

where he dealt with his physical deformity and was considered handicapped. Twelve years later Joe needed a third spinal surgery when his lower back started to twist and curve which split his original fusion. Joe decided to cycle a 3,800 mile journey, "cycling for the cause", from San Francisco, CA to Boston, MA, to create awareness about scoliosis and reach out to the 6 million people in the United States affected with it. He began his trip June 2, 1996 in spite of his three spinal fusion. Joe saw this as an opportunity to create awareness about scoliosis and reach out to the 6 million people in the United States affected with it. Joe, also sees this trip as a way to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the National Scoliosis Foundation and the 30th year of his first scoliosis surgery. The Foundation [NSF] should be commended for its efforts to help raise funds for supporting research into the cause and treatment of scoliosis.

Mr. Speaker, Joseph O'Brien is an outstanding individual and I know you will join me in congratulating him for his contribution to find a cure for scoliosis and other spinal deformities.

CLIFTON PARK ELKS LODGE
CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this time to commend the good people who make up the Clifton Park Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. This month, they are celebrating 25 years of existence in the Clifton Park area.

But Mr. Speaker, they have done more than just exist during the past quarter century. In fact, the membership in Elks Lodge No. 2466 has soared to an incredible 600 members. But aside from that, over the course of the years, the members of this lodge have made great strides in expanding and improving their facilities, thus being able to attract and secure more and more of their neighbors in the area as brother Elks. They have added a pavilion to host topnotch outdoor events and gatherings, a softball field and now, they have opened a new, larger lodge.

Mr. Speaker, the members of the Clifton Park Elks Lodge have a great deal for which to be proud considering all that they have accomplished in their relatively brief history. And as a brother Elk myself, I can't tell you how proud I personally am of their achievements. That's because, every time the Elks grow in numbers, that means there is another patriot out there to promote pride, patriotism, and citizenship among our fellow Americans. I can't say enough about how much this organization and the members like those from Clifton Park in my congressional district do on behalf of flag, country, and community. In fact, Mr. Speaker, it is the Elks who raise awareness of our flag and remind us what it means to America. I'm proud to say the Elks stood by my side as part of the Citizens Flag Alliance and lent their support to my constitutional amendment to prohibit the physical destruction of our flag. As you know, that measure was overwhelmingly approved here in the House, and failed by just three votes in the Senate. But I know with the support of lodges like those in

Clifton Park and the more than 1.2 million Elks around the country that the fight to protect Old Glory is not over.

Mr. Speaker, we all owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to organizations like the Elks and lodges like No. 2466. Their activities act as a constant reminder to all of us of our roots and what it took to get our great Nation where we are today. For that Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all Members of the House join me in paying tribute to the Clifton Parks Elks Lodge and all they've accomplished.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN JOHN
WILLIAM KENNEDY

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 1996

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a brave Virginian and proud member of the U.S. Air Force, who gave his life in service to his country. Capt. John William Kennedy known to his family and friends as Jack will complete his long awaited journey home to be laid to rest in Arlington Cemetery, Friday August 2, 1996.

Capt. John William Kennedy was lost while flying a visual reconnaissance mission in an O-2A over Quangtin Province of South Vietnam. Captain Kennedy was a forward air controller with the 20th Tactical Air Support Squadron based in Chu Lai, Vietnam in support of the 23d Infantry Division.

On August 16, 1971, radio contact was lost with Captain Kennedy's plane during normal radio communication check-in. There were no radio calls, no crash site found, and no eye witnesses. However, there were reports of a North Vietnamese regiment operating in the area. Captain Kennedy was listed as "Missing in Action" a status he carried until July of 1978, when the Air Force re-evaluated his status to "Presumed Killed in Action." In May of this year, Captain Kennedy's family was contacted by the U.S. Air Force with a positive identification of Captain Kennedy's remains.

Born in Washington, DC, Captain Kennedy was raised in Arlington and graduated from Wakefield High School in 1965. He then went on to the prestigious Virginia Military Institute and graduated in 1969, with a degree in Civil Engineering. In 1969 he was named Southern Conference Wrestling Champion in the 160 pound weight class. He was cocaptain of the varsity wrestling and soccer teams, a member of the VMI Honor Court, inducted into the Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities and Kappa Alpha. In 1980, Captain Kennedy was inducted into the Virginia Military Institute Sports Hall of Fame.

Captain Kennedy's military awards include the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart, the Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Captain Kennedy is survived by his mother Sally Chewning Kennedy of Lake Ridge, VA and his brother Daniel E. Kennedy, Jr. of Dumfries, VA.

I offer the heartfelt appreciation of all Americans to Captain Kennedy's family and hope that they find solace in knowing America appreciates the profound loss they have experi-

enced and the turmoil they have been through in bringing Captain Kennedy home.

ARMSTRONG CABLE SERVICES
DESERVES THANKS

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 1996

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, every year, for the past 5 years, a local company based in the 21st District of Pennsylvania, Armstrong Cable, has sponsored the Senior Classic Golf Tournament which has raised funds to help the people of the Meadville, PA, area. The tournament itself and the auction of autographed gold memorabilia has raised over \$50,000 for charity. On August 8, the classic will tee off again.

The tournament demonstrates the good that individuals, businesses, and our communities can do when they join together to help those less fortunate than themselves. This year the tournament, at Oakland Beach Golf Course in Conneaut Lake, will benefit Habitat for Humanity, the READ Program, CASA—a child's advocate court program, the Meadville Public Library, the Martin Luther King, Jr., Scholarship Fund, and Meadville Community Theater. Armstrong is also supporting renovation of the community's historic Academy Theater.

I applaud Armstrong Cable Services for continuing the deep community involvement of its predecessor, Meadville Master Antenna, and I commend all of the individuals who will make this charitable function succeed. Joan Kocan, of Armstrong Cable Services, has tirelessly worked to host the tournament and to draft many generous corporate sponsors. She and the other Armstrong workers deserve our gratitude for volunteering during the entire function.

I hope my colleagues will join me in wishing success to the Armstrong Cable Senior Classic.

100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
OF CALVARY BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, July 28, Calvary Baptist Church of Belmar, NJ, will celebrate its 100th anniversary. The celebration will begin with a worship service Sunday morning, followed by a luncheon at the Belmar Elks Club.

Mr. Speaker, Calvary Baptist Church was founded on Christmas Day 1894 by a group of families who desired to worship together in the Baptist tradition. The official organization as a church was completed on July 1, 1896, and the first communion was held July 26 of that year. The original name was Memorial Baptist Church, and the building was originally erected at the corner of Main Street and 12th Avenue. In July 1925, the name was changed to Calvary Baptist Church and the building was moved to its present location at 13th Avenue and E Street. A Sunday school wing and fellowship hall were later added to the facility.

Several descendants of the original families still attend the church, while new families continue to join the church all the time. Under the leadership of the Reverend Grace I. Scarle, pastor of the church, Calvary Baptist seeks to be a community church, following the call in Ephesians 4:11-6 "To prepare believers in Jesus Christ for works of service in His name." In that spirit, Calvary Baptist Church holds Sunday worship services in both the morning and the evening, Sunday school, vacation Bible school, and prayer and Bible study. The church also hosts a variety of community functions, including youth groups, Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and the Catacombs Coffee House, and provides a food pantry ministry for the community.

Mr. Speaker, on this occasion, it gives me great pride to offer my congratulations to Reverend Scarle and all the members of Calvary Baptist Church as they celebrate the 100th anniversary of this great center of spiritual strength and community service on the Jersey shore.

TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE, AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. RONALD D. COLEMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 16, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3756) making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the U.S. Postal Service, and Executive Office of the President, and certain independent agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the Treasury-Postal Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1997. As reported, the bill would throw over 2,000 Federal employees out of their jobs on October 1, 1997 and lead to the loss of several thousand more Federal jobs during fiscal year 1997 due to inadequate funding for the Internal Revenue Service. The measure also bans the use of a female employee's own funds appropriated in the bill to pay for insurance that would cover the termination of a pregnancy under the Federal employee health benefit programs.

The Treasury, Postal Service and general government appropriations bill provides funding for Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, the network of insurance plans that cover approximately nine million federal employees and their dependents. There are approximately 1.2 million women of reproductive age who rely on the FEHBP for their medical care.

According to the American Medical Association, funding restrictions that deter or delay women from seeking early abortions make it more likely that women will bear unwanted children, continue a potentially health-threatening pregnancy to term, or undergo abortion procedures that would endanger their health.

Further, while the subcommittee's 602(b) allocation was \$100 million below the fiscal year 1996 level, the IRS was hit with a funding cut of \$775 million below fiscal year 1996. It is important to underline the fact that the cuts in

IRS funding will result in the deficit going up because less revenue will be collected.

My colleagues on the Subcommittee of Treasury, Postal Appropriations are concerned about the lack of results from IRS's efforts on the tax system modernization [TSM]. I concur TSM has many problems. They have had problems through three administrations. However, I disagree with the majority in trying to solve those problems by cutting funds from existing programs and mandating that the Department of Defense alone should handle finding the IRS a suitable new contractor to implement TSM.

Further, I disagree with the majority's restrictive TSM language and reduced funding levels for all of IRS, that would mandate the immediate elimination of as many as 7,500 positions throughout the agency.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the Treasury-Postal Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1997.

SEVERANCE PAYMENTS TO AID PERSONNEL WHO VOLUNTARILY RESIGN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce H.R. 3870, to authorize severance payments to AID personnel who voluntarily resign.

I am introducing this bill at the request of the administration to allow AID to offer up to 100 employees, who voluntarily resign, severance payments up to a cap of \$25,000. In the Foreign Service employees are entitled 1 month severance per year of service. Civil Service employees are entitled to 1 week severance per year of service.

Over the past few years, AID personnel reduced in size from approximately 11,000 to 8,000 employees mainly using hiring freezes that cause AID to lose at least 120 employees per year. Due to further cuts in the President's fiscal year budget request, AID had to accelerate the reductions and is currently in the process of laying off 200 employees by conducting a formal reduction in force [RIF] of 97 Foreign Service and 103 Civil Service employees.

Rather than layoff all 200 employees, AID would like to offer up to 100 employees who voluntarily resign—and are not already eligible to retire—the opportunity to receive the severance payment they would have received if they had been laid off, up to a cap of \$25,000. In this way, AID hopes to have 100 volunteers take the place of at least half of those people scheduled to be laid off.

This bill is supported by the administration, the American Foreign Service Association, the chairman of the House Government Reform Subcommittee on Civil Service, JOHN L. MICA, and the Senate chairman of the Government Affairs Committee, TED STEVENS. I urge Members to support this measure.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF ARNOLD, PA

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 1996

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the city of Arnold, PA, on its 100th anniversary. The land upon which Arnold currently rests was first settled by Maj. Andrew Arnold. Major Arnold, an Army veteran of the Black Hawk War, served for more than 20 years, and for a short period in 1832, served under the command of then Capt. Abraham Lincoln.

With his military career behind him, Major Arnold moved to western Pennsylvania in 1852. Here he was the first settler to inhabit the land that would be incorporated in 1896 and named in his honor.

Fueled by a strong glass industry in the region, Arnold grew from its humble beginnings as a solitary train station to its current population of 6,200. With the establishment of the Chambers Glass Co. in 1891, and the skill of the Arnold employees, the city of Arnold became one of the premier glassmaking centers in the United States. Arnold's success in the industry earned the city its current nickname, "Glass City."

Under the leadership of Mayor William DeMao, Arnold's mayor since 1964, Arnold continues to serve as a glowing example of an optimistic American town looking forward to another successful century. So today, Mr. Speaker, I join with all my colleagues in the House in congratulating Arnold on the momentous occasion of its 100th anniversary.

CYPRUS HAS SUFFERED FOR 22 YEARS

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 1996

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in commemorating a tragic event—Turkey's military invasion of the Republic of Cyprus in July 1974. But I think we all agree that the even greater tragedy is the fact that 21 years later, Turkey's illegal occupation of northern Cyprus remains in place and the suffering of the people of Cyprus continues.

Driven from their homes and villages, brutalized, and denied information as to the fate of over 1,600 loved ones missing since the invasion, the people of Cyprus have patiently cooperated with international negotiators—for 21 years—in the hopes of securing a peaceful co-existence.

Mr. Speaker, Greek-Americans in San Diego and across the United States also share in the agony created by the occupation of Cyprus. They agonize about missing friends and family, the destruction of the Greek Cypriot culture and the denial of access to ancestral homelands now occupied by the Turkish army. These people have suffered too long!

And so, together with the Greek-American community, I urge Congress and the administration to adopt a far more active role in pressing the Turkish Government to withdraw its