

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL DANCE WEEK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring National Dance Week, which is being celebrated April 28 to May 4, to the attention of my colleagues.

National Dance Week is an annual celebration sponsored by the United Dance Merchants of America to increase public awareness and appreciation of dance. National Dance Week encourages all forms of dance including not only classical dance, but also lyrical, hip hop, ethnic, jazz, and modern. The goal of National Dance Week is to encourage growth and development of dance in America by raising the level of public consciousness and focus on the value and importance of the contributions of dance to our daily lives and culture.

Established 15 years ago, this celebration of dance has grown out of a grass roots campaign. Everyone who works on National Dance Week is a volunteer working to spread their love of dance to others. Today, a national steering committee enlists the talents of many prominent figures in dance manufacturing, publishing, worldwide dancing competitions, teachers, and choreographers. Regional managers are working with the local communities in order to coordinate events occurring during National Dance Week.

Local events are the core of National Dance Week because they bring the most recognition to the art of dance. Some dance schools are sending cards of congratulations as well as gift certificates for dance classes to the parents of new born babies in their communities. Other dance communities are holding demonstration classes in schools and community centers to showcase the different types of dance as well as a show much fun dancing can be. Other events include dance festivals and parades. There is also a nationwide poster contest for National Dance Week. In all, dance instructors across the country are working diligently to create an awareness of dance and to bring a new vision of dance to the American public.

In today's society it is important to give our children outlets to express their energy and creativity. Dance is just such an outlet. As Marianne Prinkey, the National Dance Week Chair, put it, "[Dance] enriches the body with discipline, activity and feelings."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the hard work that dancers, not only in New York City, but across the country have put into National Dance Week. Let us help them celebrate dance and the contributions that this wonderful art gives to society. Congratulations and best wishes to all for a most successful week and a most successful year of dance.

NAOMI FRANK

HON. ROBERT S. WALKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to bring to your attention a special constituent of mine, Naomi Frank, of West Chester, PA. Born in Sharpsville, PA, on April 29, 1915, Naomi Frank moved to Farrell, PA, when she was 3½ years old. From an early age, Naomi had learning impediments that would prevent her from keeping up with her classmates. After many starts in the public schools, her parents realized the problems and had Naomi enrolled in the Woods School in Langhorne, PA. Naomi then worked with Dr. Frederick Martin and participated in a speech seminar at Ithaca College in New York. While on her way home to Farrell, in August 1934, she was involved in a serious car accident.

After much rehabilitation, Naomi enrolled in 1938 to attend the Devereaux School where she would learn to be independent. As part of her education, Naomi learned to play the baritone D-flat horn and participated in the school band. The Devereaux School had a camp for its students on Emden Lake in the State of Maine. In 1942, 1943, 1944, and 1946, Naomi was selected as one of the young women to spend her summer in Maine. Naomi stayed at the Devereaux School working and learning until 1983, when she was forced to leave school because she could not earn enough to pay the tuition herself.

Upon leaving the Devereaux School, Naomi moved to Coatesville, then Brandamore, PA, and in 1990 she moved to the Wentworth Home in West Chester, PA—located in my congressional district. She took a job at the West Chester library, while also volunteering her time at the Chester County Hospital. In 1993, Naomi received her 500-hour volunteer pin and in 1995 her 1,000-hour volunteer pin.

In October 1987, Naomi Frank began to prepare for her bat mitzvah. She was encouraged to do that by Rabbi Charny, and on October 27, 1988 was bat mitzvahed. Currently, she has just completed her autobiography entitled "Book of My Life".

Naomi Frank, throughout her life, has shown that a strong will and hard work can improve not only one's own life, but the lives of others. Naomi Frank has overcome many obstacles in her life and in doing so has touched the lives of countless others. I rise today to salute Naomi Frank for her perseverance and determination for I believe she has been an example of self-reliance to many people.

TUNISIA AT 40

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, March 20, 1996 marks the 40th anniversary of the inde-

pendence of the Republic of Tunisia. I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting the people of this important North African country on this significant milestone.

Tunisia, first, under President Bourguiba, and since 1987, under President Ben Ali, has played a key role in preserving peace and stability in often turbulent North Africa and in providing leadership for the entire Arab world.

This country of 9 million people is located between Libya and Algeria on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. It has a tradition of playing an important regional role. For 11 years until 1990, Tunisia hosted the Arab League, and for 12 years from 1982 to 1994, Tunisia was the home of Yasir Arafat and the Palestine Liberation Organization. In that time, the Tunisians worked hard to moderate policies of the PLO and to promote the peace process.

More recently, Tunisia has been a leader in promoting the peace process. Tunisia was the first Arab state to host a U.N. multilateral meeting of the peace process and to welcome an official Israeli delegation. And on January 22 of this year, Israel and Tunisia agreed to establish diplomatic relations, and I understand that interests sections will open in Tunis and Tel Aviv by mid-April, 1996.

At home, Tunisia has been a leader in its region. Tunisia has taken steps toward democracy. It has opened up both its economy and its political system, despite the pressures of extremism with which Tunisia and its neighbors must contend. Tunisia's budget has the right priorities. Defense spending is reduced. Education is a top priority, and it is reflected in Tunisia's 60 percent literacy rate.

Tunisia still has some distance to go in achieving a full democracy and full protection of human rights. This year's Department of State human rights report notes that some serious problems remain. The government continued to stifle freedoms of speech, press, and association. Some improvement on human rights has occurred, and I hope that Tunisia will take note of these concerns and address them in a positive way in the months ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join in saluting Tunisia for its moderation, its leadership, and its continued strong partnership with the United States. I hope that United States-Tunisian relations continue to expand and deepen and that Tunisia continues to grow as a leader in promoting peace, stability, and economic and political openness.

COMMEMORATING THE 70TH BIRTHDAY OF JAMES J. MANCINI

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to pay tribute to my good friend, Ocean County Freeholder and longtime mayor of Long Beach Township, James J. Mancini.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Freeholder Jim Mancini, as chairman of the Ocean County Office on Aging, serves the largest senior population in the State of New Jersey. Ocean County's nutrition sites, transportation programs for the elderly and senior outreach programs are considered among the finest in our State. Freeholder Mancini has worked closely with me through the years in our effort to preserve and protect such programs as Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. His support has been invaluable.

As liaison to the Ocean County Library Commission, Freeholder Mancini has worked tirelessly to expand the system to 17 branches throughout the county.

A former member of New Jersey's General Assembly, he continues to serve as mayor of Long Beach Township, a position he has held for 28 years. This dedicated public servant also serves as chairman of the board of Southern Ocean County Hospital and as vice president of the Long Beach Island St. Francis Community Center. The civic associations to which he has devoted many hours are too numerous to mention.

All these associations and activities were carried out while always putting his wife, Madeline, and their nine children first.

The residents of Long Beach Township pay him a great tribute by dedicating their municipal facility in his honor and name.

Jim Mancini represents what is so very good about our country—he is an honorable man, a family man, a man who is willing to go the extra mile for what is right. He has proven the point of the old saying, "If you want something done, give the job to a busy person."

I offer him my personal thanks and the gratitude of all those he has so faithfully served throughout the years.

As he celebrates his 70th birthday among family and friends, I wish him all the best that life can offer.

GREECE AND THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE

HON. HERBERT H. BATEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, on March 25, we will once again be celebrating the anniversary of the beginning of the effort by the Greek people to liberate themselves from oppression. Every year, I join with some of my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to make special note of this occasion. We do this because we recognize that it is absolutely vital that citizens of democratic nations the world over do not take the freedom we enjoy for granted.

On March 25, 1829, Greek patriots began their struggle for freedom and independence from the Ottoman Empire. Though the intervening years have been filled with trials and tribulations, the ultimate success of democracy in Greece is a testament to the courage and fortitude of her people.

Throughout world history, freedom of expression, of assembly, of government elected by the people, have been the exception rather than the rule. The concept of democratic government established by Greece laid the foundation for the most promising alternative to the autocratic forms of government that have pre-

dominated for much of history. From the Homeric tradition to Alexander, through the birth of the Socratic method, Aristotelian logic and countless artistic and architectural endeavors, the Greek people have left an indelible impression on civilization.

I am proud, once again, to congratulate the Greek people on their monumental achievement. Democracy has persevered against many threats to its continued existence. That is why it is important that we recognize this date every year. In national cemeteries across the Nation as well as those in foreign lands lie thousands of Americans who gave their lives so that the shining light of freedom would not be extinguished. That light was lit in Greece. It is proper that we recognize the occasion of Greek Independence Day. From it was the ideal of America borne.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FALLS CHURCH NEWS-PRESS ON ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, the local newspaper of any town is a very important link in the community, from praising the town athlete to reporting the events of the big city, it allows the neighborhood to keep an open communication. It is that communication that maintains the character of the community and loyalty of the residents.

Today I rise to applaud one such paper that provides the communication lines of a city in my district, the Falls Church News-Press. The News-Press is celebrating 5 years of service as a definitive link in the community.

This paper's commitment to the city of Falls Church is underscored by its many awards and accomplishments. In 1991, it was honored by the Falls Church City Council and named recipient of the Council's Business of the Year.

The News-Press helped initiate, and testified on behalf of, legislation passed in the Virginia General Assembly in 1992 that set out criteria for nonpaid distribution newspapers to carry official legal notices. Subsequently, the News-Press became the first newspaper in the history of the Commonwealth of Virginia to receive court authorization to publish official legal notices as a nonpaid distribution newspaper. As a result, the News-Press was the first nonpaid distribution newspaper in the history of the Commonwealth to be accepted as a full, voting member of the Virginia Press Association.

The News-Press' owner/editor-in-chief, Nicholas Benton, served 2 years as president of the Greater Falls Church Chamber of Commerce and was the recipient of the Chamber's Pillar of the Community Award in 1992.

Please join me in wishing the Falls Church News-Press best wishes on their future endeavors.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AND INDIA

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, Amnesty International recently issued a report called Amnesty International and India detailing India's violations of fundamental human rights.

On the very first page of this report, Amnesty International states that "violations such as torture, including rape, and deaths in custody remain endemic, and * * * political prisoners continue to face unfair trials." The report goes on to tell us that "human rights violations affect most segments of Indian society, with people from some groups, particularly the socially or economically disadvantaged, being particularly disadvantaged." The record bears this out. More than 150,000 Sikhs have been killed since 1984, over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947 and in excess of 43,000 Moslems in Kashmir since 1988. Tens of thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, and others have been killed, as have thousands of Dalits or black untouchables.

The amnesty report cites the extensive use of disappearances as a way to circumvent the rights of detainees. Records of detentions are not maintained, allowing the regime to claim that the detainee died in an encounter, a form of extrajudicial execution. "Thousands of people remain detained under the provisions of the now lapsed Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act," the report says. Many of us have spoken about the brutality of TADA. Amnesty reports that "torture of detainees in police and military custody remains endemic." According to the report, "the most common method of torture is beating with lathis (canes). Other methods included suspension by the wrist and electric shocks. Reports of rapes indicate that it is used as a method of torture." According to the report, "in 1995 at least 100 people died in the custody of police or security forces throughout India, as a result of torture and medical neglect."

In the face of this kind of repression, no Sikh ever signed India's constitution. Instead, the Sikh Nation reasserted its claim to freedom on October 7, 1987 by declaring the independent, sovereign nation of Khalistan. Many Sikhs who are working peacefully to free Khalistan are denied their human rights by India. Human rights groups estimate that more than 100,000 Sikhs have been tortured, raped, killed, or made to disappear. Another 70,000 languish in India prisons without charge or trial, according to human rights groups. According to Amnesty International, "lawyers and relatives are routinely denied access by police to people held in custody." The report tells us that "most torture and ill-treatment in India occurs during the first stage of detention in police custody, when access to outsiders is routinely denied."

Amnesty International sharply criticizes India for these repressive practices. "Whatever imperatives the Indian state has to maintain internal peace and security, the violation of rights protected by the Constitution of India as well as by human rights standards is avoidable," the report says. Strong action by free countries of the world is called for. There are two bills in the House that address these concerns. H.R. 1425, the Human Rights in India