

THE MEDICARE DIABETIC FOOT
ULCER CARE IMPROVEMENT AND
SAVINGS ACT OF 1999

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce the "Medicare Diabetic Foot Ulcer Care Improvement and Savings Act of 1999" with my colleague from New York, Mr. LAFALCE. This bill represents an important step forward toward providing people with diabetes with the advanced treatment they need to combat some of the complications experienced due to diabetes. We expect that it will also result in savings to the Medicare budget.

The legislation would extend Medicare coverage to include advanced new therapies to treat diabetic foot ulcers (DFUs). Diabetes affects nearly six million Medicare beneficiaries and treatment for people with diabetes makes up about one-quarter of the Medicare budget—with \$1.5 billion per year of that cost emanating from DFUs. The inclusion of such advanced therapies under Medicare would not only significantly improve the quality of care for beneficiaries with debilitating lower extremity wounds but also result in programmatic savings to Medicare.

The Lewin Group study found that treatment with recombinant human growth factor gel results in faster and more complete wound healing. They estimate that Medicare would save at least \$22 million in the first year alone in reduced DFU-related costs. This potential savings is in addition to the direct benefit to patients of better wound healing and less exposure to the risks of some of the more serious and expensive complications, such as hospitalizations, disability and amputations.

A cure for diabetes is within our reach. In the meantime, the Federal government must avail itself of advances in treatment knowledge. In the private sector, new technologies have reduced both diabetes specific complications and overall health care costs. I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation which would apply this knowledge to our Medicare program and benefit our Nation's seniors.

TRIBUTE TO CRAIG OLIVE

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Mr. Craig Olive, a fellow North Carolinian who has dedicated his life to public service.

Born on February 18, 1965, Craig Olive is the son of Mrs. Pearl T. Olive and the late James Clee Olive.

He currently resides in Clayton, NC where he is a member of the Little Creek Primitive Baptist Church, serving as a Trustee, Clerk, and Deacon.

He also serves as a member of the Finance Committee for the Little River Primitive Baptist Association.

At an early age of 11, Craig became involved in politics by helping to put up signs for local and statewide candidates.

After graduating from Smithfield-Selma High School, he studied Business Administration at Johnston Community College in Smithfield, NC.

His interest and concern for his fellow man inspired him to get involved as a volunteer in many community activities to make a difference as a community leader.

He has truly made an outstanding mark in the community and has gained statewide recognition, earning numerous awards.

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143C-4, Craig was recently appointed to the North Carolina Government Completion Commission by Harold J. Brubaker, Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives.

The purpose of the Commission is to be the catalyst for the use of competition to improve the delivery of State government services, to make State government more effective and more efficient, and to reduce the costs of government to taxpayers.

Craig is currently a member of the Johnston Community College Foundation Board.

His commitment to the education of young adults is outstanding.

Craig is dedicated to the Johnston Community College Foundation, helping to raise money in order to provide scholarships for young adults.

Also, he saw a need to help finance young adults by establishing the James C. Olive Scholarship, named in his father's memory.

Mr. Olive is a member of the Board of Advisors for the Paul A. Johnston Auditorium at Johnston Community College and is also a member of the Johnston County Heritage Center Committee.

He is Vice President of Selma Parks and Recreational Board, a member of the Clayton Chamber of Commerce, a volunteer with the Special Olympics program, a volunteer with Johnston County Senior Citizens program, and also serves as a volunteer with the American Cancer Society.

In 1992, Governor James G. Martin presented Mr. Olive with the "Long Leaf Pine" Award as an outstanding North Carolinian.

Additionally, Mr. Olive has been the leader of the Republican Party in his county, district, and the state.

Craig is a charter member of the Johnston County Young Republicans and is currently Vice-Chairman of the Johnston County Republican Party.

In 1997, Mr. Olive was presented the "James E. Broyhill Award" and was inducted into the North Carolina GOP Hall of Fame for his outstanding grassroots service.

Craig Olive has made and continues to make a major contribution in North Carolina and the nation.

He has a strong commitment to his family as well as to his fellow citizens.

Thank you to Craig Olive for his tireless work to improve the quality of life for all citizens

And for working with his friends and neighbors to provide an effective government for the people.

I salute you.

IN HONOR OF THE WORLD
CHAMPION SAN ANTONIO SPURS

HON. HENRY BONILLA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of his outstanding coverage of the San Antonio Spurs, I hereby enter this column by Buck Harvey into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This column appeared in the San Antonio Express News on the morning after the Spurs beat the New York Knicks to claim the NBA title.

[From the San Antonio Express News, June 26, 1999]

TIME OF THEIR LIVES? JUST REPLAY THE TAPE

(By Buck Harvey)

NEW YORK.—Within minutes Tim Duncan aimed a camcorder, which is just like him. He's young, but he's already old enough to know to value these moments.

So at midcourt in Madison Square Garden, Duncan turned his camera and caught Avery Johnson and Gregg Popovich hugging. He captured the celebration of three generations of Robinson men. And then he panned this scene and created something he should stash in a vault.

Even with so much still awaiting him—with a Hall of Fame career really just beginning—Duncan will someday look back at this tape and wonder how such a special group ever came together.

Nice guys, finally, finished first.

San Antonio already knows as much. The city waited more than a quarter of a century for a title and, when one arrived, it came unexpectedly, from a 6-8 nadir, with a coach everyone wanted to impale. Even after a three-month march across the country—proving night after night and in city after city they were the best—everything stood oddly quiet when Latrell Sprewell drove baseline one last time.

When Sprewell stumbled, the city felt as Popovich did. "Kind of stunning," Popovich said late Friday. "You wonder if it's really true.

Duncan can always go to his VCR for verification, and he'll be somewhere in the picture, too. At one point he gave his camcorder to Malik Rose.

Then he will see a few frames of the league's best player, as smooth with his feet as he is with his mind. The Knicks were as made for Duncan as the Lakers were, with little size to contest him, and his three-basket spurt to begin the fourth quarter showcased every skill.

As for the MVP of the 1999 NBA Finals: Wouldn't Karl Malone rather have this award than his?

But the film will drag just about then, as two, bullish defensive teams clawed at each other. And that's why the Spurs had a reason to be scared. As Sprewell jumped back for jumpers—as he felt it—the Knicks looked capable of jumping back to the Alamodome.

That's where other clips will be necessary. Splice in some footage from Salt Lake City when the Spurs took home court, then from Minneapolis, Los Angeles and Portland. Show how the Spurs closed out everyone on the road, with toughness, with defense.

Why should this one have been any different? The Spurs' defense held the Knicks without a point the last three minutes, which is no shock as to those who listened to Popovich's huddles during that time. "We are going to win this," he kept saying, "with our defense."

They would need one more basket, though, which brings Duncan to his final frame. On

the baseline, at his spot, left open again, was someone who once stood 5-foot-3 in a New Orleans high school, who grabbed the only scholarship offer he got, who was cut on Christmas Eve and at his friend's wedding.

There is a basketball god, all right: Avery Johnson needed only a second to swish the jumper he's been working on for a decade.

AJ deserves this ring. Robinson deserves this ring. Sean Elliott, Mario Elie, Jaren Jackson . . . name one who doesn't.

They were cast as soft victims, by Malone and Charles Barkley and Damon Stoudamire. By a lot of people without rings. But they rarely showed resentment.

They were so enjoyable that one New York newspaperman admitted he came to their interview sessions this week when he didn't have to, just so he could listen to them. They dunked and didn't beat their chests. They didn't turn on each other when they could have.

And someday, when Duncan wants to look back, he will turn on his VCR and remember the time of their lives. Men gathered from Drexel, Navy, American International, Southern and Pomona-Pitzer. Some without fanfare, all with something to prove. And they won.

IN HONOR OF DR. HERBERT
EDWARD POCH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, in this day of managed care and health maintenance organizations, it is easy to lose sight of the dedicated individuals in the medical profession who have devoted their lives to the care of others.

Tomorrow night, the staff at Monmouth Medical Center will honor just such an individual. Dr. Herbert Edward Poch will be retiring as director of Newborn Nursery at the hospital. His departure means the loss to Monmouth Center of a deeply-caring, personally-involved and highly-skilled pediatrician.

To the nurses on staff, Dr. Poch is "a grandfatherly figure who watches over us like a hawk and is never too busy to buy us lunch." on a daily basis, he provides the extra touches that turn a building of stone and glass and antiseptics into a congenial work place for staff, and a wonderful, state-of-the-art welcome center for new babies and their parents. Dr. Poch's professional expertise combined with his warm and engaging manner have made those first fragile days of life and parent-hood easier and safer for thousands of families.

In addition to being an outstanding physician and administrator, Dr. Poch is a teacher of medical students and physician assistant students in the nursery and the outpatient departments. He has shared his knowledge with others in many lectures and symposiums. By virtue of serving as the model for the Monmouth Medical Center Advertising Campaign and being featured on billboards, bus posters and print ads, Dr. Poch is a familiar figure and symbol of the many fine medical practitioners throughout Central Jersey.

Dr. Poch earned his bachelor's degree from Columbia College—where he was captain of the Varsity Basketball Team—and his medical degree from the Columbia University College

of Physicians and Surgeons. He interned at Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn, N.Y., and completed his residency at Babies Hospital, Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center.

He was the medical director and original founder of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of New Jersey in the early eighties and was honorary trustee of the Ronald McDonald House of Long Branch from 1992 to 1998. Throughout his career, he has been very active in many community, athletic and public service endeavors.

To my friend and neighbor, Dr. Poch, I say congratulations on an outstanding career in medicine and a well-deserved reputation as a man of great character and compassion.

WORLD TIBET DAY CELEBRATION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, the nation of Tibet is a country with a long history stretching back nearly fifteen hundred years, with a unique and irreplaceable cultural and religious heritage.

In 1949, the People's Republic of China invaded Tibet and since that time, over 1.6 million Tibetans have been killed and more than 6000 monasteries destroyed. Whereas the government of China has committed "acts of genocide" in Tibet, and is currently committing systematic human rights violations in that country, including torture, arbitrary arrest, denial of freedom of religion, denial of free speech and free press, and coerced sterilizations and abortions. Whereas China seeks to absorb Tibet into China and is conducting economic development in Tibet contrary to the wishes of the Tibetan people.

The Dalai Lama, temporal and spiritual leader of Tibet, was forced to flee to northern India in 1959, where he has been living reluctantly ever since, working to keep alive the culture and religion of his people along with their hopes of freedom. Whereas the Dalai Lama has been trying unceasingly to establish a peaceful dialogue with the Chinese government concerning cultural, religious and political freedoms for the Tibetan people.

The Tibetan people in their cultural, religious, and political life are now facing the grim prospect of extinction.

On July 10th, one week after America's Independence Day, World Tibet Day will be held. This event shares in the spirit of freedom of Independence Day symbolizes, while also symbolizing the nation of Tibet since at this event many Tibetan communities will honor the birthday of the Dalai Lama (on July 6th). This day will showcase the variety and beauty of Tibet and affirm basic rights of the Tibetan people to religious, cultural and political freedoms. Further on the weekend of World Tibet Day, houses of worship in many parts of the world—churches, synagogues, mosques, temples, gurudwaras—will take part in an Interfaith Call for Freedom of Worship In Tibet and For Universal Religious Freedom. One of the overall goals of World Tibet Day is supporting the Dalai Lama's campaign for peaceful negotiations with China, without preconditions, on the future of Tibet.

I would like to help in the celebration of World Tibet Day on July 10, 1999.

OLD AND NEW MASTERS SHOW-
CASED BY A GOLDEN MASTER

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, one of the specialties of life is its diversity and the many pleasant surprises it holds. Many people would believe that an individual with a prestigious doctorate in mechanical engineering who spent seven years as a professor at Wayne State and Michigan State Universities is a person who could design great works, and they would be right. But a fair number of people might not appreciate the fact that someone of such technical creativity is likely to recognize other accomplishments of imagination and celebrate them. Albert Scaglione is this admirable man who took a career in combining complexities to design treasures, and using his talent to appreciate other gems became one of the foremost art dealers in the world.

During his teaching career, Albert Scaglione opened Park West Gallery in 1969, in Southfield, Michigan. He started the gallery with his own private collection, and it has now grown to become the largest fine art gallery in North America, offering museum quality exhibitions and sales. He has been joined in his business by his wife, Mitsie, and now by their children, Lisa, Nicky, John and Marc. He and Mitsie also enjoy their grandchildren, Michael, Roman, Matthew and Angelo.

Albert Scaglione's world presence has been further enhanced with art auctions throughout the United States and Canada, and on 43 of the finest cruise ships, that attract some of the world's greatest art collectors. Whether a collector seeks old masters like Picasso, Rembrandt, or Chagall, or new artists like Peter Max, Fanch Ledan or Sharie Hatchett Bohlmann, that collector will find it at Park West Gallery.

For a man who is a member of numerous national honorary and professional societies, who is an active member of The Michigan Parkinson Foundation and the Karamanos Cancer Institute, and who has won awards from former Michigan Governor James J. Blanchard, the Michigan Cancer Foundation, and the American Red Cross, life is boundless. Using his own unrestrained vision, he has helped many others see that today's dreams are only a predictor of tomorrow's realities.

Family and friends will be coming together on July 4th to wish Albert Scaglione a most special and happy 50th birthday. Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing him a most joyous day, and in thanking him for all that he has done to make a positive difference in this world.

SUPREME COURT DISABILITY
RULING

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends to his colleagues the following editorial, "Court Ruling on Disability