

nearly enough men and women sense the proper fear of the Lord and a love for country to prompt them to answer the call for military service. It will become harder and harder to find four chaplains who will set the example that they set.

Here is a plea to the Builder Generation: use your retirement years to work with your grandchildren and great grandchildren to help instill within them a genuine love for God, a reverential fear of God, and a solid trust in God, for the glory of God, for their personal good and for the good of our country.

May God help us!! Al Lutz

IN HONOR OF FATHER JOHN
WILSON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Father John Wilson.

Father Wilson was a former diocesan director of the deaf Apostolate, a longtime pastor of St. Timothy Church in Garfield Heights and was a chaplain for ten years at St. Edward Home in Fairlawn. He was a greatly loved man who was dedicated to helping the deaf community. He began working with the deaf community at his first assignment as assistant pastor at St. Collumbkill Church in Cleveland. When this parish closed, he continued his work with the deaf community as diocesan director of the deaf Apostolate. During his tenure as diocesan director of the deaf Apostolate, Father Wilson built up one of the largest communities in the country.

Father Wilson was a very devoted man who, even when his own health was a risk forcing him to retire as pastor, continued to help the people in his community. This selfless dedication is something that should be recognized, praised and encouraged in our communities today.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring this great man, Father Wilson. He will be greatly missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM TURNER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 52, I was absent because of my participation in a congressional delegation trip to Russia with members of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Research and Development for the purpose of discussing with the Russian Duma pending anti-missile defense legislation. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on H. Con. Res. 24.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, because inclement weather delayed my connecting flight from

Jackson, Mississippi, on Monday, June 14, 1999, I was unable to cast a recorded vote on rollcall No. 204.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1400, the Bond Price Competition Improvement Act of 1999.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. MARTIN
J. MURPHY, JR.

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Martin J. Murphy, Jr. who is retiring this year after more than 35 years of dedicated work in the field of cancer research. Dr. Murphy began his remarkable career in the area of cancer research in the late Sixties, when, as a postdoctoral fellow, he joined some of the most prestigious academic institutions in the world. After leaving academia, in 1975, Dr. Murphy joined the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center as an Associate Member. There, Dr. Murphy became a Founding Director of the Hematology Training Program, a renowned cancer research program sponsored by the National Institutes of Health.

A laboratory founded by Dr. Murphy at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Center later became the Hipple Cancer Research Center. This laboratory, under Dr. Murphy's leadership, provided an opportunity for cutting edge research on the molecular and genetic nature of cancer, as it afforded support to physicians and researchers by engaging the National Institutes of Health and various corporate and individual sponsors.

In 1979, Dr. Murphy brought the laboratory to Dayton, where it became part of the Wright State University School of Medicine. The Hipple Cancer Research Center developed into a prime cancer research facility due to Dr. Murphy's leadership and enthusiasm. Dr. Murphy's work also resulted in the establishment of the consortium of hospitals in the United States and Israel which developed clinical protocols for the vaccine treatment of patients with advanced melanoma. Dr. Murphy made seminal discoveries regarding the identity and characterization of the hematopoietic stem cells and the elucidation and purification of the molecules regulating the cell behavior.

While working relentlessly at the Hipple Center, Dr. Murphy founded Alpha Med Press, a non-profit publishing firm dedicated to the publication of world-class research articles in the area of cancer and AIDS research. Dr. Murphy's work in publishing, as well as his tenures at various universities in China, Latin America and South Africa show a dedication to improving health care on a world-wide basis.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Dr. Martin J. Murphy, Jr. for the outstanding work he has done in the last 35 years, and wishing Dr. Murphy a healthy and productive retirement.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID RAAB

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my deep appreciation to a remarkable citizen of both America and Israel, David Raab of Teaneck, NJ, who will soon be moving to the State of Israel.

As so many people in the Jewish community in New Jersey and across the United States already know, David has been, for decades now, a tireless pro-Israel activist. And through the years, he has shown an almost magical ability to bring people together for the purpose of strengthening America's alliance with their number one ally in the Middle East, the State of Israel. For this, David Raab deserves the admiration and respect of all people who care deeply about the need to ensure the safety and security of Israel and her citizens.

I have known David as a dear personal friend and as an outstanding leader and member of a number of distinguished Jewish organizations. I have also known David as a devoted father and husband, a successful businessman, and an individual committed to making his community and neighborhood a better place to live. In all these respects, David has been supported by his loving wife Leah and his three children, Yitzhak, Aviel and Aliza.

As David and his family prepare to depart for Israel, I want to publicly thank him for the advice and counsel he has generously offered over the years to me and members of this august body on matters concerning Israel and the entire Middle East. Whether it was helping craft a strategy to secure justice for Israel at the United Nations, or helping Members of Congress focus on the need to transfer to the United States those Palestinians suspected of killing Americans in Israel, David's advice has always been highly valued by members of both the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate.

I will miss David and wish him the very best as he begins a new and exciting chapter of his life in the State of Israel.

HONORING MAYOR CHARLES
ROONEY, JR., OF SEA BRIGHT, N.J.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, in my home state of New Jersey, at this very moment, children and their parents are starting to pack for their weekend at the Jersey Shore. And they are imagining the beautiful beaches and ocean waters that await them and all the fun and good memories that the coming weekend holds.

Most of these weekend visitors take the Jersey Shore for granted, not realizing that there are people who devoted their lives to protecting and maintaining the shoreline for all to enjoy. Foremost among these coastal champions was Charles Rooney, the mayor of Sea Bright, N.J., from 1988 until his death this year. This Sunday, June 20, the people of Sea

Bright will rededicate Swing Bridge Park in Sea Bright, N.J., in his honor.

The Sea Bright residents who will attend know well how hard Mayor Rooney worked over a 20-year period—first as a Councilman and then as Mayor—to get the state and federal funds to protect Sea Bright from the many “Nor’easters” that threatened the lives and property of residents. Over the years, these seasonal storms, with their ferocious winds and pounding surf, robbed Sea Bright of its protective seawall and buffer beaches to the point that the town might not have survived another storm season.

My colleagues, you know more about Mayor Rooney and Sea Bright than you realize, because it was to Sea Bright that the New York and national television stations would go for some fearsome footage whenever a hurricane came up the East Coast. Each time, I would talk to a very concerned Mayor Rooney on the phone and later meet him on a tour of the damage and we would agree to press harder and speed up the schedule to repair the seawall and reconstruct the beaches. And, colleagues, it was your vote, year-after-year that helped us finally make the repairs that resulted in the completion of the multi-million dollar Army Corps of Engineers Shore Protection Project along much of the coastline of my district.

Charles Rooney was a man who served his community like no other I know. His eight years as union representative in the Steel Workers Union helped prepare him for the leadership and coalition building skills he would later utilize as Councilman and Mayor. He served as president of the local chamber of commerce and established the senior citizens club, the borough recreation center and the youth program. In November, he was inducted into the League Municipalities “Mayors’ Hall of Fame” and in January into the “Elected Officials Hall of Fame” for having served more than 20 years in local government.

There was an amazing personal side to Charles Rooney. He had tremendous character and was himself a character. He used to say that when he took office, the town of Sea Bright was famous for having twenty-one liquor licenses and to reverse the common attitude of “let’s party in Sea Bright,” somebody had to be tough. It was that toughness that turned Sea Bright back into a beautiful family resort as it was during the glory days at the turn of the century.

It was also his political toughness, combined with his middle-aged entry into long distance running that gave him the nickname of “Iron Man Rooney.” Starting at the age of 48, he ran in 17 career marathons, inspired by another shore legend, Dr. George Sheehan, “The Running Doc” of Rumson. Mayor Rooney ran the entire length of the New Jersey Atlantic Coastline, from Sandy Hook to Cape May in just over four days. As the sponsor of local marathons, “he always cheered the loudest for the people coming in last. He’d be there for the lady running 13-minute miles, when no one else was there. He’d put the biggest smile on her face, making her feel like she’d just won the race,” said his son, Charles Rooney III.

It was appropriate that the dedication of Charles Rooney Swing Bridge Park is taking place on Fathers Day, because Mayor Rooney was the father of so many wonderful environmental improvement projects that enhanced

the quality of life in Sea Bright for its residents and others to enjoy. He was also a tremendous role model, not only for his son and daughter, but for all of us in public service who could learn so much from the warm and wonderful way he served the people of Sea Bright.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM TURNER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 51, I was absent because of my participation in a congressional delegation trip to Russia with members of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Research and Development for the purpose of discussing with the Russian Duma pending anti-missile defense legislation. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on H.R. 774

APPLE AND ONION DISASTER LEGISLATION, H.R. 2237

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the plight of the apple and onion farmers of New York State remains a major concern for many of us in Congress who represent New York State. Following the severe, inclement weather that devastated crops in various Counties throughout our state last year, our farmers found themselves hampered by an ineffective federal crop insurance policy and a bureaucracy that showed very little compassion.

Hardest hit by last year’s storm were New York State’s apple and onion farmers. Our onion producers in Pine Island, NY in particular, faced catastrophic losses due to a hail storm that passed through the region on May 31st of last year. That storm left many of our farmers with no considerable yields, forcing many to zero out their crops, leaving them without a marketable product.

Faced with last year’s losses and still recovering from losses incurred in 1996, our farmers looked to their crop insurance for assistance. What they found instead was an inadequate program that did nothing to assuage the burden that their losses placed upon them.

Regrettably, the Department of Agriculture’s response to our farmers plight has been a case of too little, too late. Following last year’s hail storm, Congress passed the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 1998, which approved \$5.9 billion dollars in disaster assistance for affected farmers nationwide. While payments were made directly and immediately to hog, wheat, cotton and dairy farmers, action to ease our apple and onion farmers plight was much too slow in coming. A sign-up period was enacted by the Secretary for affected apple and onion farmers which was initially to last from February 1, 1999 to May 11, 1999.

The sign-up period proved to be a disaster within itself. Met with poor training, inadequate staffing and numerous delays, our farmers did not see one penny of the disaster assistance

until just last week, one year later and months into this year’s planting season.

This legislation, H.R. 2237 co-sponsored by Congressman WALSH, provides that the Secretary of Agriculture authorize \$40 billion for additional disaster assistance to affected apple and onion farmers in New York State, so that they may fully recover from the damage and losses that they have incurred over the past three years. We look forward to working with the Secretary of Agriculture in the coming months to work towards the implementation of these funds, as well as a thorough revision of the federal crop insurance program, so that we may ensure that the future of our nation’s farmers remain prosperous.

H.R. 2237

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EMERGENCY CROP LOSS ASSISTANCE FOR NEW YORK APPLE PRODUCERS.

(a) ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED.—In addition to other authorities available to the Secretary of Agriculture to provide assistance to apple producers who incur crop losses, the Secretary may provide assistance under this section to apple producers in the State of New York who incurred losses in 1998 to apple crops due to damaging weather or related conditions.

(b) SPECIAL RULES.—In providing assistance to apple producers under this section, the Secretary shall calculate the amount of a apple producer’s payment in a manner that—

(1) does not discount excess juice production;

(2) allows producers in 1998 to use their historical production as a yield basis;

(3) ensures that losses in each marketing category (primary, secondary, and tertiary) are only added together, and not subtracted as currently proposed by the Department of Agriculture; and

(4) uses the 5-year average market price for apples in New York as established by the National Agriculture Statistics Service.

(c) MAXIMUM PAYMENT LIMITATION.—In providing assistance to apple producers under this section, the maximum payment limitation per farm shall be equal to the higher of—

(1) \$80,000; or

(2) the product of \$1,350 and the total farm orchard acreage.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall issue guidelines for the provision of assistance under this section, which shall be available to affected apple producers not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act. Subject to the availability of funds for this purpose, the Secretary shall make payments available under this section in an expeditious time frame in order to alleviate the severe financial strain of New York State apple producers.

SEC. 2. EMERGENCY CROP LOSS ASSISTANCE FOR NEW YORK ONION PRODUCERS.

(a) ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED.—In addition to other authorities available to the Secretary of Agriculture to provide assistance to onion producers who incur crop losses, the Secretary may provide assistance under this section to onion producers in the State of New York who incurred losses in 1998 to onion crops due to damaging weather or related conditions.

(b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible for assistance under this section, the Secretary must conclude that, because of damaging weather or related condition in 1998, the total quantity of the 1998 onion crop that a New York onion producer was able to harvest was less than 65 percent of the producer’s historical yield. The Secretary may