

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we too join in honoring this fine organization; an organization rich in both history and service. Once again, I extend my praises to the Beta Alpha Omega, and wish them another 65 years of continued success.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 217, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

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FIGHTING HUNGER FOR A QUARTER OF A CENTURY: COMMEMORATING BREAD FOR THE WORLD'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

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**HON. TONY P. HALL**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute and congratulate Bread for the World on their 25th anniversary, and welcome Bread for the World members from across the country as they convene in Washington, D.C. for their National Gathering, Silver Anniversary Celebration, and Annual Lobby Day.

For 25 years, Bread for the World has worked to end hunger and seek justice for the poor, the hurting, and the oppressed. When people of faith come together around the common conviction that hunger can be defeated, great things happen. And great things have happened over the years, as Bread for the World has won many victories, large and small, on behalf of the hungry and voiceless. It has been my privilege to work with Bread for the World on many issues over the years, and I've often drawn inspiration from the energy, dedication, and tenacity of Bread for the World Members and staff. This organization represents our finest traditions of living faith and civic duty, and its efforts have never been more important.

Despite a booming economy, hunger is on the rise, and millions of low-income Americans are having trouble putting food on the table. Rosy economic statistics are masking real hardship and a deepening of poverty for many working people and others. Across the nation, the number of people turning to food banks and soup kitchens for help is up substantially. And here in the richest nation on earth, we still have a disgracefully high child poverty rate, with one in five of our children living in poverty.

And despite tremendous progress in this fight over the past 25 years, hunger still threatens 800 million of the world's people. Large populations in Africa's Great Lakes Region, Angola, Liberia, Somalia, Sudan, the former Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Iraq, and North Korea require assistance to survive. World estimates of people requiring emergency food aid to escape hunger now exceed 26 million.

We know that debt relief is hunger relief, and that is why Bread for the World's Debt

Relief for Poverty Reduction initiative is so timely. This year, Bread for the World joined together with hundreds of other organizations working internationally to ease crippling debt burdens that keep poor nations from investing in the well-being of their citizens. Payments on past debt are, on average, twice the amount that many poor countries receive in aid. In sub-Saharan Africa, nations are making payments of \$12 billion each year on old debt—six times the amount it would take to school all African children. That is wrong, and I am pleased to join with Bread for the World in seeking to change it.

I give thanks for Bread for the World and its members and staff for their contributions to fighting hunger in the United States and overseas, and wish them continued blessings in the years ahead, as they seek justice and an end to hunger.

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TRIBUTE TO DISCOVER CARD SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the recipients of the Discover Card Tribute Award scholarships. The winners were selected from over 10,000 applications nationwide.

The Discover Card Tribute Award program honors outstanding high school juniors across the United States and overseas. The Tribute Award program not only recognizes the students scholastic achievement, but also their community service, leadership skills, unique talents, and goal attainment. The winners may use their scholarships for any form of post high school education, including trade schools and two year colleges.

The scholarships are awarded in three categories of study: Arts and Humanities, Trade and Technical or Science, Business and Technology. Students can receive a gold (2,500), silver (1,750), bronze (1,250), and merit (1,000) Tribute Award scholarship.

The winners from South Carolina are: Melanie Almonte, Goose Creek—bronze; Shawnta Bolden, North Charleston—bronze; Reis Coggins, Fort Mill—silver; Kojillitta Griffin, Charleston—silver; Kiti Kajana, Columbia—gold; Anisa Kintz, Conway—silver; Courtney Sandifer, Barnwell—gold; Snehal Sarvate, Charleston—bronze; Krista Shirley, Gilbert—gold; and Melissa Tanner, North Charleston—silver.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the young scholarship winners from the Palmetto State, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these students for their current achievements, and encourage them to continue their contributions as our nation's young leaders.

HILLSBORO HIGH SCHOOL TEAM WINS REGION FOUR (SOUTHEASTERN STATES) IN WE THE PEOPLE . . . THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION PROGRAM

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**HON. BOB CLEMENT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my alma mater, Hillsboro High School, for their victory in Region Four (Southeastern States) of the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program. On May 1–3, 1999, more than 1,200 students from across the United States came to Washington, D.C. to compete in the national finals of this program. Through their hard work and diligence, and led by teacher Mary Catherine Bradshaw, State Coordinator Judy Cannizzaro, and District Coordinator Holly West Brewer, these young scholars gained a profound knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles of our constitutional democracy.

The We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about both the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition was modeled after hearings in the U.S. Congress, consisting of oral presentations by the students before a panel of adult judges. The students testified as constitutional experts, and their testimony was followed by a period of questioning during which the judges probed the students for both the depth of their understanding and the ability to apply their knowledge to constitutional dilemmas.

Twenty-seven students from Hillsboro competed in the competition, including Suchie Brattacharyya, Rachel Bloomekatz, Kate Caldwell, Tua Chaudahari, Lauren Collett, Doug Conway, Rion C. Taylor, Cara Dodge, Sarah Ettinger, Carmen Germino, Lee Griggs, Emma Groce, Kyle Hatridge, Sarah Henn, Rebecca Hunter, Emeily Leiserson, Meredith Lorber, Ana Mallett, Judson Merrell, Carley O'Shea, Rachel Roberts, J.P. Schuffman, Ashley Smiley, Ashley Thompson, Ayne Wallace-Swiggart, and Mary Williams.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People . . . program has provided curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide. A 1994 evaluation of the program found it successful in promoting both the toleration of dissenting views and active participation in our political system. I commend the students from Hillsboro High School, as well as their teachers and administrators, for their impressive performance and wish them the best of luck in their efforts to reach the 2000 national finals.

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EXPANDED NUTRITION PROGRAM

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**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in observing the 30th

anniversary of the Expanded Nutrition Program. On Monday, I will be with the Expanded Nutrition Program of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi to celebrate this all-important anniversary.

We are all fortunate enough to know how very important, how very fundamental, nutrition is to each of us. Each one of us, for better or worse, is a product of what we began to eat when we were younger. I am so very proud of the work South Texans have done to learn more about nutrition.

I am so grateful for the vision in association with the Expanded Nutrition Program (ENP) in Texas. ENP has been providing nutrition education to poor families and children since 1968, and it is easily one of our most productive programs.

ENP teaches an assortment of things all of us need in order to be productive, healthy citizens: life skills, self-sufficiency, better health and nutrition, careful budgeting, commitment, responsibility and personal success. All in all, ENP leads the way to a healthier way of life. Better still, EPN saves us money; each dollar spent on ENP is \$10 saved on health care costs.

ENP teaches lessons about food and nutrition in a supportive environment. The "Kids in the Kitchen" program provides leadership development for young people who need esteem or leadership skills. Young people who help prepare family meals learn valuable lessons about sharing workload and responsibility.

Through the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texans have learned about basic nutrition, managing a food budget, food safety and food preparation. Women who are returning to work can learn to prepare quick and easy, yet nutritious, meals to ease the family's adjustment to the change. Positive, productive activities may reduce the chance of risky behavior.

I want to ask all my colleagues to join me today in observing the 30th anniversary of the Expanded Nutrition Program.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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#### **HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 218 had I been present, I would have voted "no."

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#### SAN ANTONIO WATER SYSTEM RECYCLING PROJECT

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#### **HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce legislation to promote water conservation and recycling in San Antonio, Texas. This legislation enjoys the bipartisan support of the other members of the San Antonio congressional delegation who join as original co-sponsors.

Like many places across the Nation, San Antonio and the entire central Texas region

faces the challenge of providing adequate supplies of water for human consumption, agriculture, industry, and recreation. Unlike other areas, San Antonio depends on a sole source for its drinking water—the Edwards Aquifer.

This legislation would authorize the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) Water Recycling Project Phase III. SAWS has embarked on an ambitious project to recycle water that can then be used for a host of industrial and non-potable uses. Upon completion of the project, SAWS expects to save 35,000 acre feet of water, roughly equivalent to 31.2 million gallons per day. As a result, more than 11 billion gallons a year of aquifer water will be available for potable use. This saving will free up an amount equal to approximately twenty percent of the City of San Antonio's current withdrawals from the Edwards Aquifer.

The SAWS recycling project meets federal goals for Bureau of Reclamation water projects under Title XVI of the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act of 1992, as amended (PL 102-575). Specifically, the San Antonio Recycled Water Project will: reduce demand on and use of the Edwards Aquifer water supply and will help protect federally-protected endangered species dependent on spring flows originating in the Edwards Aquifer; reduce and postpone San Antonio's need to develop new water resources; foster a region-wide perspective in addressing usage issues across the Edwards Aquifer area, as well as the San Antonio and Guadalupe Rivers watersheds; and provide economic benefits to a community with significantly economically disadvantaged sectors. Phase III is expected to cost approximately \$20 million, and the federal share would be \$5 million.

The FY 1998 Energy and Water Appropriation Bill contained a \$200,000 "earmark" for the Bureau to conduct a review of San Antonio's environmental assessment and feasibility study of the reuse program. Staff of the Bureau of Reclamation are currently working in coordination with staff of the San Antonio Water System to perform this review. The SAWS project authorization was included in S. 901 in the 104th Congress, a bill reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Unfortunately, that version of the bill did not become law.

We face a continuing challenge to use our natural resources more efficiently so that we can meet our communal obligation to provide high quality drinking water to all of our neighborhoods and to maintain a supply of water for economic growth and expansion. In San Antonio, our five military installations will benefit from the recycling project, reducing their need to rely on Edwards Aquifer water. Other large water consumers will also switch to recycled water for non-potable uses, helping us better manage our water supply. SAWS has stepped up to the plate to find long-term solutions, and this recycling project is part of that plan. I am honored to join with my colleagues from San Antonio, Congressman LAMAR SMITH, Congressman HENRY BONILLA, and Congressman CHARLES GONZALEZ, as original co-sponsors of this legislation.

BETHESDA FALCONS WIN RECORD SEVENTH MARYLAND SOCCER TITLE

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#### **HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 18, 1999*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to congratulate the Bethesda Soccer Club Falcons for their victory in the U-16 girls Maryland State Cup championship. Their defeat of the Soccer Club of Baltimore Force on Saturday, June 5, by the score of 11-0, marked the Falcon's seventh consecutive title, a Maryland record. The Falcons have won the title each year since they have been eligible to compete for the State Cup. The team will travel to Rhode Island next month to compete in the U.S. Youth Soccer Association Eastern Regional Championships.

The Force battled throughout the game and never relented, but the Falcons' stout defense, anchored by defenders Caitlin Curtis, Amy Salomon, Alison West, and goalies Anna Halse-Strumberg, and Kerry York, limited the Force to just a handful of shots. On offense, the Falcons were led by three goal performances from Audra Poulin and Jenny Potter. Jenna Linden contributed two goals with Christi Bird, Stephanie Sybert, and Allison Dooley tallying the remaining scores. The Falcon midfielders, Beth Hendricks, Tara Quinn, Jennifer Fields, Susannah Empson, and Tanya Hahnel, played a key role in transition between offense and defense. The Falcon defense did not allow a goal in the five games of the 1999 State Cup tournament while the offense recorded 29 goals. On Sunday, the Falcons ended their regular season with a first place finish in the Washington Area Girls Soccer Association U-17 Premier Division. The team was guided by coach Richie Burke.

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#### MANDATORY GUN SHOW BACKGROUND CHECK ACT

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SPEECH OF

#### **HON. JAMES A. BARCIA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2122) to require background checks at gun shows, and for other purposes:

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Dingell, Oberstar, Stenholm, Tanner, Cramer, John amendment.

The amendment addresses several concerns that are important to my constituents in the Fifth District of Michigan. H.R. 2122, as written would allow a 72-hour delay at Gun Shows if the instant check is not approved. In my district, many of my constituents purchase their firearms at Gun Shows because of the rural nature of this area and access to firearms for hunting or self-protection is not readily available. The Dingell Amendment would not strike the instant check at gun shows, but would lower the 72-hour delay to 24 hours. In many cases, a gun show is only in an area for 2 days. The three-day delay would prevent many law-abiding citizens from purchasing