

am grateful beyond words for her long and dedicated service. I want to wish Maggie and her husband of 52 years, Walter, much good health and happiness in the coming years. I remain confident that the tree planted in her honor will, like the Party she has guided for years, grow and prosper for many years to come.

THE PASSING OF ISADORE
KARTEN

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to inform my colleagues of the passing of a remarkable American, one I was honored to have as a close friend.

As a youth, Izzy Karten was a freedom fighter in the forests near Lvov, in his beloved homeland of Poland. The brave stance the Jews and other oppressed minorities in Poland had taken against their Nazi oppressors, while the Red Army watched nearby, refusing to help, is one of the most heroic yet tragic episodes of the 20th Century. I am proud to have known and been a friend of one of these courageous heroes, Izzy Karten.

Izzy spent two years in the forests of Poland, fighting the Nazi oppressors. It was there that he met another freedom fighter, a young girl named Julie, who soon became his beloved wife of over 54 years.

Upon emigrating to America, Izzy Karten started what became a highly successful export-import business and subsequently became a banker. Despite his phenomenal success in business, Izzy never forgot his roots or his desire to help others. He was involved in a host of philanthropic activities, including Yad Vashen, the national organization of Holocaust Survivors. He was a trustee at the Park East Synagogue, and was especially generous in endowing its day school.

Julie and Izzy were the proud parents of three children: Marsha Toledano, Bernice Bookhammer, and Harry Karten. Izzy and Julie's three children presented them with seven grandchildren who were the light of their lives.

Georgia and I always cherished being with the Kartens, and their family. Our lives were deeply enriched by our friendship with Izzy and Julie. Sadly, I was with Izzy at a Holocaust Memorial Service in Rockland County just a few hours prior to his sudden death.

I will always remember Izzy Karten as a warm hearted, philanthropic humanitarian, with a bright view for the future, and a champion in the battle against bigotry and for human rights.

Mr. Speaker, the funeral for Isadore Karten will be held at his beloved Park East Synagogue on Wednesday of this week. I invite my colleagues to join me in paying homage to a truly remarkable human being, who will be sorely missed.

WILLIAM F. (BILL) CODY

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 1999

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, on April 1, 1999, William F. (Bill) Cody completed a distinguished career with the General Dynamics Corporation. His outstanding work played a major role in insuring the national security of the United States of America. He was a driving force in the development, fielding, and support for the Abrams M1A1 and M1A2 main battle tanks for the U.S. Army. These main battle tanks have been proven to be the world's finest in the recent Desert Storm war, and will be the cornerstone of our Nation's ground combat forces for many years to come. Mr. Cody's contributions to the Abrams tank program were marked with great wisdom, total dedication, and tenacious hard work to get the job done right despite the obstacles encountered.

Prior to his outstanding career with General Dynamics, Mr. Cody further served his country for 30 years in the U.S. Army. He began his military service as a cadet at the United States Military Academy in 1952 and was commissioned as a 2d Lt., Field Artillery upon his graduation in 1956. While a cadet, Mr. Cody excelled in various leadership capacities, and was an outstanding baseball and football player. During his Army career, Bill Cody progressed rapidly through the ranks while holding many important command and staff positions to include combat in Vietnam. He was decorated for bravery several times and received numerous meritorious service awards for his outstanding service. He completed his outstanding military career with particular distinction and honor in the grade of Colonel, U.S. Army.

Bill Cody has served his country with distinction in both a civilian and military capacity for nearly 47 years. He is a man of rare ability and devotion to his country. We salute him on his retirement, and wish him the best in his well-deserved retirement, and thank him for his dedicated service to his country.

HONORING DOMINIC DRAGISICH OF
WEIRTON, WEST VIRGINIA

HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 1999

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Mr. Dominic Dragisich of Weirton, West Virginia, for his award-winning entry in the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy Contest. His script is entitled "My Service to America." I submit for the RECORD the text of his entry, and commend the VFW for making the Voice of Democracy scholarship program available to students across our Nation.

MY SERVICE TO AMERICA

"Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country." With these words during his Inaugural address in 1961, President John F. Kennedy challenged every citizen to serve America.

Today, the world is a very different place. The changes that have occurred since those

words were spoken are phenomenal. Yet, the changes that lie ahead will be greater. Therefore, his challenge to serve America is even more timely today.

I can best serve America by preparing myself to meet the challenges that face us. We must retain those values and institutions that have made America great, but we must be willing to change and accept new ideas that meet the challenges of the information age. The ability to adapt to change will determine our success. To survive we must adapt, to adapt we must change.

Today, being a teenager and a high school student is no easy task. We live in a high tech information based society where we are bombarded by negative influences on a daily basis. "What's wrong with this young generation" seems to be the question of the day—everyday. It's the same question that has been asked throughout history, and I believe the answer remains the same—NOTHING is wrong. I believe my generation is ready, willing, and able to serve America, just as well as those who preceded us. I know I am.

For me, it may be a little easier because of the foundation laid by my family. My ancestors immigrated to America in search of freedom and a better life. They brought with them a tradition of hard work, discipline, strong family values, and spirituality. I am fortunate that my parents passed them on to me. They challenged me to grow intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually. They gave me a value system founded upon high moral and ethical standards. By example, they showed me that we have a responsibility to give something back to our communities, especially to those less fortunate. I can serve America by following their example and by passing it on to others.

Today, America still represents hope throughout the world. Where there is repression, persecution, poverty, or a lack of human rights, America continues to be a symbol of freedom and liberty. I can serve America by helping to preserve those ideals and share them with others. I can also serve America by setting a positive example for my peers to follow and by helping them when needed.

America faces enormous challenges in our global economy. I can help her meet those challenges by pursuing academic excellence and by refining my leadership skills. My parents stressed the importance of academics and the powerful role that knowledge will play in the future. They planted the seeds of leadership within me and nurtured their growth. It is now my responsibility to further develop them.

We must always remember that many people are quick to follow; therefore, leadership is a responsibility that should not be taken lightly. It requires creativity, imagination, courage, decisiveness, and confidence. Leaders must have the courage to make decisions based on what is right. Leaders must be assertive but patient. They must be skilled listeners and effective mediators. They must be confident but not arrogant. Finally, they must be able to accept responsibility, acknowledge their faults, admit their mistakes, and learn from them.

I can serve America by developing these skills and by accepting a leadership role in her future. However, to preserve the future, we must never forget those who gave us the America we have today.

President Kennedy's Inaugural Address also contained the following words: "Since America was founded, each generation has been summoned to give testimony to its national loyalty. The graves of young Americans, who answered the call to serve, surround the globe."

One day the torch will be passed to my generation. We too will proclaim our loyalty.

We will be ready to serve. However, we will retain our readiness only if we continue to honor and respect those who paid the ultimate sacrifice so that we could live to serve America and perpetuate the ideals she represents.

THE UNDERWATER ADVENTURE
SEEKERS CELEBRATE THEIR
FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite the Members of this body to join me in saluting the Underwater Adventure Seekers (UAS) as they celebrate forty years in the District of Columbia.

UAS was established in the District of Columbia on February 25, 1959 for the purpose of offering water safety and skin and SCUBA diving training to African-Americans in the metropolitan area during a period in this country's development when such training was not available to African-Americans or other minorities through the usual industry venues.

UAS is and always has been, an organization that welcomes people of all backgrounds. It has trained more than 1,700 people in the sports of skin and SCUBA diving. Additionally, UAS contributes thousands of hours of volunteer service to the community by sponsoring field trips for marine science students at the University of the District of Columbia; providing 2-year scholarships in marine science or oceanography to District residents; providing instruction in swimming and other water activities for persons of all ages; and providing safety divers for the President's Cup Regatta. The UAS also provides rescue divers to assist federal and local agencies during emergencies when there is a critical need for trained, experienced divers.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the achievements and commitment of the UAS to promoting water safety, conserving aquatic life, and providing services to the citizens of the District of Columbia.

IN HONOR OF WORCESTER COUNTY
SHERIFF JOHN "MIKE" FLYNN

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 1999

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true legend in Massachusetts politics, Worcester County Sheriff John "Mike" Flynn. On Sunday, April 11, Sheriff Flynn was honored at the Grafton Democratic Town Committee's Froment-Moroney Memorial Breakfast, where he was presented the Froment-Moroney Leadership by Action award.

Mr. Speaker, in many ways the name of that award sums up Mike Flynn—Leadership by Action. Sheriff Flynn has been an integral part of the Worcester County Sheriff's Department for 36 years, and in that time he has helped the Department become a model for effective corrections and law enforcement policy. In

1973, Sheriff Flynn was involved in the planning, construction and successful occupancy of the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction in West Boylston. In 1990, he oversaw the planning and construction of a 300-bed modular facility. He currently supervises a staff of over 650, many of whom are veterans.

Indeed, Sheriff Flynn himself served his country in the military, earning distinction in World War II in the Asian-Pacific Theater. By risking his life for our freedom, Mike Flynn displayed true leadership by action.

Beyond his duties as Sheriff, Mike Flynn has been extraordinarily active in volunteer and community service. In addition to his involvement with the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Sheriff Flynn has dedicated his time, his energy and his very big heart to the Mercy Center, a facility for developmentally handicapped children in our community. Through his work, the difficult lives of these young people have been made less difficult. I cannot think of a better definition of leadership, not just by action, but by compassion and decency.

Mike Flynn has a favorite expression—"Only in America." Only in America could the son of a steamfitter get such a tremendous opportunity to serve his family, his community, and his country. Sheriff Flynn has seized that opportunity and made the most of it.

Through all of this, Mike's wife Joan has been an invaluable partner and companion. Their six children and four grandchildren provide them with immense joy, and Sheriff Flynn would be the first to tell you that family always comes first.

Mr. Speaker, I know the entire House joins me in congratulating Worcester County Sheriff Mike Flynn on receiving the Froment-Moroney Leadership by Action award and for his decades of public service.

HONORING THE CAMPANIA CLUB
FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO
THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 1999

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to congratulate the Campania Club of New Haven on its 85th Anniversary. An Italian-American organization, the Campania Club has been a tremendous asset to the New Haven community since its inception in 1914.

Founded by a small group of Italian immigrants, members have worked to promote strong family values. These values—love for family and friends, the importance of giving to others, a commitment to hard work are the foundation upon which our community stands. These are the values passed on from generation to generation. Though it began as a small neighborhood gathering, the Campania Club has grown and developed into an integral part of the foundation on which the New Haven Italian-American community stands. The Italian neighborhood where I grew up was a place where people knew each other, and looked out for each other. It's great to see that things haven't changed.

The strength and integrity of the club lies in the character and commitment of its members,

and the historical list of club members' names, past and present, are a true reflection of the quality of the Campania Club. Over the years, membership lists have included many local officials and personalities including former Mayor William C. Celantano, as well as his brother 1967 Man of the Year, Dr. Luca Celentano. Local personalities included Packy DeFonzo and Joseph DeGale for whom the DeGale Trophy was named. Considering a major award in the athletic field, for years the DeGale Trophy was presented to an outstanding city athlete. As the organization has grown, Club members continue to serve the community by supporting a variety of service organizations, including the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, as well as local businesses and sports teams. It is this type of dedication that has kept alive the close-knit New Haven Italian community, passing on the legacy and traditions to the next generation.

The Campania Club has strived to promote family values while continuing to foster a proud Italian heritage. It is with great pride that I stand before you today to honor the Campania Club and its members for 85 years of outstanding service to the New Haven community.

"MY SERVICE TO AMERICA"

HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 1999

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to recognize and honor Eleanor Forbes. She is the recipient of the 1998-1999 VFW Voice of Democracy Scholarship Competition. Eleanor wrote a very moving and patriotic account of American democracy. I ask that the text of her script be inserted into the RECORD in its entirety at the completion of my remarks. Once again, I am proud to recognize Ms. Eleanor Forbes.

"MY SERVICE TO AMERICA"—1998-1999 VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

(Pennsylvania Winner—Eleanor Forbes)

The voice you hear now is the voice of an American, a proud American. This same voice pledges allegiance to our flag every morning, and sings proudly along with our national anthem when it is played. I am fifteen years old. I do not have the resources to go out and change the world. I do not have the money to give to all my fellow Americans who need it, nor am I old enough to run for president or serve my country in a war. But these are not the only ways I can serve my country. My service to America is expressed in many other ways.

America has provided me with numerous opportunities for which I am grateful. I have the opportunities of education, participation in athletics, work, art and music, among other things. It is my duty as an American to grasp these opportunities firmly now, in my teenage years, so that I can give back to my country later in life. I owe it to America to be the best student I can be, to learn how to write and speak properly, to spell correctly, and to read the intricate works of the great American writers. I must learn to appreciate the artistic and musical works of the great American artists, and learn mathematics, science and history. It is my duty to visit the numerous places that make up American history books; to climb the steep