

these groups. In this supposed era of promise, turmoil and unrest persist.

In addition, there are reports of on-going and extreme human rights abuses on the part of the Indonesian military in the areas of West Papua, Irian Jaya, Aceh, and Ambon. The summary executions, kidnappings, arbitrary arrest, beatings and torture of civilians continue to create a climate of fear, intimidation. I believe it will be virtually impossible to hold a truly democratic election.

While I support the spirit in which H. Res. 32 was written and support its intentions wholeheartedly, Congress must take this opportunity to encourage the Clinton Administration to press the Indonesian government to address the civil and human rights issues plaguing this nation and its provinces. In addition, we must continue to call for the withdrawal of Indonesian troops, the introduction of U.N. monitors and the immediate and unconditional release of political prisoners in East Timor. Without these crucial steps, Indonesia will not be on a true path to reform.

TRIBUTE TO STELIO MANFREDI

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Stelio Manfredi on his retirement from Lucca's Restaurant. Mr. Manfredi has been a respected member of the Madera community for many years. "After all these years, it's finally time to turn the lights out," Manfredi said.

Stelio Manfredi was already one of the most well-known men in town; a life-long Maderan, his face, and name, are among the most recognizable in the community. Manfredi was a bartender at Lucca's Restaurant for 40 years, and during that time he shot the breeze with many, many community members, and listened to the problems of so many more. He always tried to lend a sympathetic ear or give them some advice from the wisdom he's gained in his 83 years of living.

The restaurant's decision to only serve lunch prompted Manfredi's decision to step away, giving himself more time to spend with his wife of 59 years. Being friendly was always Manfredi's nature, as he worked behind the bar at Lucca's. Manfredi, known for his margaritas, will now spend more time in his garden and tending to his many trees and bushes. Leaving behind the people that he befriended will be the hardest part of retiring from the job.

Stelio and Eve Manfredi have lived in the same central Madera home for 52 years, and during that time they have nurtured their shrubs and trees to the point that it is a lush, virtual paradise. "It's therapy for me," Manfredi said of the many hours he spends outside tending to Mother Nature's creations.

Manfredi hopes to go to the Madera Center and work on his General Education Diploma (GED). Stelio and Eve have two children and six grandchildren. As they raised their family, Stelio worked as a bottling room foreman at Hueblein Winery. He also had his own bar on Gateway Drive for 16 years.

The couple has developed a deep respect and commitment for Madera as they grew up,

a feeling they continue to have to this day. Madera has grown tremendously since the early days of their childhoods, they say there will never be another place they will call home. The couple attends St. Joachim's Church and Stelio is a member of the Italo-American Club. Stelio Manfredi said he couldn't ask for more out of life.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Stelio Manfredi on his retirement and service to the community of Madera and Lucca's Restaurant. Stelio Manfredi has been a fixture in the community for many years. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Stelio and Eve Manfredi many years of continued happiness.

TRIBUTE TO THE BAY CITY GIRLS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, later this month I will attend the 40th anniversary celebration of the Bay City Girls Softball Association. The Association has a distinguished history of providing recreational opportunities to girls in Bay City, Texas.

Begun in 1959 with the fielding of the Delta Sparks by Lila Ray and Jerry Babik, currently the association serves youth ages 4 to 18. Among the honors received by the group are induction in 1975 of the Bay City VIPs led by Coach Ratliff into the National Amateur Softball Association Hall of Fame, and the receipt of the National Association's "Most Improved Award" in 1944.

With heroic community leaders like Jack Rice and Palmer Robbins and recent activists such as Mike Mariner, Judd Perry, J.B. Smith and Dennis Mueck the business of preparing and making available playing fields for the association has been a real community effort in Bay City.

And, with a storied history including legendary players like Patty Branagan, Diane Herreth, Carol Ray, Jeannie Mathis, Linda Babik, Diana Slliva and Connie Brooks and renowned coach Lila Ray the ladies have certainly made the most of these opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend and congratulate the Bay City Girls Softball Association and all the community activists who contribute to this association, on this the 40th Anniversary celebration of this important group.

TRIBUTE TO LINDSEY NICHOLS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend my constituent, Lindsey Nichols for placing third in the 1999 Voice of Democracy contest. Lindsey is a junior at Collinsville High School in Collinsville, IL. This statewide contest was sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Kahokian Memorial Post 5691 and held in Springfield, IL. I insert her entry for the RECORD:

I sat patiently while Dad attempted to reason with the sales manager over a recently

purchased, yet non-functioning, vacuum cleaner. Thirty minutes later I watched as he walked away from the counter, shaking his head in dismay and muttering, "No one believes in service anymore!"

Unfortunately, I'd heard him speak these words on other occasions—while pulling away from fast food drive-ups, standing in a long line at a single open check-out lane or listening to automated voice instructions on the phone.

So I asked, "Dad, what do you expect that you aren't getting . . . what exactly is good service?" He was ready with an answer; for he'd obviously been giving thought to this all his years as a consumer. He replied, "Excellent service is when pride is priority and there is a willingness to go beyond what is necessary, to seek no excuses and to accept responsibility for the outcome."

Wow! That was a lot to think about. For the next couple of days that's exactly what I did. I let those words roll around my head, sort of free-floating, and a funny thing happened. They triggered a memory of the voice of President John F. Kennedy saying, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." Then, another memory, the voice of President George Bush calling for service in the form of "a thousand points of light."

Wait a minute—what was happening here? Well, my brain was telling me that what my Dad had said was tied to a bigger picture. Service to customers was merely a model for a much more important concept that we all need to act on, service to country.

However, excuses seem to get in the way of service and there are as many of them as there are people in the world. We sometimes want to do what's easy, to look for a back door, a reason not to "go the extra mile."

During W.W. II the female pilots who flew supply planes never said, "What can I do? I'm just a woman." Nor did the countless women who kept the factories producing for the war effort or the six nurses who won medals of valor for their actions in the Corregidor.

The Native American servicemen, known as the Navajo Code Talkers never said, "Why should I help? I don't owe them a thing." They didn't let racial issues get in the way when their country needed their unique abilities. The Japanese-American soldiers of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team didn't either when they fought for their country even though their families were being held in internment camps.

Nine-year old Melissa Poe never said, "They can't expect anything from me, I'm just a kid." Instead she founded Kid's FACE in 1989, a national organization of youth united for a clean environment.

Instead of excuses all these people said, "I'm an American! I believe in the value of my service and in my ability to make a difference." So you see, everyone can support their country through service—regardless of race, gender, or age.

How can I let my point of light shine? School and community programs offer me opportunities for service through volunteerism. I can take part in community clean-up days, recycling efforts, holiday projects for the underprivileged, and the list goes on. I do realize, however, that as I grow what is expected of me will also grow proportionately. Will I show initiative, help my community, and be a positive example to others?

I think of the word "service" as an acronym, each of the letters representing a philosophy to guide me. "S" is for selflessness; "E" is for effort; "R" is for responsibility; "V" is for volunteerism; "I" is for initiative; "C" is for community; and "E" is for example.

So I've come to modify my dad's definition of service and I hope each day to let this

motto remind me of my duty—"Proud service to my country is a priority and I will go beyond what is necessary. I will seek no excuses and will accept responsibilities."

COLORADO NONPROFIT DAY

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the fourth annual Colorado Nonprofit Day. Coloradans have set aside today to honor the 12,660 charitable nonprofit groups registered in our state. We are very fortunate to have these groups operating in our cities, towns, and countryside. Because of the strong spirit of volunteerism in our state, Colorado ranks 15th in the country in voluntary community participation. We exceed national levels of nonprofit participation in such areas as religion, recreation, the arts, and environmental and scientific research.

Few Coloradans have not experienced the joy, fun, succor, reprieve, shelter, guidance, or friendship from these agencies. From churches and synagogues, to boys and girls clubs, to senior associations, to charities for the poor and infirm, Colorado nonprofits provide a great benefit to our communities.

For those people serving the poor, the aged, the young, the infirm, the lost, and each of us in times of want and times of plenty, I commend the energy, compassion, and dedication of nonprofits to fellow Coloradans. I applaud them for the impact they have had on our communities and the lives they have saved and enriched through service to others. They have cared for neighbors and strangers with equal zeal. They have mended the social fabric and knitted us together. Colorado recognizes their sacrifices. Colorado's nonprofits make us proud.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HARVEY WILLIAMS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that Harvey Williams of Versailles, MO, was selected by the Versailles Chamber of Commerce as the 1999 Citizen of the Year.

Williams was chosen for his various generous contributions to the community. He has been president of the Versailles Area Chamber of Commerce and served on the chamber board. He was instrumental in bringing Gates Rubber Company and Wal-Mart into Versailles.

He has been president of the Morgan County Fair Board and held several other offices while an active member of the Versailles Lions Club. He has also served on the Olde Tyme Apple Festival organizing committee, and was instrumental in incorporating the Royal Theater. He still serves on the Royal Theater Board of Directors.

Williams is a former chairman of the Morgan County Health Center Board of Directors and

has spoken on behalf of the local cancer society on cancer survival from personal experience as a cancer survivor.

Williams is Vice-President of Mercantile Bank, and he and his wife are owners of Harvest Designs in Versailles.

I wish to extend my congratulations to Mr. Williams for his well deserved award as the Versailles Chamber of Commerce's 1999 Citizen of the Year.

TRIBUTE TO MARIAN KRISTEN CHURCH OF GIRL SCOUT TROOP 395

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute an outstanding young woman who has been honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award by the Cahaba Girl Scout Council in Birmingham, Alabama. She is Marian Kristen Church of Girl Scout Troop 395. She has been honored for earning the highest achievement award in U.S. Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning and personal development. The award can be earned by a girl aged 14 through 17 or in grades 9 through 12.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., an organization serving over 2.5 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Awards to Senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must earn four interest project patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, as well as design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling these requirements is created by the Senior Girl Scout and carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult Girl Scout Volunteer.

As a member of the Cahaba Girl Scout Council, Marian Kristen Church began working toward the Girl Scout Gold Award on August 20, 1998. She completed her project, Landscaping of Alabama Mining Museum Sign, and I believe she should receive the public recognition due her for this significant service to her community and her country.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS VOTING ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation which is long overdue, requiring real accountability of the U.S. foreign military assistance program. In these tight budgetary times we must not lose sight of eliminating wasteful spending and ensuring the usefulness of all federal programs. It is well known that U.S. foreign assistance initiatives have always been among the least popular federal programs. Primarily, this is because U.S. foreign aid programs seem ineffective

and counterproductive. Members of Congress either oppose foreign assistance outright, or those who support it find themselves defending foreign aid as "serving the interests of the United States." I believe Members subscribing to either position will be interested in the "United Nations Accountability Act," which I introduced today.

The Department of State is required by the law to submit a report to Congress each year outlining voting trends in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). The overall voting coincidence with the U.S. (the number of times that nations voted the same as the U.S. on all votes) is always appallingly low. In 1997, it was 46.7%—down from 49.4% in 1996 and 50.6% in 1995. Despite that, a number of nations receive foreign aid from the U.S. that clearly do not see things the way we do. It is no coincidence the world's most brutal regimes vote with the U.S. such a low percentage of the time in the U.N. Americans would be surprised to hear the U.S. often provides military aid to the very regimes which are cited for human rights violations, disregard for democracy, and disdain of free market practices.

Simply, this bill would prohibit military assistance to countries which failed to support the U.S. at least 25% of the time in the UNGA. Humanitarian aid and developmental assistance would be left intact. The House on previous occasions has approved this language as part of both authorization and appropriation bill.

I believe our message to these nations is making an impact. In just the past four years, the number of nations voting with the U.S. less than 25% of the time in the U.N. and receiving U.S. military assistance has been reduced from 43 nations to 6 and from \$187 million to \$13.4 million in military assistance. Our intent should be to encourage countries to adopt our domestic traditions and commitment to human rights.

A 25% voting coincidental is not asking too much. We are not coercing states to vote our position. However, we have right to withhold aid if we believe that the states we are currently aiding do not share our ideals and values. We should not support military assistance to oppressive regimes which consistently oppose American efforts in the U.N. General Assembly. We must ensure the money we spend on foreign assistance best serve the interests of the American taxpayer. If we cut or reform domestic programs that are not working, why not require it of our foreign aid program? Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage Members interested in accountability, reform and fiscal responsibility to cosponsor this timely and imperative initiative.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, on February 24 and 25 and March 4 I was unavoidably detained and consequently missed several votes.

Had I been here I would have voted: "Yes" on passage of H.R. 438; "yes" on passage of