

Mississippi, Choctaw Health Center of Philadelphia, MI, and the Choctaw Tribe of Oklahoma of Durant, OK. All participants have unanimously expressed success and satisfaction with the demonstration program and report that dramatically increased collections for Medicare and Medicaid services, thereby providing additional revenues for Indian health programs at these facilities; significant reduction in the turn-around time between billing and receipt of payment; and increased efficiency by being able to track down their own billings and collections and thereby act quickly to resolve questions and problems.

The IHS is required to monitor participation and receive quarterly reports from the four participants. The law also requires the IHS to report to Congress on the demonstration program on September 30, 1996, the end of fiscal year 1996. This report is to evaluate whether the objective have been fulfilled, and whether direct billing should be allowed for other tribal providers who operate an entire IHS facility.

All four participants seek to extend the demonstration program authority for 2 more years to give Congress time to review the report IHS must submit on September 30, 1996, and determine the future of the program.

Without the extension, the four participants would have to close down their direct billing-collection departments and return to the old system of IHS-managed collections. This would mean the dismantling of highly specialized administrative staff and would have an immediate negative impact on revenue collection.

This is a technical amendment to extend the program in 2 more years so that the existing participants can continue their direct billing collection efforts while the required report from the IHS is reviewed.

#### CODY JESSE CRAIG ATTAINS RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. CHARLES WILSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I am proud and honored to present to you Cody Jesse Craig who, on February 20, 1996, achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank awarded in the Boy Scouts of America. The achievement of the Eagle Scout rank for any young person is indeed a major accomplishment that eloquently addresses their personal character, diligence, initiative, tenacity, and many other equally desirable characteristics that we all admire in individuals. The factor that focuses the attention on his personal victory and sets him apart from most of the recipients of the Eagle Scout rank is that he is 15 years old; starting his scouting when he was 6 years old, subsequently earning every award offered as he progressed from the Cubs, Webelos, and on to the Boy Scouts. He obviously is a goal-oriented young man who has a bright and exciting future.

In addition to being an outstanding Boy Scout, Cody is an honor student who has been recognized by the Duke University Talent Search. In this hour of troubled times for many of the youth of America, Cody is truly a Point of Light that illuminates a living example and role model for other young people to emulate.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARY LOU PRATT

HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a woman who has worked tirelessly to make the lives of our disabled veterans a little brighter. Mrs. Mary Lou Platt of Westford, NY, is the New York State president of the American Legion Auxiliary, and a member of the Milford Unit #1566.

The American Legion Auxiliary has been helping veterans and their families for more than 75 years and Mrs. Pratt has proudly kept up that tradition. President Pratt has developed a program called RAVE which stands for recreation, audio and visual entertainment.

Many hospitalized veterans spend endless hours in their rooms or on hospital grounds. Some used to enjoy reading, but now find it difficult or impossible due to poor eyesight. Others used to enjoy listening to music on their radios, but can now only hear faint sounds. Even watching television can be difficult for many of these veterans.

President Platt has traveled extensively throughout New York's 62 counties helping veterans with her program. RAVE has provided veterans with large print books for easier reading, audio books for those who can no longer read, and VCR's and videos. RAVE even provides some video games and equipment to stimulate veterans both physically and emotionally. This program has benefited veterans in New York State VA medical centers and nursing homes.

Our veterans have sacrificed too much for their country to be left as prisoners of unproductive and frustrating lives. President Platt is trying to see that this does not happen. I think we should all RAVE about President Platt and the efforts of the American Legion Auxiliary.

#### NATIONAL HEAD START DAY

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to National Head Start Day. Head Start demonstrates the type of innovate, cost-efficient, and proactive solution necessary to address the national dilemma facing economically disadvantaged preschoolers. The holistic approach taken by Head Start addresses the needs of both parent and child. Preschoolers are provided with educational, health and social service support, while parental involvement ensures support networks for parents.

Extensive studies in child development have shown that a quality early childhood experience returns anywhere from \$5 to \$7 for every dollar invested. We also know that one-third more children who attend quality early childhood programs graduate from high schools, as opposed to those children who did not have the benefits of programs such as Head Start. Without question, the future of America's poorest children is brighter because of the work of Head Start. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary work of Head Start.

#### IN HONOR OF SAM GIBBONS

SPEECH OF

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 1996*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a truly respected 34-year veteran of the U.S. Congress. SAM GIBBONS has served the people of our great State of Florida and his Tampa congressional district with honor and distinction. Having demonstrated exceptional leadership in this extensive time span, he is well-deserved of recognition.

Serving our country in World War II, SAM proved to be a genuine hero as he took part in the parachute landing behind German lines on the Normandy coast the night before D-day. It was with this same vigor that he worked as a freshman Member of Congress to pass the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

As an outstanding leader and public servant, SAM has rendered vital assistance in a number of important matters. In 1966, he succeeded in getting the House Education and Labor Committee to meet and vote in open sessions. He later went on to write the first formal rules for that committee and also the Ways and Means Committee.

In the early 1970's, SAM championed the initiative that ended the practice of anonymous voting on the floor of the House. Twenty years later, as chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade, he was instrumental in crafting the two biggest trade agreements in history—NAFTA and GATT.

SAM GIBBONS has dedicated most of his life to improving this great Nation of ours. What is even more incredible is the fact that he raised three children and four grandchildren while doing so. Serving as a Congressman, a role model, and a good friend of mine, SAM has achieved the esteemed status of a truly great man. His image is impressed upon our hearts and will serve as an inspiration for leaders yet to come.

#### THE FIRST HISPANIC WOMEN'S HEALTH CONFERENCE

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, in an effort to help the Nation's health care system better serve the Hispanic population, the First Hispanic Women's Health Conference will be held in the Knight Center on May 9 and 10.

It is sponsored by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in collaboration with the Little Havana Activities and Nutrition Centers of Dade County and the University of Miami School of Medicine.

Hispanic women have a number of health problems that are complicated by the cultural differences. A doctor who is unaware of the culture framework of her patients will find her job that much harder.

For example, cancer carries a greater stigma in Hispanic populations, which results in a lack of early detection and the complications that then follow.

The conference will hear from a number of individuals with practical experience in the delivery of health care to the Hispanic population. Among the topics they will address are diabetes, breast cancer, mental health, heart disease, osteoporosis, and Alzheimer's disease.

The objectives of this conference include helping the health care system to reach out to the Hispanic population in general and to Hispanic women in particular.

The conference will provide a forum for the mutual exchange of information about the health needs and concerns of Hispanic women and to develop plans that will work in harmony with the cultural traditions of 27 million Americans.

I congratulate all who are involved in this project for their work on this important conference and wish them success in this effort to improve the quality of life for so many.

#### CONGRATULATING THE J. FRANK DOBIE HIGH SCHOOL DECATHLON TEAM

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the J. Frank Dobie High School Academic Decathlon Team for winning the national title in Atlanta. Their hard work and dedication is truly remarkable. I commend the faculty, students, and the parents at Dobie High School for their commitment to creating an excellent scholastic environment at Dobie.

I know I speak for the entire State of Texas when I say how very proud I am of your outstanding accomplishment. It is wonderful to see that the pursuit of academic excellence is alive and well in Texas.

#### DISAPPROVING OF ORDERS NUMBER 888 AND 889 BY THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a joint resolution to disapprove the rules submitted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Wednesday, April 24, promoting wholesale competition through open access transmission services by public utilities.

The economic benefits of open transmission are great, as energy companies will be able to freely purchase the least expensive power from any generating facility and use open transmission lines to bring it to their customers. In fact, FERC estimates that consumers will save between \$3.8 and \$5.4 billion annually on their energy bills.

However, in formulating these rules, FERC has ignored the dramatic environmental impact that open transmission will have on the quality of air that drifts into the Northeastern United States. FERC's own numbers show that open transmission will result in an in-

crease in several hundred thousand tons of nitrogen oxides into the 27 States east of the Mississippi River.

Since January, the Governors of several Northeastern States, 20 Members of Congress, and the Ozone Transport Commission urged FERC to consider environmental mitigation in the promulgation of these rules. Even the Environmental Protection Agency formally stated that this rule should be adopted only if FERC makes an appropriate commitment to mitigation of potential environmental harm.

Mr. Speaker, the restructuring of the electric power industry must only be done in conjunction with appropriate mitigation of power plant emissions. Until such measures are in place, this rule should not move forward.

Therefore, I am introducing this joint resolution to disapprove of these rules. I encourage the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to work with the appropriate government agencies so that utility deregulation can proceed correctly. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

#### HONORING PATRICK A. RODIO

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Patrick A. Rodio, who is and continues to be an outstanding member of the Fairfax City community in my State of Virginia. On Sunday, May 5, 1996, the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce will be honoring Mr. Rodio for his numerous contributions to northern Virginia and for his loyal commitment to his family and fellow Virginians.

Mr. Rodio grew up in southern New Jersey as the 8th of 10 children before moving to Fairfax City in 1957. He was the first in his family to complete his education and received many U.S. Army and Navy commendations for his work as a munitions expert. After joining the Fairfax community, Mr. Rodio quickly became an active community participant and leader by contributing his endless energy and vast knowledge to many civic organizations, services, and local legislative bodies.

Mr. Rodio has been instrumental in building and strengthening area youth programs through the Fairfax Police Youth Club and has always been a major supporter of programs and activities for senior citizens. From 1958 to 1968, he acted as the coach and manager of the Fairfax Little League and served as its president in 1963. He also coached and managed the Fairfax Babe Ruth Baseball League for 9 years, was an assistant scout master for 4 years, and worked as an active member of the Fire and Rescue Services Task Force and the Fairfax Fire and Rescue Review Team. Mr. Rodio participated in the noonday Optimist Club and earned its 1985-86 Club Service Award. Additionally, he is a member of the Knights of Columbus, St. Leo's Catholic Church, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks.

For 8 years, Mr. Rodio headed the Fairfax City Republican Committee as its chairman and received a well-deserved Award of Appreciation for his service to the committee in 1991. He achieved a perfect attendance

record as a member of the Fairfax City Council from July 1984 to July 1994 and represented the city of Fairfax in the Virginia Silver-Haired Legislature.

His dedication to his community has proven instrumental to the achievement of many important changes in the city of Fairfax. His assistance was vital to the transformation of the old Fairfax High School into the City of Fairfax Museum and Visitors' Center and to the creation of the Veterans' Memorial Statue and Amphitheater at Fairfax City Hall. Without question, Northern Virginia gained a loyal and devoted citizen when Mr. Rodio arrived in the city of Fairfax in 1957. We are extremely proud and honored to count him as one of our own and to have the opportunity to thank him for his years of service.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when localities are trying to find ways to promote community service and harmony, I know my colleagues will join me in applauding Mr. Rodio's enduring contributions to his fellow citizens.

#### THE RYAN WHITE CARE ACT SAVES LIVES

HON. SUSAN MOLINARI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 1, 1996*

Ms. MOLINARI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman LIVINGSTON and the entire Appropriations Committee for their efforts to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act.

The Ryan White CARE Act programs play a vital role in the delivery of services to AIDS and HIV-positive populations in New York City and around this country. First authorized in 1990, this legislation authorizes agencies of the Public Health Service to enhance the provision of prevention, testing. And care services to people with HIV who do not have insurance and who do not yet qualify for Medicaid or Medicare.

In New York City there is a \$101 million portfolio of 300 contracts, mostly with community-based organizations. Although our Nation is facing budget restraints, we cannot ignore our Nation's health. In the United States, there is one AIDS-related death every 15 minutes; every 9 minutes another person is diagnosed with AIDS, and someone is infected with HIV every 13 minutes. Even more distressing is the fact that 17.9 percent of all the AIDS cases diagnosed in our country have been in New York City. Since 1988, AIDS has been the leading cause of death in New York City for men and women between the ages of 25 and 34. These statistics are at the very least sobering, at most they demonstrate the need for reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act.

Last March I was given a most vivid reminder of why I was driven to a career in public service. That afternoon, I met with several people from the Staten Island AIDS Task Force including Carol and Joseph Di Paulo. Joey is 15 years old and was infected with the AIDS virus when he underwent surgery in 1984. After speaking with Joey and his mother for an hour I couldn't help but be moved by their plight.

Like any mother, Carol DiPaulo wants what is best for her child. However, her only desire is to keep Joey healthy and alive for as long