

to working people is extraordinary and his work on behalf of I.B.E.W. is a testament to his deeply held belief in the power of unions to make life better for workers. Frank has spent a lifetime working hard to ensure that union members are guaranteed decent wages, a safe workplace and fair conditions. He has long been a champion of electrical workers, coming from a family with a long history in the profession.

The best example I can offer to illustrate Frank's commitment to protecting workers on the job is his actions after the L'Ambiance Plaza collapse on April 23, 1987. Twenty-eight union members were killed in Bridgeport on that terrible day after substandard building conditions caused the building to collapse. This tragedy placed a national spotlight on the need for strict standards to ensure the safety of workers. In response, Frank played an instrumental role in supporting legislation which would ban the lift-slab construction method used at L'Ambiance Plaza. Frank's testimony was pivotal to passing this legislation and this method of construction is no longer in use. I applaud Frank's efforts on this and other safety issues that are so crucial to our Nation's workers.

Frank is the first person from Connecticut to assume the position of international vice president, 2d district. This new position will provide an opportunity for his experience and wisdom to benefit all I.B.E.W. members throughout New England. I know that he will bring his activism, energy and enthusiasm to this new role and his tenure will be creative and productive.

I am very pleased to join Frank's wife, Patty, and his children, Frank III, Raymond and Amy Lynn in congratulating his on his new appointment. I feel confident that Frank will once again, prove successful as he takes on these new challenges. I wish him all the best.

IN HONOR OF RAPHAEL VITALE
FOR DISTINGUISHED AND DEDICATED
SERVICE TO HUDSON
COUNTY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a special gentleman, Raphael Vitale, who has distinguished himself through his continuous dedication to the residents of my district. Mr. Vitale will be honored by his family and friends on June 29, 1997 at Anthony's Restaurant in his hometown of Hoboken, NJ. Sunday's celebration recognizes his long history of selfless service to his community.

Throughout his long career, Mr. Vitale has been a religious man, a model citizen and devoted family man. He entered the St. Francis Seminary in New York at the age of 17. He later joined the film and production industry as a member of the Spotlight Production Co. in New York. In 1941, he became the production coordinator for Koven's in Dover, NJ where he supervised the production of military equipment for our country's effort in World War II.

Mr. Vitale embarked on his public career in 1959 when he took his first assignment as a park attendant, helping to ensure the safety of his community. In 1961, he assumed the responsibilities of deputy director of health and

welfare, and pursued the high safety and health standards of our area's restaurants, hospitals and clinics. In 1963, he started his tenure as Hoboken's director of Public Works, Revenue and Finance. In 1979, Mr. Vitale began serving Hudson County, as its production coordinator. In this position, he was the county troubleshooter for numerous vital issues, particularly budgeting and allocation of public funds.

His 19 years of service to Hoboken and his 9 years to Hudson County are an example of commitment and loyal service. His record stands on its own. He is a firm believer that hard work is the best way to meet the challenges of the future.

Family has always played a major role in Mr. Vitale's life. This year Mr. Vitale's wife, Lina, his three sons, Michael, William and Joseph, and his two stepsons, Michael and Matthew Canarozzi, celebrated his 80th birthday on June 2, 1997. Raphael and Lina are the proud grandparents of nine grandchildren and the great grandparents of one child.

Mr. Vitale epitomizes excellence in community service, and has had a positive impact on many lives. It is an honor and pleasure to have such a remarkable individual residing in my district.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF TITLE
IX

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 1997

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues today in commemorating the 25th anniversary of a civil rights law that has changed the way American girls and women think about themselves and their futures.

Title IX prohibits gender discrimination in education programs. Title IX is not just about access to sports and it is an integral player in gender equity. Greater athletic opportunity does build leadership and teamwork skills that serve every person throughout his or her life. More women have received higher education in the past 25 years through athletic scholarships. The ratio of high school girls playing sports has gone from 1 in 27 to 1 in 3.

With the recent success of women Olympic athletes and the unveiling of a new professional women's basketball league, we do not lack athletic role models for young girls. Women's participation in collegiate sports has risen from 2 percent in 1972 to 35 percent in 1996. But title IX has also provided more lasting academic results, increasing the participation of girls and women in non-traditional educational and professional environments—math, science, engineering and technology.

Today we celebrate 25 years of women's achievement through sports and education. But we know that the progress we have made is not near enough. Today the National Coalition of Girls and Women in Education ranked the United States with a grade of "C" in gender equity in education. Enforcement of title IX has been inconsistent at best over the last 25 years. All but two states have eliminated or reduced title IX enforcement staff positions, despite the federal law's requirement that each state department of education must have a Title IX designee.

Title IX services provide training for school districts on sexual harassment in schools, identify and address gender bias in classrooms, support programs to infuse women's history into school curriculums. They assist young women in forming a strong identity, receiving support from peers and learning how to interact effectively with others.

Title IX and other programs supportive of girls' education send a clear message to American girls that their education and future is important. As a mother of four adult daughters, I have seen the positive results. We are seeing a generation of young women growing in an environment that does not make them limit themselves by identifying roles or opportunities as "men's" or "women's". Young women today believe they can do anything. And they can. And we have a great responsibility to do all that we can to support them in that belief.

TRIBUTE TO AMANDA BUCKNER

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 1997

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Miss Amanda Buckner of Gadsden, AL. Miss Buckner won statewide first place honors in the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy Contest and third place honors in the national contest. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD her prize winning script. I am very proud of Miss Buckner's accomplishments, and of the way she represented Alabama in our Nation's capital.

DEMOCRACY ABOVE AND BEYOND

Welcome fans, to the 49th Olympics. You are about to see the relay event. On America's team we have five exceptional runners. The first is George Washington. Next we have Abraham Lincoln. On the third leg is Franklin D. Roosevelt. Ronald Reagan takes the fourth leg. The last leg is a bit different. America has a surprise runner. I will announce his name later. Ladies and Gentlemen, this team should carry democracy above and beyond.

The runners take their marks. One . . . Two . . . Three . . . Go! Washington holds his baton of democracy tight and begins the run. Not only is he running, he is shaping this race for freedom. Washington is setting the pace for democracy with grace, authority, and peace. Earlier in an interview, Washington said he hopes this team prospers, focuses on their goals and sticks together. He wants to show everyone what a wonderful experience freedom can be. And boy has he! Although the older, stronger countries are trying to push him out of the way, he fights on. Washington has carried democracy above and beyond, but now he must pass it along.

Honest Abe takes control. At this point democracy has fallen behind in the race. Slavery and economic unrest seem to be slowing them down. Yes, it looks as if they are at war with themselves. . . Wait, Lincoln refuses to let the injury of ignorance and racial discord tear this team apart. He is holding his own. He is showing the rest of the world that freedom will rise, and democracy will continue above and beyond. Lincoln is brave to continue after such an injury. It looks as if he still has the lead. Ladies and gentlemen, freedom may survive this tragedy after all.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt has the baton now. The crowd has fallen into despair and lost all belief in team USA. But Roosevelt still holds on. Social Security, the Works Project Administration, and many other revolutionary new programs bring this crowd out of the depression. Many are saying Roosevelt is the best runner yet. We got a chance to speak with Roosevelt before he started the race, and he told this reporter that America would not succumb to this trial. Showing his astute leadership he told me, "There is nothing to fear but fear itself." And his dedication will not allow any of his fears to get in the way of his winning this race. FDR fights through all the turmoil and comes ahead. The crowd is on its feet now.

Roosevelt passes the baton to Ronald Reagan. This is a man who stole America's heart with his lopsided grin and his optimism. The crowd has hope for the future now that Reagan has the stick. The American dream is alive and well. Reagan took democracy above and beyond anything we had envisioned. He revitalized the economy and ended the cold war. After Reagan finished his end of the race, he told me the same thing he said in his inaugural address, "We are too great a nation to limit ourselves to small dreams."

Now, the last runner of the race for freedom. Are you wondering who it is? Well, I'll tell you. The runner of the last leg is . . . you! That's right, it's all of you. America is ahead and thriving, but it all depends on how you run this race. Can you fight past the homeless, past the hatred, past the children who cry for a warm meal? It is up to you to make the difference. If you don't . . . who will?

Run. Run for those who ran before you. Run for those who ache for the chance. If you run this race well, we should enter the 21st century the powerful and thriving country we have always been. All of America's teams have done fine jobs. They have kept this country on the road to greatness. All democracy needs now is a strong runner to bring home the gold. Let's watch and see how you finish this race. Will you win the race for freedom? Will you carry democracy above and beyond? As you stand and hear the anthem they are playing for you, you realize that there are those who will die and never know freedom. Run for them. Run for the country that swells you with pride. Run for peace. And run for freedom. Hold your head high as the flag is raised in your honor. Feel it to the marrow of your soul . . . Run.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE MARSHALL

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 1997

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my most accomplished constituents. On July 1, 1997, Mike Marshall of Princeton, IN, will end his term as the president of the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce. It is a distinct pleasure for me to join the residents of Gibson County in recognizing Mike Marshall for his endless work in helping to prepare future leaders as well as to bring to the forefront of public debate such issues as the future of Social Security, the fight against teen smoking, and the importance of small business to the future of our country.

Mike Marshall first joined the Junior Chamber of Commerce in 1984 after graduating

from Ball State University and moving back to his hometown of Princeton, IN. Since becoming a member of the Princeton Jaycees, Mike has dedicated himself to bettering his community through many worthwhile Jaycee projects such as the Needy Kids Christmas gift giving program, the Annual Princeton Christmas parade, the MDA Pledge Center, the Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt, and other worthwhile projects. His dedication to his community and his organization has led to him holding many distinguished positions in the Junior Chamber of Commerce, including President of the Indiana Jaycees, Chaplain of the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce, and culminating in his election last year as President of the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce.

As a successful entrepreneur who founded "First Place Trophies & Awards", Mike Marshall has shown that the American dream thrives in small communities around the country. Now, as U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce President, Mike has been a shining example of what is right with America and its younger generation. Mike Marshall has represented Gibson County, the State of Indiana, and the United States honorably in his travels throughout the world during his year as President of the U.S. Jaycees.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all Members to join me in paying tribute to Mike Marshall. He is an exemplary individual who has dedicated his life to making his state, and his country a better place. I applaud Mike Marshall's dedication and wish him continued success in his endeavors.

KUDOS TO KSU

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 1997

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit an extension of remarks into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD "Kudos to KSU," an article that appeared in the Marietta Daily Journal on June 24, 1997, congratulating Kennesaw State University for its selection of Clarice C. Bagwell as its recipient of an honorary doctorate of humane letters. This article quite accurately reflects the tremendous work that Ms. Bagwell has accomplished over the years, in support of the Georgia and National Parent-Teacher Association [PTA]. I lend my voice to that of this esteemed newspaper in congratulating Ms. Clarice Bagwell on receiving Kennesaw State University's very first honorary degree.

KUDOS TO KSU

We applaud Kennesaw State University administration's choice for its first honorary degree.

KSU's President Betty L. Siegel presented an honorary doctorate of humane letters to Clarice C. Bagwell. A longtime educator, Mrs. Bagwell served as president of the Georgia PTA for three years and on the PTA's national board of directors for six years in the 1960s. Her late husband, Leland Bagwell, taught high school chemistry in Canton before founding American Proteins, now the world's largest producer of poultry by-products. When he died in 1972, Mrs. Bagwell helped their son take charge of the company.

Early this year, American Proteins gave Kennesaw State the largest gift it has ever

received—680 acres of land in Bartow County—on behalf of the Bagwell family. KSU subsequently named its College of Education after Leland and Clarice Bagwell.

Mrs. Bagwell not only has given the university monetary gifts, she has volunteered many hours of service as a member of the KSU Foundation Board of Trustees for 15 years, serving on the board's Executive Committee and heading the Special Projects Committee. She maintains a busy schedule as the co-owner and chairman of the board of American Proteins and as a volunteer with scouting organizations and an elementary school in Forsyth County, where she lives today.

Back in 1991, the university honored its "good and faithful servant and steward" by establishing the Clarice C. Bagwell Medal for Distinguished Service, awarded annually to others who serve the institution well. President Siegel said at commencement that Mrs. Bagwell "casts a long and splendid shadow in the history of our university." We also applaud Mrs. Bagwell for her exemplary example as a volunteer and philanthropist for the benefit of education.

EXPANDING FEHBP TO COVER MEDICARE-ELIGIBLE RETIREES

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 1997

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, because the need for expanded health care for military retirees is so important, I am reintroducing my bill to permit Medicare-eligible retired members of the Armed Forces and their Medicare-eligible dependents to enroll in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program [FEHBP].

We made a commitment to those who chose to serve in defense of our country. Military retirees were promised health care for life. However, there is a catch-22 situation for Medicare-eligible retired military because once they either turn age 65 or qualify for disability treatment, they lose their CHAMPUS benefits. Unfortunately, they are placed last on the priority for treatment at military treatment facilities, and they are prevented from participating in the new TRICARE Program.

This bill is identical to H.R. 3368, which I introduced in the last Congress. I plan to press for passage of this legislation because I believe we must fulfill our commitment to our Nation's military retirees and veterans.

RECOGNIZING SUSANNE STEINMETZ FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF CALIFORNIA'S 16TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 1997

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a woman whose record of public service spans over 4 decades. Ms. Susanne E. Steinmetz, a constituent of mine from Gilroy, CA, has devoted over two thirds of her life to working for the city of Gilroy and will be retiring after 45 years of faithful service.