

The proponents of repeal are eyeing as a possible offset for its cost reductions in the bank insurance funds. Heaven help us if we ever need to draw on those funds to pay depositors should we experience a banking crisis like the S&L debacle of only a decade ago. I guess we'll leave that problem for another day.

The difficulty in finding a consensus behind a balanced budget plan will only be exacerbated by repealing the gas tax. Americans understand that.

They also understand that cheap gas means dependence on uncertain foreign sources—sources that one day may again require our sons and daughters to fight to secure.

And, most importantly, they understand that the 4.3 cent-a-gallon tax did not cause the recent price increase and that its repeal will not bring prices down.

Repealing the tax is pandering and cynical. Let's not try to fool Americans into believing otherwise.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday my flight to Washington from California was unexpectedly rerouted to Pittsburgh due to thunderstorm activity in the Washington area.

As a result, I unfortunately missed several important votes. Had I been here, I would have voted: "aye" on rollcall No. 180; "no" on rollcall No. 181; "aye" on rollcall No. 182, the gas tax repeal; and "aye" on rollcall No. 183.

RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEERS OF ELK COUNTY, HONORED

HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retired senior volunteers of Elk County in the Fifth District of Pennsylvania. I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize the 74,000 hours of service that these individuals have given to our communities.

As we celebrate Older American Month, it is fitting that we reflect on the contributions of seniors at both a local and national level. I have long believed that involvement by senior citizens in the workforce adds a unique and distinctive value to each job that is performed, person that is helped, or solution that is offered.

I applaud the hard work and determination that each of these volunteers has dedicated to serving the residents of Elk County, their efforts are an inspiration to us all. In addition, each of these individuals has paved the road for all of us who will eventually retire and in doing so continue to enhance the foundation of our communities.

Each project that they have so diligently attended to—from campgrounds to playgrounds, providing meals, making repairs, and assisting others in need—demonstrates the depth of

caring that all of the volunteers should be proud of.

It takes more than words to adequately express the difference that senior volunteers have made in the lives of so many and it is with great honor and heartfelt gratitude that I thank them for their years of kind and generous service.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES J. "J.J." BIELLO

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James J. "J.J." Biello, who is a commissioner of Cherokee County, in the Sixth District of Georgia.

J.J. is a 15-year veteran of the Atlanta Police Department having served as both a uniform officer and detective in the narcotics and robbery divisions. On April 15, 1987, J.J. walked in on a robbery in progress and found an armed robber holding a terrified girl, a gun pointed at her head. Without concern for his own safety, J.J. rushed in, courageously drawing the gunfire to himself. In an act of supreme heroism and ultimate sacrifice, he saved the life of the girl but almost lost his own. In the days ahead, J.J.'s personal courage and faith in God allowed him to survive the near-fatal injury, but he was left paralyzed from the neck down, confined to a wheelchair with limited use of his hands.

There are many ways to take the measure of a man. Some do it in feet and inches; some have him step on a scale; and others simply take a look at his bank account. It is a rare individual whose greatest measurements are of heart and courage. Such a man is J.J. Biello.

J.J. has passed through some of life's most challenging crucibles and has come out not embittered, but emboldened. After his injury, J.J. took stock of his talents and abilities to decide how he could best serve his community. Rather than seeking help from others, once again he committed himself to tireless work on behalf of others, serving as a community volunteer, a civic leader and, following the 1990 election, a Cherokee County commissioner. Through challenges that would have caused a lesser man to give up, J.J. has demonstrated unshaken faith, unparalleled courage, and unwavering commitment to his family, church, and community.

I rise today to make note of J.J.'s bravery and his selfless service to his community and his country. His courage, devotion, and dedication should be an inspiration to all Americans.

FOR RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY STAFFER, SCOTT E. JACOBS

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work and dedication of Scott Jacobs, who has been a member of my

staff for the last year and a half. Scott is leaving us on May 24, 1996, to start a new job with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

Scott came to my personal office here in Washington, DC, on a legislative fellowship. He was on loan from the Navy. With his background in the investigation of environmental crimes, he was a natural fit in my office to work on environmental and resource issues.

While many Hill staffers share the qualities of hard work and dedication that Scott possesses, Scott Jacobs has special qualities that deserve special recognition.

Often, here on the Hill, people will tell you that something is impossible rather than actually figuring out how to get it done. Scott refuses to believe "impossible" exists. He is willing to take the time and exercise the creativity needed to get the job done where other people would have given up long ago. In the face of continual opposition, Scott undertakes a process of communication and compromise that has served New Jersey, this Congress, and America very well. Due to his refusal to believe the nay-sayers, Scott serves as an example and inspiration to Members and staff alike.

I commend Scott's many accomplishments while here and fully expect that his exemplary work will continue at his new position with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

As I stand here today to recognize Scott's determination, courage, and creativity, I am sorry to lose Scott as a member of my staff. But, I wish him fair winds and following seas on his return to the Navy.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself, my staff, and all the friends Scott has made while here with us, I would like to say, Thank You, Scott, for all of your hard work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday last, due to a family emergency, I missed rollcall votes 178 and 179 pertaining to the fiscal year 1997 budget resolution. Had I been present, I would have voted on rollcall No. 178, "no" and on rollcall No. 179, "yes." I request unanimous consent that my statement be included following the vote in the permanent record.

CELEBRATING THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN COMMUNITY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, Hafa Adai. It is with great pleasure that I rise today to celebrate our Asian- and Pacific-American culture and history during Asian Pacific-American Heritage Month. By sponsoring Asian Pacific-American Heritage activities, we honor the Asian Pacific-American community and its many accomplishments. In addition we seek to

familiarize America with our community in an effort to avoid division among our ethnically diverse American community.

No one would dispute that American society has been significantly enriched by the contributions of the Asian Pacific-American community. Thousands of Asian Pacific-Americans helped to build our great Nation. Today, Asian Pacific-Americans continue to serve our Nation as public servants and military servicemembers. I would like to make special note of Guamanians serving our Nation in the military, and especially those serving today in Bosnia.

One particular service member who has distinguished himself is Spec. Peter Nartia of the Guam Army National Guard. Specialist Nartia was recently named U.S. Army Pacific Command Soldier of the Year. His dedication to the armed services has afforded him the opportunity to represent the Army Pacific Command in the All-Army Command competition in June.

In addition to those serving America in our military, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge other individuals who have offered their talents and abilities to Guam, enriching both our island and all of America.

Jesus Charfauros is a gifted radio personality and journalist who has contributed 22 years of his life to promoting the Chamorro culture through the air waves by hosting cultural and informative shows in the Chamorro.

Mary N.D. Matanane, Guam Nurses Association's Nurse of the Year for 1995, is a devoted health care professional who has worked for private and public sector health care organizations, such as Guam Memorial Hospital, the Department of Public Health and Social Services, and Clark Home Nursing Service.

Carmen L. Torres, a recently retired health care practitioner has devoted nearly a quarter of a century serving the people of Guam. Mrs. Torres accomplishments include studying obstetrics and gynecology during a fellowship with the World Health Organization, and working as a supervisor and manager with the Central Region Health Center Clinic. Mrs. Torres has also received various awards, including the 1981 and 1984 Outstanding Employee of the Department of Public Health and Social Services, and the 1994 Guam Nurses Association Presidential Commendation Award for outstanding voluntary and dedicated service to the nursing profession and organization.

The contributions of Asian Pacific-Americans are significant and Guam is indebted to the work of these individuals. As American citizens, we are integral fibers of the social, economic, and political fabric of the national community. Through events like the Asian Pacific-American Heritage Month, we can continue to celebrate our culture and foster understanding and cooperation throughout the entire American community.

AGRICULTURE EMPLOYERS
SHOULD NOT BE EXEMPT FROM
PAYING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996

has an ironic name since, contrary to the recommendation of a Federal commission, one provision of it would give a special exemption from Federal unemployment tax to agricultural employers who give jobs to temporary foreign workers. If the U.S. Congress intends to protect American jobs for American workers, then it should not approve the proposed exemption for employers of H-2A Program guestworkers.

The Federal Advisory Council on Unemployment Compensation in 1994 made a specific recommendation on this issue after hearing all the evidence and from all the parties. The Advisory Council said, " * * * the wages of alien agricultural workers (H2-A workers) should be subject to FUTA taxes." The chairperson of that Council was Janet Norwood, the highly respected former Chief of the Bureau of Labor Statistics under the Bush and Reagan administrations.

We in Congress gave the H-2A growers a temporary exemption from the Federal Unemployment Tax Act [FUTA] and that exemption was extended repeatedly. Finally, on December 31, 1994, we let this tax exemption expire, after receiving the recommendation and report of the Advisory Council on Unemployment Compensation.

Now the growers who hire temporary foreign workers want another exemption from the unemployment tax. We should not grant it to them.

This tax exemption would create an incentive to hire temporary foreign agricultural workers by making it cheaper to hire them than to hire U.S. workers.

Such an incentive against hiring U.S. farmworkers is especially inappropriate at this time. Numerous studies have found that U.S. farmworkers are suffering from high unemployment and underemployment, stagnant or declining real wages, poor living and working conditions, and below poverty earnings. Partly for these reasons, the House of Representatives in late March overwhelmingly defeated an effort by agribusiness to gain permission to bring in several hundred thousand farmworkers from abroad under poor wages and working conditions. Without a shortage of domestic farmworkers, we should not encourage the hiring of foreign guestworkers.

In addition, the Advisory Council said that the "vast majority, 97 percent, of the cost of the H-2A certification process is funded through the FUTA tax," since the fees paid by growers do not cover anything close to the Government's cost of operating the temporary foreign worker program. This tax exemption will put the burden on the American taxpayer to pick up more of the cost of employers hiring foreign workers.

The unemployment insurance program is designed to spread the costs of minimizing the negative effects on society of unemployment, and employers of foreign farmworkers should not be exempt from sharing in that cost.

AWARD FOR BARBARA GAFFIN

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I think those of us who have the privilege of serving in this body are extremely lucky to be

able to work as we do. There is only one major downside to our job in my experience—our inability to be in two places at one time. June 6 is one of the occasions when I will very much regret this limitation. We will be in session and I will therefore be in Washington. In Boston, on June 6, the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston will present the Warren B. Kohn Award in Jewish Communal Service to Barbara Gaffin, who serves as the JCRC associate director. It is not only a well-deserved award, it is an award which could have been designed with the recipient specifically in mind.

Barbara Gaffin has been an extraordinarily dedicated and effective citizen for her entire adult life. She was a leader in the effort to save Jews worldwide from the oppression that they faced in many countries, and had a major role in the efforts many of us made here in Congress to protect Jews from being victims of oppression and death. For the past few years, she has worked in Boston as the associate director of the Jewish Community Relations Council and continues to be an invaluable source of intelligence, energy, compassion, and good judgment on behalf of the wide variety of causes that the JCRC undertakes. I am regretful that I cannot attend the ceremony at which this award is presented to Barbara Gaffin, so I ask for an opportunity to note here how important her work has been to myself and to others.

In the interest of full disclosure, I should note that Barbara Gaffin's husband, Doug Cahn, was for many years my administrative assistant here in Washington. I was very lucky to have him working for me, and I was additionally lucky that this brought me into such regular contact with Barbara, who is truly an exemplar of the ideal of Jewish communal service.

CHILDREN'S PRIVACY PROTECTION AND PARENTAL EMPOWERMENT ACT INTRODUCED

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Children's Privacy Protection and Parental Empowerment Act—groundbreaking legislation that will give parents control over the use of personal information about their children.

The information revolution has opened up exciting opportunities for all Americans. It is already offering consumers more choices than ever before. But while instant access to more information can be a positive development in our lives, this technology can also be manipulated by those who want to prey upon the weak or make an easy buck regardless of the consequences.

As the information age continues to unfold, Congress has an obligation to monitor the new technology and make sure that reasonable safeguards are in place to protect the most vulnerable among us—our children.

The safety and privacy of our children is already being threatened by one product of the information explosion. Every day in communities across America, parents stop by a local fast food restaurant with their kids and sign