

I ask Members to join me in honoring the Exchange Club members in my Texas congressional district and across the country for their dedication and excellence in serving the Nation's communities.

HONORING DR. WILBUR F.
DOLEZAL

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and dedication of an outstanding dentist, Dr. Wilbur F. Dolezal, after 43 successful years of practicing dentistry.

Dr. Dolezal received his bachelors degree from the University of Illinois and his dental degree from Loyola University, Chicago, IL.

Dr. Dolezal served his country in the U.S. Air Force as a dentist from 1954 to 1956. He has had a thriving practice in Morris, IL, for the past 40 years.

Dr. Dolezal has been honored by his peers for his superior knowledge as a Fellow of both the International College of Dentistry and the American College of Dentistry.

Dr. Dolezal has been active in his community as a member of the Morris Rotary Club, the Morris High School Board of Education, and as a member and president of the Grundy County Board of Health.

Dr. Dolezal is a well respected dentist and member of his community and it is with great regret, but also a bright white smile, that his patients see him retire.

IN HONOR OF THE ONE YEAR AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE ASIA OB-
SERVER

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the publisher and hard-working staff of the Asia Observer on their 1-year anniversary of outstanding service to the South Asian community. It is an honor to join other elected officials and organizations in lauding the achievements of a weekly publication recognized worldwide for its excellent news coverage and analysis on events and issues affecting the South Asia and South Asians.

In its first full year, the Asia Observer has distinguished itself as a valuable source of information on South Asia affairs. Additionally, it has helped bridge the gap of understanding among the growing Asian-American population in our great Nation. Since its inaugural edition 1 year ago, the Asia Observer has gained the respect and praise of many, including several of my esteemed colleagues in Congress, prominent business owners, professionals, and community leaders. With weekly coverage of socially, politically, and economically significant topics, the Asia Observer has become what many other ethnic news publications can only hope to become, a credible source of information in the United States and throughout the international community.

As the dawning of the next millennium approaches, all regions of the world are shifting ever closer toward globalization. The role of news sources like the Asia Observer will assume a greater importance in the affairs of the United States and our neighbors both home and abroad. It is through the efforts of news journals such as the Asia Observer that our lines of communication with other countries in the South Asia region, including India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Pakistan continue to expand and grow. In just 1 year, this publication has managed to strengthen the sense of cooperation in this important region of the world by providing a useful vehicle for the exchange of information and ideas.

I ask that my colleagues join me today in acknowledging the contributions of the Asia Observer, a publication that has provided a welcome voice to the Asian-American community in issues of international and domestic importance. I firmly believe that by keeping people in touch with the issues that affect their daily lives, the Asia Observer will contribute to the growth of the South Asian region for many years to come. For this reason, I commend Mr. Surinder Zutshi and his entire staff for their efforts in providing the world a window through which it can observe the achievements of the Asian community.

NEW RETIREMENT OPTION FOR
SENIORS

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today that will allow older Americans to stay in their homes while taking advantage of the exclusion of up to \$125,000 in gains on sale of a principal residence. This is a badly needed option for those who wish to use the equity in their home for retirement needs without having to leave the family home.

An AARP survey shows that 86 percent of seniors prefer to stay in the family home, yet for a great number of older Americans, home equity is a major component of their savings. Seniors who need additional income in their retirement can face a troubling dilemma: they may have to give up the house to meet their needs.

The bill will aid seniors by altering our approach to the \$125,000 exclusion. As currently interpreted by the IRS, the exclusion of \$125,000 in gain is only available to seniors when they sell their homes and move away, literally forcing people to move to get the tax break. Their other alternatives—both of which allow them to claim the exclusion—are taking out a reverse mortgage or selling their home and leasing it back. Not all seniors will find these devices helpful. Reverse mortgages leave homeowners with the burden of maintaining the home. Sale/leaseback transactions may not provide seniors with the certainty that they will be able to continue occupying their homes.

The bill's new alternative will permit seniors to sell the "remainder interest"—the right to future ownership—in their home and keep the "life estate"—the right to use the house for the rest of their lives. Such an option does not qualify for the exclusion today.

With all the concern about retirement savings, taxpayers can only benefit through the provision of additional options. I hope my colleagues will join me in making this option available as soon as possible.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE LADY BUFFS

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great honor to give tribute to the West Texas A&M Lady Buffs of Canyon, TX. The Lady Buffs' historic winning season ended with an unfortunate, but hard-fought loss in the quarterfinals of the Elite Eight Tournament to California-Davis.

The Lady Buffs, who are led by their coach Bob Schneider, finished the season with 29 victories and only 2 losses. This is the best season that the Lady Buffs have had since the 1990-91 team, and the first time that the Lady Buffs have been in the Elite Eight since the 1987-88 season. As an alumnus of West Texas A&M, I am very proud of the Lady Buffs and their achievement this season.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Lady Buffs on their winning season. They have brought pride and respect to not only their team and coaches, but also to West Texas and the hometowns of all of the players.

EXEMPT SCHOOL BOARDS FROM
LIABILITY FOR THE GENERA-
TION AND TRANSPORTATION OF
MUNICIPAL WASTE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce two bills to make important changes to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.

The first of these bills will address a problem that confronts school districts across the Nation. This legislation would amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act to exempt school boards from liability for the generation and transportation of municipal waste.

Under current law, a number of school boards in New Jersey are involved in legal action as polluters under existing Superfund law. These school districts did nothing more than legally transport their sold waste—remains of school lunches, broken pencils, or students crumpled homework pages—to municipal landfills. Under the system of joint and several liability, school boards are now being mandated to pay a substantial amount of cleanup costs or defend themselves in costly lawsuits. The costs of these financial penalties have far exceeded any contributions that they have made to toxic waste problems. Furthermore, this present situation indirectly shifts money and local tax dollars away from educating our children and into the coffers of industrial polluters or the Superfund trust fund.

Unfortunately, a legislative solution to the larger issue of Superfund reform has prevented action on an explicit exemption for

school boards. While I remain committed to the larger issue of reauthorizing Superfund laws, school boards simply cannot wait any longer for a legislative remedy. Their litigation costs continue to mount.

The second bill, which I sponsored in the 104th Congress and am reintroducing today, would shift contract oversight of fund financed remedial actions from the Environmental Protection Agency to the Army Corps of Engineers. Currently, the EPA has the option of using the Army Corps for contract oversight and does so in approximately 40 percent of its cleanups. My bill would mandate that all contract oversight be completed by the Army Corps.

I propose this shift because I believe that the Army Corps is better qualified for oversight of technical cleanups and management of contract oversight than is EPA. Furthermore, let me clarify that this legislation would in no way take any authority away from the EPA to design the cleanup and remedy for Superfund sites using the highest environmental standards.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of both these important and commonsense bills.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 20, 1997

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, the important work of the District of Columbia Commission for Women is worthy of particular attention during this month, Women's History Month. The District of Columbia Commission for Women has ably served the people of the District for the past 30 years. The commission's mandate is to identify issues and problems specifically affecting women in the Nation's Capital and to recommend solutions to the Mayor. The commission achieved permanent status in 1978 when it was adopted by the city council.

As cochair of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, I applaud the exceptional work the District of Columbia Commission for Women does on behalf of the women of the District. The commission is a valuable resource and clearinghouse for women's concerns. Remarkably, the commission operates solely on a volunteer basis, with a small staff and no budget. Nonetheless, the commission carries out the responsibilities of both city and State as the District's representative to the National Association of Commissions for Women.

Recent accomplishments credited to the District of Columbia Commission for Women include establishing the District of Columbia Women's Hall of Fame, creating the Sewall-Belmont House exhibit on African-American Suffragettes and publishing self-help guides for District women. For these reasons and others, I commend the District of Columbia Commission for Women for its outstanding contribution to the women of the District.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY SIMONE
M. STEINBRONER

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 20, 1997

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Simone M. Steinbroner of Manhattan Beach, CA, who will be celebrating her 100th birthday on April 1.

Simone was born in the tiny village of Cognac, France, on April 1, 1897, the oldest of five children of Paul Jean Mounier and Jeanne Praud Mounier. She moved with her family several times as a young girl, first to Paris and then, with the outbreak of World War I to La Rochelle where her father was employed as an interpreter. At the age of 16, Simone became the youngest entrant to teachers college, graduating in 1917.

It was on her summer vacation from teaching on the small coastal island of St. Pierre d'Oleron that her mother invited two American soldiers to dinner. There Simone met her future husband, Arthur Steinbroner, a sergeant in the American Expeditionary Force, and fell in love. Arthur and Simone set their wedding for August 1, but on July 5 received the upsetting news that Arthur was to be sent back to the United States the next day. It would be 18 months before enough money could be saved for Simone's passage to America.

Simone left France on January 9, 1921, arriving in Los Angeles, then a sleepy town with fewer than 200,000 residents, on January 24. She and Arthur married on February 3, 1921, and had seven children in 9 years. Arthur passed away suddenly in 1948.

Simone has lived in Los Angeles County for 76 years and has a total of 78 living descendants; 8 children, 28 grandchildren, 38 great-grandchildren, and 4 great-great-grandchildren, with 2 more expected this year. She still maintains an active pace, teaching French to private students, playing the piano, dancing, reading, and corresponding to her numerous friends and progeny. As a member of the Legion of Mary, she regularly visits local nursing homes to comfort the sick and elderly. She is an inspiration to them all, all of whom are younger than her, and, in hearing her story, she is an inspiration to me as well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Simone and in wishing her a happy 100th birthday.

IN HONOR OF DAVID L. COHEN,
CHIEF OF STAFF TO MAYOR EDWARD G. RENDELL OF PHILADELPHIA

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a good friend and servant to the city of Philadelphia, David L. Cohen.

By now almost everyone across the county knows the Philadelphia story and the accomplishments of the Rendell administration in leading what the New York Times called "one of the most stunning turnarounds in recent urban history." Today I want to recognize one

of the architects of Philadelphia's remarkable renaissance: David L. Cohen, chief of staff to Philadelphia's terrific mayor, Edward G. Rendell.

While there is no doubt that Mayor Rendell has provided the vision and enthusiastic leadership that has brought the city back from the brink of disaster, it is also unquestionably true that without David Cohen's incredible work ethic, unparalleled judgment, and steady dedication to the mayor's vision of reducing the cost of government, the Philadelphia story would be a far different tale. Certainly, it would not be a story that includes four consecutive balanced budgets, and four consecutive budget surpluses, including a fiscal year 1996 surplus of \$118 million, the largest in the modern history of the city.

David Cohen led Ed Rendell's cost-cutting revolution in city government. He was the mayor's primary liaison with city council, without whose cooperation the city's recovery would not have been possible; he served as the principal author of the nationally renowned 5-year financial plan, the city's blueprint for recovery; he has led or facilitated labor settlements with both public and private-sector unions on a variety of issues of importance to the city; he chaired the administration's Initiative Compliance Committee, which oversees the spending habits of every city department right down to the penny, to guard against a return to the free-spending days of Philadelphia's past; and he has served as an articulate and passionate spokesman for the critical problems that face America's cities. Through it all, David displayed a superior intelligence, a steely determination to make tough decisions in order to save money for city taxpayers, and an abiding love for Philadelphia, and indeed, for all cities.

Now, after more than 5 years of incredibly effective government service, David Cohen is returning to the private sector, where he will realize a lifelong professional dream by becoming chairman of his law firm, Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll.

Mr. Speaker, without question, Ed Rendell deserves credit and praise for his efforts to revitalize Philadelphia. But that success would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of David Cohen. This talented individual exemplifies public service: working hard, long hours with great sacrifice to himself and his family. He could have chosen a more lucrative private career path, but instead chose to dedicate many years of his life to a partnership with the mayor that led to the rebirth of a great city. Every Philadelphian is better off today for that choice.

On behalf of my fellow 1.6 million Philadelphians, I wish David Cohen and his family great success and happiness in their future endeavors. We are all deeply indebted for the outstanding dedicated public service that David provided to help restore a bright, hopeful future for the city that we all love.

IN HONOR OF VIRGIL GLADIEUX

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 20, 1997

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the passing of an outstanding citizen,