

requires fundamentals, intelligence, and a commitment to excellence that is beautiful to behold when it manifests itself. I believe it was best summed up by a spectator at this year's State tournament who told Coach Throneburg that the State tournament just was not the same without Casey-Westfield involved. This is high praise for not only a class team and coach, but for the entire school, the families, and all of the fans of these talented women. I am very proud to represent Casey in the U.S. Congress, and I wish the players all of the best in their future endeavors. I would like to read their names for the record: Kylie Redman, Terri Kemper, Trisha Hupp, Bethany McClellan, Melinda Hickox, Heather Sanders, Debbie Hall, Jenny Wimbley, Monica Sudkamp, Rachael McClellan, Heather Black, Katie McClellan, Angela Webber, Stephanie Stephen, Sarah Lemond, Dara Throneburg, and Lyndsay Sanders.

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TRIBUTE TO SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 1996*

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 50th anniversary of the National School Lunch Program. This highly successful program serves over 25 million meals annually to the children of California's Third Congressional District.

In 1946, President Truman signed the National School Lunch Act, which was designed to ensure the nutritional health of the Nation's students. Some 7.1 million children were served by the program by the end of its first year. Currently, the National School Lunch Program serves breakfasts, lunches, and afternoon snacks, to more than 25 million children across the country.

In spite of the School Lunch Program's obvious successes, the program was targeted for draconian cuts by the Republican Congress. Under the Republican plan, cuts in the School Lunch Program would have cost California about \$1 billion over 4 years.

I am proud to have opposed these cuts, and I salute the National School Lunch Program, for its 50 years of success in feeding our Nation's children. This is an excellent example of government that works.

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WISCONSIN WORKS WAIVER APPROVAL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PAT ROBERTS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 1996*

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3562, a bill to authorize the State of Wisconsin to implement the demonstration project known as Wisconsin Works. Gov. Tommy Thompson is a recognized leader in the area of welfare reform. He, and other Gov-

ernors across the United States, have worked diligently to improve the manner in which public assistance benefits are provided to our neediest citizens. However, they cannot do this without reducing the mandates of the Federal Government. Governor Thompson and other Governors need our help in getting relief from the heavy hand of Washington bureaucrats.

The Federal waiver process is time consuming and States are pressured to drop certain waiver requests, thereby changing the design of State reforms. That is why we are here today.

The bill before the House of Representatives today provides that relief to Wisconsin. The Federal waivers that are necessary to implement the Wisconsin Works Program are granted through this bill. The bill ensures that no additional cost will accrue to the Federal Government.

The Wisconsin Works Program offers its participants the opportunity to earn wages and to learn how to increase their value to employers. Wisconsin has been testing various methods of reforming the welfare system for several years. Its other demonstration projects include, Work Not Welfare, Work First, Children First, and Pay for Performance. The consistent theme throughout all of these projects, and incorporated in the Wisconsin Works Program, is the expectation of personal responsibility and the goal of independence and a promising future for welfare participants.

Governor Thompson's proposal for Wisconsin Works includes waivers applicable to the Food Stamp Program. As chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, which has responsibility for the Food Stamp Program, I certainly appreciate the need for reform of this program.

The first hearing held when I became chairman of the Committee on Agriculture was on the Food Stamp Program. Our committee has developed a comprehensive reform of the program and it is incorporated in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996. This reform emphasizes work for able-bodied persons, promotes real jobs with incentives, allows States to harmonize welfare programs with the Food Stamp Program, and curbs trafficking and fraud with increased penalties.

The waivers to the Food Stamp Program incorporated in this bill provide Wisconsin the ability to match its program with the Food Stamp Program in the areas of certification, employment, and training programs and work requirements. Additionally, for those persons in the Wisconsin Works Program who also receive food stamps, food benefits will be provided in cash. The Wisconsin program includes a mandatory nutrition education program. Wisconsin believes that for its participants to become self-sufficient, they need to know how to budget for food purchases, without the parameters specified by the use of food coupons. Wisconsin estimates that approximately half of the families receiving food stamps will be provided cash instead of food stamps.

I am not generally in favor of substituting cash for food stamp benefits. One of the important tenets of our welfare reform proposal was that food stamps would remain as the safety net program during the transition of re-

forming welfare. Food is a basic need and must be available to low-income families.

I am encouraged the Wisconsin Works Program includes a mandatory nutrition education component so that families will receive education on how to budget funds to ensure good diets. In addition, the cash-out of food stamps is linked to a program with strong work requirements.

USDA, over the years, has approved several demonstration programs that issue cash instead of food stamps and almost half of the States operate some form of a cash-out program. As with those other programs, I intend to watch the Wisconsin program so that we will know that Federal dollars provided for food are indeed spent on food.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support H.R. 3562 and the Wisconsin Works Program. The President has expressed support for the Wisconsin Works Program and Congressman KLECZKA's substitute amendment, provided for in the rule, urges the administration to approve waivers necessary to allow Wisconsin to carry out its program.

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TRIBUTE TO MARIANNE BARRIOS

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 1996*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Marianne Barrios, the energetic photojournalist-general manager of the San Fernando Sun. This year Marianne is being given special recognition by the Mission Hills Chamber of Commerce for many years of service to the chamber and the northeast San Fernando Valley. Those of us lucky enough to know Marianne know that this honor is richly deserved.

Marianna is best known for her work with the San Fernando Sun. Readers of the paper know that she does an exceptional job keeping people informed. She makes a point of coming to grand openings, rallies, chamber events—I have enjoyed seeing Marianne at many of these over the years—and covering the various communities in San Fernando and the northeast valley. All of us who care about the area owe a huge debt of gratitude to Marianne for her work.

As busy as she is with the San Fernando Sun, Marianne somehow finds time for other activities. For example, she is a member of the Foothill Area Boosters Association, the San Fernando Valley Police Advisory Council and the northeast valley chapter of the America Heart Association. In addition, she is a present or past board member of New Directions for Youth, the San Fernando and Mission Hills Chambers of Commerce and the Holy Cross Medical Center Century Club.

The devoted mother of a 15-year-old son, Marianne spends much of her time working with organizations dedicated to improving the lives of children. It is another way in which she has made an invaluable contribution to the community.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting Marianne Barrios, whose selflessness and dedication is a shining example to us all.

TRIBUTE TO GESU CATHOLIC  
CHURCH OF MIAMI

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 1996*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it gives me tremendous pleasure to pay tribute to Gesu Catholic Church of Miami, which has for the past 100 years been the spiritual heart for the people of south Florida. As Miami celebrates its centennial anniversary, so too does the Gesu Catholic Church. Together the city and the church have been harmonious partners in a relationship that has seen Miami become a premier city of the United States and the Americas.

As the first house of worship in Miami, Gesu's contributions to the cultural, religious, educational, and charitable development of south Florida have been enormous. Indeed, Gesu has been a loving place of worship that has allowed many community leaders including Steve Clark, mayor of the city of Miami, J.L. Plummer, commissioner of the city of Miami, and Arthur Estopiñan, my chief of staff in Washington, DC, a site of reflection and inspiration.

For my chief of staff, Arthur Estopiñan, the church takes on a special significance. Arthur worked part time after school in the rectory since he was 13 years old until after graduating from college, helping to coordinate liturgies with Father John Edwards, S.J.; Father Bill Mayer, S.J.; and Father Donald Pearce, S.J. The loving influence that the Jesuits at Gesu have shown Arthur enabled him to become a man of the highest moral character.

Gesu has served as a beacon of hope for many people from many different lands who came to this great Nation in search of freedom. It is a historic landmark that has a devoted following of parishioners that come together to celebrate their faith and heritage. The American people should be extraordinarily proud of the accomplishments of Gesu during the past century and I am confident that Gesu will have an equally outstanding history in the century to come.

LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE FOR  
INDIA

HON. MIKE WARD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 1996*

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to explain why I oppose the amendment to the bill making fiscal year 1997 appropriations for foreign operations, offered by the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON]. The gentleman's amendment sought to limit appropriations to India for development assistance or to nongovernmental organizations and private voluntary organizations operating within India.

Action of this nature would send the wrong message, Mr. Speaker. In my view, instead it would behoove our Government to take steps that would serve to encourage the progress being made in India on several fronts.

On one front, the voter turnout in India's most recent national elections is evidence of

the continued growing support for democracy. Another front worthy of note is the improvements and reforms made in the area of human rights. Finally, I believe the Government of India is to be commended for the initiatives undertaken to liberalize the economy and to recast its markets.

I am pleased that 295 other House Members chose to join me in rejecting this amendment, Mr. Speaker. Our vote speaks of our and the United States' support for a strong relationship between our governments.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LOIS J.  
LECRONE ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 1996*

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark a very special occasion. My good friend Lois J. LeCrone is retiring on June 30, 1996 from the CEFS Economic Opportunity Corp. in Sullivan, IL, where she has served as the senior volunteer program director. I congratulate her on 30 years of exceptional dedication to the cause of senior citizens and for always being a consummate professional.

Those that know Lois understand her contributions to her field as well as her deep personal commitment. She has been at the forefront of a movement that recognizes that seniors have a lot left to give to their communities. Improving the quality of life for our older citizens is more than making sure they have sufficient health care and savings, but showing them that they can still make a significant contribution to society in general. Lois has helped countless people give back to those around them while providing each of them a priceless feeling of self-worth. This work takes patience, but as I believe Lois would tell you, the rewards are worth the effort.

Mr. Speaker, our country needs more people like Lois to remind us of the importance of not just doing your job, but of doing it with compassion, grace, and attention to detail. By setting such a high standard we come to expect and demand excellence, and that should be our collective goal no matter what the field. I wish Lois all the best in this new phase of her life. I have enjoyed working with her as well as representing her in the U.S. Congress. I am sure she has a lot to give of herself, and for that I am very grateful.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 1996*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I will be absent from the U.S. Congress on Monday, June 10 and Tuesday, June 11 for personal reasons.

DAY OF PORTUGAL

HON. ROBERT G. TORRICELLI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 1996*

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Dia de Portugal, or Day of Portugal, which commemorates Portugal's numerous achievements and rich cultural heritage. This is a day for the Portuguese community to rejoice in the strides they have made as a people. More important, it provides the rest of the world the opportunity to heighten its awareness of this valuable segment of our society.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of the day is its connection to the Portuguese poet Luis de Camoes. June 10 marks his birthday, and is thus an excellent occasion to recognize his contributions of Portugal's language and culture. As the Portuguese equivalent of Dante and Chaucer, Camoes gave the people a voice for their innermost hopes and dreams. His eloquent turns of phrase are a noted source of pride for the Portuguese people.

However, in this day and age, I believe it is important to realize that Portugal has even more to be proud of. Its economy has battled high unemployment rates to achieve greater economic growth, and is now projected to join Europe's single currency in the near future. In addition, foreign investors are attracted by the government's plans to privatize and decrease the budget deficit. Further progress will help Portugal move through the Europe's ranks and increase its economic standing.

The rest of the international community should pause to reflect on this remarkable progress and join the Portuguese community in celebration.

GEORGE SOROS MAKES CASE FOR  
POSTPONING BOSNIAN ELECTION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 10, 1996*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, George Soros, my good friend and the chairman of one of the largest and most widely praised philanthropic organizations in the world, put forth a very strong argument for postponing the Bosnian elections until there is stronger evidence that the goals set by the Dayton Accords for free and fair elections have been met. His op-ed, which appeared in the Wall Street Journal, makes a well-reasoned case for delaying the elections until indicted war criminals are arrested, freedom of movement is established, a free press exists, and lines of communication are opened between and within ethnic groups.

The Soros foundation/Open Society Foundation is one of the primary philanthropic organizations dedicated to promoting free societies throughout the world. George Soros has demonstrated his commitment to making the peace process work in Bosnia by pledging \$15 million for TV broadcasting prior to the elections. These funds, in conjunction with the commitment of the United States and the world community, will be of enormous help in executing free and fair elections once preconditions are set.