

Bay City, MI, but throughout the Midwest, including Minnesota, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Kansas, and Illinois. Under his leadership, Bresnan Communications has also become known for its many educational programs, its emphasis on minority advancement, and for community relations initiatives that recognize the civic contributions of local citizens and seniors.

A native of Mankato, MN, Bill Bresnan began his career in 1958 when, at the age of 25, he designed and built his first cable system in Rochester, MN, for a group of local investors. That company was acquired by Jack Kent Cooke, Inc. in 1965, and Bill was appointed its vice president of engineering. Shortly thereafter, he was appointed to serve as its executive vice president.

From 1972 to 1982, Bill held various influential positions in the Teleprompter Corporation, which was then one of the largest cable organizations in the United States. These include president of Teleprompter's Cable Division, Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. In 1981, when Teleprompter was bought by Westinghouse Electric Corp., he was appointed chairman and chief executive officer of the resulting new company, Group W Cable, Inc.

During this time, Bill played a major role in helping advance cutting-edge technology in the burgeoning cable industry. He was instrumental in sending the first domestic satellite transmission using a Canadian ANIK satellite in 1973. Three years later he helped initiate the first commercial communications system in the United States to use optical fibers.

In 1984, Bill founded Bresnan Communications, which currently serves over 660,000 customers. The company's Midwestern market is not accidental, and is a good example of Bill's civic-minded business philosophy. Bill has made it a priority to invest in the small and medium sized communities in America's heartland, to make sure that cutting-edge technology does not bypass these hard-working Americans, in favor of large communities on the west or east coasts of the United States.

Bill has also made it a priority to invest in America's young adults. He was an early pioneer in the development and construction of interactive television networks for distant learning. Working with local school districts and colleges, Bill was a key motivator in connecting educational facilities via fiber and coaxial cable, enabling many schools to conduct fully interactive classes simultaneously across great distances.

The admiration and respect of Bresnan employees for their president is legendary within the industry. Bill is known as an extraordinarily generous person and a boss who sees all of his 1,400 employees as his equal. He allocates a significant percent of revenue to establishing and promoting community relations initiatives that recognize local senior citizens and minorities. Indeed, his commitment to advancing the interests of minorities—in their recruitment, placement and training—was recognized in September 1999 by the Walter Kaitz Foundation. Bill received the "Partnership in Diversity" award, one of the industry's highest honors.

I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that there are not many businessmen today who are as committed to the technological advancements of the future as Mr. Bill Bresnan. There are

not many who feel the necessity of bringing advancements to those who might not otherwise have access to them: Americans on the family farm in Michigan, or minorities, or school children in the Midwest. Bill Bresnan has many plans for the future, and I wish him much success in all his endeavors. I am positive, Mr. Speaker, that we in Michigan will be the grateful beneficiaries.

IN SUPPORT OF BROADENING THE TYPES OF PROPERTY SUBJECT TO CIVIL ASSET FORFEITURE IN ALIEN SMUGGLING CASES

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, my bill addresses the pernicious practice of alien smuggling. Alien smugglers are a huge problem in South Florida, especially those who bring passengers from Haiti and Cuba to South Florida, frequently in unsafe boats and under very dangerous conditions.

For example, in March of last year, an alien smuggler's boat sank off the coast of West Palm Beach, Florida and, depending upon whether the Coast Guard or press reports of this horrendous tragedy are to be believed, anywhere from 15 to 40 Haitian passengers drowned.

These heartless and inhumane alien smugglers are parasites who are making huge sums of money off of the suffering of Haitians and Cubans who seek any means, legal or otherwise, to come to the United States. We must provide law enforcement with all available remedies to assure that the smugglers cannot continue to exploit vulnerable communities such as the Haitians and the Cubans. Unfortunately, the existing civil asset forfeiture provisions for alien smuggling are far more limited than those available to address drug offenses.

Current law authorizes the forfeiture of vehicles, vessels and aircraft used to commit alien smuggling offenses. This has proven to be an essential law enforcement tool that the INS uses more than 12,000 times a year. But the law has some glaring loopholes. We know that other types of property besides vessels, vehicles and aircraft are also used to facilitate alien smuggling offenses, but these other types of property currently are not subject to civil asset forfeiture.

For example, alien smugglers use electronic gear to monitor law enforcement activity directed against alien smuggling. The smugglers also own warehouses where vehicles, vessels, and even human beings are stashed to avoid detection by the Coast Guard or the Border Patrol. Yet these other types of property currently are not subject to civil asset forfeiture.

Current law also does not permit the forfeiture of the proceeds of an alien smuggling offense. If a smuggler is paid \$100,000 to bring people into the United States in his fishing boat, law enforcement should not be limited to taking the boat while letting the smuggler keep the \$100,000. The smuggler should be required to surrender the cash as well.

My bill corrects these deficiencies by expanding the scope of permissible civil asset forfeiture in alien smuggling cases to make it

consistent with the standards used in drug cases. My bill provides that any property that constitutes, is derived from, or is traceable to the proceeds obtained directly or indirectly from alien smuggling, or is used to facilitate, or is intended to be used to facilitate alien smuggling, is subject to civil asset forfeiture.

Mr. Chairman, I don't fault those who would take extraordinary steps to try to come to the United States. Their efforts are totally understandable, even though unacceptable. I fault those who bring them to the United States outside of the law—the alien smugglers. Alien smugglers are a menace to society. As in drug cases, we should give law enforcement the full range of asset forfeiture remedies to deal with the serious problem of alien smuggling.

In civil asset forfeiture proceedings, law enforcement should have the ability to reach any property owned by the smugglers that is used to facilitate alien smuggling or that derives from or is traceable to such smuggling. There is no logical reason to limit the types of property subject to forfeiture in alien smuggling cases to vehicles, vessels and aircraft.

I urge my colleagues to support this common-sense bill.

TRIBUTE TO FRED KORZON OF BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Fred Korzon, supervisor of Bloomfield Township, Michigan, who resigned his post on December 20, 1999, after serving his community since 1967. Mr. Korzon has been an outstanding municipal leader and is a shining example of all that is right and good in public service. This man of honor and integrity has served on many State, county and local municipal boards and committees including but not limited to: chairperson of Southeast Michigan Council for Governments, Oakland County Parks and Recreation commissioner, and chairperson of Oakland County Association of Supervisors.

Fred Korzon's public service actually began on December 10, 1942, when he enlisted in the military. After leaving active duty he served in the U.S. Air Force Reserve until 1950. After leaving the military, he built his own home in Bloomfield Township, MI, and has remained a resident of the community since that time.

After graduating from the University of Michigan with a masters degree in history in 1966, Mr. Korzon taught at Pontiac Central High School and Lahser High School in Oakland County. He was first appointed to the Bloomfield Township Zoning Board of Appeals in 1967 and served for 1 year before being appointed to the board of trustees. He was appointed to the full-time treasurer's position in 1969 and ran successfully on the ballot until his appointment as township supervisor in 1982.

The residents of Bloomfield Township have been fortunate to have the services of Fred Korzon as our supervisor for 18 years. He has been rock solid for the residents and a faithful servant for our area. He and his outstanding team of public servants have helped make this

community one of the finest places to live anywhere in America. He has been a great friend of mine and I wish him all the best.

HONORING KATY TARTAKOFF,
POWER OF ONE HONOREE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to now honor Katy Tartakoff who has been awarded the Colorado Woman 2000 Power of One Honor in recognition of her service to her community and the State of Colorado. Katy is a true heroine in her community and she deserves our highest thanks and praise.

Katy published a journal in 1991 called "My Stupid Illness." The journal showed photographs of children suffering from cancer along with stories addressing how the children were dealing with the illness. She has since expanded her work to photograph and document children with other life-threatening illnesses. She presents these exhibits to schools to use as a tool to teach kids how to accept, understand and live with differences.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to both congratulate and thank Katy for all of her efforts to make her community a better place to live. I applaud Katy's efforts to educate children about diversity. She is a most deserving recipient of the Power of One Honor.

IN HONOR OF MR. GERALD NOWICKI, ONE OF THIS YEAR'S RICHARD A. RUTKOWSKI ASSOCIATION HONOREES FOR DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF BAYONNE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gerald Nowicki of Bayonne, NJ. Acknowledging the accomplishments of those rare individuals dedicated to making Bayonne a better community, the Richard A. Rutkowski Association has selected Mr. Nowicki as one of this year's honorees.

Joining the Bayonne Historical Society in 1991, Mr. Nowicki has been instrumental in working to preserve and foster the historical and artistic beauty of Bayonne. Knowing the importance of maintaining outdoor sculptures to prevent corrosion, Mr. Nowicki coordinated a Tender Loving Care workshop to teach volunteers the proper guidelines for outdoor sculpture upkeep at the public buildings in Bayonne.

In addition to maintenance, Mr. Nowicki emphasized the necessity of restoration efforts for public artwork in the community. By cochairing the "Save the Hiker" project, an effort to restore the Spanish-American War Monument in Stephen Gregg Bayonne Park, and chairing the restoration project for the Civil War Monument in the same park, Mr. Nowicki has helped bring arts awareness in Bayonne.

To continue his efforts for the arts, Mr. Nowicki spearheaded the fundraising campaign designed to bring both funds and attention to the arts field—two very significant components to achieving his goals. His campaign drives helped to restore oil paintings from the Brennan Fire Fighting Museum and the Bayonne Public Library, and restored the antique grandfather's clock, which stands in the lobby of the library.

Because of his vast experience in Bayonne history and culture, Mr. Nowicki served as editor and co-author of "Bayonne Landmarks." The book served as an instrumental local history guide, winning the acclaim of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey.

Mr. Nowicki, born and raised in Bayonne, attended Assumption School Marist High School, and Jersey City State College.

For his continued efforts on behalf of the Bayonne community and the State of New Jersey, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Gerald Nowicki. His accomplishments in historical preservation and community service have undoubtedly made the city of Bayonne a better community in which to live.

INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS DAY

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, it was nearly 47 years ago, on January 26, 1953, that the World Customs Organization, formally known as the Customs Co-operation Council, held its first meeting in Brussels, Belgium. In recognition of this occasion, the Council observed January 26 as International Customs Day. This occasion also serves to recognize the role that customs services around the world play in facilitating trade while protecting national borders from economically and physically harmful importations.

I am proud of the contributions of the U.S. Customs Service to the Nation over the past 210 years. U.S. Customs responsibilities have increased with the growth of our great Nation—trade has increased exponentially and the threat of illegal importations, including illegal drugs is ever present. These are significant challenges that Customs faces on a daily basis, and Customs must continue its vigilance in facilitating trade while interdicting narcotics at our borders and preventing exportation of critical technology. I am pleased to say that Customs meets these challenges well, and I stand ready to continue my longstanding support of Customs in these efforts.

The U.S. Customs Service represents the United States at the World Customs Organization [WCO], a 150-member international organization founded to facilitate international trade and promote cooperation among governments on Customs matters. The WCO works to simplify and standardize legal instruments and rules of international customs. The WCO also renders technical assistance in areas such as customs tariffs, valuation, nomenclature, and law enforcement. Its objective is to obtain, in the interest of international trade, the best possible degree of uniformity among the customs systems of member nations. The United States became a member on November 5,

1970. All America benefits when both exporters and importers operate in an atmosphere of simple unambiguous customs operations around the world.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the World Customs Organization on its past accomplishments and wish it well in its ambitious new millennium goal of further harmonizing and simplifying the customs rules that affect international commerce. I also congratulate the U.S. Customs Service for its fine work both nationally and internationally.

HONORING MR. WILLIAM JEFFERSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS ONE HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. William Jefferson of Linden Plaza, in commemoration of his 100th birthday.

Mr. Jefferson was born in Columbia, South Carolina on January 2, 1900. At the age of thirteen, after earning his education in Ridgeway, South Carolina, he moved to New Jersey, and through working several odd jobs acquired skills in electrical work, plumbing, and house painting. In 1925 he moved to New York where he worked in these various trades until he found a permanent position with the American Window Shade Company.

While at this company, he met and married Mabel Stevens, and through this union was blessed with five daughters. Mr. Jefferson, known to many as a "Jack of all trades", devoted his time to his family, neighbors and anyone in the need of assistance. His wife passed away in 1998.

Since his retirement in 1977, Mr. Jefferson has enjoyed spending time with and passing wisdom to his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He helped start and on occasion still works at the Neighborhood Garden. He still enjoys discussing candidates, and voting in every election. In his spare time, he continues to play his guitar and keyboard. Please join in celebrating the wonderful life of centenarian, William Jefferson.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES A. ALGIE

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James A. Algie, Chairman of the Board of the Goodwill Industries of Long Beach and South Bay. Jim Algie passed away last year, and he is dearly missed.

Jim Algie was committed to the progress and success of the Goodwill Industries. Jim was dedicated to helping others and proudly followed Goodwill's mission to serve the communities of Southern Los Angeles County by educating, training, and placing people with barriers to employment to help them achieve economic and personal independence.

Jim was tireless in his efforts to better Goodwill Industries and he has left a lasting impact. He even helped change the accounting and financial reporting systems making the