

Citizens are more free to move from one place to another, and the nation has been opened to outside interests and influence. Until 1985, no outsiders were permitted to enter the rural county we visited; now village leaders are trying to expand their 45 joint ventures with foreigners.

President Jiang's long overdue state visit to Washington in October—the first by a Chinese leader in 10 years—will provide an opportunity to address human rights and other issues.

American criticism of China's human rights abuses are justified, but their basis is not well understood. Westerners emphasize personal freedoms, while a stable government and a unified nation are paramount to the Chinese. This means that policies are shaped by fear of chaos from unrestrained dissidents or fear of China's fragmentation by an independent Taiwan or Tibet. The result is excessive punishment of outspoken dissidents and unwarranted domination of Tibetans.

But frank discussions on these and other issues can sometimes yield real progress. In private discussions in 1979, Deng Xiaoping agreed to address the issue of religious freedom, and great improvements were made. In 1987, after a visit I made to Tibet, and after subsequent conversations with the exiled Dalai Lama, discussions were arranged between his emissaries and Chinese Government officials. Unfortunately, the Tiananmen Square tragedy aborted the initiative.

In spite of our differences, China and the United States must continue to pursue ways to co-exist peacefully and productively. In addition to summit meetings, ordinary Americans and Chinese can help. For example, more than 100,000 Chinese students have attended American universities since 1979, providing an invaluable cultural and intellectual exchange for both countries.

Only through continued dialogue at many levels can we resolve differences and build a foundation for better understanding.

A TRIBUTE TO ROUNDY'S

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a Wisconsin-based firm, Roundy's, Inc. which was founded in Milwaukee in 1872 and proudly celebrates its 125th anniversary this year.

Roundy's has grown from a small wholesale grocery and coffee warehouse in Milwaukee's third ward, to the largest food corporation in Wisconsin and the Nation's 5th largest food supplier. Roundy's employs over 2,700 individuals in my home State and over 5,100 in the Midwest. The Roundy's name, whether on grocery items, frozen foods, dairy, meat, produce or bakery, is synonymous with quality.

For many years, Roundy's has been a major participant in community activities. The corporation is a strong supporter of, and major contributor to, the Special Olympics in both Wisconsin and Illinois. It's president and chief executive officer, Gerald F. Lestina, is the president and founder of "In The Paint at One Two," Milwaukee's extremely successful midnight basketball league. The company is also actively involved with many area charities including the Midwest Athletes Against Child-

hood Cancer [MACC] Fund, the Lions Clubs, Kiwanis, Rotaries, YMCA, YWCA, the United Way, Salvation Army, and the Ronald McDonald House. Roundy's is also a contributor to the Second Harvesters food bank and other various community food pantries located throughout the Midwest.

With all of this in mind, I am pleased to join my colleagues from Wisconsin and throughout the Midwest in recognizing Roundy's as the good corporate citizen it is and in honoring the corporation on its 125th anniversary celebration.

Best wishes to Roundy's for many more years of success.

HIGH BEER TAX HURTS COLORADO

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, the tax on beer hurts Colorado's economy, helps no one, and ought to be rolled back. Congress should start by repealing the 100 percent beer tax hike it foolishly imposed back in 1990.

Remember Joe Six Pack? Politicians used to invoke the name to conjure images of the average, hardworking, middle-class American. Joe Six Pack is the kind of guy who puts in an honest day's work to support a family and the mortgage.

He loves his country. He plays second base on the softball team, cheers his kids in the school play, and prays before dinner.

On Sunday, he barbecues burgers on the grill, kicks back to his mostly clean recliner, enjoys his favorite team on the T.V., and pops open an ice-cold can of beer.

Ironically, Joe Six Pack isn't too fond of the politicians who like to talk about him—and with good reason. Joe is shelling out an incredible 43 percent of the cost of every beer he buys to the Government.

In 1990, Congress passed one of the biggest tax increases in history. In fact, President George Bush, who helped engineer the deal, lost his job because of it. The tax hike included new taxes on yachts, private airplanes, expensive jewelry, furs, luxury cars, and it doubled the tax on beer.

Since 1991, Congress has repealed nearly every one of these taxes, but the huge tax markup on beer remains, and American beer drinkers continue getting nicked-and-dimed by the Government with every sip.

Beer is big in Colorado. In 1995 Colorado's beer industry paid \$53 million in excise taxes. Forty-five thousand Coloradans hold beer-related jobs earning nearly \$1 billion in wages, accounting for a total economic contribution of \$4.7 billion.

Coors and Anheuser Busch are two of Colorado's larger employers but the State is also home to regional brewers, microbreweries, beer wholesalers, distributorships, 3,000 off-premise retailers, 6,000 on-premise retailers, barley growers, and scads of other farmers who support the brewing industry. Yet much as brewing helps Colorado's economy, our fiscal performance could be even better.

Simply put, excessive beer taxes have stifled the industry's growth slowing Colorado's economy. In fact, a 1996 economic analysis

by DRI/McGraw-Hill concluded that 50,000 new jobs would be created nationally by rolling back the 1990 beer tax.

Beer was first subject to tax in 1862 as an effort to help finance the Civil War. Since then, significant increases coincided with World War I, World War II, and the Korean war. On three occasions the tax was actually reduced.

Today, Congress is looking for ways to spend less in Washington so that Joe Six Pack's middle-class family can finally enjoy well-deserved tax relief. Consumption statistics clearly point to the beer tax as a prime target. Beer taxes hit lower-income families five times harder than upper-income families.

Beer is one of the most highly-taxed consumer goods sold in America, taxed 50 percent more than for other consumer products. And the tax is terribly inefficient and unfair to consumers.

Since Federal beer taxes are levied at the brewery, they are subject to wholesaler and retailer markup and to State and local sales taxes. Consumers are paying taxes layered upon other taxes, ultimately paying about \$2 in increased cost for every \$1 in tax.

Some who support the high beer tax contend falling alcohol abuse rates favor the steep tax. Again, research dispels the notion that high beer taxes have anything to do with alcohol abuse rates, which have fallen steadily for over a decade.

Long before Congress raised the beer tax, the beer industry itself had poured millions into personal responsibility campaigns aimed at youths and consumers.

Americans heard the message and enthusiastically embraced it. But the increased tax had no measurable effect on the well-established positive trend toward more responsible alcohol consumption, and no effect at all on those who are disposed to alcohol abuse.

Higher beer prices do not deter alcohol abusers who simply turn to more concentrated or cheaper products. Market research, instead, confirms that lower sales caused by higher taxes are attributed almost entirely to fewer purchases by responsible drinkers.

This year, Congress heard the pleas of Joe Six Pack, that American families are over taxed and politicians must do more to control the Government's appetite for spending. We cut capital gains taxes, income taxes, and death taxes. We made it easier to afford a college education and save for retirement. It was a good first step.

But while the 1997 tax cuts are an encouraging start, they are certainly not the full measure of adequate tax relief. Congress can do better.

What's good for Joe Six Pack is good for Colorado, and good for America too. One of several taxes Congress should further cut to bolster economic growth is the beer tax.

INTRODUCING THE HEALTHY FAMILIES INITIATIVE

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, child abuse and neglect is an epidemic that devastates our children and often leads them to a life of crime. In 1994, public welfare agencies received reports of 3.1 million children being

abused or neglected. Each year, an estimated 2,000 children—most under the age of 4—die at the hands of parents or caretakers.

A study shows that abused children are more likely to commit crimes both as juveniles and as adults. Abused children are more prone to commit a violent crime during their lives. It is also more probable for abused children to grow up and abuse their children, starting the whole cycle over again. Congress must take action to end this cycle of abuse and crime that ruins the lives of thousands of our children.

Some states and communities have found a solution that has proven 99 percent successful in preventing child abuse and neglect among those families most at-risk. Modeled after a program pioneered by the State of Hawaii, these programs utilize existing social services to provide counseling to at-risk families that volunteer to participate in the program.

Today, I am introducing the same bipartisan legislation that I introduced in the last Congress to create the Healthy Families Initiative. This bill would enable the Federal Government to help States and communities that decide to create one of these programs. Simply put, my bill would make Healthy Families programs eligible for funding as crime prevention programs under the 1994 Crime bill—at no new cost to the Federal Government.

This legislation is an innovative way to help communities fight child abuse, and has many substantial benefits. My bill helps programs that have proven effective preventing child abuse. Healthy Families programs have a solid record of success in the State of Hawaii and in communities across the Nation, including Port Angeles, in the district I represent.

This bill will create no new bureaucracy and no new programs within the Department of Justice. Most importantly, no new costs will be created by my legislation—Congress will not be required to spend one additional dollar on this program. This bill will merely enable programs to compete for existing crime prevention grant moneys. Also, qualifying programs are required to coordinate with other organizations to avoid duplication of services.

States and communities will retain control. This bill will give them a hand, but States and communities will still be in charge of their own programs.

I would like to thank each of the 21 Representatives and delegates from around the country for cosponsoring this bipartisan initiative. I urge every Member to support this strong, bipartisan solution to one of the most damaging problems afflicting our children.

HONORING PHILLIP W. LACY AND
METHODIST HOSPITAL OF HOUSTON

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the tremendous contributions that Phillip W. Lacy and Methodist Hospital of Houston have made to the fight against AIDS in Houston and across the Nation. I congratulate them as they are honored by the national AIDS Action Foundation at a dinner in Houston this Thursday, September 4, 1997, for their leader-

ship, courage, and commitment in the fight against HIV and AIDS. Phil Lacy and Methodist Hospital are certainly deserving of this honor.

Phil Lacy has been on the front lines of every battle against AIDS and is a tremendous advocate for people living with HIV and AIDS. He has lent his time, talent, commitment, and energy to countless local and national organizations and events, serving as the founder, leader, and organizer of many. It is rare that a host committee or a board of directors does not include Phil's name. But Phil is not only a supporter, but an active participant in these causes, especially in the tireless work of raising the funds necessary to turn dreams into reality.

Phil Lacy has organized or served organizations such as the Houston Black Tie Dinner, Inc., DIFFA/Houston, AIDS Action Foundation, American Foundation for AIDS Research, HIV Medical Care Fund, Inc., Bering Community Service Foundation, the Montrose Clinic, the NAMES Project, and the Texas Human Rights Foundation. An honors graduate of the University of Texas School of Law and a member of the State Bar of Texas, he has also provided pro-bono legal advice to numerous community organizations, including those dealing with HIV and AIDS.

Phil Lacy has truly made a difference in fighting AIDS and helping those facing the challenge of living with HIV and AIDS. His dedication has won him admiration and respect not only in Houston, but across the Nation, as exemplified by this recognition from the AIDS Action Foundation.

Methodist Hospital has also demonstrated tremendous commitment to helping people living with HIV and AIDS. Methodist has set the standard for giving back to the community through its generosity both to the Bering Community Service Foundation and to the SEARCH Project for the Homeless for their Tiny Treasures Program. Methodist has dedicated funds, resources, and time to help these organizations provide direct care to Houston's HIV/AIDS populations, including dental care, adult day care, and pediatric AIDS care. Methodist is a national example of how to effectively target resources for the maximum benefit in addressing the multiple health care challenges of AIDS.

Phil Lacy and the dedicated staff of Methodist Hospital remind all of us of the ways we can become involved and make a difference in the fight against AIDS.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent during rollcall vote 352. If present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 352.

TRIBUTE TO RADIO STATION
WGAP

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 3, 1997

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, while we were on our district work period in August, radio station WGAP of Maryville, TN, celebrated a great milestone—its 50th anniversary.

Local radio stations are very important to this Nation. They not only help our citizens stay informed, but they also help promote the local economy and support the general well-being and cohesiveness of a community. WGAP has certainly done this, and has provided great community service to the citizens of Maryville and throughout Blount County.

In a day when many people do not stay with one company for very long and loyalty is not regarded as highly as it once was, I especially want to call attention to and commend the career of Carl Wells. Mr. Wells has been with WGAP from the very first day and has certainly been instrumental in keeping this station on the air and successful over the years. Not many small businesses are able to survive for this many years, and I want to congratulate station owner Steve Corbitt and all of those who have worked for this outstanding radio station over the years.

Walker Johnson wrote a very interesting and informative article about a small part of the history of this station for the August 15, 1997, Knoxville News Sentinel. I would like to call this article to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

[From the Knoxville News Sentinel, Aug 15, 1997]

WGAP PROUD OF ITS SPORTS HERITAGE
(By Walker Johnson)

Maryville's WGAP turned 50 years old Aug. 13. To get a true historical perspective of the station, I talked with a group of men who had been connected with WGAP from the beginning. When I asked them about the station's sports history, they all told the same story.

WGAP was the first member of the Vol Network. Steve Corbitt, third owner of the station, said that when Lindsey Nelson and University of Tennessee Coach Robert Neyland formed the Vol radio network, the Knoxville flagship station was WKGN, but due to a certain sponsor, WGAP was to be included in the first broadcast. The first sponsor on the Vol Network was Aluminum Company of America, and the execs there told Nelson the Maryville station had to be included in the broadcast or they would not sponsor the games.

Over the next five decades, WGAP carried the Vols, Maryville College football, the Brooklyn Dodgers, NASCAR and high school sports. The local sports announcer positions have been held by Tom Lyons, Ken Kribbs, Pete Williams, Steve Corbitt and Maryville's mayor, "Skeeter" Shields. Glen Morton is currently doing local play-by-play.

The fuel that has kept WGAP running over the past 50 years had been their wide and loyal client base. Carl Wells started with the station on Day One and is still selling advertising. Wells told me he has about 20 clients on his list, and he tries to touch base with most of them every day.

My father, Charles W. Johnson, held the title of the longest-running client of the station until he retired in the late 1970s. Dad's