

market democracy and set a model for the rest of Eastern Europe to follow, he retired. Mr. Walesa now heads the Lech Walesa Institute whose goal is to advance the ideals of democracy throughout Eastern Europe.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Walesa for his long, hard struggle to bring democracy to the people of Poland.

PRESIDENT'S FY2000 BUDGET PROPOSAL

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, in his State of the Union address, President Clinton proposed to create or expand fifty-four government programs. Fifty-four new ways to spend other people's money, but not one major proposal to give back to hard-working American families. While the President continues to champion targeted tax cuts for a select few, the net result for most Americans is plain as day—higher taxes. In case anyone doubted his words that night, President Clinton made sure it was all in black and white yesterday when he delivered his FY2000 budget to Congress.

The President's plan includes more than 80 tax hikes and new fees that would raise the tax burden on the American people by more than \$100 billion over 5 years. According to the President's own plan, Americans shouldn't expect to see any income tax relief until sometime after 2015. This is wrong. Washington does not have unlimited rights to spend the hard earned money of American families without accountability.

A surplus is nothing more than an overpayment by taxpayers that should have never made it to Washington in the first place. We should give it back. The Republican agenda will control government spending and provide American families with immediate, across-the-board tax relief. We will continue to dedicate much of the surplus to saving Social Security, eliminate the death tax and the marriage tax penalty. We should never forget that these dollars still belong to the American people, not Washington bureaucrats.

Mr. Speaker, under President Clinton's budget, big government will prosper and working Americans will be forced to work harder. Under our proposal, families could keep substantially more of what they earn. A ten-percent across-the-board tax cut would return \$600 to a couple earning a combined income of \$40,000. Does anybody really think that this \$600 would be better spent here in Washington?

Mr. Speaker, the choice is clear. Either you support the family budget or you support Clinton's federal budget. I urge my colleagues to resist new spending and higher taxes and to work together to return this surplus to those who earned it, the American people.

HONORING THE FIELDING INSTITUTE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Fielding Institute.

The Fielding Institute has been a leader in distance learning for mid-career professionals since it was founded in Santa Barbara, California in 1974.

With the development of a revolutionary "Learning Community" concept that provides lifetime learning opportunities for its scholars, the Fielding Institute has maintained its leadership in the field.

The Institute has built an outstanding reputation for its graduate programs, including doctoral programs in Clinical Psychology, Human and Organizational Development and Educational Leadership and Change and a masters program in Organizational Design and Effectiveness.

Their approach offers highly effective, customized, professionally rich and interactive learning processes, along with significant possibilities for learning created by emerging electronic technologies.

In providing a graduate learning experience using technology that is uniquely tailored to the professional and personal needs of adult learners, the Fielding Institute has been at the forefront of the distance learning movement.

And so Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Fielding Institute. They have provided 25 years of service and outstanding graduate learning opportunities to the scholars of California, the United States and the world.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARGARET WALKER-ALEXANDER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to pay tribute to the late Dr. Margaret Walker-Alexander. Dr. Walker-Alexander was a world renowned author and poet who resided in the Second Congressional District of Mississippi. Dr. Walker-Alexander was best known for "Jubilee," her 1966 novel about slave life. Dr. Walker-Alexander died on November 30th, 1998 in Jackson, Mississippi of cancer at the age of eighty-three.

Apart from "Jubilee," Dr. Walker-Alexander has written more than four volumes of poetry. Among some of her most noted works are: "Prophets For A New Day," "October Journey," "How I Wrote Jubilee," and co-authored with Nikki Giovanni, "Poetic Educations: Conversation Between Nikki Giovanni and Margaret Walker Alexander."

Dr. Margaret Walker-Alexander was born on July 7, 1915, in Birmingham, Alabama. At the age of fifteen, she published her first poem, "I Want to Write," which appeared in the 1934 edition of Crisis Magazine, then edited by W.E.B. DuBois. After high school, Dr. Walker-Alexander enrolled in Northwestern University and the University of Iowa where she received her M.A. and Ph.D. respectively. In 1943, she

married Firnist James Alexander. From this union were born two sons and two daughters.

In 1949, the Alexanders moved to Jackson, Mississippi where she remained until her death. Dr. Walker-Alexander became a positive role model in the community. She taught at Jackson State University where she served as an inspiration to young Mississippians. Throughout her life, Dr. Walker-Alexander received numerous honors and awards for her outstanding literary works includes the Yale University Award for Younger Poets, 1942; Rosenwald Fellowship, 1944; Ford Fellowship at Yale University, 1953-54; and an honorary doctoral degree in literature from Tougaloo College.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I want to salute Dr. Margaret Walker-Alexander for her outstanding work in our literary world. Her works will remain with us for years to come to pass down to the next generation to enjoy her stories and learn from them.

IN MEMORY OF ANTHONY "TONY" DeMARINIS OF GROTON, CON- NECTICUT

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise with sadness to memorialize Anthony "Tony" DeMarinis of Gorton, Connecticut. Mr. DeMarinis, who passed a way on January 25, was a true American hero—a career Army officer, a public servant and a great human being. He will be sorely missed by his family, friends and citizens from across southeastern Connecticut.

Tony DeMarinis served in the United States Army for 32 years before retiring in 1972 with the rank of Captain. He enlisted in 1940 and served in 14 campaigns during World War II. He was wounded in battle and received a battlefield commission. Tony helped the United States prevail in the greatest test of good versus evil the world has ever known and played a role in freeing my family from the terror of the Holocaust. Tony served in the Korean conflict where he received yet another battlefield commission elevating him to the rank of Captain. In another selfless act on behalf of his country, Tony volunteered to serve with the First Army Division—known as the "Big Red One"—in Vietnam. Throughout his distinguished military career, Tony received many honors and decorations, including the Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

After retiring from the Army, Tony continued to serve the public. He was elected to three terms as City Clerk of Groton in the 1980s. In this position, Tony did much more than merely perform administrative duties. He worked each and every day to build pride in the community. One of his most lasting achievements in this regard was securing a large mural depicting the Battle of Groton Heights, the only major battle of the Revolutionary War fought in Connecticut, for display in City Hall. This engagement occurred in Groton and resulted in the massacre of almost every single soldier at Fort Griswold due to the treachery of Benedict Arnold. Tony DeMarinis was instrumental in ensuring the City of Groton received this important part of its history.

Mr. Speaker, Tony DeMarinis was a public servant of the highest order. He served his country in the Army for three decades. He served the City of Groton as City Clerk. He did so unselfishly and with boundless enthusiasm and pride. Tony DeMarinis embodied all of the best qualities of America—service, patriotism and pride in community. I extend my deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

U.S. AIRLINES REACH SAFETY MILESTONE

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, in the late summer of 1908, just five years after he and his brother, Wilbur, completed the first successful powered flight at Kitty Hawk, Orville Wright was demonstrating their flying machine for the U.S. Army Signal Corps at Ft. Myer, Virginia, just across the Potomac River from where we now assemble.

After a successful first flight, Orville took off again, this time with a young Signal Corps officer, Lt. Thomas Selfridge, aboard. As they completed their first circuit of the field, Orville heard two strange thumps. He cut the engine and attempted to glide the plane to a safe landing, but the Wright Flyer lost lift and plummeted nose-first to the ground.

Lt. Selfridge died as a result of the crash and became the first person ever to be killed in an airplane accident. Orville Wright survived, but took four months to recover from his injuries.

Now, 90 years after that fatal day at Ft. Myer, air travel has become commonplace. Last year, American air carriers transported 615 million passengers, most of us in this House among them, through the skies. However, for the first time in the 31 years such records have been kept, and possibly the first time in history, U.S. airlines completed their flights without a single fatal accident. Let me repeat that: 615 million passengers carried by U.S. scheduled air carriers, not one single fatality.

For many years now, statistics have shown that travel on America's airlines has been among the safest of all transportation modes. In contrast, 42,000 people died on America's roads, streets and highways in 1997, the latest year for which a total is available.

The airlines are to be congratulated for this remarkable safety record. Congratulations, too, are to be extended to the Federal Aviation Administration, the National Transportation Safety Board, and the aircraft manufacturers, all of whom can share credit for this remarkable accomplishment.

Mr. Speaker, we indeed have cause to celebrate, but we must also temper our celebration with a dose of realism. Travel, whether by air, rail, highway or sea, is never without some element of risk. We cannot rest on this single year's result.

Worldwide, flights are expected to increase from 16.3 million this year to over 25 million by 2010. The number of passengers on U.S. domestic and international flights is expected to increase to over 900 million by 2006, a 50 percent increase over 10 years. We must be ready to manage this growth.

Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater and FAA Administrator Jane Garvey, in partnership with the aviation community, have initiated a targeted safety agenda, focusing on issues such as terrain avoidance systems, to help us meet the challenge.

We in Congress must ensure that airports continue to have the resources to make critical capacity and safety investments. The FAA and NTSB must have the safety inspectors, air traffic controllers, airway system specialists and the air traffic control equipment to meet the increased aviation demand. As a matter of fact, from all indications, we can expect to debate a measure on the House floor sometime this year to provide these resources.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a Member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee since I was first elected to the House 24 years ago. When I had the privilege to chair the Investigations and Oversight Subcommittee, and later the Aviation Subcommittee, I held many, many hours of hearings which called the airlines, the manufacturers and the FAA to account for practices that threatened to diminish the margins of safety for the traveling public. I feel it is only right that, when the country's air transportation system has achieved such a remarkable safety record, I should also stand to give those responsible the credit they most certainly deserve.

I call upon my colleagues to join me in this commendation.

RECOGNITION OF DELRAY BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce's acquisition of its 1,000th member. The membership of Redhead Yacht Charters, owned and operated by Mr. Jerry Janaro, bring the Delray Chamber's membership to 1000, placing the Chamber in an elite group of just 30 Chambers in Florida to have reached this landmark.

The Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce has an 86 year history of serving the South Florida business community boasting over 175 businesses which have been members for 15 years or more, including a select group which is celebrating their 50th anniversary with the Chamber.

Although Mr. Janaro's Redhead Yacht Charters is a new member, Jerry is not new to the Chamber. Jerry joined the Chamber in 1984 and has served on the executive board, holding positions as Vice Chair of area committees as well as Chairman of the Board. Jerry has joined other chambers now that his business takes him up and down the coast, but says, "None can beat the Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce for value, services and friendliness. It's the best chamber around."

The mission of the Chamber is to provide "leadership, promote the economic well being of our total community, preserve our free enterprise system, and promote business growth and development." Mr. Speaker, the Delray Chamber is doing a fine job in promoting their mission and I congratulate them on their milestone 1,000th membership.

HONORING DR. MARY SCOPATZ

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Mary Scopatz of Santa Barbara, California as she retires on January 29, 1999 after serving our local schools for 28 years.

Mary began her distinguished career in 1970 as the Department Chair and teacher for the Santa Barbara High School Business Education Department. After only three years, she was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year in 1973. In 1978, she served as the Project Director for Disadvantaged Students, and then became the coordinator for the Youth Employment Training Programs and the Private Sector Involvement Project.

After receiving her Educational Doctorate in 1980, Mary focused her attention on involving local industry with education as the Director of the Santa Barbara Industry Education Council, and providing year round and summer employment opportunities for young people as the Director of the Career and Youth Employment Programs.

Mary has also shown a deep commitment to her community through her involvement in organizations such as the American Vocational Association, the California Business Education Association, as a member of both the Santa Barbara and the Goleta Chambers of Commerce, the Santa Barbara Youth Coalition, and the Children's Resource and Referral program.

Recently, my office had the pleasure of working with Mary on establishing a Job Corps Program on the Central Coast. Her determination and commitment to the success of young people is unquestionable.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Dr. Mary Scopatz for her lifelong work as a committed, innovative educator. Her dedication and vision will be missed but never forgotten.

HONORING MRS. RUTH ANN HALL

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary woman, Mrs. Ruth Ann Hall of Waldorf, MD who passed away on January 18, 1999. Her passing is a tremendous loss for her family and all the people who knew her.

Ruth Ann graduated from Charles County Community College and the University of Maryland and was a teacher for the Charles County Public Schools for more than 20 years. She was voted outstanding teacher of the year in the mid-1980s, was a past president of the Education Association of Charles County and was active in many political associations.

Christa McAuliffe, one of our country's best known teachers, used as her credo: "I touch the future, I teach." Ruth Ann touched, indeed she embraced and shaped, the future. Ruth Ann fought tirelessly for children and for their teachers. She advocated public policies that would benefit our students and recognize the critical importance and inestimable worth of