

Ken was also often on the cutting edge of health care issues such as Medi-Cal and Welfare Reform, free-standing cardiac catheterization labs, surgi-centers and most recently, the Healthy Families Act.

Because of his love and expertise of horse racing, Ken has virtually rewritten the horse racing law in California—writing more than 45 bills that were later adopted into law on the subject.

I know he is proudest of the very significant and lasting contributions he made in helping establish the California Center for Equine Health and Performance and the Equine Analytical Chemistry Laboratory at the University of California, Davis.

It is with great pride that I report to my colleagues that UC Davis officials named the building in his honor. Additionally, he was awarded the California State University Lifetime Achievement Award earlier this year.

One of the most telling signs of political maturity is acceptance and recognition by your peers. For three years, Ken served as Chairman of the Senate Republican Caucus before serving eight years as Republican Leader. He's a text-book case on "how to make things happen while serving in the minority party."

Ken was awarded the Lee Atwater Minority Leader of the Year Award in 1992 by the National Republican Legislators Association and is a six-time delegate to the Republican National Convention from 1976–1996, including two terms as an RNC whip in 1976 and 1984.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to rise and join me in honoring the lifetime achievement of a great man—my good friend, Ken Maddy.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 13 young women from my home city of Grand Rapids, Michigan for achieving the highest honor in United States Girl Scouting, the Girl Scout Gold Award. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development.

Obtaining the Girl Scout Gold Award is no easy task and involves a total commitment. Over the last two years, these young women have dedicated themselves to obtaining this goal. In order to receive this award, recipients must earn four interest project patches: the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, as well as designing and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award project in co-operation with an adult Girl Scout volunteer. This is all in addition to their school work and extracurricular activities. Recipients must and should be very proud to join this elite group of Girl Scouts.

The young women who will receive the Girl Scout's highest honor are: Carissa Becker, Jessica Gorman, Melissa Grossman, Shannon Kobs, Laura LaPorte, Liz Nieboer, Jennifer

O'Conner, Laura Olney, Tracy Peters, Erin Potter, Nicole Rittersdorf, Sarah Roberts, and Kristin Steelman.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to take this time to recognize the accomplishments of this distinguished group of young women. I applaud their dedication and desire to be among the best Girl Scouts. The lessons they have learned in obtaining this award and the teamwork they have experienced will be beneficial as they enter adulthood. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating each of these young ladies on this remarkable achievement. I wish each of them continued success in the future.

FOREST SERVICE FEES

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I introduced legislation which will prohibit the Forest Service from charging a fee for special permits issued to churches.

Some churches, which were established many years ago, currently fall within the boundaries of National Forests. These churches are now charged, or taxes, by the Forest Service to continue to hold their services or schools on the property that they have traditionally occupied.

I do not believe that this is an appropriate practice. Thus, I have introduced this bill which would prohibit this practice by the Forest Service.

Most of these churches are small and located in rural area. Unfortunately, they operate on a very limited budget. I do not think that eliminating these fees will hurt the federal government, which currently spends billions of dollars a year.

While this will mean very little in terms of the overall federal budget, it will be very important to these small churches in rural America.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is a very modest proposal which I believe just about everyone could endorse. I hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill by cosponsoring it.

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the fact that May is Mental Health Month. I have long been a strong supporter of our mental health programs and I would like to extend thanks to the many thousands who work day after day in the mental health field.

Those who work in the mental health field provide many of our constituents with the opportunity to consult with mental health specialists and receive the care they so desperately need. With an estimated 15 percent (or 28 million of the 185 million U.S. adults aged 18 and over suffering from mental health disorders), the need for recognition of the instances of

mental health is paramount. Moreover, because approximately 22 percent of the population will experience a mental disorder during the course of their lives, at an estimated cost of \$129 billion per year, the services that those in the mental health field provide is essential. Many Americans, who otherwise would have suffered in silence, now have the opportunity to seek treatment and lead the happy and productive lives so many desire.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that our colleagues will join in paying tribute to Mental Health Month and to those who suffer with mental disorders and those who work in the field. It is hoped that with the continued support of the Congress, forward progress can be made in mental health treatment.

ADLER PLANETARIUM CELEBRATES SPACE DAY

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to recognize one of Chicago's premier institutions, the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum and to celebrate Space Day 1999. Located on Chicago's beautiful lakefront, the Adler was founded in 1930 by Max Adler "to be the foremost institution for the interpretation of the exploration of the Universe to the broadest possible audience."

Nearly 70 years later, the Adler has fulfilled Max Adler's mission by becoming one of the world's premier planetaria and astronomy museums. One of the first exhibits at the Adler featured a collection of historical scientific artifacts and rare books from around the world. This collection has grown dramatically, gained world-wide recognition and continues to be a mainstay of the Museum's exhibits.

Today, the Adler continues to grow and remain on the cutting edge of technology. On January 8th, 1999, the Adler celebrated the completion of its new Sky Pavilion, the first phase of a comprehensive expansion project which will ultimately double the Adler's current exhibit space. The architecturally striking Sky Pavilion is a two-story, 60,000-square-foot addition on the east side of the Adler's existing 1930 landmark structure. This facility comprises four major exhibition galleries, including the world's first "StarRider" Theater, a 3-D interactive virtual reality experience which transports audiences to other planets, stars and distant galaxies.

To fulfill its mission to reach the broadest audience, the Adler has become a key line between the astronomy research community and the education community. As a lead science museum, the Adler develops innovative education programs and exhibits and provides teacher training and support, as well as a field site for student experiences. Astronomers also work extensively with schools, complementing elementary and secondary school curricula, and have received enthusiastic support from teachers, principals, school councils and parents.

Today, the Adler is celebrating Space Day '99 with a full slate of gallery programming. The local Chicago chapter of the Mars Society will sponsor an information booth on how we have viewed Mars in the past, how and why

we are no traveling to Mars, and how we can transform Mars so it is suitable for humans. The Planetarium will also host video-conferencing sessions between astronomers and suburban Maine West High School students. Finally, Jim Plaxco of the Planetary Studies Foundation will give a lunchtime lecture on "The Intelligent Traveler's Guide to Mars." These events demonstrate the wide variety of activities and experiences the Adler has to offer.

Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 21st Century, it is clear that exploration of the cosmos is proceeding at a faster pace than ever before and the world is entering an exciting new era of discovery. It is with an eye to the future that I invite all Members to join me in celebrating Space Day with the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum.

IN HONOR OF BETTY FRANKLIN-HAMMONDS

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay solemn tribute to a longtime civil rights advocate, Betty Franklin-Hammonds, of Madison, Wisconsin. Ms. Franklin-Hammonds has been known in the Madison community for her longtime advocacy on behalf of human equality and mutual understanding. She has ranked among the region's noted civil rights leaders, and has been widely recognized as effective, tenacious, low-key, and out front in nearly every civil rights campaign of the past 20 years. It is with great sadness that I note her passing on April 28, 1999.

Betty Franklin-Hammonds' commitment to organizations such as the NAACP and the Urban League was critical in ensuring equal rights for all of our citizens. Her unshakeable belief in equality of education for all was likely the force behind her strong leadership of the Madison Committee on the Achievement of Black Students, leadership which positively affected the educational possibilities for countless African American children in Madison. For nearly a decade, Betty Franklin-Hammonds served as the publisher of the Madison Times, today one of the most widely-read publications in Dane County. In her weekly column, Betty Franklin-Hammonds remained an outspoken advocate, sometimes voicing the concerns of thousands of others, other times advising, educating, or comforting.

Her unselfish contributions to the community brought numerous awards and recognition and she graciously accepted it all in stride, never slowing for even a minute from the enduring struggle for human equality and understanding. In the past few years, she has been recognized for her leadership at the helm of the Madison Urban League, and in 1993, Betty received the City of Madison's prestigious Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award. Earlier this year, she received the City of Madison Martin Luther King Heritage Award, and this month was due to receive the YWCA's Women of Distinction Award.

In recognition of the lifelong leadership provided by Ms. Betty Franklin-Hammonds, I ask the Congress today to recognize the life of this

great Civil Rights leader. She will be greatly missed by many, but her legacy lives on, as together we strive to achieve the goals of equality, education, and understanding that were so central to her life's work.

MOTHER'S DAY

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, this weekend, on May 9, America will celebrate Mother's Day. This second Sunday in May was set aside for us to thank our mothers for raising us, for giving us a sense of security and independence, and for offering us their unconditional love. I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to all mothers, who know that there is perhaps no more important, more difficult, and ultimately more rewarding undertaking than raising a child.

I was very fortunate to have been raised by a loving mother in a stable and caring home. As we approach Mother's Day, however, I can't help but be reminded of the over 500,000 children in the foster care system in this country who await permanent homes. Although in recent years we have made great strides in improving the child welfare system, through legislation such as the Adoption and Safe Families Act, there is no substitute for loving parents and a permanent home. For thousands of children who are still waiting, adoption offers the hope to finally find a "forever family". I would like to remember the children who still wait to celebrate Mother's Day in a permanent home, as well as those families whom adoption has brought together.

Mr. Speaker, children are awaiting adoptive parents not only in this country, but in nations all over the world. For years, American families have reached across cultural and national boundaries to embrace children through international adoption. My own family was forever changed and enriched by the adoption of our two children from Korea. It is difficult for me to express how deeply grateful I am to have Kathryn and Scott in my life. This Mother's Day, it is my greatest hope that every family and every child still waiting will also have the opportunity to experience the joy of adoption.

FUNDING FOR THE AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our nation's farmers and therefore, in support of Mr. LATHAM's amendment. On March 24th, over a full month ago, we passed a supplemental appropriations bill which included \$110 million to support \$1.1 billion for loans that farmers and ranchers need to finance this season's work in the fields and pastures. These farmers needed that money a month ago; they are now nearing desperation.

In my district alone, the eighth district of North Carolina, there are several million dol-

lars worth of loan applications that have been turned in to the local FSA offices. These farmers are struggling to get their finances in order because they are relying on what appears to be an unreliable source—the Federal Government. This is more than a matter of delay in many cases, this is a matter of continuing to be a farmer, or finally giving up and throwing in the towel on the livelihood they know and love.

In addition to the farmers who are depending on these loans to put a crop in the field this year, I also have poultry and dairy farmers who are going to miss a season of revenue due to the loan situation. Many of my poultry farmers have been in the process of transitioning from raising turkeys to raising chickens and have lost their chicken house contractors because the builders have moved on to sites where they are sure to receive prompt payment. Again, that leaves those chicken farmers without chicken houses and therefore, without revenue. A full season of no revenue will affect these farmers for more than just one season.

To make matters worse, even when we do finally pass this legislation, we have caused a loss of faith from traditional lenders. Banks are now turning down farmers simply because they don't want to deal with farm applications. This is further limiting farmers because of Congress' inability to pass appropriations and provide a loan program that is reliable.

I will close by saying what we all already know, we have a critical situation right now in farm country. Congress has within its power the ability to alleviate some of the financial duress that agriculturists are feeling. Do the right thing today, pass this amendment and let's get to work on restoring faith in our system.

TRIBUTE TO TEACHERS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate National Teacher Appreciation week by expressing my appreciation for the valuable work of America's teachers and to ask my colleagues to support two pieces of legislation I have introduced to get the government off the backs, and out of the pockets, of America's teachers. Yesterday I introduced legislation to prohibit the expenditure of federal funds for national teacher testing or certification. A national teacher test would force all teachers to be trained in accordance with federal standards, thus dramatically increasing the Department of Education's control over the teaching profession.

I have also introduced the Teacher Tax Cut Act (HR 937) which provides every teacher in America with a \$1,000 tax credit. The Teacher Tax Cut Act thus increases teachers' salaries without raising federal expenditures. It lets America's teachers know that the American people and the Congress respect their work. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, by raising teacher take-home pay, the Teacher Tax Cut Act encourages high-quality people to enter, and remain in, the teaching profession.

Mr. Speaker, these two bills send a strong signal to America's teachers that we in Congress are determined to encourage good people to enter and remain in the teaching profession and that we want teachers to be treated