

effective state and federal legislation and by the realities of today's marketplace. It is time for Congress to act on the recommendations of the SEC and enact our legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 1999

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, on June 22, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote numbers 245 and 246. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 659 (PATRIOT Act) and "yes" on H.R. 1175, authorizing an investigation into the disappearance of Zachary Baumel, Yehuda Katz and Zvi Feldman.

CONGRATULATIONS TO STEVE
BOYD

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 1999

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my community's most distinguished broadcast journalists upon the occasion of his departure as an anchor and reporter at WKBW-TV in Buffalo, New York.

A graduate of Canisius College and the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law, Steve Boyd began his broadcasting career at KOTA-TV in Rapid City, South Dakota. A Buffalo area native, Steve joined the staff of WKBW-TV in 1989.

During his career, Steve has been the recipient of a number of honors and recognitions, including awards from the New York State Broadcasters Association; the Associated Press of New York state; and the Society of Professional Journalists. Steve also garnered a New York State Emmy nomination.

Steve is departing the field of broadcast journalism to begin a new career in the field of law; and as his friends and colleagues join him this evening to wish him success, I ask, Mr. Speaker, that this House join them in extending to Steve Boyd our sincerest best wishes.

RECOGNIZING MR. COSMO C.
INSALACO

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Cosmo C. Insalaco, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures, upon his retirement after 21 years of service to Fresno County, the number one ranked agricultural county in the United States.

Born and raised on a farm in Watterton Massachusetts, Cosmo has long been involved in the agriculture industry. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts with a degree in Horticulture, and continued

his studies in Public Administration through the California college system. In addition to his participation in agriculture, Cosmo also served one year of active duty in the United States Air Force and five years in the Air Force Reserve.

Cosmo served as Deputy Agricultural Commissioner with Santa Clara County, and Assistant Agricultural Commissioner for San Mateo County. He served as vice-president of Agribusiness in the Fresno County and City Chamber of Commerce, and is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the California Agricultural Commissioners' and Sealers' Association. He was the originator of the Fresno County Blossom Trail in 1987, and is founder and past chairman of Fresno Ag Roundtable.

Throughout his impressive career, Cosmo has actively participated in many organizations. He was President of the San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Commissioners' and Sealers' Association, a member of the National and Western Weights and Measures Association, the Rotary Club of Fresno, the Fresno County Farm Bureau and a charter member of the Clovis Elks. He was an advisor to the California State University Fresno Agriculture program for 20 years. He served on Governor Gerry Brown's and Governor Pete Wilson's Exotic Pest Task Force, and on Governor Wilson's Ag Land Task Force. Cosmo also served on the Fresno County Board of Supervisors' Ag Land Preservation Committee, and currently serves as Agricultural Commissioner representative for both the Standardization and Vertebrate Pest Advisory Boards for the Secretary of Agriculture and the California Commissioners' and Sealers Association. Because of his involvement and service, Cosmo was honored as the "1989 Agriculturalist of the Year" in Fresno County.

Mr. Speaker, Cosmo C. Insalaco's many years of service and dedication to agriculture are worthy of great respect and recognition. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending to Cosmo best wishes for continued success and accomplishment following his retirement.

HONORING PAUL DREHER FOR
SERVICE TO THE GRAND RAPIDS
CIVIC THEATRE

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 1999

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the numerous contributions made by Mr. Paul Dreher during his 39 years of dedicated service to the Civic Theatre in Grand Rapids, Michigan and to the arts community of West Michigan. Paul is retiring from his position as Managing Director of the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre and will be recognized by his friends and peers on June 27 on what has been proclaimed by our mayor as "Paul Dreher Day" in Grand Rapids.

A native of South Carolina, Paul began his professional career by serving as a radio announcer in New York. From there he moved on to Manistee, Michigan where he began his professional acting career and also served as a lighting designer for the Manistee Summer Theater. From there it was on to Grand Rapids to serve as a guest director at the Civic

Theatre in 1959. A year later he was offered the full-time directorship of the theatre with a staff of three and a budget of under \$8,000. Now nearly 40 years later, Paul has over 225 Civic Theatre directing credits on his resume. In addition, the theatre is the second largest community theatre in the United States and the operational budget has increased significantly to well over a million dollars, thanks to the vision and leadership of Paul Dreher.

When you mention the Civic Theatre and the theatre arts in Grand Rapids, the name "Paul Dreher" automatically comes up. During his tenure, Paul has worn many hats. While directing over 90 percent of the plays on the Civic stage over the past 39 years and handling the business affairs of the theatre, Paul has also put in time as a last-minute substitute actor by filling in for others who became ill and were unable to perform.

Paul is responsible for bringing a diverse selection of theatre offerings to our community. There have been Shakespeare plays such as Othello and Henry IV; the classics have included Our Town and Death of a Salesman; musicals have included Annie and South Pacific, and dramas have brought to the stage Miracle Worker and A Streetcar Named Desire. He has also provided the youth of our community with an outlet through the Young People's Theatre program. As managing Director, Paul also made sure productions were accessible to everyone by adding hearing-impaired sections and wheelchair-accessible viewing areas. With Paul in charge no stone was left unturned.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Paul for his dedication to the Civic Theatre and the arts in Grand Rapids. I also want to thank him personally for dedicating so much of his life to providing quality entertainment to audiences both young and old over the past four decades. He has touched the lives of many, and his talent, wisdom, and leadership will be missed. Thank you, Paul, for making a difference!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 1999

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 23rd, I was speaking to a large group of Kentucky high school students on school violence, and was unable to arrive for rollcall vote No. 247. The vote was on passage of H. Res. 218, providing consideration for the FY 2000 Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. If I had been present, I would have voted "aye."

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
AUTHORIZING CONGRESS TO
PROHIBIT THE PHYSICAL DESE-
CRATION OF THE FLAG OF THE
UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.J. Res. 33, a proposed

Amendment to the Constitution of the United States to ban the desecration of the Flag. I feel this amendment runs contra to the spirit of America's Founding Fathers. When the British sought to oppress the colonies, they attacked the ability to speak freely, they sought to snuff out any different opinions, snuff out that which makes a democracy strong. From this blatant oppression came the impetus for the first Amendment, our Founding Fathers felt so strongly that we should be able to speak our mind regarding political process they embedded the right in our Constitution's Bill of Rights. Now, after 200 years, they seek to change this cherished principle.

I love my flag, but I love it for what it stands for and the principles it represents. People have died for the principles the flag represents, not for the cloth which it is made. Burn the symbol of our country, tear it up, and we only become stronger, more dedicated to the principles the flag represents. An attack against our flag is really an affirmation of our Nation and all that we as a people stand for.

Our courts told us burning the flag is a protected form of free speech and we must respect this. The American Flag is an exceptional symbol of an extraordinary nation that has protected personal liberty for more than 200 years. We must recognize that the flag is an icon, only an icon, and our beliefs and principles are the rock on that we stand.

BRENDA McDONNELL AND HELEN MOONEY RECOGNIZED AS TWO EXTRAORDINARY TEACHERS

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 1999

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two extraordinary teachers from the eight Congressional District of Massachusetts, Brenda McDonnell and Helen Mooney. Both are educators at East Somerville Community School and have been selected to receive the Time Warner Cable's 1998-1999 National Teacher Award. These exceptional women are two of only fifteen teachers selected out of hundreds of entries from across the country.

Ms. McDonnell and Ms. Mooney together organized a project for their seventh grade students called the "Cable Enhanced Classroom." through this project, students were encouraged to explore an area of their interest that was related to the themes of National History Day: Science, Technology and Inventions. Over a ten-week period, forty-seven seventh-grade students prepared media presentations, plays, display boards, and research papers by referencing programs from sources such as A&E, the Discovery Channel, the History Channel, the Learning Channel, and the Internet.

Time Warner Cable has recognized Ms. McDonnell's and Ms. Mooney's project as an example of exemplary teaching. Both teachers will share the \$1,000.00 grant presented to them at an awards dinner honoring their initiative and achievement. These teachers have been a positive influence and an inspiration to other educators and students nationwide. Their achievement illustrates the significant impact teachers make when challenging their students with thought provoking assignments.

Education is of great importance to me. In particular, I believe it is vital to attract and encourage enthusiastic teachers. Honoring dedicated instructors such as Mr. McDonnell and Ms. Mooney helps to reveal our immense appreciation and encourages the same innovation in future projects.

IN HONOR OF LILLIAN WASHINGTON

HON. LYNN N. RIVERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 1999

Ms. RIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Lillian Washington, who will be celebrating her 100th birthday on July 1, 1999.

Mrs. Washington was born in Montecello, Georgia, in 1899. She is the eleventh child of Charlie and Amanda Tuggle. During her childhood, she was most happy running and playing outside in the natural settings around her home. She attended Sardis Grade School, and graduated from Montecello High School.

Since moving to the Detroit area over 75 years ago, Mrs. Washington has been a generous and active member of both her church and in her community. After marrying Charles Smith in 1922, she joined the Russel Street Baptist Church. Following the passing of Mr. Smith, she later remarried and joined Smith Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church. She served faithfully on the church's Stewardess Board for many years, and her loving concern for others, especially children, has touched many hearts. Although she did not have biological children, she has been a "mother" to countless "daughters."

Mrs. Washington lives alone in her apartment surrounded by precious mementos, a testament to her strong will and the fact that she is still "going strong." Her persevering spirit may best be symbolized by her favorite song, "Through it All." She is certainly a treasure for our community, and I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in wishing her a wonderful birthday and many more years of health and happiness.

CONGRATULATING MARTHA MCKINLEY, MOTHER OF THE YEAR

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Martha McKinley for being honored as Mother of the Year by the Fresno County Women in Chambers of Commerce. Martha is an outstanding and deserving mother in Fresno County.

Martha McKinley was nominated by her daughter, Monna Romagnoli, three grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. Martha married Pete McKinley on February 6, 1937 and they shared their lives together for 40 years. In 1978 Pete passed away.

Martha has worked most of her adult life in several different fields to support her parents and family. She was a nursery school teacher; office manager at Maier Island Naval Ship-

yard; department head of CA Industrial Division of Welfare. Martha was also active in community and civic organizations and volunteered on several political campaigns. She was a member of the Women's Zonta Club and the Coachella Valley Women's Club. In 1950, Martha McKinley was the first President of Fresno County Women in Chambers of Commerce. She remains an active member today as she enjoys her retirement.

Martha is an exemplary mother who possesses the qualities of compassion, warmth, generosity, humor, and humility. Martha has also instilled these values in her entire family. Furthermore, her great spirit, integrity, loyalty, wit, and generosity are the reasons for her long-lasting friendships.

Martha is quick to share herself with others in need, often times bringing them into her life and home. Martha became a second mother to her neighbor Sally, when she lost her mother. Martha made sure to include Sally in everything her family did. She guided and comforted Sally, treating her like a daughter.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleges to join me in congratulating Martha McKinley for being awarded Mother of the Year. Her desire to put family first, her love of God, life, and her neighbor make her truly deserving of this recognition.

U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT DENIED REQUEST AT HONG KONG'S CHEK LAP KOK AIRPORT

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, the People's Republic of China has denied a request for a United States military aircraft at Hong Kong's Chek Lap Kok airport and indicated it was "denied in view of current circumstances." Undoubtedly this is a Chinese reaction to our bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade. However, as the following editorial from Hong Kong's South China Morning Post indicates, that action is not only counterproductive for Sino-American relations, it raises further questions in America and the world regarding the autonomy of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) within the Chinese governmental system. It is true that the People's Republic of China does maintain full responsibility for foreign policy and national security for the Hong Kong SAR, but this decision seems an unnecessary further aggravation in the relations between China and the United States of America. I urge my colleagues to read the following editorial in the June 24, 1999, editorial of the South China Morning Post.

EDITORIAL

More than a month after the bombing of the embassy in Belgrade, Beijing's fury is apparently still undiminished. Profound and repeated apologies by the US, including the telephone call from President Bill Clinton to President Jiang Zemin, have failed to get diplomatic communications back on track.

The mainland Government's response was understandable in the emotion of the moment; after all, staff members tragically lost their lives. But by refusing to help defuse the ongoing row, Beijing now risks deepening the harm to Sino-US relations.