

The birth of the western campus of the Montgomery County Community College will, in part, be the sparkplug for a renaissance for Pottstown to achieve new heights. The mayor of Pottstown, borough council, borough manager, State representative Robert Reber, State senator James Gerlach, the Tri-County Chamber of Commerce, the Pottstown Mercury, Pottstown civic and fraternal groups, and the residents of Pottstown deserve a great deal of credit for putting Pottstown on top and helping to make the dream of the new college campus a reality.

Finally, we applaud those who never stopped working toward our goal of establishing this great new college campus in Pottstown. Your perseverance inspired the entire community to work together for the greater good.

LEGISLATION TO PRESERVE GREAT FALLS HISTORIC DISTRICT IN PATERSON, NJ

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this legislation which includes the Preservation of the Great Falls Historic District in Paterson, NJ—a city in my congressional district.

During the 103d Congress my predecessor, Representative Herb Klein, introduced the Great Falls Preservation and Redevelopment Act of 1994. The House of Representatives passed on April 13, 1994. However, this bill failed in the U.S. Senate at the end of the 103d Congress. Unfortunately, a Democratic Congress with a Democratic President was unable to accomplish this important preservation.

At the beginning of the 104th Congress, Senator LAUTENBERG introduced S. 188, the Great Falls Preservation and Redevelopment Act. As the representative for the Paterson area, it was my responsibility to fight, on the House-side, to make sure the Great Falls language was included in this package.

After all, it is reported that Alexander Hamilton and George Washington, while traveling to the Dey Mansion in Wayne, NJ, stopped and viewed the Great Falls and were extremely impressed by the power it generated. Inspired by this source of energy, Hamilton envisioned the Great Falls area as a manufacturing mecca that would free the United States from dependency on foreign manufactured goods.

In 1791, with the founding of the Society for Establishing Useful Manufacturers [SUM] by Hamilton and the development of a raceway system designed to harness the power of the river, America began to demonstrate the profitability of manufacturing on its own soil.

Through tremendous support from the Governor of New Jersey and the New Jersey Legislature, Paterson established itself as the country's first manufacturing center which led to the evolution and development of the United States as an industrial nation. The energy source of Great Falls was the magnet that created the idea of Paterson, NJ, and it was the entrepreneurs and the people of the area that made the city an industrial powerhouse. Great Falls and the surrounding community are a

testament to American ingenuity and the great dream that so many have come to the United States to pursue.

At the beginning of my term I went on record stating that if the Senate acted on the Great Falls legislation, which they had failed to do in the past, "I would shepherd it through the House." As such, I worked in close contact with the Resources Committee to secure this preservation and redevelopment language. A May 20, 1996, response from Chairman DON YOUNG to my May 14, 1996, letter indicated that he had "serious reservations" over the "appropriateness" of Federal involvement given budget restraints and questions of vagueness in the provision's legislative language.

The language incorporated into this bill properly corrects the Chairman's concerns by allowing the Department of Interior to make grants or enter into cooperative agreements with the State of New Jersey, local governments, or private nonprofit organizations to develop resources within the Great Falls Historic District. Whether a private or public cooperative venture, the Department of Interior would shoulder only 50 percent of the costs. The provision would authorize \$250,000 for grants and cooperative agreements for the development plan, \$50,000 for technical assistance, and \$3 million to implement development projects.

I would like to thank the Chairman for his work on Great Falls' behalf, as well as thank Mr. Norm Robertson, a Passaic County Freeholder and former president of the Passaic County Historical Society who has worked diligently toward this end. Through the realization that specific projects should be sited to ensure that Federal redevelopment money goes directly to the brick and mortar projects that the district desperately needs, we have accomplished an agreeable solution and practiced good government.

Passage of this bill represents yet another great accomplishment of the 104th Congress. While others tried in the past to protect Paterson's heritage, this Congress clearly gives our Nation's history the respect it deserves.

COMMANDER RICHARD W. JONES

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to recognize and commend Commander (select) Richard W. Jones for his outstanding service and impressive accomplishments as commanding officer of the Naval Reserve Center in Duluth, MN.

During his tenure, Commander Jones increased the readiness capability of his assigned reserve units and his units provided substantial support to the active U.S. Navy. Commander Jones designed and established a metal working shop and a computer repair shop; as a result, his personnel are better trained, and the products they produce are shipped to active duty ships.

I am most impressed with the dedicated commitment of Commander Jones to improve the quality of life for the sailors and officers assigned to the Naval Reserve Center Duluth.

He funded, partially at his own expense, a weight lifting gymnasium for use for all members, and his leadership, through example, bolstered the health and fitness awareness at the NRC Duluth. As a result of his leadership to improve the facilities at the reserve center, the morale of reservists and staff is at an all-time high.

These achievements have not gone unnoticed. The Naval Reserve Center Duluth earned the Sidney Fields Trophy from the Naval Reserve Association this past January as the Nation's best reserve center.

I am very pleased to commend Commander (select) Richard W. Jones for his significant contributions to the Naval Reserve Center Duluth and his superb service to the people of northern Minnesota.

THE BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY HERITAGE CORRIDOR

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to offer my full support for the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor which is being reauthorized by the House.

The legislation today expands the size and scope of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor to four new communities which share the historical and environmental history of the 20 cities and towns already located within the existing corridor boundaries. The reason for this expansion is simple. The program is extremely successful and will bring economic revitalization, as well as expand a growing sense of pride, to thousands of people in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. The new areas also add to the wholeness of the valley, encompassing critical watershed lands and historical connections, like Burrillville's well-preserved mill villages and Smithfield's apple orchards.

Authorized as a National Heritage area in 1986, the corridor has successfully served as a national model for economic revitalization through historic preservation. The program took on national significance because of its unique ability to capture and preserve many of the 18th and 19th century industrial innovations which have developed along the Blackstone River.

In fact, it was along this river that the widespread industrial use of water power in the United States was first developed at Samuel Slater's Mill in Pawtucket in 1790. The mill, which still stands today, has become an icon of the American Industrial Revolution and a main point of attraction for visitors to the Blackstone Valley. To be sure, it was in the Blackstone River Valley that America began its transformation from an agrarian to industrialized nation.

Unfortunately, with many of the manufacturing mills long gone, the region has had to readjust its economic focus. The establishment of the Heritage Corridor has served as a primary force behind the redevelopment of a region faced with hard economic times. By building on the historic qualities and vast natural resources of the Blackstone Valley, the National Heritage Corridor has inspired the

growth of many industries like recreation and tourism.

In my own State of Rhode Island, the Blackstone Valley generates about 10 percent of our \$1.47 billion tourism industry through projects like park improvements, riverboating, nature preserves, and the visitation of historical sites. This figure becomes even more profound when we consider that the tourism in the valley is growing at 11 percent a year, making travel and tourism the second fastest growing industry in Rhode Island.

The successes of the Heritage Corridor, however, are not limited to just tourism. The rebirth of the region has reduced unemployment in 1982 from 14 percent to just over 6 percent in 1995. This has been a direct result of the role that small business have played. In response to many of the economic development projects along the corridor, Main Street businesses are retooling, and other ventures, like hotels and restaurants, have become a part of the economic rebirth in the Blackstone Valley.

Ultimately, the effectiveness of the National Heritage Corridor can be traced to a successful public-private relationship. Through the help of the Blackstone Corridor Commission, a partnership between Federal, State and local agencies, along with the private sector, has worked together to fund a variety of projects in the corridor.

In many cases every Federal dollar spent is matched by one or more dollars of privately raised funds. Of particular note is the Blackstone Valley Explorer, a 49-passenger riverboat which was constructed in 1993 with funds raised from local corporations, communities, private citizens and the National Park Service. To date, the Explorer has shown the recover of the valley to more than 43,000 passengers and had a direct economic impact of more than \$1 million. That represents a 28-to-1 return on the Federal Government's investment.

In all, the corridor, which covers 46 miles of land from Worcester, MA, to Providence, RI, is a prime example of what a federally sponsored program should represent. The additional funds that we are requesting will be used to reauthorize the Corridor Commission for an additional 10 years and expand the park's boundaries from 250,000 to 400,000 acres. All of these funds will be matched by non-federal dollars.

I want to thank all the members of the House Resources for their commitment to our national heritage areas and their hard work on this bill. It has also been my honor to work with the members of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee who demonstrated their support for the Blackstone during this years appropriations process.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BREAST CANCER PATIENT PROTECTION ACT OF 1996

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act of 1996. I want to thank my colleagues, Representatives DINGELL, SANDERS, COSTELLO, FOGLIETTA, MORAN, LOWEY,

PALLONE, MEEK, LOBIONDO, PELOSI, NADLER, ESHOO, MALONEY, NORTON, CLAYTON, and SLAUGHTER, for joining me as original cosponsors.

As an active participant in the fight for health care reform, I continue to believe that we must reform the health care system to provide quality care for all Americans. Particularly important is ensuring that women receive equitable treatment in our Nation's health care system.

This year, approximately 184,300 mothers, daughters, and grandmothers will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer. Another 44,300 women will die from this disease. With every one in eight women developing breast cancer, virtually every family in America is vulnerable to this disease. That's why today I am filing a bill that sets a minimum length hospital stay for patients undergoing breast cancer treatment such as mastectomies at 48 hours and at 24 hours for lymph node removals.

Standard surgical treatment for breast cancer includes mastectomy, lymph node dissection, and lumpectomy. Over the last 10 years, the length of hospitalization for patients undergoing mastectomies has dwindled from 5-6 to 2-3 days. Patients undergoing lymph node dissections were hospitalized for 2-3 days. Hospitalization is essential for pain control and for the management of fluid drainage from the operative site. The less tangible, but still important benefit of hospitalization is to provide a supportive surrounding for the patient to address the psychological and emotional reactions inherent to having breast cancer, that is, depression, anxiety, and hostility.

Now, under pressure from managed care organizations to reduce costs, surgeons have had to perform lymph node dissections as outpatient surgery, and the length of stay for a patient having undergone mastectomy has been cut to 1 day, with the patient sent home with drainage tubes in place. Some HMO's send their patients home a few hours after their surgery. Others even deny women hospitalizations the day of lymph node dissection or mastectomy, making the surgeon choose between giving the patient the individual care she needs or being punished by the HMO for not following guidelines. A doctor in my district had to spend over 7 hours—not in surgery treating women for breast cancer—but rather making phone calls pleading with HMO staff members to get a mastectomy patient admitted to the hospital for 24 hours.

The guidelines that some managed care companies are using today to support their cost-cutting strategy of shipping women out of the hospital after breast cancer surgery are the product of an actuarial consulting firm in health care. This firm publishes guidelines for breast cancer treatment that are written by actuaries and a few physicians employed by their company who are not actively performing breast cancer surgery. According to physicians, these guidelines are designed to fit the ideal breast cancer surgery patient that is placed in the optimal situation. The American College of surgeons is reviewing these guidelines and believes that 80 percent of the time the normal patient will not satisfy these guidelines and will require a longer length of stay. Today HMO's are basing their coverage on health care actuaries, and not on surgeons who care for patients day in and day out and follow medically established standards of care.

The is simply unacceptable. Accepted practice has shown that victims of breast cancer

need to remain in the hospital at least 48 hours after a mastectomy and 24 hours after a lymph node dissection. This legislation would ensure that women with breast cancer get the medical attention they need and deserve. This bill ensures that health plans which provide medical and surgical benefits for the treatment of breast cancer provide a minimum length of hospital stay for patients undergoing mastectomies at 48 hours and at 24 hours for lymph node removals. Under this bill, physicians and patients, not insurance companies, can determine if a shorter period of hospital stay is appropriate.

Although it is the end of session, our commitment to breast cancer patients remains absolute. Beginning with today, with this bill, we need to ensure that women with breast cancer receive the best treatment and coverage available. We will continue to work with surgeons and other medical groups to ensure that the highest standards of care and coverage are achieved.

This legislation enjoys strong support of the National Breast Cancer Coalition, and I strongly urge all of my colleagues to join in their support of this bill. It will go a long way toward helping to ensure that American women receive comprehensive and equitable health care coverage should they be diagnosed with breast cancer.

RECOGNIZING THE END OF SLAVERY

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 26, 1996

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate congresswoman Barbara-Rose Collins on her efforts in introducing this important legislation. I rise in strong support of this legislation. As you may be aware the slaves in Texas were not fold of the Emancipation Proclamation until June 19, 1865, 2 years after its announcement.

Thus, it is fitting and proper that our Nation focus on the importance of Juneteenth, which was begun by African-Americans in Texas. State Representative Al Edwards spear-headed an effort in Texas to celebrate Juneteenth on a State level. Our Nation has a continuing obligation to right the wrongs created by 250 years of chattel slavery, 100 years of legal segregation, and racial discrimination that sometimes continues to this day.

I urge all Americans to celebrate Juneteenth and take the time to reflect on our Nation's commitment to freedom and justice. I hope that we will also use the commemoration of Juneteenth to create a better society for our children and grandchildren who will spend most of their lives in the 21st century. I urge my colleagues to strongly support this legislation so that future generations will remember their history and the efforts of Americans of all races, colors and creeds to create a just society.