

to Cleveland. He has dedicated himself to our church, and to the betterment of all mankind. His distinguished record of service speaks volumes, and I look forward to working with him to strengthen our community.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring Auxiliary Bishop Lennon and welcoming him to Cleveland as our community's 10th Bishop. Today is a great day for the Catholic Church and the Cleveland community. Auxiliary Bishop Lennon brings a wealth of experience and knowledge, and I ask my Colleagues to join me in sharing in this tremendous day.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF JENNY
CHANG

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a former staffer, a friend and an inspiration, Jenny Chang.

When Jenny came to work in my office in 2003, she had already been through one round with a formidable opponent, breast cancer. But you certainly couldn't tell. She brought an energy and positivity rarely seen, and none of us will ever forget her laugh.

I admire leaders, and Jenny Chang was a leader. Jenny was student body president and president of her senior class at North Carolina State University—she was the first woman of Asian descent to hold that position. Through her battle with a terrible disease, Jenny reached out to fellow cancer sufferers and survivors and used her position on Capitol Hill to make a difference. Despite her illness, she worked on my colleague DAVID PRICE's campaign and in his Congressional office, making scores of new friends and admirers at each stop.

And for 8 months, she was the soul of my office, always showing how things can be done and how problems can be solved.

It saddened us all when Jenny's cancer returned and she had to take leave of my office and Capitol Hill.

Mr. Speaker, Jenny Chang passed away on April 29. We should all be so lucky to work with such a terrific soul as Jenny Chang. She did many great things in her short time with us. And what she left us—the memory of her smile, her spirit and her strength—is so much more than any of us could ever give her.

Sometime God takes the best of us far sooner than we want. I thank God for giving us our time with Jenny and I wish her family and friends my deepest condolences.

RECOGNIZING SHARON KOSEK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sharon Kosek of St. Joseph, Missouri. After long tenure in the St. Joseph, Missouri School District, Sharon will be retiring. Sharon has taught in the St. Joseph School District for the past 23 years and has recently

been named the Association for Career and Technical Education Outstanding Teacher in Community Service. She has been a model of strong service and civic leadership.

Sharon has served as the Business Coordinator and Administrative Office Systems instructor at the Hillyard Technical Center, as well as the advisor for the Phi Beta Lambda adult business student organization. Outside of the classroom, Sharon has remained active in the ACTE, Missouri ACTE, National Business Education Association, and as the Legislative Chairperson for the St. Joseph Parent Teacher Association.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Sharon Kosek. Her commitments to excellence in education and community service have remained as an inspiration to all of those people around her. She will certainly be missed and I would like to ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking her for all of her hard work and dedication over the years. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING KENT STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT CAROL A. CARTWRIGHT FOR 15 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OHIO EDUCATION

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carol A. Cartwright, President of Kent State University, for 15 remarkable years of academic, community and national leadership. It has been my genuine pleasure to work with her on a range of priorities in northeast Ohio, including education and learning, economic development, healthcare and research.

Kent State has eight campuses, including the Stark campus in my District, with more than 34,000 students seeking from 2-year to Ph.D. degrees. Its leader must be a great communicator, able to multi-task and an innovative thinker in her approach to getting the job done. Carol Cartwright does that every day with a smile and a quick wit, as well as considerable knowledge and experience.

Throughout her career, Dr. Cartwright has been a role model for women in higher education and every walk of life. After working as a teacher, university professor, pioneering researcher in the field of special education and as a university executive officer, she made history in 1991 when she became Kent State University's first woman president and the first woman president of a public university in Ohio. From the outset of her presidency, she has been an active advocate of professional-development and personal-growth initiatives for women. In her first year of eligibility, she was elected to the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame.

She was also a member of the committee that worked with my wife, Mary, to bring the long-overdue idea of a National First Ladies Library to life, and Carol continues to serve on the Library's national board. She also serves on the American Council on Education Commission on Women in Higher Education and the board of directors of National Public Radio.

Carol has a clear commitment to all students, and she has been instrumental in build-

ing one of the finest programs in the nation to help GED candidates advance to pursue college degrees. I look forward every year to attending the graduation ceremony to hear wonderful success stories and to learn of students' academic achievements—thanks to the GED Scholars Initiative at Kent State.

On October 5, 2005, Dr. Cartwright, Kent State University's 10th president, announced her decision to step down from the leadership position she has held since 1991. She will retire from the presidency upon the arrival of her successor. I want to congratulate her on a tremendous job and wish Carol and her husband, Phil, health and happiness in the future.

VALLEY FEVER VACCINE
DEVELOPMENT ACT

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the Valley Fever Vaccine Development Act, which I introduced today.

Valley Fever or coccidioidomycosis is a serious human disease caused by the inhalation of a soil-borne fungus, *Coccidioides*, and particularly impacts public health in the southwestern United States, specifically California, Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Texas. According to researchers involved in the Valley Fever Vaccine Project, each year an estimated 130,000 people nationwide are exposed to Valley Fever and there are about 5,000 cases. Of those cases, between 2,500 and 5,000 are serious and about 500 people die from Valley Fever. The disease is especially prevalent in Kern County, California, which I represent; 1,540 cases were reported in 2004, which was an increase of 1,137 from the 403 cases reported in 2000. Similar increases have been reported in Arizona, where some anticipate the number of cases this year will exceed 4,000. Moreover, 46 Kern County residents died from Valley Fever from 2000 to 2004.

Valley Fever particularly affects those with impaired or less developed immune systems, including children and the elderly. The disease has a high incidence among minority populations as well as among those who work outside in occupations such as construction, agriculture, mining, energy, and the military. In addition, the disease also impacts those who engage in outdoor recreational activities, such as biking, golf, hiking, jogging, motorcycling, rock collecting, and tennis.

The drugs currently used to treat Valley Fever are often ineffective and the average hospitalization charges for the seriously ill exceed \$30,000. Accordingly, a preventative vaccine is desperately needed. Unfortunately, there currently is no vaccine for Valley Fever and there is no private industry interest in making the investment, estimated to be about \$40 million, needed for the development of the vaccine.

However, nonprofit organizations have sponsored exploratory research conducted by the Valley Fever Vaccine Project and their efforts have resulted in the identification of candidate vaccines for pharmaceutical development. While I greatly appreciate the \$930,000 that has been provided through the federal appropriations process since Fiscal Year 2003

for the California State University at Bakersfield (CSUB) Foundation to purchase equipment needed by the Valley Fever Vaccine Project, additional funding is needed to develop a vaccine, particularly as incidences of Valley Fever continue to increase while treatment options are limited.

Thus, I have introduced the Valley Fever Vaccine Development Act, which would authorize, from Fiscal Year 2007 through Fiscal Year 2012, funding for grants through the Centers for Disease Control for efforts to develop a vaccine to prevent and reduce the prevalence of this serious disease. As the development of a Valley Fever vaccine will directly enhance public health, I ask my colleagues to join me as I work to enact this important legislation.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 through 2011:

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this misguided budget resolution, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against it.

The Federal budget is much more than just a government document; it is a statement of our Nation's priorities and values. I am tremendously proud that in my first term as the Second District of North Carolina's Representative in the U.S. House, Congress and the President balanced the budget for the first time in a generation. Until just a few years ago, the budget remained balanced and the surpluses we produced were being used to pay down the national debt and strengthen the solvency of Social Security. But this Administration and the Republican Congressional Leadership have squandered the budget surpluses on wasteful tax policies and are running record budget deficits as far as the eye can see.

This budget offers more of the same failed policies and it flunks the test of moral leadership by increasing the burdens on the poor, the middle class, families struggling to get into the middle class and future generations. This budget contains devastating cuts to essential services for our families and will leave the statutory debt at a record level of \$11.3 trillion. The American people deserve better.

As the only former State schools chief serving in Congress, public education is my priority. Education holds the key to the American Dream for middle class families, and the Federal Government has a solemn obligation to help all of our people make the most of their God-given abilities. This budget eliminates 42 Federal education initiatives, cuts funding for education, social services and training by \$4.6 billion below the amount needed to maintain

purchasing power at the current level and will cut this funding more deeply each subsequent year.

Specifically, this budget completely dismantles: vocational education (\$1.3 billion); Perkins Loans (\$730 million); Safe and Drug-Free Schools state grants (\$347 million); GEAR-UP college readiness for low-income students (\$303 million); education technology (\$287 million); and Even Start family literacy services (\$99 million). The budget cuts \$15 billion from the amount authorized for the No Child Left Behind education reform effort and cuts the Federal contribution for special education from the current 17.7 percent to only 17.0 percent for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) despite years of rhetoric from the Republicans claiming to support IDEA. And while the costs of college continue to rise, this budget contains none of the funds needed to raise Pell Grants beyond the 2003 funding level.

In addition, this Republican budget resolution cuts funding for homeland security, including port security by \$6.1 billion over 5 years, cuts essential services for working families by \$9.4 billion, cuts veterans' health care by \$6.0 billion, slashes funding for health by \$18.1 billion below current services and fails to protect the environment by imposing a cut of \$25 billion over the next 5 years.

In contrast, the Spratt Substitute will balance the budget by 2012. It includes tough Pay-As-You-Go (PAYGO) budget enforcement rules that require the cost of any new mandatory spending or revenue legislation to be fully offset. Vice President CHENEY has claimed "deficits don't matter," but the American people know better. The Spratt budget provides \$4.6 billion more for education in 2007 than the Republican budget and adds \$45.3 billion over 5 years that our States and communities desperately need for quality schools.

The Spratt Substitute keeps our commitment to veterans by including \$8.6 billion more than the Republican budget for veterans' health care. It provides \$6.5 billion more over 5 years for homeland security, including port security and rejects the Republican cut to Army National Guard troop strength and the cut to Cooperative Threat Reduction that protects America from weapons of mass destruction. The Spratt alternative budget provides \$18 billion more over 5 years to fund health priorities cut by the Republican budget, including medical research at NIH and CDC, rural health activities, and graduate medical education for children's hospitals. Finally, the Spratt Substitute rejects the Republican budget cuts for environmental protection and requires an honest, separate vote on any proposal to raise the limit on the national debt.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I believe the Federal budget is the public expression of our Nation's priorities and values. I urge Congress to reject the Republican budget that is wrong for America and support the Spratt Substitute that restores funding for essential services for a stronger country and a brighter tomorrow for our families.

RECOGNIZING VICTOR FONTANEZ

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing United States Army Private Victor Fontanez, a soldier who exemplifies stellar qualities of dedication and service to Northwest Missouri and the United States of America in his service to our country in World War II. Beginning his service in January of 1941, Victor served with the honor and integrity that we have come to admire.

In his military service during World War II, Victor landed in the 9th Infantry Division Company B 47th Infantry 1st Battalion engaged in the African section of the European Front. During an operation in April of 1943 located in Tunisia, Private Fontanez took shrapnel fire and was rewarded the Purple Heart. After recovery he was transferred to the 36th Infantry Division as a Combat Engineer in the Italian Campaign. After the liberation of Rome and victories throughout Italy, Victor and the 36th Infantry Division invaded Southern France on August 15, 1944.

During this invasion of France by the 36th Infantry, Private Fontanez had witnessed the explosion of an Allied plane over the beach. The plane and crew crashed into a lagoon nearby and Private Fontanez acting without hesitation rescued some of the injured flight crew. It was this act of selflessness and bravery that earned Private Fontanez the Soldiers Medal for Heroism.

Victor Fontanez's service to the United States of America in defending freedom will never be forgotten. His courage and dedication when his country needed him the most is something to be admired. I am honored to represent one of America's great heroes and I ask the United States Congress to join me in honoring his service.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
WILLIAMSON FLYING CLUB, INC.
CELEBRATED ON MAY 18, 2006

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Williamson Flying Club, Inc. The Williamson Flying Club began as a shared dream by five men from Williamson, New York. These men held informal hearings to share their aspirations of wanting to fly and starting their own flying club. On May 4, 1956, these men began to realize part of their dream and purchased their first aircraft. With time, the group began to expand their membership and services. By May 18, 1956, the Williamson Flying Club became incorporated as a member corporation. In the beginning, the group operated from the Palmyra airport, later they moved to a dirt strip that became the Williamson-Sodus Airport. The Williamson-Sodus Airport was an 1800-foot runway that was seeded in July 1957. Over the years the runway has been upgraded and is now a 3,800 ft. hard surface asphalt runway with modern lighting and taxiways and