

CONCLUSION

The Medicare program has served our seniors well. It has provided them with quality health care, and, equally important, a sense of security that their basic health care needs will be met. It does not cover all the services and treatments seniors need, but it is a primary safety net for them.

Americans contribute throughout their working lives to finance the Medicare system. They deserve the assurance of access to medical care during their older years. Congress must focus on maintaining those assurances. Medicare is not a faceless government program to be slashed at blindly; it is a fundamental source of security for seniors. They have earned the benefits, and I will continue to work to ensure they receive what is justly theirs.

MOTHER A.M.E. ZION CHURCH: 200
YEARS OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to bring to your attention a church in my congressional district which is celebrating its 200th anniversary this year, and is the oldest African-American congregation in the State of New York.

The church I am speaking of is the historic Mother African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, affectionately called Mother Zion.

Mother Zion Church is the mother of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Connection, who was popularly known as the Freedom Church because of its pivotal role in the abolitionist movement. Many conference churches, including Mother Zion, served as stations on the underground railroad.

Mother Zion Church has been served by 29 pastors in its history; two were elected bishops: Rt. Rev. James Walter Brown and Rt. Rev. Alfred Gilbert Dunston.

As the pastor, Dr. Alvin T. Durant, and the members of Mother AME Zion Church rejoice in this bicentennial year ongoing celebration, I extend to them my congratulations, friendship, and support as they go forth honoring 200 years of Christian service.

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL ARTS
CLUB

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the National Arts Club's "50, 75, 100, 125" program during this past season. This program honors significant institutions in New York City which have celebrated major anniversaries this year. I am proud to offer this tribute at the conclusion of a very successful celebratory season.

This year, the National Arts Club, through its Roundtable Committee, sponsored a series of events to recognize major institutions such as the Performing Arts Library at Lincoln Center, the United Nations, the American Academy in Rome, the New York State Bar Association, the American Museum of Natural History, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

I am proud to report that the National Arts Club also honored the International Olympic Committee which celebrated its 100 year anniversary this year. In honor of the International Olympic Committee's anniversary and of the Centennial Games to be held in July, earlier this month, the National Arts Club commemorated the publication of "The Olympic Image—The First 100 Years."

The National Arts Club has contributed to the cultural, educational, and diplomatic communities of New York City since its inception in 1898. Through series such as "50, 75, 100, 125," the National Arts Club seeks to reward the efforts of unique institutions making a significant difference in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in this tribute by rising in honor of the National Arts Club for its celebration of New York City's extraordinary institutions. Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR B.
CAMPBELL

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arthur B. Campbell of Wakefield, RI for his 31 years of dedicated service to the South Kingstown Public School System. As a teacher and as superintendent for the past 12 years, Mr. Campbell has been an outstanding educational leader.

In 1965, Mr. Campbell began his career in the South Kingstown Public Schools as a junior high instructor. While serving in this capacity, Mr. Campbell also became president of the local teachers' union, leading the first strike in the town's history. He was instrumental in forming the Rhode Island National Education Association's first political action group.

Mr. Campbell was promoted to director of instruction in 1972, and then to the post of superintendent of schools in 1984. During his tenure in this position, he guided the district through an unprecedented period of population growth. With his vision and professionalism, the district met this challenge without compromising student safety or academic integrity. His leadership made possible the emergence of modern educational facilities with dynamic and capable faculty, and students who rank among our State and our Nation's best and brightest.

In addition, known for his expertise and leadership in the school budget process, Mr. Campbell has ensured the efficient operation of school department finances, providing a healthy educational future for all South Kingstown schools.

In today's increasingly competitive job market, a quality education is absolutely necessary for success and advancement. Mr. Campbell's proactive approach toward achieving educational excellence has made these opportunities available to our young people. His accomplishments clearly demonstrate that an investment in education is indeed an investment in the future.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of Arthur Campbell's retirement, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this outstanding administrator and educator.

PROTECT DRINKING WATER FOR
FUTURE GENERATIONS

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend this Republican Congress for passing sound, safe, commonsense legislation to ensure that America's drinking water is clean and healthy for our loved ones and future generations to enjoy. Safe drinking water is of vital importance to San Diego, where nearly all of our waters is imported from the Colorado River and northern California, crossing many fault lines. Because there is such a limited supply of water, San Diegans do not take their water for granted. San Diegans, like all Americans, want water that is safe to consume.

One of my priorities in the 104th Congress is to protect the health and safety of American families. The House's passage Tuesday of the Safe Drinking Water Act amendments (H.R. 3604) sends a clear message to families that Republicans are committed to improving and protecting water quality and the environment. I am proud to support this legislation.

By passing this legislation, we give State and local water authorities the resources they need to keep our water safe. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California supports the bill because it will "enable public water systems to address the highest priority water quality issues first." The bill contains a strong community right-to-know provision, requiring public notification within 24 hours when water safety violations occur. It focuses resources, where they will do the most good, on eliminating contaminants that pose the greatest risk to people. Moreover, the Safe Drinking Water Act amendments establishes a State revolving fund to help public water systems comply with drinking water standards.

This legislation received broad bipartisan support. The Nation's Governors, State and county legislators, local water authorities, and several environmental groups support our safe drinking water bill. A commonsense approach has proven successful in protecting water quality, and we can reach consensus on other environmental issues through this same approach. I am proud to joining my colleagues in the proenvironment Congress in passing H.R. 3604.

INTRODUCTION OF THE VETERANS'
NURSING CARE AVAILABILITY
ACT OF 1996

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Veterans' Nursing Care Availability Act of 1996. This important legislation will help correct a flaw that exists in the way that the Department of Veterans Affairs ranks applications for its State Extended Care Facilities grant program.

The State Extended Care Facilities grant program provides Federal funding for up to 65 percent of the total cost for the construction of

State veterans nursing homes. Many States have been desperately trying to get a grant under this program to assist in the construction of State veterans nursing homes. However, despite documented need, they have been unable to get the Federal funding necessary to move forward.

Because of the overall inequity of the system that the VA uses to rank State applications, I have decided to introduce legislation that will ensure that States with the greatest veteran need receive priority funding.

The current system that the VA uses to rank State applications gives priority to States that have never received a similar grant in the past. While on the surface this may seem logical, the practical effect is that States with the highest veteran's need are often neglected because they received a grant sometime in the past. As a matter of fairness, I believe applications should be ranked solely on the needs of veterans.

The legislation I am introducing will correct this inequity by ensuring that States with the highest need receive priority. The Department of Veterans Affairs has determined that there should be four nursing home beds for every 1000 veterans in a State. Using this determination, my bill would have applications based on a formula where veteran need is defined as the number of veterans in the State multiplied by four and divided by 1000—need = veterans population * 4 / 1000.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important piece of legislation for our Nation's veterans. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in working for its enactment.

THE DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the event which led to our honoring June 16 as the Day of the African Child. On this day in 1976, approximately 600 young people were massacred in Soweto, South Africa. We honor June 16, 1976, as a day marking our sorrow and our pledge to these murdered children, their families, and their cause, that such horrors should not happen again. This year's commemoration focuses on the issue of war and its effects on children across the African continent.

We bow our heads in memory of the tragic occurrence of June 16, 1976. We celebrate the victory of the effort, the dedication, the enormous drive, and the energy whereby the people of the African National Congress, and their leader, President Nelson Mandela, were able to overcome the race hatred of the Afrikaners, to emerge victorious without a major war, to create a nation committed to equality, and to end official racial hatred and violence.

The Republic of South Africa is a beacon, a reality, which many of us hold as the embodiment of a government dedicated to peace and racial equality, created out of social violence and repeated acts of violence by an armed government against an unarmed people. We hold, with the new republic in mind, that the children of besieged countries in Africa deserve a similar stake in the future as the children of the Republic of South Africa are now able to hold.

The killings of children and adults—in Rwanda, Burundi, and now Liberia—go beyond our worst imaginings. The killing fields of Cambodia and Bosnia are now joined by these in Africa. Whether massive killings are the result of tribal or national war, these events are inconceivable to most of us.

In a war, people are displaced from their normal daily lives and are forced to face the unimaginable horrors of death and destruction. War creates a generation of angered individuals forced to deal with a country in ruins, homes in shambles, and families in anguish. In the midst of all this tragic adversity, the children of a warring nation undergo the greatest ordeal of all. These children, who are caught in the turmoil and chaos of armed conflict, face the emotional and physical wounds of war as well as the instability of their country's future.

Rwanda provides evidence of the devastating impact that war has on children. The genocidal massacres in Rwanda have claimed a million lives, 300,000 of which have been children. According to a UNICEF survey of children in one part of the country, 47 percent of those interviewed saw children killing or injuring other children, 66 percent of the children saw massacres, 20 percent witnessed rape and sexual abuse, and 56 percent saw family members being killed. The destruction of homes, health centers, and educational facilities has also left children with little hope of leading future normal lives.

Burundi is another example of how violent conflicts can have a devastating impact on young children. Years of fighting fed by deep political and ethnic animosities have claimed hundreds of thousands of lives and have left numerous others maimed. A whole generation of children have been made orphans. Hostilities have caused famine and turned children into beggars. The armed conflict has also resulted in collapse of the legal and social systems, creating a lack of law enforcement, lack of medical care, and lack of education.

The calls of the children—and the adults upon whom they depend—of Burundi, Rwanda, Liberia, and other warring countries in Africa, reach out to us, but we are mostly silent. The United States, a wealthy nation, has turned away from the people of war torn nations. Where it once was a leader in aiding other countries out of poverty and ruin, today, the United States spends less than 1 percent of its national budget on foreign aid programs. This is a very disappointing figure compared to those countries such as Japan and Denmark, which contribute 2.8 and 4.7 percent of their budget to foreign aid. We need to have our hearts touched and consider responses which will support efforts to stop hostilities and help these countries move towards recovery. It is only when these nations have fully recovered that the children of the future can lead better and more secure lives.

BOMBING AT KING ABDUL AZIZ AIR BASE IN DHAHRAN, SAUDI ARABIA

HON. RANDY TATE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mr. TATE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise both in great anger and in deep sorrow. Yesterday a

truck bomb was exploded at a military compound in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia where United States troops belonging to the Joint Task Force Southwest Asia were housed.

Twenty-three American service personnel were killed and more than 100 were seriously injured. Twenty-two service personnel from McChord Air Force Base in Tacoma, WA, currently stationed at the base in Dhahran, mercifully survived.

The terrorist bomb was so powerful that the front of an apartment tower 35 yards away was decimated and a crater 85 feet wide and 35 feet deep was left in its wake. Inside the apartment tower were 2,500 U.S. troops.

Everyday in this country, mothers and fathers take great pride in the dedication of their sons and daughters serving in the U.S. military. Years of nurturing, love, sacrifice, and commitment have gone into producing men and women possessed of such a love for their country that they would volunteer to protect it.

These brave men and women are not forced to serve—they ask to serve. They are not forced to stand guard against enemy forces—they ask to stand guard. They risk their lives in order to ensure that those of us here, in the comfort and safety of our own beloved country, may live free.

Mr. Speaker, the greatness of our Nation is magnificently reflected in the greatness of our servicemen and women. Today, we stand firm with the families who have suffered an immeasurable loss and our Nation mourns with them.

Let there be no doubt—the great and mighty force of the United States will descend upon those terrorists who dared to target our American service personnel. We will answer the families that cry out for justice and we will deliver to them those responsible for this vulgar act of cowardice.

Let the terrorists who committed this cowardly act of murder tremble in fear for they will be hunted, they will be found, and they will be punished.

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING ACT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, in an effort to support women in our changing economy, I am introducing the Commission on the advancement of Women in the Science and Engineering Workforce Act.

Although the percentage of women earning science and engineering degrees has risen in recent years, women Ph.D.'s are still grossly underrepresented in many technical fields. One reason for this is that less than 24 percent of those people receiving doctorates in the physical sciences, earth sciences, and mathematics and computer sciences are women. In engineering, the lion's share of advanced degrees going to women are in environmental health and biomedical engineering. This is, however, merely one-quarter of all doctorate degrees conferred. In petroleum engineering, women receive only 2 percent of the awarded doctorates.

Another reason for the scarcity of women in technical fields is the continued barriers they