

highest percentage of their household income to charity. I believe these individuals deserve a tax break for their generosity.

This idea is not new. In the early 1980s, non-itemizers did enjoy the ability to deduct a portion of their charitable giving. In the last Congress, thanks to the support of the not-for-profit community, especially Independent Sector and its member organizations, 144 colleagues cosponsored my bill. I hope to build on that success and have this legislation included in any major tax bill that we might consider during this Congress.

As direct federal subsidies to non-profit organizations are being reduced, the private sector must fill the gap to provide the necessary resources. The Charitable Giving Tax Relief Act will help in that cause by rewarding those taxpayers standing in the gap. Independent Sector believes that this bill may even encourage more giving to charitable organizations. In fact, one study projects that giving could increase by \$2.7 billion a year.

Americans have traditionally been the most generous people in the world. From churches to schools, the arts to social services, we fund and support all types of charitable causes. I believe altruism is the basis for that generosity. However, I realize that those who give can be sensitive to tax considerations. My ultimate goal is to remove the tax code as an obstacle to charitable giving.

I encourage my colleagues to join Mr. COYNE, Mr. HERGER, Mrs. THURMAN and me in our effort to reward and encourage the American tradition of philanthropy by agreeing to sponsor the Charitable Giving Relief Act.

IN HONOR OF THE 60TH DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF PANTELIS AND DESPINA MARANGOS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Pantelis and Despina Marangos as they celebrate their 60th Diamond Wedding Anniversary. They celebrated their joyous occasion on Sunday, November 8, 1998.

Pantelis, born in Kalavassos, Cyprus, the son of Mary and John Shakalisk, was known as "Peter the Carpenters' son," thus the name Marangos. Despina was born in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Zaharias Kyriacou from Cyprus and Chrisanthi Protoulis from Greece.

At the age of 18, Pantelis arrived at Ellis Island at the height of the Great Depression with five dollars in his pocket. But he soon found work and within a few years as a skilled pastry chef. Despina came to New York as a child and attended P.S. 116 and Julia Richmond High School. During the Depression, she worked in the Garment District with her mother.

In 1938, Pantelis and Despina met, fell in love and married. In 1943, their first child, Mary Anna, was born. Their son, John Zaharias, was born in 1950.

During World War II, Pantelis served in the Navy as a Petty Officer on a mine sweeper and took part in the invasion of Anzio and St.

Tropez while Despina served on the Home Front, working in defense plants.

Despina, who had the responsibility of caring for her parents in addition to her own family, found time to be a Den Mother and an Officer in both the Parents' Association and the Women's Auxiliary.

After his discharge from the Navy, Pantelis returned to the restaurant business where he was a manager, chef and proprietor of Michael's Restaurant until his retirement in 1975.

Despina worked at Macy's Department store during the 1959 Christmas season and retired after 30 years of dedicated service in 1989.

In 1966, Pantelis suffered a stroke and once again demonstrated the courage and bravery he showed when coming to this country alone. In the past two years he has become a living symbol for the handicapped.

The doctors told Despina that he would never function, yet today he is proving them wrong with a combination of therapies. The Chian Federation honored his courage in 1998. Despina and other Hellenic immigrants were also recognized at a ceremony on Ellis Island.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring to your attention this important milestone in the life of a remarkable couple. It is an honor to have them in my district.

A TRIBUTE TO PAUL THOMPSON

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention today the fine work and outstanding public service of my good friend, Paul Thompson. Paul is looking forward to a full and productive retirement after serving Congress and the nation as a professional staff member of the House Appropriations Committee for 29 years.

Paul first came to the Hill in 1970 as a detailee to the VA-HUD and Independent Agencies Subcommittee from the Department of Interior where he worked in the Bureau of Indian Affairs budget office. It was a VA-HUD that Paul found his home away from home and where he made himself over the years, quite literally, an invaluable part of the Appropriations process. With his knowledge of the legislative process, he became a technician's technician; he knew, better than most, how to put a bill together effectively from start to finish. Because Paul was never politically motivated, he has always been perceived by his colleagues, and more importantly, by Members of the House, as unfailingly fair and intellectually honest.

During his tenure as both professional staff and majority clerk of the subcommittee, Paul served under six subcommittee chairs including Chairmen WALSH, LEWIS, STOKES, TRAXLER, BOLAND and EVINS. Not surprisingly, during that time, Paul and his chairmen developed remarkable professional relationships as well as genuine lasting friendships that continue to prosper and endure.

There are, of course, a few things everyone should know about Paul. He loves a good laugh, maintains a work ethic from another era, and enjoys his Guinness in a coffee mug. When he's not working, you will find Paul on

the water in his Ray Ban sunglasses with a cold drink in one hand while casting a line with the other. In fact, I expect many of Paul's friends will soon be receiving invitations to join him in his newly acquired fishing boat which he will tow behind the largest bright red pickup truck ever seen in the Rayburn garage.

Those who know Paul best have nothing but the finest things to say about him. "A greater guy I have never worked with," said one long-time Appropriations staffer. Another, remembering how he single-handedly ate two dozen crabs while on a daytime cruise of the Chesapeake Bay, observed, "Paul loves his crab but he's never crabby himself."

Mr. Speaker, professional staff come and go in the People's House but few ever make the type of contribution made by my good friend, Paul Thompson. As he begins his well deserved retirement, Paul leaves an institution filled with many admirers who love and respect him for his work, his gentle heart, and his integrity. All of us wish Paul, his lovely bride, Geri and his three sons—Rick, Bill and John—much happiness in the coming years. Having said that, Mr. Speaker, it is only fitting that the House pay tribute to Paul Thompson today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall votes 67-71 yesterday. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" or "aye" on rollcall votes 68 and 71; I would have voted "nay" or "no" on rollcall votes 67, 69 and 70.

WELCOMING THE CLASS OF DODSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome fifty exceptional students from the Dodson Middle School's Gifted High Ability Magnet Program. These students are visiting the nation's capital to see first-hand how their government works. It is an interesting time to watch a democracy, as we struggle to decide how to strike the financial balance among many worthwhile government programs, and as we deploy American soldiers as part of ongoing NATO peacekeeping forces. I hope all of these students some day will appreciate the enormity of the decisions we make, and, at the same time, enjoy the experience.

I especially praise Stephanie Sychaj, who has been selected from her class to place the wreath on the Unknown Soldier's gravesite. The other students are:

Craig Ackerman	Roy Lewis
Elizabeth Avila	Nicole Oberfoell
Ruben Becerra	Heather Peg
Beth Boechert	AileenPhillips
Kyle Brennan	Louis Pitre
Hazel Butler	Andrea Pynn
Jason Chaing	Daniel Sandri

Jeff Champion	Devin Schopp
Christina Cho	Elliott Shahian
Jake Cummings	Stephanie Sypchaj
Daphne Detrano	Zia Suzuki
Francesca Dolce	Akane Takei
Jesse Flaunta	Paola Terzoli
Alex Gellerman	Jessica Thill
Sarah Hargis	Brent Weber
Rebecca Holtz	Eric Williams
Marc Hull	Jason Wilson
Emily Ingram	Ryan Zivalic
Mathew Jackson	
Cameron Jeans-Shaw	Chaperones:
Zarina Jurlin	Tom Schroeter
Tracy Kvanough	Claudia Dunn
Jane Kim	Joyce Kimura
Tiffany Kim	John Reynolds
Kay Lalwani	
Robin Lee	
Patti Lester	
Kathryn Mecija	
Nicole Miller	
Teri Miyahira	
Jania Moretti	

HONORING THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY VALOR AWARD WINNERS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 1999 Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Prince William County Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce Valor Award Winners. The Valor Awards honor public service officers who have demonstrated extreme self-sacrifice, personal bravery, and ingenuity in the performance of their duty. Significantly, this year marks the thirteenth anniversary of the event honoring members of law enforcement and fire and rescue agencies historically servicing Prince William County, Dumfries, Haymarket, Manassas, Manassas Park, Occoquan, and Quantico. There are five categories: The Gold Medal of Valor, the Silver Medal of Valor, the Bronze Medal of Valor, the Certificate of Valor, and the Lifesaving Award.

The Silver Medal of Valor is the second highest award for bravery and heroism. Awarded in situations when a public safety official knowingly exposes himself/herself to great personal risk in the performance of an official act.

The Silver Medal of Valor Award Winners for 1999 are: Sergeant Barry D. Childress, Jr., USMC; Hospital Corpsman Third Class Eric Scott Parillo, USN

The Bronze Medal of Valor is awarded in situations where during the course of an emergency, a public safety official demonstrates judgment, ingenuity, or performance at a level that clearly exceeds that required and expected in the performance of his/her duties. May include the saving of a life that is threatened by medical or physical reasons.

The Bronze Medal of Valor Award Winners for 1999 are: Gunnery Sergeant Michael W. Todd, USMC; Captain Mark L. Doyle; Driver Operator David W. Luckett; Firefighter Roger D. Pinkston, USMC; Technicians II Shawn

Crispin and John Sims, Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue; Sergeant Darrell G. Steepleton and Firefighter Michael L. Skeele, Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department; Officer James E. Buchanan, Prince William County Police Department

The Certificate of Valor is awarded for acts that involve personal risk and/or demonstration of judgement, zeal, or ingenuity above what is normally expected in the performance of duties.

The Certificate of Valor Award Winners for 1999 are: Corporal Roberto Armendariz, USMC; Gunnery Sergeant Suzanne R. How, USMC; Troopers Douglas G. Brooks and Darrell D. Estess, and Special Agent Ron Paschal, Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of State Police; Sergeant Jesse A. Noriega, USMC; Sergeant David May, Corporal Douglas Songer, Officers Carl Larry and John Murray, Prince William-Manassas Regional Adult Detention Center;

The Lifesaving Award is awarded in recognition of acts taken in a life-threatening situation where an individual's life is in jeopardy, either medically or physically.

The Lifesaving Award Winners for 1999 are: Captain Matthew J. Noble, USMC; Emergency Medical Technician Michelle Dickson, Dumfries-Triangle Rescue Squad; Lance Corporal Matthew D. Hammond and Private First Class Jeremy A. Schenck, USMC; Officers Andrew Arnold and Pierre Costello, Prince William-Manassas Regional Adult Detention Center; Senior Police Officer Nathan S. Hill, Jr., Prince William County Police Department; Trooper Eric W. Berge, Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of State Police

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I would like to send my sincere gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to these distinguished public servants, who put their lives on the line everyday on behalf of their fellow Virginians.

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Joseph School in St. Johns, Mich., on 75 years of serving the community. It is an honor to have this extraordinary school in the 4th Congressional District of Michigan.

This remarkable school opened Sept. 8, 1924, with 61 students. Currently it draws 302 students from more than 200 area families, and serves kindergarten-6th students.

Much of the success of today's education system depends on strong leadership from school teachers, administrators and parents, and St. Joseph School serves as an outstanding example. Its parents have devoted their precious time to ensure a quality education for their children. The teachers and administration of St. Joseph have had a tremendous impact on the lives of many students. They have promoted and maintained a solid system of education for countless young people over the past 75 years.

I commend the staff, students and parents of St. Joseph School for their hard work in building an effective community for learning. Principal Tomi Ann Schultheiss' selfless commitment for the past seven years has helped prepare St. Joseph School for the 21st century. The focus on literacy and assurance that students obtain the essential skills needed for life are exemplary, and I am glad we have St. Joseph as an example for how we need to work to educate our children.

I am confident that future generations of families will be able to count on St. Joseph School for a healthy start and a head start for their children. I wish the St. Joseph School the best for the future.

PAUL CALLENS PROMOTES RACIAL UNITY WITH EVERY STEP

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to the attention of my colleagues the endeavor of my good friend Paul Callens.

Paul has gathered several of his friends to join him on a seven-month walk for national unity—an 11-state, 3,200-mile journey from Maryland's Eastern Shore to the city of San Francisco, to promote racial unity throughout the United States.

Along the way, the Unity Walkers will pass the birth place of abolitionist and former slave Harriet Tubman, stop at the site of last year's Middle East Peace Talks, and arrive in Washington, D.C. for a weekend celebration on the National Mall on Sunday, April 4 to commemorate the anniversary of the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

We would like to think that blatant racism is a thing of the past, but daily reports of police brutality, church burnings, hate crimes and acts of racially-motivated violence shatter the illusion that bigotry no longer exists in our country.

The goal of the walkers and their supporters is to build a national unity movement that celebrates the differences among Americans and promotes appreciation of the racial and cultural blend that makes up the population of the United States. They hope to interest community leaders and local government officials in celebrating a National Unity Day, to be observed on October 10.

In these next few months, Paul Callens will ask our communities to examine the attitudes we've inherited about race and to reevaluate our treatment of racial differences. Some who would promote intolerance and irrational prejudice have made an attempt to turn back the clock on the progress we've made in the fight for civil rights. Paul and his friends will spread the word that hostility based on racial or ethnic identity has no place in America.

Please join me in congratulating Paul and the Unity Walkers and wish them success in their effort to heal the wounds of racial intolerance in our country. We make progress one step at a time