

This is a role that our Hill police officers fill very well. They act as greeters and provide tour references for persons who are unfamiliar with our Capitol grounds. For this reason, I would offer that, it would be very proper to consider action that would provide authorization and funding for the development of a professional roster of Hill greeters who are on the grounds to fill this void in customer service to our guest and constituents.

In closing, I would like to make it clear by noting in the record that I was not approached by any Capitol Hill Police officers to speak on this subject—on the contrary I have waited for an opportunity to discuss this matter for some time. I do so now—because I have eyes that can see and a thinking mind and I know that what we have done to these—our own public servants is not right.

I was on the Hill after the 1996 elections and know that the Capitol Police force were required to work thousands of hours in overtime, but these officers were not compensated for their labor until well into the next year. I was also here in 1998, when Officer Jacob J. Chestnut, and Detective John M. Gibson were killed, and several others including civilians, were wounded.

For this reason, and this reason only, I ask that my colleagues consider my words as they deliberate and vote on this important appropriation.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE WALTER
JOHNSON

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to a dedicated teacher, community visionary, and loving family man who passed away unexpectedly last week.

Walter Johnson was a man who loved life and all the important things in it—his family, his friends, his church, his students, his African American heritage. He loved the difference that he was making in our community through his work as an educator with the Milwaukee Public Schools, through his commitment to expanding low income housing for seniors and the disabled, and through his long time involvement with the Milwaukee branch of the NAACP.

Behind his dignified, gentle manner was a fierce determination to gain opportunity for all members of our community. He taught his students to do well by doing good. He was a leader at Calvary Baptist Church where he set an example for others in our city; that there is need and a way for people of faith to actively address poverty and prejudice. He served with the Milwaukee NAACP in many capacities, guiding the organization in its work to attain an integrated, diverse society—open to all Americans.

Shortly before he died, Martin Luther King, Jr. asked God to grant us all a chance to be participants in the newness and magnificent development of America. Walter Johnson heard the call and is now reaping his reward.

I offer my condolences to his beloved wife, Minerva, and to his children, Christopher and Hilary. He will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARIANNE
NESTOR

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Mrs. Marianne Nestor, Vice-President of Fund Development and Volunteer Services of St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland Hospital. Mrs. Nestor resigned her post on June 30, 2000, after serving her community for over 20 years. It is a rare occurrence that any person serves an institution so well for so long. Mrs. Nestor has been an asset to the hospital and community and will be sorely missed.

Marianne Nestor's distinguished career with St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland Hospital began in 1978 when she began serving as Vice-Chairwoman Board of Directors. Shortly after, she became Director of Volunteer Services, and later Director of Fund Development. In 1984 she was named the Director of the consolidated Fund Development, Volunteer Services, and Gift Shop department. At this post, Mrs. Nestor served of St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland Hospital for 15 years with the utmost concern for the hospital's patients and guests. In 1998, she became Vice-President of Fund Development and Volunteer Services. As a member of the President's senior management team, she has advised the hospital on overall operation of the hospital.

Despite the rigorous time constraints due to her hard work at the hospital, Mrs. Nestor found the time to additionally contribute to the community by volunteering for countless activities. Mrs. Nestor has been a volunteer Board Member, and later, President of the Rotary Club of Pontiac; a founding member of the Mental Illness Research Association; and a board member of the Russ Thomas Scholarship Foundation to name a few.

The residents of Oakland County have been fortunate to have Mrs. Nestor serve the community with the diligence and commitment rarely found today. She and her outstanding team of hospital volunteers have made of St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland Hospital one of the finest hospitals for health care in the country. She has been a great friend of mine and I wish her all the best.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. RICHARD E. BURKE OF HUNTSVILLE,
AL

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

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, on July 15th, a wonderful couple, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Burke will celebrate their 50th, wedding anniversary. In 1950, Mrs. Frances McAllister Burke and Mr. Richard E. Burke exchanged wedding vows to spend a lifetime together.

Now 50 years later, they shine as pillars of matrimony. The Burkes are a loving man and woman who have come together to share their lives, raise a family and prove that family values and selfless commitment still have a place in this world whose fleeting values can be confusing and impermanent.

Their son Waymon, daughter-in-law Jan and grandson Jason look up to this remarkable couple as role models on how to live and love successfully.

This tribute is a fitting honor for the Burkes who have shown us that commitments can be honored through five decades of the trials and tribulations of life. The Burkes have spent a good portion of their lives working hard with their landscaping company and with GTE. Now they are enjoying their well-deserved retirement together in the Big Cove community where they have lived since their marriage.

I commend Mr. and Mrs. Burke on their happy and strong marriage and I join their family and friends in wishing them a joyous and special celebration at the Bevil Center on July 15th.

REMEMBERING MR. CHET SHIELDS

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask that we take a moment to celebrate and remember the life of a great man, Chet Shields. In doing so, I would also like to remember this individual who has exemplified the notion of public service and civic duty.

Mr. Shields passed away after battling with Parkinson's disease. Mr. Shields was devoted to the environment and to his family. He had a prestigious career spanning three decades working for the Forest Service. Mr. Shields was born in Olathe, Colorado in 1928 and was part of the first graduating class at Smiley Junior High. Mr. Shields was active in many areas. He spent two years at Fort Lewis College before and after serving his country in World War II. Mr. Shields was always interested in forestry and acted on that interest by earning a bachelor's and master's degree in forestry from Colorado A & M. He also received a master's degree in public administration from Harvard in 1957.

Mr. Shields was married in 1948 to his lovely wife Ruth, who has also shared his love for the environment. During his prestigious career with the forest service, he and his wife were stationed in Taos, Penasco and Mountainair, New Mexico, Happy Jack, Arizona, and Durango, Colorado. He served as deputy chief in the Forest Service's Washington D.C. office for 13 years, later he and his wife later retired to Durango Colorado in 1978. Although technically retired, he and his wife never lost their work ethic, as they both volunteered on the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service's archeology site surveys.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to remember Mr. Shields and his efforts to make his community a better place to live. His dedication and know-how have distinguished him greatly. The citizens of Colorado owe Chet a debt of gratitude and we will all miss him dearly.

COMPUTER MILESTONE

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, today marks the occasion of a significant scientific achievement. Today, scientists at Livermore National Laboratory have started assembling the world's most powerful computer. This computer, known as ASCI White, delivered to Livermore on 28 tractor-trailer trucks, is capable of 12 trillion calculations per second. Mr. Speaker, that is more than three times faster than the most powerful computer in existence today.

One specific achievement of this endeavor is the collaboration it embodies. ASCI White is the product of work by IBM and our national labs, and the computer will now aid the Department of Energy in the work of simulating nuclear explosions without conducting live tests. Surely, this super computer is a model for the marvelous work that results from strong private-public partnerships.

Mr. Speaker. I submit the following article from the San Francisco Chronicle to be reprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. And on behalf of this body, I would like to extend our congratulations to IBM, Livermore Lab, and all of the other agencies and individuals who contributed to this superb accomplishment.

[From the San Francisco Chronicle, June 29, 2000]

IBM ASSEMBLING EXPLOSIVE NEW SUPERCOMPUTER PROCESSORS TO MIMIC NUCLEAR DETONATIONS AT LIVERMORE LAB

(Carrie Kirby)

Technicians at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory have begun assembling the world's most powerful supercomputer, the first sections of which were delivered by International Business Machines Corp. Monday.

The 8,100-processor computer, ASCI White, will be used to simulate nuclear explosions to maintain the nation's weapons stockpile. Exploding real nuclear bombs for testing purposes has been forbidden since the 1996 signing of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. The testing is required to ensure that the nation's aging stockpile of nuclear weapons still functions properly and is safely stored.

The processors in the \$110 million computer are no different than those found in high-end workstations used for engineering or design. But by putting 8,000 of them together in a box the size of two basketball courts, IBM has created a machine capable of 12.3 trillion operations per second—what scientists call a 12.3 teraflop computer.

Armed with a calculator, it would take a human being 10 million years to complete the number of calculations ASCI White can do in one second. That's three or four times better than the previous titlist for world's most powerful supercomputer, ASCI Blue Pacific, a 3.8 teraflop machine also located at Lawrence Livermore. ASCI White is 1,000 times more powerful than Deep Blue, the IBM supercomputer that beat world chess champion Garry Kasparov in 1997, and 30,000 times more powerful than the average personal computer. Its memory could comfortably house the Library of Congress—twice.

ASCI White is named for the Energy Department's Accelerated Strategic Computing Initiative.

Tractor trailers brought about a quarter of the massive computer to Lawrence Livermore Monday, and the rest will arrive during the summer. When it is complete, a team of several hundred scientists at Lawrence Livermore will use the computer to conduct the most realistic mock nuclear explosions ever.

Limited memory and computer power meant that previous simulations used a simplified, two-dimensional model to approximate a three-dimensional explosion.

"A one-dimensional problem assumes that the surface of the Earth is uniform—all earth or all water," said David Nowak, the physicist who will lead the ASCI White program at Lawrence Livermore. Two-dimensional models would assume that the Earth is smooth, without mountains, valleys or complicated factors such as air currents. "ASCI White allows us to go to three dimensions."

Nowak has been anticipating getting his hands on the computer for two years, while 1,000 engineers at IBM's Poughkeepsie, N.Y., laboratory designed and built it. Yet he knows that despite its mind-boggling abilities, ASCI White is not powerful enough to simulate the blasts as realistically as scientists want.

"To actually do the problem, we need 100 teraflops," Nowak said. "We think we can get that by 2004 or 2005."

The ASCI program calls for two more supercomputers to be built. The first, with 30 teraflops, will go to Los Alamos, N.M., in about two years. The second, with 100 teraflops, is scheduled to be assigned to Livermore, said lab spokesman David Schwoegler.

TRIBUTE TO DAN RATTINER

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to congratulate Dan Rattiner, my neighbor and constituent from Long Island, on the 40th anniversary of Dan's Papers.

Dan Rattiner's story is that of many seeking the American dream. As a college student during the summer of 1960, Mr. Rattiner started a small, free, eight-page publication in Montauk, New York. Over time, as Eastern Long Island has grown, this one-man operation has grown into a 50-page publication employing over 40 people. Articles range from serious issue-based essays to coverage of summer in the Hamptons.

Mr. Rattiner's work ethic, dedication, and success represent the very best of Long Island, New York and our Nation. His commitment to journalistic excellence, all the while providing important information to the people of Southampton and Easthampton, is worthy of commendation and praise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Rattiner, for 40 years of bringing news with a local flavor to the people of Eastern Long Island. On behalf of the people of Long Island, I would like to thank Mr. Rattiner and the entire staff of Dan's Papers and I wish them the best of luck in the future.

MEDICARE RX 2000 ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 28, 2000

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4680, the Medicare Prescription 2000 Act. H.R. 4680 is a poor excuse for a prescription drug bill for our Nation's senior citizens.

This Republican bill would force seniors who want prescription drug coverage to get it from private insurance companies. However, the bill provides no guarantee that individual seniors will have access to private insurance plans that cover prescription drug. Furthermore, even when coverage is offered, the premiums, deductibles and co-payments will vary widely, depending upon what plans are available in the area. Millions of seniors will not be able to afford to participate in these private insurance plans.

The Republican bill would provide payments for prescription drugs to private health insurance companies—not patients themselves or their health care providers. Many private insurance companies have unfairly restricted health care for their patients in the past. Now is not the time to give these insurance companies additional government benefits.

H.R. 4770, the alternative prescription drug bill proposed by the Democrats, would provide a guaranteed prescription drug benefit under Medicare to all seniors who want one. This bill would ensure that all seniors who choose to participate would pay the same low premiums and receive the same benefits, regardless of where they live. Moreover, low-income seniors who cannot afford to pay the premiums would not be denied prescription drug coverage under the Democratic alternative.

It is time that Congress make prescription medicines available to all seniors who need them. I urge my colleagues to oppose this Republican giveaway to private insurance companies and support the Democratic alternative.

HONORING MR. TOM MESSENGER

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor a man that has devoted his career to protecting the health of people in the great State of Colorado, Tom Messenger. After 30 years of service to the citizens of Colorado, Tom is set to retire this week, bringing to a close what has been a truly distinguished career.

As his family, friends and colleagues celebrate Tom's retirement, I would like to pay tribute to his substantial efforts to improve the quality of life for all Coloradans. His career is eminently deserving of both the praise and thanks of this body.

Tom began his tenure as an environmental health advocate in 1970. He first started as a sanitarian for the Tri-County District Health Department and, after earning a masters degree, started a career at the Colorado Health Department. Early in his career, Tom demonstrated both the integrity and the skill needed to conduct a responsible, responsive and