

more aware of their specific health risks, and how to react if they recognize them. The patients and community at Potomac Hospital have truly benefited from her work.

Police Officers of the Year: Officer Ruben D. Castilla and James C. Virgil. Officers Castilla and Virgil have been instrumental in making Dale City's streets more inviting and safe for community residents. Specifically, Officers Castilla and Virgil were commended by their department for the thorough investigation of the vandalism cases which led to the closure of twenty-one cases and the clearance of an unreported attempted armed robbery. These two officers are also credited with removing two area juveniles who had been harassing residents. Their efforts have provided protection to the residents of Dale City, so they can sleep peacefully at night.

Deputy Sheriff of the Year: Sergeant William O'Connell, Jr. Sergeant O'Connell is an individual who cares deeply about the people he serves. As a member of the Sheriff's Department and resident of Dale City for eleven years, Sergeant O'Connell is credited with developing an innovative Mentoring Program for middle school students in Prince William County and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park, bringing together a variety of criminal justice agencies. Sergeant O'Connell also serves as the Sheriff's office representative to the Northern Virginia chapter of the Virginia D.A.R.E. Association. Sergeant O'Connell has proven his dedication to making Prince William County safer for all residents.

Firefighter of the Year: Todd Zavash. As a Battalion Captain with the Dale City Volunteer Fire Department he has been instrumental in the personal and professional growth of over eighty firefighters whom he has supervised in two Battalions. His leadership has allowed the residents of Dale City to know that firefighting personnel are ready to respond to all calls for assistance. Captain Zavash is recognized by his peers as an individual who is always willing to lend a helping hand or a sympathetic ear.

Emergency Medical Technician of the Year: John Dooley. Mr. Dooley has served as a volunteer EMT with the Dale City Volunteer Fire Department for the past eight years, and is currently the lead paramedic on Battalion 1. Mr. Dooley being awarded this honor is the culmination of years of dedicated service to the people of Dale City. Mr. Dooley is highly respected for his professionalism and dedication as a senior staff member by his peers and the community. He is truly a remarkable person who has provided excellent medical care to those who call in need.

Elementary School Teacher of the Year: Miss Bella Raphael. Miss Raphael is a Second Grade teacher at Kerrydale Elementary School. In addition to her regular teaching duties, Miss Raphael volunteers in support of a number of school activities. She is well-known for her work with the Special Needs Committee which is a community outreach program to assist families during special holidays and emergency situations. As part of her work with this group she spends the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays preparing and delivering baskets of toys and food for families in need. Miss Raphael is also active in the Prince William Alliance of Black School Educators, which is an organization that promotes academic achievements for minority students in Prince William County Schools through a scholarship

fund. Through her many varied activities Miss Raphael has certainly made a positive mark in Dale City's educational system.

Middle School Teacher of the Year: Suzanne Johnson. Mrs. Johnson is a seventh grade teacher of language arts at Stuart M. Beville Middle School. At Beville, she is involved in many extra-curricular activities, and was a charter faculty member of the school in 1990. Mrs. Johnson is known among the students and faculty alike as "An energetic and resourceful teacher", always willing to offer that extra help to a student in need. She brings tremendous caring and dedication to her work, and inspires her students to excel.

High School Teacher of the Year: Jeannine Turner. Mrs. Turner has been an AP English teacher at C.D. Hylton Senior High School for the past thirty-three years. She has encouraged her students to excel in their studies using innovative teaching techniques and dedicating as much of her own time as necessary. Her work in this area has enabled the students at Hylton to achieve higher academic levels than ever before. Additionally, she volunteers her time to the alternative education program and works with at-risk students through the night school and summer school programs. Mrs. Turner is an individual who is able to unlock each student's desire and motivation to learn and gives completely of herself.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating these outstanding citizens for their tireless efforts to make Dale City, Virginia a better place to live. Through the untiring and selfless efforts to citizens like these, many others across the country are inspired to do likewise. Not only Dale City, but America is enriched by their accomplishments and dedication.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE GEORGE GOLDT

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, the late George Goldt, a man known far and wide as "the gentle giant."

As Undersheriff of Ocean County, George met Michael Gillick, a young cancer patient, and took him under his wing, naming Michael "Honorary Sheriff." In fact, when Michael was honored, even standing on a chair, he only reached George's waist. It was his interest in Michael that led to George's wanting to learn more about kids with cancer.

George Goldt and Linda Gillick, Michael's mother, joined forces and began the organization, Ocean of Love, aptly named by George for Ocean County and for the love he felt for the kids. Starting with 12 children, Ocean of Love now helps over 200 afflicted children and their families.

A person who never had to be asked twice, George Goldt worked tirelessly in behalf of the young people he loved and cared so much for. In fact, his last earthly act was trying to obtain food for a needy family, when he was felled by a heart attack at a very young age.

He was instrumental in coordinating fund raisers, and always preferred to remain in the background, never seeking credit for his actions.

The spirit of George Goldt, the gentle giant, will always be a large part of Ocean of Love due to his efforts in behalf of kids in need.

I remember George best during the years he served as President of the Manchester Township Republican Club. During those years George and his wife Bev were among my most avid and energetic supporters. George knew what should be accomplished and made sure it was, and almost always without me even asking. The success of the club and the candidates it supported under his leadership speak volumes about George.

The recipient of this year's Ocean of Love Public Service Award, George Goldt is truly deserving of this posthumous honor, and of the love and gratitude of the community.

THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MORRIS CENTER YMCA, COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the Morris Center YMCA, of Morris County, New Jersey.

Since January 2, 1874, the Morris Center YMCA has provided programs essential to the people of Morris County. The 172 founding members first gathered in meeting rooms located in the Old Post Office in Morristown. In 1889, the Board of Directors dedicated a new building which included a gymnasium, classrooms, bowling alleys and a game room. A second building was dedicated in 1912 which included a wing exclusively for women. By 1968, however, it became clear that a new building was needed and plans were made to begin construction.

On March 1, 1981, the grand opening of the newly completed Morris Center YMCA took place. The Center featured a 25 meter swimming pool, gymnasium, track, racquetball courts, weight rooms and a fitness center. Over the years renovations have been made to the building, bringing many more programs to people of all ages in Morris County. In 1985, the Center added an in-house After School Care program. Later, in 1988, the Center added the Y's Owl Care Child Center which provides care to approximately 130 children each day.

The Owl program received national accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Building on the reputation of the Y's Owl Child Care Center, the Morris Center YMCA was selected to create and manage the child care center of the Morristown Memorial Hospital, and opened the Children's Corner in the late fall of 1996.

The Center currently has over 400 volunteer members comprising the Board of Directors, all of its committees and program leaders. These volunteers are the heart of the Morris Center YMCA, working in all aspects of the organization. In short, the Center is people caring for people, not just buildings and equipment.

Mr. Speaker, for the past 125 years, the Morris Center YMCA has provided the citizens of Morris County with programs that benefit all those who participate. I ask that you and my

colleagues join me in congratulating all past and present members of the Morris Center YMCA on this special anniversary year.

IN RECOGNITION OF GIL IBERG,
"BIG BAND MOUTH OF THE
SOUTH"

HON. JIM McCRERY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. McCRERY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize today my constituent, Gil Iberg, known by many as "Big Band Mouth of the South." Gil Iberg has distinguished himself as a true connoisseur of big band music and has amassed an extraordinary collection of roughly 1,000 cassettes and 100 albums, containing the music of over 200 big bands. To make sure he misses no opportunity to add to his collection, Gil keeps a radio/cassette recorder on his bedside table so he can tape big band broadcasts.

Gil learned to play the trumpet when he was young, following the footsteps of his father, who played a bass fiddle in a local band in his hometown of Highland, Illinois. Although he caught big band fever when he was young, he didn't start collecting records and tapes until the 1960s, when the popularity of the music began to wane. Afraid that he might lose access to the music he loved, Gil began to collect his own supply. Gil has also seen many big bands in person, including Glenn Miller's and Artie Shaw's ensembles.

In the words of Gil himself, "I could talk about big bands all day and all night. I live and breathe and eat big band music. I play big band music every day of the week, and I exchange tapes and letters with other big band buffs from all over the country."

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending Gil Iberg for following his dream and becoming an expert in his chosen hobby. In more of his own words, "Some men fish or hunt. Some men golf. My thing is big bands. For me, there's nothing like it."

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT E. HAGAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Robert Hagan, an exceptional father, a dedicated public servant, and a brilliant humorist.

Mr. Hagan grew up in Youngstown, OH, one of six children in his family. He served as a Marine Corps flight instructor during World War II. Following the war he worked for his father's steel-erecting business, where he patented a new steel-scaffolding process.

Always aspiring for something new and challenging, Mr. Hagan hosted his own TV variety show in Youngstown. He also appeared occasionally on the Mike Douglas syndicated television show when it was broadcast from Cleveland.

In 1956, Mr. Hagan embarked on his political career by running for Trumbull County commissioner. He lost that election, but ran

again in 1962 and won. He served eight years at that position, resigning in 1969 in protest of a local judge's disregard for the commissioners. As a politician Mr. Hagan was a vocal critic of the Vietnam War and an ardent supporter of civil rights and labor unions.

In 1970, while making a bid for the presidency, George McGovern hired Mr. Hagan as a special assistant in charge of one-liners. This offered Mr. Hagan the chance to merge two things he loved and understood best, politics and humor. He explained why this combination worked so well when he said, "the very concept of humor, to me, is a very important one because it communicates ideas in a most pleasant way."

Mr. Hagan was elected to the Ohio State House in 1981, where he served with his son Robert Hagan. After he failed in his bid to win re-election in 1988, Mr. Hagan continued to perform stand-up comedy and contribute editorials and guest columns to area newspapers.

I will always be grateful for the opportunity to have known Robert Hagan. He set an example of how to do a job well, and have fun at it too. I will miss him.

Mr. Hagan was the father of 14 children. His commitment to them, as well as his contributions to politics and humor, will be greatly missed.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
ORGAN DONOR LEAVE ACT

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, during the last 20 years, important medical breakthroughs such as tissue typing and immunosuppressant drugs have allowed for a larger number of successful organ transplants and a longer survival rate for transplant recipients. Certain organs, such as a single kidney, a lobe of a lung, a segment of the liver or a portion of the pancreas, can be transplanted from living donors, making it possible for them to save the lives of family members, coworkers, and friends.

Currently, federal employees may use up to 7 days of leave in each calendar year to serve as an organ or bone marrow donor. Yet, experience has shown that an organ transplant operation and post-operative recovery for living donors may take as long as six to eight weeks. In order to address this disparity, I worked with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in drafting this legislation to increase the amount of leave that may be used for organ donation to 30 days. The amount of leave that may be used for bone marrow donation will remain at 7 days because that is generally adequate for recovery from bone marrow donations.

Under this legislation, donors will not have to be concerned with using their personal sick or annual leave for these vital medical procedures because the leave granted is in addition to what they routinely earn.

The bill passed the House during the last Congress but the Senate failed to act on it before adjournment. I reintroduced this bill at the beginning of the 106th Congress in the hope that there will be ample time to win its enactment.

The Organ Donor Leave Act has the support of the American Society of Transplantation (AST), the largest professional transplant organization in the United States. In a letter expressing its support, the ASTP stated, ". . . a lack of leave time has served as a significant impediment and disincentive for individuals willing to share the gift-of-life."

Since the first kidney transplant in 1954, hundreds of patients have received successful transplants from living donors. Yet, each day, while 55 people receive an organ transplant, another 10 people on waiting lists die because not enough organs are available. A new name is added to a waiting list every 18 minutes in the United States. In 1997 only 15,000 people donated organs, leaving 35,000 people desperately in need. Currently, over 58,000 are waiting for a life saving organ transplant.

One lung can help another person breathe. One kidney can free someone from dialysis. A portion of a liver could save the life of a patient dying from disease. One's bone marrow could help repair another person's damaged joints.

This legislation will give federal employees who may consider becoming organ donors the assurance that they will be granted an adequate amount of time to recuperate from the life saving process that they voluntarily undertake. It will also serve as a guide and encouragement to other employers, public and private, to provide similar benefits to their employees. I urge all members to give it your support.

TRIBUTE TO MS. KAREN M.
PHILLIPS

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Karen M. Phillips, a Peace Corps volunteer who was killed late last year near her home in Gabon, West Africa.

Karen Phillips dedicated her life to improving the lives of others. Starting in June, 1998 when she was sworn in as a volunteer in Gabon, she worked to help local farmers market their products. She had also previously worked for five years for the international development organization CARE. According to her peers, she was a well-liked and dedicated volunteer.

In today's world, people often bemoan the lack of positive role models and heroes for our children and ourselves. Karen Phillips proved that this is not necessarily true. We would do very well to follow her example of selfless service.

SOUTH FLORIDA TEEN GIRLS
RECEIVE POSITIVE ATTITUDE

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to highlight the accomplishments of a woman who has served as a wonderful example for teenage girls in the South Florida area