

plebiscite on the future of political status of Christian Nagaland, of the Sikh homeland, Khalistan, Kashmir, and other nations of Indian. Remember that the people of Kashmir were promised a plebiscite in 1948 and it has never been held. It is time for the United States and the international community to hold India's feet to the fire.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the Newsroom.com article of June 15 into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

[From Newsroom.com, June 15, 2000]

#### CHRISTIANS IN INDIA SEEK HELP FROM ABROAD

A wave of church bombings and murders of clergy has prompted Christian leaders in India to appeal for international help, according to Catholic World News. The United Forum of Catholics and Protestants of West Bengal claimed Tuesday that the Indian government and police have ignored their pleas and have insisted the attacks are random crimes.

The Christian leaders said they have written to the secretary general of the United Nations and are appealing to the human rights group Amnesty International. "We are scared. We have to go to international organizations because we have no faith in the Indian government," said Herod Malik, the head of the United Forum.

The leaders said that unless international groups pressure the Indian government to protect Christians from Hindu fundamentalists, the "atrocities will increase."

Bombs exploded in four churches in the southern Indian states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Goa on June 8, injuring at least one person. The blasts occurred the day after a Roman Catholic priest was murdered in the Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh in northern India.

The nation's governing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) blamed the four church bombings on Pakistani intelligence "out to give Hindu organizations a bad name." Opposition parties, however, assert that the bombings are the work of the Sangh Parivar, the extended family of Hindu organizations.

Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee promised a delegation of Christian leaders on Monday that his government would investigate the incidents fully.

Christians charge that the Hindu nationalist Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), considered the ideological parent of the BJP, have engaged in a campaign against Christians since the BJP came to power two years ago. The New Delhi-based United Christian Forum for Human Rights says that in the past year it has documented 120 attacks by Hindu fundamentalists against Christian individuals, churches, and schools.

Indian government officials deny having any influence on the aggression. CWN said a senior interior ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity, insisted the Christian community had nothing to fear and the government was taking steps to prevent such attacks.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 20, 2000*

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 19, I was unavoidably detained and forced to miss two votes.

If present, I would have voted "yes" on the motion that the Committee rise on H.R. 4635 (Vote 292).

If present, I would have voted "yes" on agreeing to Mr. Waxman's amendment to H.R. 4635 (Vote 292).

#### HONOR OF THE WOMAN'S BOOK CLUB OF HARRISON, ARKANSAS

#### HON. ASA HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 20, 2000*

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Woman's Book Club of Harrison, Arkansas. This month marks the one-hundred-year anniversary of the club's founding.

On June 25, 1900, twelve women in Harrison, Arkansas, founded a small book club, each contributing a single book. Soon after, a small library, consisting of a few shelves in the back of a newspaper office opened to members on Saturday afternoons. From these humble beginnings, the Woman's Book Club opened the first public library in north central Arkansas in 1903.

With support from the Woman's Book Club, the Harrison Public Library continued to grow and expand, moving several times to keep up with the demand for library services. In 1944, it became one of the first regional libraries in Arkansas and today contains over 58,000 volumes.

Mr. Speaker, the Woman's Book Club of Harrison is one of the largest private civic contributors to education and good works in my state. Over the past century, thousands who might not otherwise have had the opportunity to learn have been touched by its work. On behalf of all Arkansans, I would like to commend each of the many women who have been involved in the Harrison club. I look forward to another century of service.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF SHELBY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

#### HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 20, 2000*

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate one of my district's hospitals. For the second year in a row Shelby Memorial Hospital in Shelbyville, IL, has been recognized by the HCIA and the Health Network as being one of the top 100 facilities in the nation for clinical excellence and efficiency.

Each year the HCIA and the Health Network compare hospitals across the nation in search of hospitals that focus on clinical excellence and efficient delivery of care. The study places hospitals into categories by size. Shelby Memorial Hospital fits into the category for small hospitals, consisting of 25–99 acute care beds in service. The HCIA and Health Network based their study on quality of care, efficiency of operations, and sustainability of overall performance. They ranked 1266 small hospitals based on: risk adjusted mortality index; risk adjusted complications index; severity adjusted average length of stay; expense per adjusted discharge, case mix, and wage adjusted; profitability (cash flow margin); proportion of outpatient revenue; index of total facility

occupancy; and productivity (total asset turnover rate). The scores are then computed, and the results are then published in Modern Healthcare Magazine. The top 100 hospitals stand out above the rest by having superior care at lower costs.

According to CEO John Bennett, Shelby Memorial Hospital's main focus is on patient care, not Finances. Plans are already being made to improve the hospital's rating. The hospital will soon have a new, ER, lab, X ray and physical therapy departments, and new patient rooms.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say congratulations to Shelby Memorial Hospital on their excellent accomplishment. Due to the hospital's excellence in serving its community, it is clear that Shelby Memorial Hospital is an asset to Illinois and our nation's health care system.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

#### HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 20, 2000*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, Today I rise to recognize the Central Massachusetts Symphony Orchestra as they present the 50th consecutive season of Summer Family Concerts during July at East Park and Institute Park in Worcester, Massachusetts. These concerts, founded by the late Harry Levenson, and his wife Madelyn have always been, and will always be admission-free to the public. Madelyn continues to play a major role in all of the programming, and their son Paul Levenson serves as the Executive Director.

Over the years, the concerts have attracted over 1,000,000 residents and visitors to these performances. The fine classical and pops repertoire is now playing to the third generation of concert-goers. The concerts have become a beloved New England tradition at which all segments of the community, all neighborhoods, and all backgrounds can come together for alfresco entertainment. While walking home past Institute Park, Harry and Madelyn Levenson envisioned an outdoor summer concert. Today neighbors and neighborhoods in the All-American City of Worcester enjoy the fruits of their inspiration on a snowy Worcester evening in 1951.

I am sure my colleagues join me in celebrating a fine Worcester tradition.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENCHANTED HILLS CAMP

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 20, 2000*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rose Resnick Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Disabled and the 50th Anniversary of its Enchanted Hills Camp.

The Rose Resnick Lighthouse is the most comprehensive program and advocacy agency

serving the blind and visually impaired community in the San Francisco Bay Area. The Enchanted Hills Camp, located in the Napa County foothills, provides the blind with the opportunities of a traditional summer camp, combined with peer support, role models and a philosophy that encourages self-confidence and development.

The Enchanted Hills Camp promotes independence, equality, and self-reliance through rehabilitation training and services such as access to employment, education, government, media, recreation, transportation and the environment. Approximately 120 individuals enroll in the camp each summer, which offers activities for children in elementary through high school, as well as adults and multi-disabled persons. Campers participate in activities ranging from hiking, horseback-riding, and other sports to arts and crafts projects and campfire conversations.

This summer will mark 50 years of camp at Enchanted Hills. Three events are scheduled for counselors and campers to celebrate the 50th Anniversary—an Alumni Retreat, Counselor Reunion, and a 50th Anniversary Party. The Retreat is for adults who attended the camp between 1950 and 1995 and the Counselor Reunion is open to all counselors, camp maintenance and kitchen staff, volunteers, and interns who worked between 1950 and 1995. The 50th Anniversary Party will take place June 25, complete with music, a BBQ lunch, and other special activities.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we acknowledge the Rose Resnick Light-house and the Enchanted Hills Camp for providing visually impaired individuals with vital services and camp memories to last a lifetime. Congratulations to the Enchanted Hills Camp on its 50th Anniversary.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE NORTH ALABAMA VETERANS OF THE KOREAN WAR

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 20, 2000*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the veterans of the Korean War who now reside in North Alabama. These brave men and women who boldly served their country across the ocean 50 years ago deserve our recognition and our gratitude. This coming Saturday in Huntsville, Alabama, our area veterans, their families and the Korean-American community will be honored at a Huntsville Stars baseball game.

As this nation at large begins its three-year remembrance of the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, the Redstone-Huntsville AUSA Chapter 3103 has been designated by Secretary Cohen as a Commemorative Community. I believe this distinction reflects the patriotic history of North Alabama and Redstone Arsenal and acknowledges the sacrifices this community has made in the defense of the United States and its freedoms.

Many people refer to the Korean War as "The Forgotten War", but I would like to take this opportunity to thank those in my community who are going to extraordinary efforts to ensure that the Korean War and its veterans are not forgotten. I would like to extend my

appreciation to Jim Rountree, the chairman of the commemoration committee, Robert Nixon, Jr. and Ed Banville. I also want to recognize the Grand Marshal of the anniversary festivities, Major General Grayson Tate, a Purple Heart veteran who nearly lost his leg in the battles for democracy and peace that took place 50 years ago in Korea.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States, I thank the veterans and families of the Korean War and those in my community who are working hard to see them properly honored. We can never afford to forget their victories and their sacrifices lest we take for granted the precious freedoms we enjoy every minute of every day. I would like to extend my best wishes to them for a memorable Saturday baseball game.

#### HONORING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF SAMUEL R. BACON

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 20, 2000*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I wish a happy 100th birthday to Samuel R. Bacon of Cookeville, Tennessee. Mr. Bacon is a remarkable man who has lived a successful and rewarding life. He will turn 100 on July 1, 2000.

Reared on a dairy farm just outside of Baltimore, Maryland, Mr. Bacon graduated from the University of Maryland and went to work as a soil scientist. He eventually went to work for the United States Department of Agriculture and traveled the entire nation putting his experience and abilities to good use for a number of communities. After 35 years at the USDA, Mr. Bacon went into business distributing key chains, small tools and the like to about 400 stores. At the age of 91, he finally retired from that second career.

Mr. Bacon and his wife, Reba, now deceased, shared their good fortune with the Cookeville area throughout the years. They contributed to more than 30 charities, and through Mr. Bacon's support, Reba was able to establish an art league in Cookeville. Thanks to the generosity and support of the Bacons, the Cumberland Art Society has flourished into an integral part of the community. Always wanting to help his community, Mr. Bacon delivered Meals on Wheels to the elderly and disabled until he was 98.

An example of this man's extraordinary fortitude was the time he walked, at the age of 74, from Lebanon, Tennessee, to Monterey, Tennessee, a distance of nearly 70 miles. Asked why he wanted to walk such a distance at that age, Bacon replied, "I just wanted to see if I could do it." I congratulate Mr. Bacon for his tremendous contributions to the country and to his fellow man.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROY BRAUNSTEIN

**HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 20, 2000*

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate APWU Legisla-

tive Director Roy Braunstein on a special achievement of 20 years as a National Legislative Officer.

Roy was first elected in 1980 as the APWU Legislative Aide, and was elected Legislative and Political Director in 1992. He has been elected eight times by the APWU membership. The American Postal Workers Union AFL-CIO has more than 350,000 members in every city, town and hamlet in the United States and is the world's largest postal union.

Before he came to Washington, D.C. in 1980, Roy was active in the New Jersey Shore Area Local where he served as Legislative Director and Shop Stewart. He was also the New Jersey State APWU Legislative Director and Editor. He served in community affairs as a member of the Barnegat, New Jersey Board of Education for three years and as a member of the Ocean County New Jersey Mental Health Board.

In Washington, Roy serves as a lobbyist for the union and has worked on a number of issues important to the membership. During his tenure at APWU, I worked closely with Roy in securing passage of the Hatch Act Reform, legislation which I authored granting greater political freedom for postal and federal employees. Roy also played a key role in the eight-year battle for the Family and Medical Leave Act which President Clinton signed into law in 1993.

Over the years, Roy has worked diligently to help win passage of the Federal Employees Retirement Act, the Spouse Equity Act, the Postal Employees Safety Enhancement Act, the Veterans Employment Opportunity Act and many other legislative initiatives to help working families.

Roy has fought to protect the viability of the Postal Service. He has been a leader in the fight against Postal Privatization, and the movement to take the Postal Service off-budget during the 1980's in an effort to stop congressional attacks on the Postal Service. APWU is an affiliate of the AFL-CIO and Roy has worked closely with other labor leaders for the goals of this nation's working men and women.

Roy's wife of 32 years, Marilyn, is also an APWU member and they are the proud parents of two young men, Rick and Daniel. He has an A.A. Degree from Kinsborough Community College in Brooklyn, New York, and a B.A. Degree from Richmond College in Staten Island, New York.

Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to join in recognizing the very special achievements of Roy Braunstein, whom I have known throughout his career in Washington by virtue of my previous capacity as Chairman of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee and my current role as Ranking Democratic Member of the House Education and Work Force Committee. APWU is well-served to have Roy Braunstein representing their Union before the Congress of the United States.

#### AFRICAN DIAMONDS

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 20, 2000*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I submit the enclosed statement into the RECORD.