, Michigan; sisters-in-law: Betty Sharpe of Lauderdale Lakes, Florida and Rosemary Braynon of North Miami, Florida; grandchildren: City of Miami Gardens Vice Mayor Oscar Braynon, Jr., Gina Braynon and Marina Braynon Moore, a host of nieces, nephews and other family members and friends.

Cora Braynon will surely be missed, but we will all remember her with wonderful thoughts and memories of the person that she was and the many ways that she touched our lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GREEK AMERICAN HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION AND ITS HONOREES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of the Greek American Homeowners Association (GAHOA) on the occasion of its annual dinner dance. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the organization's officers and members, as well as its President, George Alexiou. I would also like to salute GAHOA's distinguished honorees: George Fakiris, John Millas, Peter Stathatos, Dennis Syntilas and Rose Ann Alafogiannis.

GAHOA is a non-profit organization based in Astoria, New York that has been committed to advancing the interests of the Greek-American community since 1976. The organization provides an extensive array of educational programs and is a generous benefactor to the community.

GAHOA currently has more than 2,000 members in the greater New York area. The Association provides Greek language scholarships to local schools, citizenship and voter registration drives and monthly speakers to help educate the residents of the community. In addition, GAHOA provides Thanksgiving dinner to more than 12,000 individuals every year.

This year's dinner dance will benefit another of the Association's outstanding community service achievements: Athens Square Park. The park is a cultural center that invites people of all ethnicities to share and enjoy Hellenic music, dance and art. The park, which once served as the starting point of the Olympic flame in the United States, was the brainchild of GAHOA cofounder Dennis Syntilas. With contributions from students, the community and corporations, as well as cooperation with the NYC Department of Parks, Athens Square Park is now a cultural hub of the diverse Astoria community.

George Fakiris, the first of GAHOA's honorees, was born in Chios, Greece and immigrated to the United States in 1969. He worked as a painter and decorator before becoming a successful real estate developer and philanthropist. Mr. Fakiris is a generous benefactor of GAHOA's annual Thanksgiving dinner and scholarship fund. Mr. Fakiris' support, knowledge and experience continue to greatly benefit his community.

The Association's next honoree, John Millas, is from Evia, Greece and moved to the United States in 1963. Mr. Millas worked in the restaurant business before starting his own real estate management firm. A GAHOA co-founder, Mr. Millas also dedicates his time to the Pan Eviakos Society of New York and other worthy causes. In 1977, he married Amalia Calogrides, and they have two children, Sofia and George.

The Association's third honoree, Peter Stathatos, was born in Kefallonia, Greece. Also a co-founder of the Greek American Homeowners Association, Mr. Stathatos has held several positions within the organization and has served on the boards of the Kefalos Society and St. Gerasimos Church. In 1997, Mr. Stathatos was honored by Borough President Claire Shulman for his outstanding work in the community. He and his wife, Anastasia, have three children, Irene, John and Mamie, and three grandchildren, Anastasia, Nicholas and Matthew.

The next honoree, Dennis C. Syntilas, is a retired banker, a cofounder of the Greek American Homeowners Association and the driving force behind Athens Square Park. He is a member of Community Board 1 and has dedicated himself to improving the quality of life in his neighborhood. Mr. Syntilas's awards are too numerous to list—though his friends will attest to the fact that he is most proud of his wife, Rita Koletti, his daughter Vayia and his son-in-law, George D. Apergis.

The final honoree, Rose Ann Alafogiannis, is another GAHOA co-founder and an active member of the Astoria community.

She is a former President of the Kiwanis Club, a member of the Board of Directors of Astoria Civic Association and a member of Community Board 1. Ms. Alafogiannis also donates her time to SHAREing and CAREing, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting those affected by breast cancer. She and her late husband, Thomas, have four children, Paul, Jennifer, Joseph and Vasilli.

Mr. Speaker, as the founder and co-chairperson of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the Greek American Homeowners Association, its President George Alexiou and its distinguished honorees.

HONORING RETIRING ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATOR RAYMOND K. DUSZA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great labor leader, public official and dear friend and colleague who at the end of this year will retire from active public service as a member of the Erie County Legislature—the man commonly known as “Mr. Cheektowaga,” Legislator Raymond K. Dusza.

During the 1990s, I worked closely with Ray, and saw firsthand his gentle yet persistent leadership style. Ray's leadership on so many issues important to taxpayers and consumers won kudos from countless local residents and praise from local taxpayers' groups.

Ray's call to public service came early in life. He enlisted in the United States Army and

defended this country as a Paratrooper in the unit known as "America's Guard of Honor," Ray's beloved 82nd Airborne Division. When Ray came home after his military service, he started at the Westinghouse Electric corporation, where his reputation as a "man of the people" became apparent. Ray rose through the ranks and was chosen to represent 4,000 of his labor brothers and sisters as leader of the International Union of Electrical Workers, Local 1581.

In 1988, the 8th District seat in the Erie County Legislature became vacant. After many years of active service in the community and in the Democratic Party, Ray contested and won election that November, representing the residents of the Town of Cheektowaga and the Village of Depew. Over the past 17 years, Republicans and Democrats alike have bowed to the high regard with which this man has been held—Ray has never been seriously challenged for re-election.

Local consumers soon learned that they had no greater defender of their rights than Ray Dusza. Ray led the fight for a new Item Pricing/Scanner Accuracy law for Erie County, to ensure that prices consumers were charged for goods were properly reflecting prices on store shelves. Through Ray's work, scanners in supermarkets, home centers and other retail stores that were estimated to be accurate only 50 percent to 70 percent of the time must now offer consumers 98 percent accuracy. In addition, Ray will always be remembered as the "Coupon King" for his successful fight against the Proctor & Gamble Corporation's attempt to deny local shoppers free access to manufacturer's coupons. Ray fought hard for consumers, residents and taxpayers as Vice Chairman of the Legislature's Public Safety Committee, and as Chairman of two legislative standing committees, the Government Affairs Committee and the Energy and Environment Committee.

Ray Dusza added one more very important element to his service in County Hall: a robust sense of humor. Ray's philosophy was to "be serious about what you do, but don't take yourself too seriously," and he was indeed good to his word. Ray always added a refreshing sense of humor to the deliberations within County Hall, consistently entering committee meetings with the declaration that "the paratroopers have landed," and sarcastically questioning what time the perennially tardy "nine o'clock caucus" would begin.

Ray's dedication to his community was not limited to his role in the Legislature. The following are just a few of the organizations Ray has dedicated his time and energy toward: the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Knights of Columbus—Father Justin Council, Polish Falcons Club, American Legion Gierlach Post, Depew/Cheektowaga Taxpayers' Association, AMVETS Buddy Knaus Post, Catholic War Veterans Post 1313, the Ushers Society at St. Philip the Apostle Church, and St. Joseph's Parish Holy Name Society. In addition, Ray is the leader of the eponymously-named "Ray Dusza Booster Club," a grouping of political supporters that Ray sentimentally refers to as his "commandos."

Mr. Speaker, I am a lifelong resident of another great Western New York community—South Buffalo, NY, and the highest compliment that folks can pay to someone from South Buffalo is that they remember where they come from, and remember the people

who sent them to serve in public office. Few public officials remember from whom and from whence they came the way Ray Dusza does. I am delighted that you have allowed me to take a few moments to honor Ray's service to our community here today, and I am honored even more to call Ray Dusza my friend. To Ray, his wife Terry, to their children, grandchildren and to the entire Dusza Family, I want to offer my sincere thanks, and my wishes of good luck and Godspeed for many years to come.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF PARKER DAVIS WORK

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, I am happy to congratulate Micki and Ryan Work of Falls Church, Virginia, on the birth of their new baby boy. Parker Davis Work was born in Washington, DC, on October 1, 2005, at 1:32 pm, weighing 6 pounds, 8 ounces and measuring over 19 inches long. He has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future.

His mother Micki serves as a Legislative Assistant in my office and is a tremendous asset to the Second Congressional District of South Carolina. She is extremely knowledgeable about healthcare and other legislative issues, and is a valuable contributor to my decision making process. Today, I am pleased to congratulate the Work family on Parker's birth.

CONGRATULATING MRS. SALLIE H. FLAVIN

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Sallie Flavin upon her retirement from the Federal Government after more than 30 years of distinguished service.

Mrs. Flavin began her career as a young clerk typist and through years of tenacity and diligence, rose to the top echelons of the federal acquisition community. After a brief stint with the Geological Survey, Mrs. Flavin entered the Air Force Copper Cap Intern Program and soon found herself immersed in the daily welter of the procurement office at Pope AFB in North Carolina. That assignment would prove to be the first rung in a career ladder that Mrs. Flavin would climb to reach the pinnacle of the intricate and demanding realm of defense contract management. Now, some three decades later, she will end her career as a member of the Senior Executive Service and as the deputy director and highest-ranking civilian of the Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA). DCMA is a worldwide organization of 11,000 employees responsible for ensuring that the supplies and materials going to our men and women in uniform are delivered on-time and are of the highest quality.

Over the past year, her contribution to the efficacy and integrity of defense acquisition

was particularly notable. She led a high-profile team that investigated and successfully identified recent improprieties at executive levels within the military acquisition community. Moreover, she was recently selected as a recipient of the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Service, a highly prestigious Executive Branch honor recognizing her unwavering integrity and her role in making her agency a pacesetter in the government's adoption of performance-based management principles.

Having served in high-level positions with the Air Force, the Missile Defense Agency, and the Army Materiel Command, it is indeed fitting that she will end her career while employed with a joint-service agency. During her long run on the defense acquisition stage, she has played key roles in the introduction of many major systems, including the Theatre High Altitude Area Defense Missile System (THAAD), the Space-Based Infrared Systems (SBIRS), the Aegis Missile System, and the Stryker.

During her 3-year tenure as the deputy director of DCMA, Mrs. Flavin demonstrated true result-producing leadership that advanced acquisition excellence within the Defense Department. Additionally, she served as the agency's standard bearer in its campaign to invigorate and refashion its workforce to meet the challenges of today's fast-paced, technology-driven acquisition environment. The indelible mark Mrs. Flavin has left on DCMA will ensure its viability as a combat support agency for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate Sallie Flavin for her service to our country. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding her past accomplishments and wishing her and her husband, Mark, the best of luck in all future endeavors.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN CONVENTION VERY SUCCESSFUL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan, which leads the movement to liberate the Sikh homeland, Khalistan, from Indian occupation, held its annual convention in the Detroit area October 7 through October 9. It was very successful. Delegates came from around the country and from Canada to participate.

I recently made a statement about Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's apology to the Sikh Nation for the Delhi massacres of November 1984 in which over 20,000 Sikhs lost their lives. This established India's culpability for the violence and terror that swept Punjab and other parts of India at that time. That underlines the need for a sovereign Khalistan to put an end to these kinds of acts. Recently, an organization called ENSAAF published a report detailing the ongoing human rights violations committed by Indian security forces in recent-militancy related arrests. From June 2005 to August 2005, Indian police claim to have arrested several dozen individuals on charges that they were trying to "revive militancy" in Punjab. They have been held incommunicado and tortured, according to the report.

In June, 35 Sikhs were arrested and several were charged simply for making speeches in

support of an independent Khalistan and raising the Sikh flag. Those arrested and charged include Simranjit Singh Mann, a former Member of Parliament, who is out on bail after making a speech in support of Khalistan. Is making a speech a crime in a democracy? Is raising a flag a crime in a democracy? How can India claim it is democratic when people are arrested for making speeches and raising a flag?

These recent incidents are the latest in a pattern of repression by the Indian government that demonstrates why a free and sovereign Khalistan is needed. The Council of Khalistan convention helped maintain and increase support for that goal.

We can help the people in Punjab and throughout South Asia live in freedom, Mr. Speaker. We can do so by withholding aid and trade from India until it respects human rights and by putting the Congress on record in support of self-determination for the Sikhs of Punjab, Khalistan, the Muslims of Kashmir, predominantly Christian Nagaland, and all the nations seeking freedom from India. It's time to stop using violence and settle these matters democratically.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the Council of Khalistan's press release on its convention into the RECORD at this time.

[From the Council of Khalistan, Oct. 12, 2005]

**COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN ANNUAL CONVENTION
VERY SUCCESSFUL**

WASHINGTON, DC—Delegates came from Canada, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Memphis, Florida, Illinois, California, Washington, DC, and other locations to the Council of Khalistan's annual convention, which was held October 7-9, 2005 at the Sikh Gurdwara in Rochester Hills, Michigan. The convention was very well attended and successful. The delegates were enthusiastic in support of freedom for Khalistan, the Sikh homeland that declared its independence from India on October 7, 1987.

Resolutions were passed in support of a sovereign, independent Khalistan, in support of the Washington office, thanking the Sangat of Detroit, condolences for the victims of the earthquake in Kashmir, and other resolutions. Delegates spoke in support of independence for Khalistan and discussed the need to remain active on the grassroots level. They stressed the need for the active participation of Sikhs in this country and worldwide.

The Council of Khalistan has preserved the true history of the Sikh Nation since 1984 by documenting every major incident in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, internationalizing the Sikh struggle for independence, and exposing the Indian government's repression against the Sikhs and other minorities.

India has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, according to figures compiled by the Punjab State Magistracy and human-rights groups and reported in the book *The Politics of Genocide* by Inderjeet Singh Jaijee. It has also killed more than 90,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, and thousands of Christians and Muslims elsewhere in the country, as well as tens of thousands of Assamese, Bodos, Dalits ("Untouchables," the dark-skinned aboriginal people of South Asia), Manipuris, Tamils, and other minorities.

The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide." According to a report by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR), 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners in India without charge or trial. Some have been in illegal custody

since 1984! Amnesty International reported that tens of thousands of other minorities are also being held as political prisoners. We demand the immediate release of all these political prisoners.

Cases were registered against dozens of Sikhs for raising the Sikh flag at the Golden Temple on the anniversary of the Golden Temple attack in the presence of over 30,000 Sikhs. Warrants have been issued for their arrest. The flag of Khalistan was also raised on Republic Day, January 26. 35 Sikhs were arrested at that time. Some of them have been denied bail.

Recently, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh formally apologized to the Sikh Nation for the genocide against the Sikhs in November 1984 in which over 20,000 Sikhs were killed in Deihi alone while Sikh police were locked in their barracks and Indian radio and television called for more Sikh blood. This apology establishes the Indian government's responsibility for the genocide against the Sikh Nation. India must end its occupation of Khalistan, which is the root cause of this genocide. Sikhs are a sovereign nation and they are fighting for their freedom.

Indian police arrested human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra after he exposed their policy of mass cremation of Sikhs, in which over 50,000 Sikhs have been arrested, tortured, and murdered, then their bodies were declared unidentified and secretly cremated. He was murdered in police custody. His body was not given to his family.

"Only a sovereign, independent Khalistan will end the repression and lift the standard of living for the people of Punjab," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. "Democracies don't commit genocide."

History shows that multinational states such as India are doomed to failure. Countries like Austria-Hungary, India's longtime friend the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and others prove this point. India is not one country; it is a polyglot like those countries. Steve Forbes, writing in Forbes magazine, said that India is doomed to disintegrate like the Austro-Hungarian Empire. "India is not a homogeneous state," Forbes wrote. "Neither was the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It attacked Serbia in the summer of 1914 in the hopes of destroying this irritating state after Serbia had committed a spectacular terrorist act against the Hapsburg monarchy. The empire ended up splintering, and the Hapsburgs lost their throne." India is doomed to fall apart just as Austria-Hungary and the others did.

"We must continue to pray for and work for our God-given birthright of freedom," Dr. Aulakh said. "As Professor Darshan Singh, a former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, said, 'If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh,'" Dr. Aulakh noted. "We must continue to press for our God-given birthright of freedom, he said, 'Without political power, religions cannot flourish and nations perish. India claims to be a democracy. It is time it recognized the right of self-determination for all people in South Asia.'

**MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF
CHINA**

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last month I visited Beijing and I saw again firsthand China's economic challenges as it continues to develop its free market economy.

We should remain concerned about outsourcing, but there are positive examples in America that our businesses are meeting the challenges stemming from trade with China.

Last week I attended the grand opening of Carolina Ceramics Brick Company, a success story which proves U.S. companies continue to improve productivity and energy efficiency. Richland County Council Vice Chairman Greg Pearce, Sen. Joel Lourie, advertising executive Elaine Gillespie, and company President Michael Borden spoke eloquently on the new achievements verified in the below article from The State of October 12, 2005.

[From the State, Oct. 12, 2005]

GROWTH PRODUCES DOUBLE REWARDS

(By Jim DuPlessis)

After Investing \$12 million this year at its Two Notch Road plant, Carolina Ceramics Brick Co. not only can make more bricks per worker, but also will avoid some of the pain this fall from skyrocketing natural gas prices.

The 66-year-old business in Northeast Richland can make a brick with 30 percent less natural gas with new equipment installed this year, president and majority owner Michael W. Borden said.

"You really can't control the natural gas price. All you can control is the amount you use. So we're trying to be as efficient as we can," Borden said.

While households are a few months away from their first post-Katrina natural gas heating bills, manufacturers are feeling the heat already. Manufacturers are paying \$14 per decatherm, double the price a year ago, and six times the price they paid in 2000.

Carolina Ceramics Brick today will celebrate completion of its expansion, which will allow the company to sell more than \$20 million in bricks next year, double its sales in 2000.

The improvements also expanded capacity 45 percent, allowing two kilns to make as many as 80 million bricks per year, up from 55 million in 2000.

The company hired 15 more workers last summer and expects to hire five more, bringing its work force to 100 by year's end. The plant had employed about 80 workers since a similar upgrade on its other kiln in 2000.

Even with more workers, productivity has risen 16 percent. Each worker can make 800,000 bricks per year, up from 687,000 bricks per year previously.

Some of the productivity improvements have filtered down to the shop floor, with fewer lower-paying manual jobs.

Entry-level production workers make \$10 to \$12 per hour, while machine operators make \$14 to \$15 per hour. Average wages, including management, are more than \$20 per hour, Borden said.

The improvements also allow the company to absorb some of the energy price increase, but prices for brick are likely to rise at least 5 percent by early next year to compensate for at least part of the higher energy cost, Borden said.

Manufacturers of milk jugs, vinyl siding and other plastics are also hard hit by the higher price of natural gas, said Keith McCoy, vice president for energy and environmental policy for the National Association of Manufacturers in Washington, D.C.

Part of the increase in natural gas prices is because of short-term supply disruptions caused when hurricanes Katrina and Rita hit the Gulf Coast. Prices might drop somewhat after those drilling and pipeline facilities are back to full speed, but are expected to remain high enough to cause some companies to consider switching fuel sources, McCoy said.

"At nine to 10 dollars, it was very high for them, but it was something they could deal with," he said. At \$14, "that was the point companies would consider retrofitting their facilities to switch," McCoy said.

Carolina Ceramics switched to propane in the weeks after Katrina when natural gas supplies were curtailed. The company will continue to burn propane for a while because its price is now lower than natural gas.

But long-term cost savings depend on efficiency. Without the energy-saving improvements, Carolina Ceramics would be paying \$130,000 per month more for natural gas.

Borden, who turned 40 this year, started in the brick business working for his father, Frank Borden, 77, who ran a Borden Brick in Durham, N.C. The business had been started by Michael Borden's great-grandfather in 1911, but the family sold it in 1989 to Cherokee-Sanford Brick of Raleigh.

Frank Borden retired, but Michael Borden went to work for Cherokee-Sanford. When the company bought Carolina Ceramics in 1992, Borden moved to Columbia to manage it. A few years later, the company decided to sell it, and Borden's family bought it.

Carolina Ceramics was founded in 1939. It has sold about 80 percent of its bricks to builders of offices, schools and stores, but with its new capacity it is now going to supply more bricks to home builders, Borden said.

As the Gulf Coast recovers from hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Borden expects brick demand will rise by early next year as contractors begin rebuilding homes, offices, schools and stores. "We would expect to see a lot of opportunities in that area when they get ready."

RECOGNIZING SISTER PAULA DELGROSSO

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sister Paula DelGrosso of the Carmelite Community of the Word, Altoona, Pennsylvania, as the recipient of the 2005 John Riley Human Relations Award for community service. This award is presented each year to an individual who has performed outstanding and meritorious service to the community of Altoona through personal efforts by enhancing the dignity and worth of its citizens. This award is presented by the Blair County Advisory Council to the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission and is now in its sixteenth year of giving this award. The Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission has served the citizens of Pennsylvania faithfully since 1955 fighting the practice or policy of discrimination against individuals or groups by reason of their race, color, familial status, creed, ancestry, age, sex, national origin or disability.

Sister DelGrosso is receiving this award in recognition for her lifelong commitment to the community of Altoona, but in particular for her special efforts over the past fourteen years as Director of the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen and Food for Families Food Bank in Altoona. Under Sister DelGrosso's guidance, the dining hall at St. Vincent DePaul's has been able to provide over 35,000 meals every year to needy people in the community. Thanks in large part to her steadfast leadership, the kitchen at St. Vincent DePaul's enjoys support

from various segments of the community ranging from the religious to the financial and from the public to the private sector. These are people within the community of Altoona who share different philosophies, beliefs and opinions, yet Sister DelGrosso has been able to bring them together in support of a worthy cause.

Sister Paula has led a life filled with compassion and dignity. Born in the town of Altoona, the daughter of Thomas and Mary DelGrosso, Sister Paula graduated from Altoona Area High School and Mt. Aloysius, before going on to graduate with a B.S. in Education from St. Francis University, and a Masters Degree and Supervision Certificate in Guidance and Counseling from Duquesne University. Her passion for education has imbued her life as she has served in the field of education for thirty-four years, with sixteen being spent as an elementary and secondary school teacher and eighteen years as Assistant Superintendent of Schools for the Altoona/Johnstown Diocese.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Sister Paula DelGrosso for her lifelong commitment to the community of Altoona and I am proud to call Sister Paula a constituent.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EMMETT C. BURNS, JR.

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Emmett C. Burns, Jr., who is an outstanding delegate to the Maryland House of Delegates and who has been awarded this year's Thurgood Marshall Legacy Award by the Baltimore City Branch of the NAACP.

It is most fitting that Emmett Burns is the recipient of an award named for our Nation's first African-American U.S. Supreme Court Justice. Thurgood Marshall, who was born in Baltimore, was one of the most important figures in our Nation's struggle for civil rights. As chief attorney for the NAACP, he successfully argued the *Brown v. Board of Education* case before the Supreme Court, ending legalized segregation of our Nation's schools.

Since 1995, Emmett Burns has been a leader in the Maryland House of Delegates for the rights of all Marylanders. Most recently, he was instrumental in the enactment of a law to rename Maryland's largest airport the Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport.

As former head and lifelong member of the Baltimore NAACP, he has been a role model for the African-American community, providing a strong voice for social justice and equality. I have known Emmett Burns for many years and I consider him a friend whose advice I seek and value.

I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Del. Emmett C. Burns on being this year's recipient of the Baltimore City NAACP Thurgood Marshall Legacy Award.

IN RECOGNITION OF A NEW FEDERAL COURTHOUSE IN FRESNO, CA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the completion of a spectacular new United States Courthouse in Fresno, California, that will serve the needs of the communities of the great Central San Joaquin Valley.

I am joined in this recognition by my colleagues, who also represent the City of Fresno and the communities served by this new facility, Representatives DENNIS CARDOZA, DEVIN NUNES and GEORGE RADANOVICH.

The new courthouse features 14 courtrooms and judicial chambers for the U.S. District Court, the U.S. Magistrate, and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. It also includes facilities such as a library, conference rooms, jury assembly area, public cafeteria and offices for other federal agencies and elected officials.

This unique, nine-story building integrates the textures, colors and materials of the surrounding natural landscape of Fresno and the nearby Sierra Nevada mountain range.

The building began construction in April 2002 and was completed at a cost of \$116 million. It will accommodate 232 employees, who will serve hundreds of private citizens on a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, it is with the greatest pleasure that I join my colleagues in celebrating this momentous occasion for the communities of the Central San Joaquin Valley.

RECOGNIZING THE FINALISTS OF THE DISCOVERY CHANNEL'S YOUNG SCIENTIST CHALLENGE

HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the House Committee on Science, I am an avid supporter of programs that encourage the youth of America to push the limits of innovation. One such program is the Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge.

In 1999, Discovery Communications, Inc., designed the Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge to help address America's chronic underachievement in K-12 science and math. The annual national contest responds to evidence that our students' academic performance and interest in science declines dramatically as they become older, particularly during the middle school years.

The Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge attempts to reverse that decline by identifying and honoring America's top middle school students with a demonstrated ability in leadership, teamwork, and scientific problem solving. More than 9,500 middle school students have accepted the challenge and have competed for the title of "America's Top Young Scientist of the Year." Since 1999, scholarship awards for the students have totaled more than \$500,000, and challenge winners have participated in science-related trips to far-off places, including the Roslin Institute

in Midlothian, Scotland and the El Yunque rain forest in Puerto Rico.

On September 14, 2005, Discovery Communications, Inc., announced the 40 middle school students who will advance to the finals of the Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge. Selected from more than 1,700 entrants, the finalists represent an elite group of young Americans who have demonstrated exceptional creativity and communications skills in their original science research projects. The 40 finalists will come to Washington, D.C. during October 15–20, where they will take part in the Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge finalist competition at University of Maryland's Cole Field House. There, they will compete in team-based, interactive challenges designed around the theme of "Forces of Nature." The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony on October 19, 2005.

The finalists for the 2005 Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge are: Iftin Abshir of Littleton, CO; John Bolander of Memphis, IN; Pinaki Bose of Fort Worth, TX; Kelsey Burnham of Okeechobee, FL; Shireen Dhir of Kathleen, GA; Brendan Dwyer of Northport, NY; Heather Foster of Beverly Hills, FL; Anudeep Gosal of Orlando, FL; Joanna Guy of Oakland, MD; Mary Hedberg of N. Attleboro, MA; Joshua Jones of Titusville, FL; Taylor Jones of Maryville, TN; Melanie Kabinoff of Boynton Beach, FL; Spencer Larson of Springville, UT; Gregory Lavins of Solon, OH; Melissa Luga of Hilo, HI; Elijah Mena of Gales Ferry, CT; Camden Miller of Fairview, TX; Lucia Mocz of Mililani, HI; Alyssa Ovaitt of Weston, MO; Susan Pasternak of Santa Barbara, CA; Jacob Perry of Livingston, MT; Sarah Pierz of Clarkston, MI; Sabrina Prabakran of Fort Myers, FL; Nilesh Raval of Saginaw, MI; Roberto Rios of Mayaguez, PR; Aaron Rozon of Kapa'a, HI; Colleen Ryan of Chillicothe, OH; Brittany Sheehan of Bluffton, OH; Katherine Smith of Malabar, FL; Narayan Subramanian of Saratoga, CA; Adrian Tatulian of Orlando, FL; Bailey Terry of Newcastle, WY; Neela Thangada of San Antonio, TX; Nilesh Triparaneni of Fresno, CA; Sheel Tyle of Pittsford, NY; Alexander Uribe of Eagle Mountain, UT; Ruslan Werntz of Coppell, TX; Garrett Yazzie of Pinon, AZ; and Robert Zane of Honolulu, HI.

At a time when science and technology plays such an enormous role in our lives, I believe it is imperative that we continue to support and nurture the next generation of young scientists. I would like to congratulate these students for their dedication and hard work and wish them all good luck and good science during the 2005 Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge.

WELCOMING FORMER TAIWANESE PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI TO WASHINGTON

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome former Taiwanese President Lee Teng-Hui to Washington, D.C. this week.

President Lee is perhaps best known as a primary architect of Taiwan's miraculous transition from dictatorship to democracy. He is a

founding father of the island's well-known, vibrant, multiparty electoral system, and is often referred to simply as "Mr. Democracy."

Lee helped engineer various political reforms after becoming Vice President in 1984 and remained a steadfast force for democratization on the island after assuming the presidency in 1988. He convinced members of Taiwan's legislature, who were elected on the Chinese mainland some forty years earlier, to retire—opening the door for free and open parliamentary elections. He also championed changes to Taiwan's constitution to allow for direct popular election of the president—ushering in a new era of freedom in Taiwan.

In 1996, Lee was elected President in Taiwan's first direct Presidential election. His election was a watershed moment, paving the way for a peaceful transition of power in 2000 when the people of Taiwan elected Democratic Progressive Party candidate Chen Shui-Bian as President—marking the end of five decades of one-party rule on the island.

President Lee was able to engineer this transition peacefully, and under continued threats from communist China. His achievements demonstrate the power of democracy, and he deserves our respect for his determination and dedication to freedom.

IN MEMORY OF STEPHEN F. KENDALL

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Stephen F. Kendall. Mr. Kendall was a leading businessman in the great state of New Jersey, and his legacy of integrity and hard work will certainly be remembered.

Stephen Kendall built Arch America L.L.C., the major fabricator of metal products and served as its CEO for twenty-seven years. Born in the Wynnefield section of Philadelphia, Mr. Kendall graduated from Valley Forge Military Academy and attended Villanova University. In 1959 Mr. Kendall began to work at a tiny aluminum plant. By 1970 he had taken over the firm and proceeded to build the business into Arch America L.L.C. Arch America currently has 1,400 employees. Among its many achievements, Arch America provided scaffolding for the restoration of the Statue of Liberty and the Washington Monument. In 1997 Mr. Kendall stepped down from his position as CEO and became Chairman of the Board of Arch America. He passed away on October 6, 2005.

Stephen Kendall will be sorely missed. He is survived by his wife, two sons, one daughter, a brother, and eight grandchildren. His dedication to his family and his business will be remembered for generations to come.

VIDEO GAME VIOLENCE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, particularly in light of the availability of video games like "Grand

Theft Auto: San Andreas," I would like to highlight a recent publication from the American Psychological Association regarding violent video game content and the resultant influences of these games on the behavior of children and adolescents. *Violence in Video Games: A Review of the Empirical Literature* discusses the strong correlation between video games and increases in aggressive behavior.

I am surprised that lawsuits haven't been brought holding game manufacturers responsible for the havoc they are wreaking on society.

VIOLENCE IN VIDEO GAMES: A REVIEW OF THE EMPIRICAL LITERATURE

(By Jessica M. Nicoll and Kevin M. Kieffer)

One area of research that has received increasing attention involves the violent content of video games and the resultant influences of these games on the behavior of children and adolescents. No clear consensus has arisen as to whether violent video game content is harmful to players or predictive of future aggressive behavior, but there are some common themes in the empirical research literature. These common themes include: (a) demonstration of short term effects on player behavior following a violent video game participation; (b) gender differences as regards the player's aggressive reaction to the game; and (c) variations in the types of players who are at greater risk of being adversely affected by the violent content. The purpose of the present paper was to explore the general themes that have emerged in the research literature on violent video games and posit recommendations for future research on the relationship between violent video games and player behavior.

Violent content in video games is a particularly virulent topic among consumers and lawmakers alike. This issue has been contentiously debated from U.S. Superior Courts to the "Dr. Phil" show. Regardless of the positive and negative press generated by these violent video games, it seems that newly released games with extremely violent content are in no short supply and, in some cases, actually contain more graphic displays of violence than previous games. Mounting concern about the effects that violent video games have on young children and minors in general has led to the initiation of legislation that seeks to ban the sale or rental of video games deemed violent or sexually explicit. Concerned parents and lobbyists alike have insisted that industry regulations be made and, more importantly, enforced as regards the sale of violent video games to minors. Recently, Michigan legislators attempted to change the current law which allowed children to buy and rent video games that depict graphic violence, sexually explicit content, and the glorification of illegal activity. Illinois officials have called for similar legislation and currently require the labeling of violent and sexually explicit video games by manufacturers. Supporters of legislation limiting the dissemination of these video games believe that the video game industry has not been regulating itself stringently enough and that legislation of this type is both beneficial for American youth as well as society as a whole. Conversely, dissidents of this legislation maintain that these bans violate the first amendment rights of children and should not be allowed or enforced.

Recent court cases have placed violent video game content in the public eye. One such example, *American Amusement Machine Association v. Kendrick* (2001), alleged the legality of banning the sale of violent video games to persons under the age of 18.

One of the issues discussed in the proceedings was that the ordinance was based on the belief, not compelling evidence, that violent video games cause an increase in aggression that may lead to actual violence. According to Judge Posner of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit who ruled on the case, studies on video game violence have not indicated evidence that violent video games evoke violent actions or cause an increase in the average level of violence among players. Thus, the ordinance banning the sale of violent video games was struck down.

Despite contentions from the legal community that convincing evidence demonstrating the harmful effects of video games on youth does not exist or is inconclusive, research has consistently demonstrated correlations between aggressive video game play and aggressive behavior. Thus, violent media has been shown to have effects on those who view violent programs with some past research suggesting that viewing violent content affects viewers in both explicit and implicit ways (Anderson & Dill, 2000; Huesman, Titus, Poldaski, and Eron 2003). Other researchers have reported that short term exposure to violent video games can have an impact on players self concept, even on an automatic level (Wood, Wong, & Chachere, 1991).

THEMES IN THE VIDEO GAME VIOLENCE RESEARCH LITERATURE

Indeed, violence is a reoccurring theme in most television programming, movies, television commercials, and video games, and it has been proposed that media violence is currently at an all time high with no appreciable decreases in violent content in the foreseeable future. Given the volume of violent material to which viewers are exposed, research that clearly documents the enduring behavioral changes on viewers is sorely needed to quell any misconceptions or misbeliefs that aggressive behavior can result from viewing violent content or playing violent video games. Previous disparity in the research literature as to the effects of violent content on viewers has spurred an impressive debate among scholars as to whether violent media broadcasting and game play actually incites aggressive behavior in those who view it (Wood, Wong, & Chachere, 1991).

Our review of the literature has resulted in the identification of three general themes: (a) demonstration of short term effects on player behavior following a violent video game participation; (b) gender differences as regards the player's aggressive reaction to the game; and (c) variations in the types of players who are at greater risk of being adversely affected by the violent content.

SHORT TERM EFFECTS ON PLAYER BEHAVIOR

One of the most documented findings in the research literature is the short term effects of playing violent video games on resultant player behavior. Bartholow and Anderson (2001) found that participants who played a violent video game for a short time experienced an increase in aggressive behavior following the video game. Uhlmann and Swanson (2004) found that participants who played a violent game for as few as 10 minutes associated themselves with aggressive traits and aggressive actions on a self rating scale. These results led the researchers to contend that even short-term exposure to violent video games can have an effect on the player's self-concept, primarily at some unconscious, "automatic" level. Uhlmann and Swanson extrapolated these findings to suggest that repeated priming of the self as being more aggressive through violent video game play may lead to the actual self being more aggressive in daily life.

Other research by Graybill, Kirsch, and Esselman (1985) found that short-term exposure to violent video games had effects on children's aggression fantasies. These researchers reported that children who played the violent games were less defensive and more assertive or aggressive in their fantasies than children who played a similar non-violent game. Similarly, Anderson and Ford, (1987) measured both the short-term effects of violent video games on players and the degree of violence viewed and the resulting effects on players. They found that aggressive video games did indeed have an effect on the player's emotional state with players of the highly aggressive game exhibiting an increase in hostility and anxiety when compared to the non-game control group. Players of a mildly aggressive game, however, only exhibited an increase in hostility without an increase in anxiety.

Gentile, Lynch, and Walsh (2004) conducted a study of over six hundred 8th and 9th grade school children and found that children who reported playing greater amounts of violent video games were rated more hostile than the other children in the study. In addition these children also reported a greater number of arguments with authority figures such as teachers and also were more likely to be involved in physical altercations with other students. The children who reported greater exposure to violent video games were also more likely to perform more poorly on academic tasks.

Bartholow and Anderson (2002) designed a study that examined the duration and intensity of aggressive behavior following participation in aggressive game play. Immediately after playing either a violent or non-violent game, the participants participated in a mock retaliation time task which used blasts of noise as punishment to the opponent. Players were informed that they had complete liberty to select both the intensity and duration of the punishment on their opponent. Researchers found that the participants who had played the violent game displayed more aggression against their opponents in the retaliation portion of the study than those participants who played the non-violent game. Further, the participants who played the violent video game administered a greater number of high intensity sound blasts than those participants who played the nonviolent games.

Empirical research has also suggested that violent video game players tend to imitate the moves that they have just "acted-out" in the game. Irwin and Gross (1995) found that participants who played an aggressive video game displayed moves similar in free play to those in the violent game they had played. Players of the violent video game also exhibited more verbal and physical aggression toward a confederate during a competitive situation than those who played the nonviolent game. Schutte, Maloff, Post-Gordon, and Rodasta (1988) concluded that children who played a violent karate game displayed that type of behavior in free play with other children after playing the game. Children in the same study who played video games imitated the moves of the video game character in the video game they had just played.

In an effort to clarify the cognitive, behavioral, and affective experiences of children during exposure to aggressive stimuli, Anderson and Ford (1986) found a somewhat divergent relationship between short-term exposure to violent video games and subsequent behavior. These researchers did not find a relationship between aggressive behavior and exposure to violent video game play in all groups, as short term increases in aggression were only demonstrated in those who played the most violent games. Anderson and Ford also reported that participants

who played violent video games were more anxious than those who had played either a mildly violent or non-violent game. Further, those who played the violent or mildly violent game were more hostile than the non-violent controls.

Violent video game play has also demonstrated decrements in children's willingness to engage in short-term pro-social behavior. Chambers and Ascione (1985) found that children who played violent games displayed engaged in less helpful peer behavior than those who played a pro-social game. A similar study by Lin and Lepper (1987) reported a noteworthy correlation between teacher rated student competence and prosocial video game play.

GENDER DIFFERENCES TO VIOLENT VIDEO GAME CONTENT

A second general theme in the research literature is that gender differences play a role in how the player reacts to the violent content in a game. Cooper and Mackie (1986) found that girls who played a violent video game had an increase in the likelihood of playing with an aggressive toy. It was reported that girls who played the violent game also changed activities more and exhibited more aggressive play than those playing a passive videogame. In contrast, girls who reported less outside violent game play were more aroused when presented with the violent game than boys. Cooper and Mackie suggested that arousal was the precursor to aggressive behavior and subsequently caused the girls in the study to play more aggressively than the boys.

Fling, Smith, Rodriguez, Thornton, Atkins, and Nixon (1992) suggested that the aggressive effects demonstrated in psychological studies following exposure to violent video game content could be a function of the quantity of video games typically played by participants in the study. They reported that because young men typically play more video games, and especially more violent video games, than their female counterparts that there is a natural proclivity for male participants to demonstrate more aggressive play in psychological studies. This notion has been supported by other research by Funk and Bushman (1996) which found that boys tend to play video games for longer periods of time than girls. One hypothesis offered for the temporal disparity in game play is that it is more socially acceptable for boys to engage in this play than for girls. Yet another explication for gender differences in the quantity of game play is that video games often portray women in subordinate roles resulting in less incentive for young women to play. Regardless of the factors, research has indicated that young men tended to be more aggressive overall than young women (Bartholow & Anderson, 2001) thus predisposing them to engage in violent video game play more frequently.

CHARACTERISTICS OF PLAYERS INFLUENCED BY VIOLENT VIDEO GAME PLAY

A third general theme in the research literature involves the identification of characteristics of players who are likely to be influenced by violent video games. Slater, Henry, Swim, and Anderson (2003) proposed a "downward spiral model" that implied that the media perpetually reinforces the anti-social tendencies and behaviors of aggressive youths thus predisposing them to act in somewhat aggressive manners. Individuals who are attracted to violent content in media or games are likely to be more vulnerable to the effects of that exposure. In addition, those at risk often face mutual reinforcement of negative or aggressive behavior.

Funk and Bushman (1996) identified at "risk players" as those who spend the greatest amount of time playing these games and

concomitantly have low self-concept. Researchers have been quick to point out that there is no evidence that suggests playing these videogames will lead to adjustment problems. The fact remains, however, that those individuals most at risk may share common characteristics, thus suggesting the need to monitor the playing habits of these types of games among children.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Research on the effects of violent video games on subsequent aggressive behavior has served as an important catalyst for change, in that rules and regulations have been developed to make it increasingly difficult for young children to obtain video games laden with violent or sexually explicit content. However, disparity in the present research literature and the absence of clear and compelling scientific evidence from the psychological community demonstrating the harmful and lasting effects of violent games on behavior has signaled the need for novel studies in this area. Future research may need to focus on the issue of free choice and the reasons why some children and adolescents would rather play video games than engage in some other type of stimulating activity. One avenue might involve the greater examination of personality variables in an effort to determine what factors may precipitate the purchase and subsequent use of violent video games. Because of the noted gender differences in past research, future research should continue to examine the role of player gender in the proclivity to exhibit aggressive behavior following video game playing. Lastly, due to the need to determine if exposure to violent content has any lasting detrimental effects on children, longitudinal studies are needed to ascertain what effects, if any, children are likely to experience.

In sum, past empirical studies have found that even short term exposure to violent video games influences subsequent player behavior and can result in an increase in outward aggressiveness both verbally and physically, a more negative self-concept, a decrease in helping behavior, an increase in arousal, and an increase in anxiety. Although no one study has conclusively demonstrated a cause and effect relationship between exposure and behavior, based on the results presented here, it is difficult to argue that there is no relationship between violent game play and subsequent aggressive behavior. And given the amount of violent content in the media and in current video games, it appears that this is an issue psychologists will be dealing with for quite some time.

RECOGNIZING MARY ALICE QUEIROS OF BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary Alice Queiros, the winner of the 2005 Great Brooksvillian of the Year Award. After retiring from a 30-year career as an art teacher, Mary Alice moved to Brooksville in 1994 and immediately took an active role in the greater Brooksville arts community.

Currently serving as the city's art director, Mary Alice has been a tireless advocate for the arts over the years. Perhaps her greatest contribution to making Brooksville the cultural

heart of Hernando County has been her efforts to beautify and improve the city hall.

One of her first undertakings upon moving to Florida was to fill the bare walls of city hall with bright and beautiful artwork. Today, Brooksville city hall hosts an annual fall art show to showcase the work of area artisans. This year's exhibit, organized by Mary Alice, has brought the artwork of more than 20 local artists into the building, bringing color and beauty to the walls and hallways of city hall.

In addition to her work as Brooksville's art director, Mary Alice has been a longtime and active supporter of the arts in Brooksville. She is the founding member of the Brooksville Mural Society, and organizes artist receptions and art tours for visitors and students. She is also a member of the Hernando County Fine Arts Council, the Spring Hill Art League and is active at the Hernando Historical Museum.

Mr. Speaker, the city of Brooksville is lucky to have a woman like Mary Alice Queiros to take an active role in our community. I am proud to recognize her accomplishments, and congratulate her on being named the 2005 Brooksvillian of the Year.

GASOLINE FOR AMERICA'S SECURITY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my strong opposition to the Gasoline for America's Security Act.

We are all too aware of this government's failed response to Hurricane Katrina and the problems that are continuing in the aftermath. Despite all the issues that we must address to assist the victims of this disaster, some of my colleagues are attempting to use this tragedy as a means to push through their flawed initiatives that were left out of the Energy Policy Act. Fortunately, a degree of rationality prevailed late last night and a few of the most egregious provisions were removed.

However, this bill still contains many misguided measures and continues the Majority's irrational economic policy of subsidizing one of the most successful industries—the oil and gas industry. Yet this direct handout of taxpayer dollars is not enough and at every opportunity this Congress finds ways to gut environmental regulations that protect the health of our citizens in order to preserve this unsustainable form of energy production.

Specifically, this bill will allow cities and States to delay meeting Clean Air Act requirements and undermines States that are seeking to meet these deadlines by limiting the number of fuel blends that can be used. Furthermore, this bill provides an open-ended taxpayer subsidy to cover all the costs that an oil company may incur due to a delay in the initial operation of a new or upgraded oil refinery, including delays due to compliance with State or Federal laws or regulations.

Time and again, we come to this floor to commemorate the lives of remarkable Americans that have changed the course of history. We recognize the importance of their contributions and the ways that they improved our lives. We disgrace this American legacy of in-

genuity every time that this Congress passes these shortsighted, deeply flawed bills.

This Nation is facing an energy crisis and a planet that is suffering from our mismanagement. We have the ability to become independent from fossil fuels and to revitalize the health of our environment. Scientists, researchers and business leaders across this Nation are standing ready to develop and make innovative technologies a reality. Even my constituents in New Jersey that have no connection to the energy industry write me with ideas and their desire to contribute to solving our energy problem. But instead of investing in this ingenuity and our Nation's future, this government keeps spending billions to keep America stuck in the quicksand of nonrenewable energy sources.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this flawed bill that will do nothing to alleviate the energy crisis facing this Nation and removes important environmental regulations.

HONORING JERRY BROWN ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM FORD MOTOR COMPANY

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Jerry Brown, as he retires from his position Governmental Relations Director, Michigan Region for Ford Motor Company.

Jerry joined Ford Motor Company as a Research Technician in 1962 with the General Parts Division and spent the next several years in various engineering positions in Body and Product Engineering.

In 1978, Jerry joined the Governmental Relations Staff as a Municipal Affairs manager. In 1994, he was appointed Director, Michigan Region in Lansing and has represented the Ford Motor Co. before the Michigan Legislature, the Governor and executive offices, government agencies and industry associations. Jerry also worked with the Local Government affairs activity on issues of importance to Michigan and Ford Motor Co. Additionally, Jerry has been very active in the community as a former member of Livonia City Council.

Mr. Speaker, Jerry Brown has made a significant impact on Ford Motor Co., and his community over the past four decades. I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Jerry as he prepares for his retirement, and I offer my congratulations and appreciation for his accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF GEOFF BORASTON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to announce that Geoff Boraston, of Granite Construction, Inc., located in my congressional district, has been named 2005 National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association (NSSGA) Environmental Professional of the Year. Geoff Boraston is the vice chairman of the NSSGA

Environmental Committee. The NSSGA member companies account for 90 percent of crushed stone and 70 percent of the sand and gravel used each year in the United States, and employs 115,000 American workers.

Mr. Boraston recognizes that we must all be good environmental stewards. He has made significant contributions in limiting emissions from naturally occurring asbestos to conform to the standards set by the California Resources Board. Mr. Boraston has coordinated summit meetings between government agencies and industry companies, and developed and implemented company-wide environmental management systems to address Granite Construction environmental issues. These are truly commendable actions that exemplify what one individual can contribute to the protection of the environment. We all look forward to Geoff Boraston's continued leadership on the NSSGA Environmental Committee to achieve environmentally sound operating practices.

Granite Construction is one of the Nation's largest heavy civil contractors and construction materials producers. The Watsonville company is a major builder of all types of rail system infrastructure, such as light rail, monorail, commuter rail and freight rail. Granite Construction is currently pursuing some \$12 billion in rapid transit and rail projects to be bid throughout the country over the next year.

HONORING CHRIS COX

SPEECH OF

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and give thanks to my friend and colleague, Chris Cox. After serving in the House for more than 16 years, Chris is now taking on a new challenge by serving as the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission. I think all of us can agree that our loss is most certainly their gain.

Following the redistricting of 2002, I became the newest member of the Orange County delegation and my newly drawn district shared a border with his. Chris immediately welcomed me to the delegation with open arms and graciously introduced me to a host of local government officials, business owners, and community leaders.

If anyone has spent time in his district and enjoyed its extraordinary coastal setting, they would agree that Chris must be a truly dedicated public servant for agreeing to spend so much time here in Washington. Thankfully, he possessed the will to serve in Congress and to be a leader for his county, State and Nation.

During his time in the House, Chris served with distinction in many different roles. Most recently, Chris made history by serving as the first Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee. In this capacity, Chris took on an unprecedented challenge and oversaw the most radical government reform in decades. As those who know Chris would expect, he was up to the task and eager to find out what was working and what needed to be fixed.

Chris came to Congress in 1988 after serving as Senior Associate Counsel to President

Reagan. While at the White House, Chris gained tremendous insight and invaluable experience, but I think he would tell you that the best thing he took away from his time there would be his wife, Rebecca.

I know Chris will take on this new challenge with the same tenacity and vigor that he showed so often on so many important issues here in Congress. I understand Chris wisely decided to keep his home in Orange County, and I look forward working with him in Washington and enjoying the warm California sun with him in Orange County.

ACKNOWLEDGING STUDENTS AND STAFF OF BERTSCHI SCHOOL IN SEATTLE, WA

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I acknowledge the students and staff of Bertschi School in Seattle, WA, for sending heartfelt greetings to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, I traveled to Houston to visit the evacuees who were housed in the Astrodome. I brought handwritten letters from citizens of my home town, Bainbridge Island, WA, and handed them out as I met so many courageous individuals who had lost everything; their homes, their jobs, their belongings, and in some cases, their families, during their hurried evacuation of New Orleans. As I handed out the letters written by citizens who live thousands of miles away, I witnessed how meaningful these words of compassion and support were to these displaced Americans.

Students at the Bertschi School in Seattle, WA, read about my trip and the positive impact the letters had on the hurricane victims and they wrote to me, asking if they could also send letters to families during my next visit with hurricane evacuees. While I was not able to return to Houston with their letters, I did have the pleasure of reading over their beautiful and inspirational words and art work before the letters made their way to Texas Children's Hospital, where some of the youngest hurricane victims were relocated.

It is among the greatest honors as a Member of the House of Representatives that I have an opportunity to meet and work with young people who are involved in their communities and who are deeply committed to making our country and our world a better place. Our future depends on these young people, who are capable of reaching out and showing support for their fellow citizens.

Though the students of Bertschi School are only in their elementary years, they already have a deep sense of civic pride and connectedness to the greater world and feel they have something to offer, even if it is, as in this case, sharing words of encouragement and compassion.

I commend the students and staff of Bertschi School for their efforts and wish them continued success in the years ahead.

IN HONOR OF THE COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc. CAB on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. CAB was created in October 1965 to meet the challenge of President Lyndon B. Johnson's "War on Poverty," and as such is committed to meeting the needs of low-income people.

Since its inception, CAB has assumed responsibilities of great import to the community by providing vital preventative, emergency, and intervention services. They created and administer many programs in Santa Cruz County including Head Start, Second Harvest Food Bank, Legal Aid Society, Housing Authority, Women Infants and Children nutrition program, Senior Citizens Legal Services, Foster Grandparent Program, Women Ventures Project, Natural Resources and Employment Program, and CalWORKS Emergency Payment Program.

CAB played an important role in disaster relief for low-income residents following the devastating Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989 and the 1995 Pajaro River flood. Many of the programs and policies nurtured by CAB successfully reduce poverty and increase independence and self-sufficiency.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the Community Action Board for its 40 years of leadership in the community. I applaud the many contributions and achievements of the Community Action Board, and am proud to have such an exemplary organization fighting poverty and caring for the needs of the most vulnerable citizens in Santa Cruz County.

SUDAN HIRES WASHINGTON LOBBYIST

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, here we go again. First it was Patton, Boggs trying to polish the image of Saudi Arabia. Then we had Akin, Gump trying to assist China in buying a U.S. oil company. Now comes the shocking news that a Washington lobby shop has landed the Government of the Republic of Sudan as a client. Where will the lobbying wheel of fortune stop next?

The Government of Sudan has hired Mr. Robert J. Cabelly, managing director, C/R International, to lobby on its behalf. How can an American company use such bad judgment and represent a country whose leaders are suspected of organizing and arming militias to commit genocide? And why did the United States State Department sign-off on such a plan?

While shocking to some, it may not be all that surprising for anyone familiar with Mr. Cabelly's history. After working at the State Department for more than a decade where he

developed hundreds of contacts in Africa, Mr. Cabelly went on to found C/R International. This international consulting firm received \$6 million from Angola from 1996 to 2002 in order to successfully defeat a series of bills for an international oil embargo, according to a Harper's magazine article from March 2004. "While [Mr. Cabelly's firm] served Angola, the government's troops beat and raped civilians, and killed suspected rebel sympathizers," wrote Harpers' magazine.

On August 12 of this year, Mr. Cabelly filed with the Foreign Agents Registration Unit at the Department of Justice, reporting a contract with the Government of the Republic of Sudan for \$530,000 per year. The contract lists the agreed representation by Mr. Cabelly for the Government of Sudan as providing "public relations, government relations and strategic counsel as they would relate to implementing the North-South peace agreement, cooperating in the war on terrorism, and addressing other issues."

But make no mistake, Sudan is hiring this firm to help counteract the ongoing worldwide campaign against the government's policy in the Darfur region of the country. This American company is taking money to wage a lobbying war against the hundreds of organizations and more than 130 million Americans who have voiced their concern about the situation in Sudan. While coalition groups work every day to call the world's attention to the regime in Khartoum and its condoning of the action of a violent militia which is raping and killing innocent women, men and children and pillaging villages in Darfur, they might be surprised to learn that one of the Government of Sudan's contract employees is working against it right here in Washington. Just last week there were new reports that the violence in Darfur is growing worse. The Sudan government has not reined in the janjaweed militia.

There is no question about what is occurring in Sudan. Last year the United States clearly stated that genocide is occurring in Darfur. This Congress passed a resolution affirming it. President Bush has called the actions in Darfur as genocide on repeated occasions. The United Nations has referred the case to an international tribunal to investigate war crimes.

I have been involved on Sudan issues for over 15 years. I have traveled to Sudan five times since 1989 with my most recent trip last summer to Darfur. I talked with women who had been raped and families whose members had been murdered. I saw emaciated children, dying from hunger and disease. I have seen with my own eyes bombed schools in Yei and horrific scenes of devastation inflicted upon the people of Sudan by government forces. The war between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army claimed the lives of over two million people and has left the country in despair. Although the fighting is over in the South and a Comprehensive Peace Agreement awaits implementation, death and destruction at the hands of the government and its proxy militia in Darfur continues unabated.

The United States Government and the United States Congress stands united with the people of Sudan and any lobbyist who walks these halls on behalf of the Government of Sudan is not welcome. The Sudan regime should be spending its money reining in the

Janjaweed, and turning over criminals to the International Criminal Court, not hiring lobbyists to try to improve their image.

We are all aware of the actions of the Government of Sudan and no amount of lobbying will change that.

IN HONOR OF PENNY S. SINCLAIR

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, today it gives me great pleasure to recognize Ms. Penny S. Sinclair, Director of Contracting at the Army Contracting Agency, Southern Region, at the Presidio of Monterey, California, for her 31 years of distinguished service to our Nation.

Ms. Sinclair is a member of the American Society of Military Comptrollers. She began her career as a Clerk Typist in 1971. She became an Acquisition Intern in September 1984 and graduated with honors. Throughout her career she received numerous awards, all reflecting her support for military services and civilian support staff in the highest manner possible.

She was appointed as the Director of Contracting in April 1993, at the time of Fort Ord's Base Realignment and Closure. Throughout this challenging time she dealt with year-end closure pressures, loss of personnel and a variety of emergency requirements with professionalism and superior performance. For this work she received a Special Act or Service Award and later was honored with the Commander's Award for Civilian Service. Ms. Sinclair was selected to serve on the Base Closure Ceremony team and was given the honor of assisting in the folding of the Fort Ord Parade Field flag for the last time. She returned as Director in 1999, continuing in that capacity until this year.

Ms. Sinclair was a renowned advocate for the installation organizations, its tenants, and the local business community. During her tenure the Presidio of Monterey exceeded its goals to work with small businesses and woman-owned businesses. She habitually sought opportunities to work with the regional Small Business Administration office and the cities on the Monterey Peninsula. Ms. Sinclair continuously encouraged her staff to expand their learning experience through formal and informal training, and made sure that her staff received monetary rewards for excellent performance. Ms. Sinclair personally provided a workplace that allowed employees to grow and have opportunities for promotion within the organization.

Serving as the Project Officer for Naval Support Activity Monterey Bay, Ms. Sinclair did a masterful job working the very difficult support agreements for fire protection services and public works support. She identified and recommended downsizing areas which were inefficient and costly and saved DLIFLC and POM over one million dollars per year.

Mr. Speaker, Penny Sinclair's professionalism, untiring dedication, and personal involvement reflect great credit upon herself, the Army Contracting Agency, and the United States Army. Her contributions to the Army's contracting mission and her unselfish passion for the contracting profession over the past 31

years have earned her the recognition of this body.

RECOGNIZING PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize one of the schools in my district, Providence High School. The Providence Varsity and Junior Varsity Lacrosse Teams have recently been admitted into the North Carolina High School Lacrosse Association, a prestigious group of schools competing in one of the fastest growing sports in the country. This is a great honor for Providence, because it is the only High School in the Charlotte Mecklenburg School System to be admitted to this Association. It also shows the commitment and dedication of the coach, the parents, and the players at Providence.

The coach of the Providence lacrosse team, William Humphrey, does an excellent job with the students. He focuses on teamwork, discipline, and the importance of academics. Due to Coach Humphrey's excellent coaching skills, Providence has had a number of outstanding and successful lacrosse seasons.

The parents are also hugely important to the success of this program. Their commitment to their children and the sport are the reason why the program continues to have success every year. In addition, the students involved in this program should be recognized for their commitment to academics and lacrosse. Each year students on the lacrosse team graduate and go on to many prestigious colleges, many of which have leading lacrosse programs.

I congratulate Providence High School lacrosse team on their achievement of being admitted to the North Carolina High School Lacrosse Association, and I wish them many successful seasons.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTH CAROLINA FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in recognizing the South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company, SCFBMIC, on its 50th Anniversary. As its motto—"Helping you is what we do best"—suggests, the South Carolina Farm Bureau Insurance Company has provided a wide range of financial services to the people of our state for half a century.

South Carolina Farm Bureau Insurance came along at a time when South Carolina farmers were looking for better options in the way of obtaining good insurance coverage that was also affordable. Recognizing that need, the board members of the South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation went to work and secured a charter from the South Carolina Secretary of State on December 1, 1955. The result, 5 decades later, is a company that supplies a diversity of insurance products to

South Carolinians from all walks of life. Among some of the services they now provide are, auto, home, and life insurance, as well as financial services such as banking, loans, IRA, and credit cards.

I recall the year 1989 when the South Carolina Farm Bureau Insurance Company faced one of the biggest natural disasters in the history of our state: Hurricane Hugo. The South Carolina Farm Bureau rose to the occasion. It settled some 16,000 claims and paid out more than \$71 million. Then, in 1999, when Hurricane Floyd struck the coast, 90 percent of reported claims were settled within one week, setting a model, if not a record, for expeditious claims management.

Today, the South Carolina Farm Bureau Insurance Company has a presence in every county in the State, which is one reason they are able to provide such timely and quality service. Theirs is a name that folks know and trust. I am proud of their service to our State, and wish them the best as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary and look to the future.

MOURNING THE TRAGIC BUS CRASH IN OSSEO, WISCONSIN

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with a heavy heart. I mourn with the citizens of western Wisconsin as we remember the lives of five people killed in a tragic school bus crash in Osseo, Wisconsin.

On Sunday, October 16, teachers, chaperons and members of the Chippewa Falls High School Marching Band were returning from a marching band championship when their bus struck an overturned tractor-trailer on Interstate 94 outside the city of Eau Claire. The band director, his wife and granddaughter, the bus driver, and a student teacher all were killed in the collision. Additionally, 29 other people were injured in this terrible accident.

Sunday should have been a day of celebration for the Chippewa Falls Community. The Cardinals' routine, "Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves," earned the school third place in its division at the Wisconsin School Music Association State Marching Band Championships in Whitewater. Instead of excitement over a job well done, the night would end in tragedy. At 2 a.m., the first of four buses carrying more than 200 students and 40 adults struck the overturned trailer on the dark road.

That day Wisconsin lost dedicated secondary education teachers and valued members of our community. The band director, Morgan Greenhalgh, affectionately called "G" by his students, was more than a teacher to them; he was a friend. His pupils said of him that he was able to bring out the best in his students, creating an extended family of those he taught. His peers said he was a wonderful teacher and a role model who will be impossible to replace.

Sadly, Therese Greenhalgh and their granddaughter, Morgan, also were lost in the crash. As was Brandon Atherton, a student teacher. Only 24 years old, Brandon attended the university of Wisconsin Eau Claire. Even at such a young age, he was committed to giving back

to the community. And finally, Paul Rasmus, the bus driver was killed. At 78 years old, he was in the golden years of life. Instead of living a simple life of retirement, he spent his last years in service to the students at Chippewa Falls High School.

There were 29 students and adults who suffered serious injuries as a result of the collision. My heart goes out to all those who were involved in this terrible accident, as well as the families, students, and the community that were effected that terrible morning. On behalf of all the residents of western Wisconsin, each of us shares in your loss, and our thoughts and prayers are with you and your loved ones.

INTRODUCING THE EVACUEES TAX RELIEF ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Evacuees Tax Relief Act of 2005, legislation providing tax relief to those forced to abandon their homes because of a natural disaster. This legislation provides a tax credit or a tax deduction, depending on the wishes of the taxpayer, of up to \$5,000 for costs incurred because of a government-ordered mandatory or voluntary evacuation. Evacuees could use the credit to cover travel and lodging expenses associated with the evacuation, lost wages, property damages not otherwise compensated, and any other evacuation-related expenses. The tax credit is refundable up to the amount of income and payroll taxes a person would otherwise pay, thus ensuring working people who pay more in payroll than in income taxes are able to benefit from this tax relief. The credit is available retroactive to August of this year, so it is available to Katrina and Rita evacuees.

Having had parts of my district, including my home county, subject to mandatory evacuation because of Hurricane Rita, I have seen firsthand the burdens on those forced to uproot themselves and their families. Evacuees incur great costs in getting to safety, as well as loss from the storm damage. It can take many months, and even years, to fully recover from the devastation of a natural disaster. Given the unpredictable nature of natural disasters such as hurricanes and tornados, it is difficult for most families to adequately budget for these costs. The Evacuees Tax Relief Act helps Americans manage the fiscal costs of a natural disaster.

Mr. Speaker, it is hard to think of a more timely and more compassionate tax relief proposal than one aimed at helping families cope with the costs associated with being uprooted from their homes, jobs, and communities by a natural disaster. I hope all my colleagues will show compassion for those forced to flee their homes by cosponsoring the Evacuees Tax Relief Act.

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY—100 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, out on the hot, windy, arid plains of West Texas, where the prairie dog and the coyote make their home, amidst the tumble weeds, is a school that is the oasis of private Christian education and excellence. Celebrating its 100th year, Abilene Christian University, with its over 4000 students and 200 faculty members, has progressed dramatically since its beginning in 1906 as Childress Classical Institute.

Mr. J.W. Childress sold A.B. Barret some land outside Abilene, Texas to start a Christian school. The Church of Christ in Abilene backed the project. Then in 1912, when Jesse P. Sewell became President, the school started using the name Abilene Christian College, or commonly referred to as Abilene Christian.

The school moved its campus in 1929 after receiving money from the city of Abilene and land donated by the people of the city. The new campus permanently moved to the Northeast portion of town, fondly referred to as the Hill. ACC eventually became Abilene Christian University in 1976.

The school has students from all 50 states and 60 foreign countries. ACU is proud to be a liberal arts institution and has excellent programs in Business, Bible and Education. Numerous students go on to receive graduate degrees at ACU and other universities. All four of my kids, Kim, Kara, Kurt, and Kellee Lyn attended ACU.

The school has had tremendous athletic programs and its track program has won National Championships for over 60 years. The purple and white Wildcats are now in NCAA Division II and compete in all major sports.

Having been a student at ACU, the school—affiliated with the Churches of Christ—is a unique experience. The people who are at the University, not just the students, but the teachers and administration are a unique type of people.

Garvin Beauchamp, former head football coach, and then Dean of students, did much for me personally to make me see the importance of making good choices in life—He, like other faculty and staff, routinely has students in his home for informal gatherings, Bar-B-Que, and pizza. Students are taught by professors with very few teaching assistants.

I remember several Political Science classes I took from Dr. Gary Thompson that had 10 students learning politics.

My senior year at ACU, I was president of Galaxy Social Club—similar to Fraternities at other schools. We had an annual big event, a formal banquet, for our club. I drove an old 1962 Chevy Nova SS, more like a hot rod instead of a dating vehicle. And I wanted to borrow a nicer car to impress my date. Being the President of the club, I also needed a vehicle to make a statement at the party. So I went to the office of the President of the University and met with President Don Morris. I candidly told him my dilemma.

Then, I asked him if I could borrow his car because his well recognized Lincoln with license plates ACC-1 was the best car in town.

So I asked Dr. Morris if we could trade cars on that particular Saturday night of the banquet. Well, he did not say "If I lend you my car, I'll have to do it for everybody." He didn't mention liability issues. He just said "come over, leave me your car" and asked me to return his car after the date.

So I borrowed the President's car, impressed my date, made my fellow club members envious and had a grand time cruising Abilene, Texas in the President's Lincoln town car. I even drove by the ever popular Mack Eplan's Drive In to show off.

When I returned Dr. Morris's car that evening, he was waiting for me at his kitchen table. He was reading the Bible and probably praying to the Almighty for the safety of his car. We exchanged car keys and that was that.

But Dr. Morris, like many at Abilene Christian displayed an example of the unique character of the university.

Now the 11th President, Royce Money is continuing to lead the school with a determination to follow the mission of the school: "To educate students for Christian Service and leadership throughout the world."

So congratulations to Abilene Christian University in celebrating its 100th year. And thanks for influencing and educating so many students to be a remarkable difference in our nation. The world is a better place because of that Texas school out on the plains of West Texas.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation, along with Ranking Member EVANS and other distinguished Members of the Committee, will introduce legislation that will mandate the Department of Veterans' Affairs to empower the Department's Chief Information Officer with authority over resources, budget and personnel related to information technology for the Department.

Since coming to Congress in 1993, I have witnessed this Committee struggle with VA's inability to adequately manage its IT funding and IT modernization efforts.

While there have been significant improvements in VA's IT modernization efforts, the improvements have come at significant cost to our Veterans: \$600 million plus for a decade of VETSNET—the automated compensation and pension claims processing system that still has not been implemented in 10 years. \$342 million for CoreFLS—the failed financial management system. \$300 million for the HR Links—the failed automated personnel system. \$485 million annually to maintain VISTA, VA's 25-year-old medical information system.

This legislation, the "Department of Veterans Affairs Information Technology Management Improvement Act" will ensure accountability in VA IT spending, and reorganize VA's IT infrastructure to better serve our nation's veterans.

HONORING GEORGE HALE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, Maine has a long tradition of honoring men and women who have made a positive impact on the community and the people around them. This is why I would like to recognize George Hale. George has spent his life working with and helping others.

George first began working with others when he was in the Navy. He would then go on to serve in Korea as a medic, working with the sick and wounded. A Cleveland native, George eventually found his way to Maine where he has had a distinguished 50 year career doing what he loves: broadcasting. During this career he has become an icon to a vast number of Mainers and he has become a legend as a high school basketball announcer. He has used his broadcasting skills to the benefit of others too. For the last 15 years George has helped host the Muscular Dystrophy Telethons on WABI TV. He has also done important work for the Maine Chapter of the March of Dimes and countless communities around Maine.

For these reasons George is being honored by the Maine Chapter of the March of Dimes tonight for a lifetime of achievement and involvement with the community. On behalf of the residents of Maine's Second Congressional District, and for myself personally, I would like to congratulate George Hale on this honor and also thank him for all the work he has done for the people of Maine.

THANKING FORMER GOVERNOR JAMES B. HUNT FOR HIS LEADERSHIP ON EDUCATION

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, James B. Hunt—the four-term Governor of North Carolina, is not only a model public servant, a proud democrat and a long-time dear friend, he is the rare visionary who actually knows how to implement his vision and get demonstrable results.

The "No Child Left Behind Act" was an historic bipartisan achievement for our Nation. And it was a signal accomplishment for President Bush and Members on both sides of the aisle in Congress.

But the fact is, governor Hunt was in the vanguard of the movement for education reform in the States and his hard work helped inspire the enactment of this important Federal law.

When it comes to education, Jim Hunt not only put North Carolina on the map, he has helped move the Tarheel State toward the top of the heap.

His smart start program—a public-private partnership in each of North Carolina's 100 counties—helps provide quality child care, health care and family support for each child who needs it.

The "Judy Centers" in Maryland—named for my late wife, who was a strong advocate of

early childhood education—provide many of the same services.

Jim Hunt helped set up North Carolina's primary reading program. He helped reduce class size, and create a dropout prevention program.

And, he established the State's school of science and mathematics, the Microelectronics Center of North Carolina, and the North Carolina Biotechnology Center.

He also helped put in place one of the most rigorous, approaches to measuring student performance, requiring mastery before promotion and graduation and providing assistance to turn around failing schools.

When it comes to education reform that gets results, no one in America has had a more profound impact than Jim Hunt.

He didn't just claim victory after signing these initiatives into law. He demanded—and received—results.

For example, The Rand Corporation reported that North Carolina Public Schools improved test scores more than any other State in the 1990s.

And, the 1997 national education goals report showed that North Carolina had the most impressive improvements toward reaching educational goals outlined by the panel, and made significant progress in science and math.

But Governor Hunt's contributions have been felt far beyond the borders of North Carolina.

They have been felt throughout the Nation.

As the founding chair of the national board for professional teaching standards, Jim Hunt has been a driving force in improving student achievement by raising teaching standards.

Quite simply, the national board helps teachers improve their skills, so that they can better serve their students.

Governor Hunt has always recognized that the key to a first-rate education is first-rate teaching.

And, through the national board he has helped raise the bar, striving to give professional educators the respect and training that they deserve.

Finally, let me say that Jim Hunt has always understood and focused on the nexus between educational achievement and economic success.

Today, figures from across the political spectrum—Bill Clinton, Newt Gingrich, Bill Gates and the U.S. Chamber—recognize and are talking about that nexus.

"We are living in a world," said President Clinton, "Where what you can earn is a function of what you can learn."

This issue, the centrality of education and knowledge in today's global economy, unites all of us.

And Jim Hunt has recognized that for more than 25 years.

A few years ago, the Raleigh News and Observer stated that, "Jim Hunt served his State with practical accomplishment and with forceful leadership in times of crisis. Of that, he, and we, can be proud."

Governor Hunt is a trailblazer who has lit the path to personal fulfillment and professional accomplishment for literally thousands of North Carolinians and men and women all across this Nation.

His insight has been invaluable. His determination has been essential. And his leadership has been practical, productive and profound.

GASOLINE FOR AMERICA'S
SECURITY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3893, the Gasoline for America's Security Act.

While I believe our Nation needs to improve and increase our refining capacity, I voted against H.R. 3893, because it would weaken and eliminate important public health and environmental regulations. Specifically, H.R. 3893 would delay existing smog cleanup deadlines in cities with some of the most persistent smog problems—a provision that would likely hurt minority and low-income areas the worst. In addition, this legislation is not only harmful to the environment but it also creates a fiscally

irresponsible “Standby Refinery Support Account,” which would compensate corporations if their refinery construction is delayed by State or local laws or litigations. At a time when some refineries are turning record profits, taxpayers should not be paying for the legal costs of refineries, when they are facing legitimate challenges to their evasion of State, local, or Federal regulations.

Instead, I supported a substitute amendment offered by Representative Bart Stupak, which would: Create a strategic refinery reserve based upon the strategic petroleum reserve; allow the President to declare a “Federal energy emergency”; and prohibit gasoline price gouging in times of such emergencies. Under this substitute amendment, the Department of Energy, DOE, would operate a strategic refinery reserve from either constructing new refineries or opening closed refineries to create this reserve, which would have a capacity of 5 percent of the daily U.S. demand for gasoline, home heating oil, and other re-

fined petroleum products. I believe this is an important proposal, which would help address our strained refining capacity in times of emergency. In addition, the substitute amendment would provide explicit authority for the FTC to define price gouging for the first time, and would provide them with the authority to prosecute any entity in the chain of gasoline production, including refineries and not just retailers, for engaging in price gouging.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita further highlighted the instability of energy prices and the fragility of our Nation's energy infrastructure, particularly our domestic refining capacity.

Prior to Hurricane Katrina, our domestic refining industry was already operating at near capacity, with 176 refineries closing in the U.S. over the past 25 years. While we need to strengthen our energy infrastructure, it is essential that the Federal Government does not do this at the expense of important environmental regulations, which protect the safety and health of our communities.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, 2005 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 19

9:30 a.m. Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the potential of stem cell and nuclear transplantation research.

SD-138

10 a.m. Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Business meeting to consider recommendations which it will make to the Committee on the Budget with respect to spending reductions and revenue increases to meet reconciliation expenditures as imposed by H. Con. Res. 95, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2006, revising appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2005, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2007 through 2010.

SR-328A

Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-366

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine United State foreign policy relating to Iraq.

SD-106

10:30 a.m. Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine issues and implications regarding reporters' privilege legislation.

SD-226

2 p.m. Judiciary
Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine video competition in 2005.

SD-226

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Employment and Workplace Safety Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine enhancing cooperation between employers and guardsmen/reservists.

SD-430

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of David M. Hale, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

SD-419

Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

OCTOBER 20

9:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Benson K. Whitney, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to Norway, Roland Arnall, of California, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Susan Rasinski McCaw, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Austria, and Nicholas F. Taubman, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Romania.

SD-419

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the response to Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans.

SD-342

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To resume hearings to examine the implementation of the Exxon-Florio provision by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), Department of the Treasury, which seeks to serve U.S. investment policy through reviews that protect national security while maintaining the credibility of open investment policy.

SD-538

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine S. 1052, to improve transportation security, including public and private sector actions taken since September 11, 2001, and the attacks on rail systems overseas, to enhance the security of passenger and freight rail transportation.

SD-562

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine IT Management by the VA.

SR-418

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook.

Room to be announced

10:30 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine USDA Farm Service Agency Office consolidation plan known as FSA Tomorrow.

SR-328A

2 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider proposed DTV bill, S. 1753, to establish a unified national hazard alert system, S. 967, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure that prepackaged news stories contain announcements that inform viewers that the information within was provided by the United States Government, and S. 1063, to promote and enhance public safety and to encourage the rapid deployment of IP-enabled voice services.

SR-325

Judiciary

Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the constitutional amendment on marriage.

SD-226

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine Federal employment programs for persons with disabilities.

SD-430

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1016, to direct the Secretary of Energy to make incentive payments to the owners or operators of qualified desalination facilities to partially offset the cost of electrical energy required to operate the facilities, and S. 1860, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to improve energy production and reduce energy demand through improved use of reclaimed waters.

SD-366

Foreign Relations

Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine U.S. foreign policy, petroleum, and the Middle East.

SD-419

Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

OCTOBER 25

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of John J. Young, Jr., of Virginia, to be Director of Defense Research and Engineering, Department of Defense, Dorrance Smith, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, Delores M. Etter, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition, and General Burwell B. Bell, III, USA, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Commander, United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command, and Commander, United States Forces Korea.

SD-106

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine U.S.-Saudi Arabia relations relating to the war on terror.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1829, to repeal certain sections of the Act of May 26, 1936, pertaining to the Virgin Islands, S. 1830, to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, and S. 1831, to convey certain submerged land to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

SD-366

OCTOBER 26

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine In Re Tribal Lobbying Matters, Et Al.

SH-216

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the Streamlined Procedures Act relating to Habeas Reform.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the implementation of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (P.L. 108-447), by the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior.

SD-366

NOVEMBER 2

2 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 1541, to protect, conserve, and restore public land administered by the Department of the Interior or the Forest Service and adjacent land through cooperative cost-shared grants to control and mitigate the spread of invasive species, S. 1548, to provide for the conveyance of certain Forest Service land to the city of Coffman Cove, Alaska, S. 1552, to amend Public Law 97-435 to extend the authorization for the Secretary of the Interior to release certain conditions contained in a patent concerning cer-

tain land conveyed by the United States to Eastern Washington University until December 31, 2009, and H.R. 482, to provide for a land exchange involving Federal lands in the Lincoln National Forest in the State of New Mexico.

SD-366

CANCELLATIONS

OCTOBER 20

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Indian water rights settlement policy effects on the Duck Valley Reservation proposed settlement agreement.

SR-485

POSTPONEMENTS

OCTOBER 19

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Bioterrorism and Public Health Preparedness Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine biosurveillance.

SD-430

OCTOBER 20

2:30 p.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 1057, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend that Act, S. 1003, to amend the Act of December 22, 1974, S. 692, to provide for the conveyance of certain public land in northwestern New Mexico by resolving a dispute associated with coal preference right lease interests on the land, and a proposed bill to extend the statute of limitations for breach of trust claims.

SR-485