

attention to this vital ethnic group and its continuing work and efforts in support of the democratic principles of this country and its commitment to the improvement of the quality of life in the United States.

The first German immigrants arrived at Penn's landing in Philadelphia in 1683. They had been invited to come to the New World by the William Penn, and arrived under the leadership of Daniel Pastorius, to settle in Germantown in Pennsylvania. They proved indeed to be valuable assets to their new homeland. The achievements of German immigrants are legion. Famous names like Carl Schurz, Baron von Steuben, Levy Strauss, John Jacob Astor, Peter Zenger, and more recently Albert Einstein and Henry Kissinger are testimony of Germany-American industriousness, loyalty and contributions.

Congratulations to all Americans of German descent on this important day.

RECOGNITION OF THE ALEXANDER MACOMB CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the March of Dimes 1999 Alexander Macomb Citizens of the year. Beginning in 1984, a group of leading Macomb county citizens instituted the "Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year" award. The award was named after General Alexander Macomb, the county's namesake, who was a hero of the War of 1812, repelling a superior invading force at Lake Plattsburgh, NY, which kept the United States borders intact. Since the inception of the award, over \$500,000 has been generated for the Macomb County March of Dimes.

The Alexander Macomb Award is presented annually to deserving individuals who have demonstrated outstanding contributions and commitment to improving the quality of life in his/her community, the county and the State of Michigan. One of the three to be honored is attorney, mother and community activist Deborah O'Brian, Esq. Mrs. O'Brian has been active in the city of St. Clair Shores through her local parade committee, the Miss St. Clair Shores Scholarship Pageant, and the Little Miss St. Clair Shores Pageant. She helped plan, raise funds for, the cohort the St. Clair Shores Cops for Kids Telethon, which raised more than \$35,000 in support of kids 12 and under. Mrs. O'Brian participated in the Prosecutor in School Program of the 40th District Court in 1998-1999 and is involved with the Kiwanis Club's "Say No to Drugs" program. In addition to her civic commitments, she uses her legal expertise to help others through the Macomb County Bar Association Pro Bono Services.

I am proud to join the March of Dimes in honoring Mrs. Deborah O'Brian, as a Macomb County Citizen of the year.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT. 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2684) making appropriations for the Department of Veteran Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes,

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, as the daughter of a veteran, I rise in support of the Filner amendment to increase veteran's medical care by \$1.1 billion.

This amendment would designate these funds as emergency—making it possible to provide vital health care to hundreds of thousands of veterans without cutting any other essential programs.

This amendment is about national priorities—if the bill passes without this amendment, our veterans will truly find their lives, and their health, in real states of emergency. We must do what's right.

Our nation owes our veterans a tremendous debt. These courageous men and women sacrificed everything—whether in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, or the Gulf War—to ensure the freedom and opportunity that we so often take for granted. It is our responsibility to repay our veterans for the tremendous burdens that they bore and the sacrifices that they made to ensure peace and freedom for this country.

I urge my colleagues to fulfill our commitments to our veterans. Vote for \$1.1 billion in emergency funds for veterans' medical care. Vote for the Filner amendment. Do what is right.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I was absent and unable to vote due to my recovery from heart surgery on August 5, 1999.

August 5, 1999:

I would have voted in favor of the Hall amendment to H.R. 2670 (rollcall No. 380).

I would have voted against the Bass amendment to H.R. 2670 (rollcall No. 381).

I would have voted in favor of the G. Miller amendment to H.R. 2760 (rollcall No. 382).

I would have voted against the Hayworth amendment to H.R. 2760 (rollcall No. 383).

I would have voted in favor of the Tauzin amendment to H.R. 2760 (rollcall No. 384).

I would have voted against the Kucinich amendment to H.R. 2670 (rollcall No. 385).

I would have voted in favor of the motion to recommit H.R. 2670 with instructions (rollcall No. 386).

I would have voted against passage of H.R. 2670 (rollcall No. 387).

I would have voted against ordering the previous question for consideration of H.R. 2684 (rollcall No. 388).

I would have voted in favor of agreeing to the Conference Report on Legislative Branch Appropriations Act (rollcall No. 389).

TRIBUTE TO CAMP ARROWHEAD

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and my colleague, Mr. IKE SKELTON, to pay tribute on the 75th anniversary of the founding of the oldest continuously operating Boy Scout Camp west of the Mississippi River. Camp Arrowhead, located east of Marshfield, Missouri, was begun the summer of 1924, just 14 years after Scouting came to America and only 8 years after this body, the Congress of the United States, chartered the Boy Scouts of America.

I know my colleagues join with me in commending the vision of men like area Scout Executive Allen C. Foster, and organizations such as the Springfield Rotary Club, the Marshfield Merchants Club and the Commercial Club of Springfield which played key roles in the creation of this camp. I doubt those leaders in 1924 could envision microwave ovens, color televisions, the Internet, or jet aircraft, but they could envision a place where dedicated volunteers would help boys grow into young men with character and a commitment to community. And they knew how to translate their vision into reality.

Over 75 summers, tens of thousand of campers have carried out the traditions of Camp Arrowhead where boys developed into leaders, and adults returned to encourage other young scouts to grow as they had been encouraged by others. The impact of Camp Arrowhead is found in friendships, skills and character among a broad range of people in the Ozarks and around the world.

Camp Arrowhead as we see it today with 600 acres of facilities serving the needs of 1,500 scouts and adults each summer could not exist without the continued active support of Scouters and supporters of Scouting around the area. The countless hours of service and dedication by hundreds of volunteers each year ensure that this camp will continue its mission for years to come.

"Do Your Best" is more than just the Scout Motto. For those who have attended Camp Arrowhead, it is the moving force behind why they come as scouts, why they lead as adults, and why they serve as volunteers.

From the Seventh Congressional District and from this Congress, I offer this commendation to all of those involved for a job well done for the past 75 years with a heartfelt hope that their efforts will continue for at least another 75.

MARKING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE COMMISSIONING OF THE
"U.S.S. NAUTILUS"

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 45th Anniversary of a wonder of the modern world—the U.S.S. *Nautilus* (SSN571). The *Nautilus* was the world's first nuclear submarine and its creation revolutionized the Navy forever.

Tonight, in my district, citizens will gather by the *Nautilus*, moored now at the Submarine Force Museum in Groton, CT, to mark the 45th Anniversary of the commissioning of this magnificent ship. I am pleased to join them in this effort.

The story of the *Nautilus* actually begins much earlier than September 1954. Beginning with the development of modern submarines in the early part of this century, the Navy had struggled with the problems of prolonged submersion of submarines. The idea of using nuclear power was revolutionary. It promised the ability to stay underwater almost indefinitely. Not only would duration underwater be dramatically increased, but the increase in power would mean that submarines would be able to travel at much higher speeds—up to 20 knots. This combination of factors would mean that submarines would be able to travel all the world's oceans.

When the Navy decided to go ahead with the project, it turned to the incomparable skills of the craftsmen and designers at Electric Boat. Following the keel laying in June 1952, these dedicated employees worked extraordinarily long hours and pushed themselves to complete their task. By January 1954, the *Nautilus* was completed, christened and prepared for testing at the shipyard. Finally, in September 1954, 45 years ago this month, the Navy commissioned its first nuclear submarine. The *Nautilus* made its mark by obliterating previous submarine records for speed, time and distance traveled while submerged. By the time of its first refueling, it had traveled over 62,000 miles. In 1957, it became the first submarine to travel below the polar ice caps. On August 3, 1958 the *Nautilus* made history as the first ship to reach the North Pole.

The *Nautilus* was the first of a long and prestigious line of nuclear submarines that have played a vital role in safeguarding our national security over the decades that followed. Ballistic missile submarines changed the face of strategic stability during the Cold War. Attack submarines kept fleets safe and our shipping secure. Specially modified submarines carried out critical intelligence and special operations missions. Now, we are on the verge of deploying the next generation of submarines, one that once again will be empowered with unprecedented capabilities.

Now I stand here, ten years after the Cold War, in the Capitol of the only superpower on Earth. The *Nautilus*, the ships that followed and the great Americans who built and sailed them have made this possible. On this anniversary, we honor more than a piece of machinery. We honor all that it represents ingenuity, hard work, courage and patriotism.

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The Alexander Macomb Citizens of the Year Award is presented annually to deserving individuals who have demonstrated outstanding contributions and commitment to improving the quality of life in his/her community, the county and the State of Michigan. One of the three to be honored is retired Macomb County Sheriff's Department Inspector Ronald Lupo. Inspector Lupo is a recognized community leader who has put his life on the line on many occasions for the citizens of Macomb County. After serving in Vietnam and as a member of the U.S. Army elite precision honor guard squad, Inspector Lupo joined the Macomb County Sheriff's Department. During his 30 years with the Sheriff's Department, he handled some of the most difficult duties associated with police work, including hostage negotiations. As a Grand Jury Investigator his work resulted in 17 narcotics raids and returned 50 indictments. For 11 years, Inspector Lupo served as commander of the department's investigative and administrative services divisions. He served as the county's first youth officer and helped create the first youth bureau and the first school liaison program in Macomb County. In 1984, Michigan Governor James Blanchard appointed Inspector Lupo to serve as a member of the Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice.

I am proud to join the General Alexander Macomb Chapter of the March of Dimes in honoring one of its founders and 13-year board member, Inspector Ronald Lupo as a Macomb County Citizen of the Year.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT. AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

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commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Chairman, as the daughter of a World War II veteran, I rise in support of the Filner amendment to add \$6 million in emergency spending to help solve the benefit claim problems that have plagued our veterans.

This amendment would provide funds to hire an additional 250 employees to reduce the growing backlog and waiting time for adjudication of benefit claims. Designation of these funds as emergency would make it possible to efficiently get vital health care of hundreds of thousands of veterans without cutting other essential programs.

This amendment is about national priorities. Our veterans must not be left grappling with illnesses, unpaid bills, and looming expenses because their claims are tied up in red tape.

Our nation owes our veterans a tremendous debt. These courageous men and women sacrificed everything—whether in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, or the Gulf War—to ensure the freedom and opportunity that we so often take for granted. We must repay our veterans for the tremendous burdens that they bore and the sacrifices that they made to bring us peace and prosperity.

I urge my colleagues to fulfill our commitments to our veterans. Vote for \$6 million in emergency funds to reduce the backlog of veterans' benefit claims. Vote for the Filner amendment.

ESTATE TAXES

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, the issue regarding the Federal estate tax, and the role it should play in our Federal tax structure, is one of the most important that Congress will face when it considers tax legislation this fall. Those who have attached the estate tax as unfair to small business and as being very expensive to administer, have, to a very great extent, distorted the record.

The important characteristic to recall about the estate tax is that it impacts less than 3 percent of U.S. taxpayers and to repeal this tax, as many have urged, would be tantamount to granting a tax cut to those in that economic strata. I would hope that my colleagues would see such a result as not justifiable considering our more important national priorities.

Professor Meade Emory of the University of Washington in Seattle has been active and articulate in meeting the criticisms of the estate tax and in pointing out that it is an equitable source of revenue which has a proper place in our Nation's necessary tax structure. Mr. Speaker, I submit his op-ed piece, which appeared in the Seattle Times on July 28, 1999, to be inserted and made a part of the RECORD.

[From the Seattle Times, July 28, 1999]

CORRECTING THE RECORD ON THE ESTATE TAX

(By Meade Emory)

Pause to reflect as to what the reaction would be if the wealthiest 3 percent of the taxpayers clamored that they were desperately in need of a tax cut. Quite naturally, one would not expect this privileged