

many burdens on family values. National Bible Week is an opportunity for families to reaffirm their unity through study of the Bible, or to acquaint children to the Bible for the first time. Remember the example of John Quincy Adams who said, "So great is my veneration for the Bible, and so strong my belief, that when duly read and meditated on, it is of all good books in the world, that which contributes most to make men good, wise, and happy—that the earlier my children begin to read it, the more steadily they pursue the practice of reading it throughout their lives, the more lively and confident will be my hopes that they will prove useful citizens to their country, respectable members of society, and a real blessing to their parents." Utilize National Bible Week to introduce its stories and parables to your children so that they may later in life rely upon the Bible.

Finally, how appropriate that National Bible Week falls in the same week as Thanksgiving, a holiday that celebrates the Founders of our Nation, founding principles, and all of our blessings. On Thanksgiving we can all thank our Nation's Founders for remaining true to Biblical principles and incorporating them into law. More importantly, National Bible Week enables all Americans to enhance the celebrations of Thanksgiving through a renewed and heightened focus on the study and mediation of the Bible.

HONORING BAYTOWN'S PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Darrell Davis, Keith Dougherty, and Mike Jones of Baytown, TX, upon their selection as Baytown Fire Fighter, Police Officer, and Paramedic of the Year respectively. They will be the guests of honor at Baytown's fifth annual Public Safety Recognition Dinner on November 17, 1997, and they are each certainly deserving of this honor.

Darrell Davis, the 1997 Baytown Fire Fighter of the Year, has spent his career helping others. Lieutenant Davis received his basic fire fighter training at Texas A & M University, where he graduated at the top of his class. He joined the Baytown Fire Department in November 1974, and quickly rose through its ranks. He achieved the rank of lieutenant in 1981 and moved into the fire marshal's office the next year. Lieutenant Davis also served as chief of the Highlands Fire Department and was instrumental in obtaining a \$200,000 grant for the city to purchase new equipment. He was also one of the first two paramedics trained for duty in East Harris County.

Darrell Davis' priorities have included the acquisition of vital fire prevention equipment for the Baytown area and teaching children fire safety skills. He spearheaded the drive to establish the Baytown Life Safety Foundation, which he now chairs, and helped develop the fire safety house, a specially built house for children to teach them the proper techniques to survive a fire. He is also active in Cub Scouts, teaching kids, including his son Aaron, the do's and don'ts of fire safety. Lieutenant Davis is making Baytown a better and safer place for all its citizens.

Keith Dougherty, the Police Officer of the Year, also has a long history of serving the people of Baytown. Officer Dougherty came to Baytown in 1982 from St. Louis, MO, where he served as a police officer for one year following pursuit of his masters degree at Webster University. During his tenure in Baytown, he has served in many capacities within the police force, including the patrol division, the crime prevention unit, the training division, and, since January 1993, as a detective. Officer Dougherty currently serves as a police instructor, certified crime prevention specialist, SWAT team sniper, and DARE officer, and he is a criminal justice instructor at Lee College in Baytown. His outstanding efforts have won him three commendations for outstanding performance and the admiration of his peers and all of Baytown.

This year's Paramedic of the Year, Mike Jones, joined the Baytown Health Department's Emergency Medical Services team in 1996, and he has quickly earned the respect and praise of the entire community. Paramedic Jones has served as a paramedic for the past 8 years and is currently training future paramedics who will join him in providing a high level of emergency response and care to the people of Baytown. They could not be learning from a finer example. In addition to his expertise in patient care issues, Paramedic Jones has obtained his associate degree in emergency medical services and criminal justice from Lee College in Baytown. In a short period of time, Mike Jones has shown a tremendous commitment that is improving emergency response and saving lives in Baytown.

Public safety officers often put their own safety and even their own lives at risk for the sake of their fellow citizens. They serve us during some of the most difficult times of our lives, when we are facing the stress of crimes, fires, or medical emergencies. They are certainly deserving of our gratitude and honor. So I am honored to join in this tribute to Darrell Davis, Keith Dougherty, and Mike Jones and to all who serve our community alongside them. They are examples for all of us.

CALIFORNIA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN POLICY EXTENSION ACT OF 1997

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the California Advisory Council on Indian Policy Extension Act of 1997. This bill will extend by 2 years the life of the California Advisory Council on Indian Policy, which was created by legislation I sponsored in the 102d Congress.

The council was created to specifically provide Congress with a report setting forth recommendations for remedial measures to address the special problems facing California Indians and Indian tribes. The problems include the status of California's terminated and unrecognized tribes, economic self-sufficiency, and health and educational needs.

The council has fulfilled its task and provided Congress with a comprehensive report and set of recommendations. These recommendations focus on land consolidation,

restoration of tribes, provision of health, educational, and social services, and responsibility to urban Indians.

Because the council has acquired considerable expertise on these and other issues during its 4-year existence, it seemed to me that their knowledge should not go to waste. My bill would extend the existence of the council for another 2 years so that the council will be able to guide Congress in the implementation of the report's recommendations.

My bill directs the council to consult and work with Congress, the Secretaries of the Interior and Health and Human Services, the California Indian tribes, and the State in expediting the implementation of the recommendations contained in the council's 1997 report. I want to be clear that the council is to consult with all of the Indian tribes in the State and my bill makes it clear that the council is to provide timely information to the tribes regarding their actions.

But I believe that the knowledge and wisdom that the council has gained from its 4-year existence is simply too valuable to cost aside. Thus, I am pleased to introduce this measure so that we can continue to benefit from their experience as we begin the process of reviewing and implementing the recommendations in their report.

TRIBUTE TO WHITKO ART STUDENTS

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, a vital part of children's development is learning to distinguish themselves as individuals. Artistic expression gives children this opportunity. Regardless of the discipline, art offers a unique avenue for creativity.

Today, Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize a group of students from my district who have excelled in the arts and earned international acclaim for their creativity. The Whitko High School Art Department recently competed in the 28th exhibition of World Student Children's Art in the Republic of China. Whitko, of South Whitley, IN, was one of only 11 schools to represent the United States in the exhibition. Three of the Whitko students gained personal recognition for their achievements. Kathleen Dombek, Rany Kilbourne, and Jason Slone all received medals in a competition representing 51 nations around the world.

I am proud to represent a group of such students. They have set an example worthy of our praise. I urge my colleagues to recognize the committee and hard work of these young people and to join me in congratulating them on their accomplishment.

GALA OPENING OF GINNIE'S HOUSE

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, we often hear that every dark cloud has a silver lining.

In many instances, one can find that very difficult to believe. Such is the case with one of the darkest of clouds that casts an ugly shadow over our society—child abuse.

I want to call the attention of my colleagues to one such silver lining—Ginnie Littell and her child advocacy center located in Newton, Sussex County, NJ. Tomorrow afternoon marks the official opening of the Nation's newest child advocacy center—Ginnie's House.

Child abuse is an ugly reality in America today. There are estimates that a child is physically, psychologically, emotionally, or sexually abused every 15 seconds. As much as we wish we could build a protective wall around our community's children, we cannot. The ugly shadow of child abuse touches every community, including Sussex County.

Realizing that, the community has responded. Ginnie's House, Sussex County's own child advocacy center, was created by the entire community—elected officials, community leaders, captains of business, and industry.

When our society must intervene in the life of a child due to child abuse, it must do so to protect the child from further harm, provide counseling for the child and the child's family, to protect other children from the same offender and to ensure that the offender is held accountable for his or her actions.

The sheer complexity of these tasks requires the attention of many different agencies and professionals—law enforcement, medical and mental health, legal services, and crisis intervention, to name just a few. Each of these agencies and advocates has different roles in the investigation and intervention process. The challenge is to coordinate and maximize the efforts and resources of the various community agencies and professionals. In this way, the child's trauma is minimized.

Through the vision of Ginnie Littell and the support of the Sussex County Board of Freeholders and, indeed, the entire community, this coordination has a focal point.

Ginnie's House, located strategically at 1 High Street in Newton, will provide a sanctuary where the multidisciplinary investigation and intervention process that local officials have adopted can be conducted. In short, instead of the victims seeking out the agencies and the professionals, the agencies and the professionals come to the victims.

Ginnie's House is designed to create a sensitive environment for the victims of abuse and their families; to encourage their cooperation in the investigation and prosecution of cases and to provide continuing support through what could be an extended criminal justice process.

Many hands have built Ginnie's House. The board of freeholders dedicated an entire county-owned building along with significant exterior and interior renovations. The State of New Jersey has provided seed money to purchase furnishings, materials, and supplies. Private citizens have provided pro bono legal, architectural, landscaping, and other services. This encouraging public-private partnership will continue in the future with fundraising efforts designed to make Ginnie's House self-sustaining.

Ginnie Littell and the citizens of Sussex County can teach the rest of America an important lesson: child abuse is real. If we ignore it, the children will only continue to suffer. If we turn our backs, our community will only

suffer. If we walk away, our society will only suffer.

The citizens of Sussex County, NJ, are not walking away. In fact, they are giving the youngest victims of abuse in our society a safe place to walk—a sanctuary where they be protected, consoled and healed.

Let me close with a few words about the namesake of Ginnie's House. Virginia Newman Littell is one of our community's most dynamic leaders. She's a woman of action who is constantly striving to serve her community in new and more constructive and humane ways.

I recall the words of the author Robert Fulgham. In his best-selling work *Everything I Needed To Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, he wrote, "Peace is not something you wish for, it's something you do; something you are and something you give away."

To me, Mr. Fulgham had Ginnie Littell in mind. Among myriad other tasks, she has dedicated the last few years to brining a measure of that peace to northwest New Jersey's most vulnerable.

For the children, Sussex County, NJ, will be an even more peaceful place beginning tomorrow afternoon. Mr. Speaker, we welcome the silver lining called Ginnie's House.

FOUNDATION FOR DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA HOSTS A FEBRUARY 1998 MIAMI CONFERENCE ON AFRICA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on February 25 through March 1, 1998, the Institute for Democracy in Africa at St. Thomas University will be hosting a very timely conference whose theme will be Africa: the next frontier.

Africa faces challenges today and the Foundation for Democracy in Africa [FDA], a non-profit group based in Miami, FL and Washington, DC—is determined to educate the next generation on Africa and the tenets of democracy and free market economics.

The founders of the FDA believe that, finally free from the hindrances of being used as a cold war battleground, Africa is at a watershed period as it prepares to tackle the tasks of economic and democratic infrastructure development. The FDA also states that Africa faces the challenges of building peace and economic prosperity so that democracy can flourish. The new generation of Africans stand as a beacon of hope for Africa's future prosperity. They must be encouraged and embrace tribal values as tenets for national unity and be steeped in democratic governance and western economic systems.

The Institute for Democracy in Africa provides education, training, and research opportunities for African students. The FDA will bring students from Africa for instruction in democratic governance and entrepreneurship. The institute's grounding in Western economic and democratic systems and its adaption to African challenges will serve well the future leaders of Africa.

The FDA conference will bring together leaders of business, government, and non-governmental organizations from the United States and Africa to discuss the challenges in

developing the necessary infrastructure. Since 1989, Africa has witnessed remarkable improvement in the area of economic development, sustainable growth, and good governance.

Africa is striving to further integrate herself into the global economy and provide a bright future for its people. The rising generation of Africans can lead this African renaissance.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 830, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION MODERNIZATION ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. RICK LAZIO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, November 9, 1997

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be part of this effort to reform the Food and Drug Administration and to reauthorize the Prescription Drug User Fee Act [PDUFA]. The legislation we consider today is good for seniors, good for children, good for the critically ill, and good for America. This bill will save American lives. I would like to highlight one of the many examples of the need for reform, as well as one particular section of this legislation.

In the beginning of the year the FDA claimed that it was approving drugs faster than ever. The FDA's claims, however, are contradicted by the harsh reality that many drugs not available to Americans today have been available in Europe and abroad for years.

For example, the drug Ancrod prevents and treats blood clots and is used to treat strokes. Ancrod has been the subject of extensive testing in the United States since the late 1980's, even though it has been broadly available to the public in the United Kingdom for the last 23 years.

The General Accounting Office testified in 1979 that Ancrod should be made available to the public as soon as possible. Eighteen years later, Ancrod is still not available to the American public. Nearly 500,000 Americans suffer strokes each year, but are denied the benefits of Ancrod by the FDA. I know first hand of the devastation that strokes can cause. My father had two strokes, one in 1978 and another in 1985.

Separately, this legislation includes a provision which will make important health information widely available to the American public.

This provision, based on a bill I introduced, will provide a one-stop information service for individuals with serious or life-threatening diseases. The program will create one data bank of research information by integrating and coordinating existing data banks across America.

The data bank will include a registry of clinical trials, both federally and privately funded, of experimental treatments for serious or life-threatening diseases and conditions. The registry will contain a description of the purpose of each experimental drug protocol. All this information will be available by calling a 1-800 number, and through other means such as the Internet.

This bill is an important piece of legislation for the American people. I urge my colleagues to support its passage.