

One of these options, assisted living, has become a cornerstone for senior care. An assisted living residence is a special combination of housing, personalized supportive services and health care designed to meet the needs—both scheduled and unscheduled—of those who require help with activities of daily living.

I urge all Americans to learn more about assisted living and how seniors can age in a loving home-like environment with dignity and independence.

CONSUMER ACCESS TO A RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OF TRADE ACT

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Consumer Access to a Responsible Accounting of Trade Act of 2000.

This bill aims to sever the funding link that has enabled the murderous rebels in Sierra Leone and Angola to wage their wars against civilians; that has helped bring a thug to power in Liberia; and that is sustaining eight nations fighting in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

This has been a top priority for a coalition of 70 human rights organizations, led by Physicians for Human Rights, and it has become an urgent matter for the diamond industry, whose tokens of love face being exposed as symbols of butchery.

The industry and activists both support a plan to block diamonds mined in conflict zones from entering the legitimate diamond trade. Many details remain to be ironed out, but the industry is working on that. Unfortunately, they are running into intransigence from some segments of the industry and some nations. Because of the nature of the system they have devised, substantial participation is necessary to make it work.

My bill aims to support the industry's efforts and expresses the Sense of the Congress that some effective system of preventing smuggled diamonds from being traded as blood-free ones is urgently needed and directing the Administration to make this a higher priority. The bill also encourages technology that will find a more traditional approach to this problem. Finally, it implements embargoes imposed by the United Nations and takes steps to make them more effective.

Mr. Speaker, we owe passage of this bill to innocent Africans—both those caught in the wars over diamonds, and those who depend on the legitimate trade in South Africa, Botswana, and Namibia and will be hurt by a consumer backlash against the blood trade.

But we also owe it to Americans to pass this bill.

American consumers play a significant role in the diamond trade, because they buy 65 percent of all diamonds. They clearly have no intention of supporting brutal wars—after all, their intention is to buy tokens of love and commitment—but that is precisely what they are doing.

American taxpayers also deserve better: they have funded more than \$3 billion in humanitarian relief to the people of these four nations who are caught up in war—at the same time rebels there have earned \$10 bil-

lion to pay for weapons and material to keep the same wars going.

The CARAT Act aims to empower Americans to lend their consumer might to efforts to bring peace to Sierra Leone, Angola, Liberia, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. It is measured and responsible legislation that deserves immediate action by the 106th Congress, and I urge our colleagues to support it.

AMERICAN SERB HALL, THE FIRST 50 YEARS

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join in the tribute to a true southside Milwaukee landmark, the American Serb Memorial Hall, as the community celebrates the hall's 50th birthday this month.

Located at South 51st Street and West Oklahoma Avenue, on Milwaukee's southside, Serb Hall, as it's commonly known, has been a fixture in the city for the last half century for wedding receptions, banquets, lunches and dinners, political rallies and yes, even bowling leagues. When constructed in 1950, Serb Hall was by far the most complete and modern facility of its kind on the south and southwest side of Milwaukee. The hall was expanded in 1987 to accommodate increasing business and renovated in 1999.

The hall was originally dedicated on September 1, 1950 to honor the local members of the Serbian orthodox faith who served in the American armed forces. 15 of those young men lost their lives in defense of our nation. They are honored today in a full-wall memorial in the lobby of Serb Hall. I was honored to attend the very moving dedication ceremony for that memorial.

Any mention of Serb Hall is not complete without focusing on two very traditional events—the Friday fish fry and visits by political dignitaries. The first fish fry was held at Serb Hall in 1967 and the lunches and dinners continue to this day supplemented by a drive-through window and carry-out service. The line of cars in the drive-through oftentimes circles the parking lot and can even extend into the street during the Lenten season.

Without a doubt, many individuals seeking major political office realize the historical and cultural significance of holding a rally at Serb Hall. From Milwaukee mayors, police chiefs, US congressmen and Wisconsin Governors to United States Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Reagan, Bush and Clinton, all have spoken at Serb Hall either as elected officials or candidates.

It is my pleasure to wish the Milwaukee Serbian community all the best as you celebrate 50 years of Serb Hall success. Best wishes for the next 50 and well beyond.

ACKNOWLEDGING LIFETIME OF PUBLIC SERVICE BY MR. EDWIN BEARSS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Edwin Bearss, a constituent of Virginia's Eighth District, who has recently retired after an impressive forty year career with the National Park Service and distinguished service in our nation's military.

Since the birth of our nation, Virginia has been a cornerstone in American history, especially during the Civil War. The majority of the Civil War's significant engagements occurred on battlefields in Virginia. Ed Bearss illuminated the valuable, living history found on the Civil War battlefields of Virginia and elsewhere in our country. Those who have been privileged to hear Mr. Bearss recount the vivid history of our nation's Civil War consider him a national treasure.

Ed Bearss began his service to our country during World War II as a Marine fighting in the Pacific. After recovering from wounds he suffered during battle in New Guinea, he took advantage of the G.I. Bill and received a degree from Georgetown University, as well as a masters degree in history from Indiana University.

In 1955, Mr. Bearss joined the National Park Service and began to share his knowledge and passion for Civil War history. As a historian at Vicksburg, Mr. Bearss' research led to the discovery of the lost ironclad Cairo and two forgotten Civil War forts. His desire for others to live history by touring battlefields inspired him to preserve the Manassas battlefields from the threat of shopping malls and two different amusement parks.

Mr. Bearss set a new standard in historical research with his diligence and attention to detail. He has shared his research by writing ten books and over a hundred articles. His excellence as the chief historian of our nation's federal parks earned him the Department of the Interior's highest recognition, the Distinguished Service Award.

To many, Ed Bearss' grandest accomplishment was his ability to bring a Civil War battlefield to life. He would dredge facts and stories from his immense store of knowledge and transport listeners back in time to when the actual battles took place. The energy with which Mr. Bearss gave his tours excited others to develop a passion for history. Mr. Bearss' work has helped many people realize the importance of preserving our nation's battlefields and the gravity of the battles fought at those sites. Fortunately for us and future generations, Mr. Bearss' historical gifts have been preserved by filmmaker Ken Burns, who included a number of Mr. Bearss' battlefield narrations in the award-winning PBS series, "The Civil War."

Mr. Speaker and my fellow colleagues, I invite you to join me in honoring a man who has devoted his life to serving his country. Mr. Edwin Bearss should be praised for the passion he brought to the history of our country and the ways he shared that passion. His legacy as an historian and his valuable contribution to the preservation of Civil War history are a tremendous gift to our nation that will last

through time. Thank you, Ed Bearss, for sharing your talents with us for so many years. We wish you much happiness in your retirement and hope you will continue to enrich us with your vast knowledge and appreciation of our nation's history.

TRIBUTE TO RUBIN HILL, JIM WHITE AND MARIA DOLORES ANDRADE

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize three outstanding individuals who have made significant contributions to educational opportunities for Latino children in California. They will be honored this month by Adelante and the California Migrant Leadership Council: Rubin Hill, Jim White, and Maria Dolores Andrade.

These outstanding individuals deserve our thanks for their selfless work on behalf of the poor and the disadvantaged. They truly embody the spirit of Cesar Chavez, who taught us that we can realize our dreams and hopes through hard struggles, hard work, and dedication. Anything is possible, if we set our heart and soul to the cause. We should never forget the words of Cesar Chavez: "si se puede," yes we can.

These three hard working and dedicated individuals have given so much for their community and the world at large.

RUBIN HILL

Rubin Hill has been a community leader in working with the youth of Kern and Tulare Counties as well as a coach for more than 35 years.

Rubin is a product of Delano. He attended and graduated from Delano Elementary and Delano High School. He attended and graduated from Bakersfield College in 1975. Ruby is married to Lorene Hill and with her help has raised five children, Donald, Sharon, Sandra, Ruben Jr. and Shalene. He has 12 grandchildren.

Ruben worked for ten years for the City of Delano in the Refuse, Street, Water and Parks Department. Then he transferred to the Delano Fire Department, where he became a Fireman, Engineer, Captain and finally Assistant Chief. When the Delano Fire Department was transferred to Kern County, Ruby became a Captain and Fire Marshall with that department, finally retiring to spend more time with his community service.

Ruby's community service includes Delano High School Trustee for four terms, Local P.T.A. Lifetime member including several terms as president. Ruby has served as N.A.A.C.P. President, Jr. Chamber of Commerce President, member of the Kiwanis Club, Community Action Group, Title I Advisory Board for Delano High School, Bakersfield College Advisory Board, North Kern State Prison Advisory Board, Delano Little League Board (10 years), Delano Babe Ruth Board (coach, president and member for 15 years), Almond Tree Elementary Lions Football team Board Member, Coach of McFarland Raiders Youth Football team, Leader, Supervisor, and Coach for Delano Recreation Department for 35 years. Ruby is also a member of the State Fireman Association, the Kings—Tulare County Referee Association and has been a referee and umpire for 25 years.

At age 60, Ruby has served the youth of the area all of his life, and he serves as an example for the entire community.

JIM WHITE

Jim White is a teacher in the McFarland Public Schools, one of the poorest communities in California. His leadership as a coach has resulted in turning around the lives of many youth and has brought pride to those youth, their parents, their school and their community.

Jim is a man who has contributed time, energy, sweat, and his own funds to turn the McFarland High School cross country program into a state power and maybe the most highly prized accomplishment of the community of McFarland in its history. Coach Jim White has been a magician in coaching in many ways.

His leadership as Cougar cross country coach has resulted in turning around the lives of many youth and has brought pride to those youth, their parents, their school and their community. The Cougar teams have won an unprecedented seven-state titles in cross-country competition in the past 13 years, including five consecutive. McFarland's first state crown in 1986 was followed by five straight—in 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996. Then when McFarland was moved up an enrollment classification though it was near the bottom of the division in total students, the Cougars struggled against schools with more athletes to draw from, but again in 1999 the Cougars reached the top.

White has become everything from coach to counselor to inspiration to fund raiser for a team which has caught the fancy of running fans state and nationwide for overcoming many obstacles. Most of the runners spend long days working in the summer and then begin the evening practices through area fields that develop the runners who have made McFarland High the envy of other cross country programs.

Many students struggle with their education and language, but White and his ever-growing legions of Cougar boosters join to help solve the problems. He and wife Cheryl pitch in to help with food, shoes, whatever is needed. He counsels runners to aim for higher goals—both in running and in life. Many of his running "graduates" have gone on to college and occupations in a variety of professions—many of them in education. They return often to lend encouragement to a new crop of runners who face the challenge White offers—to again focus on winning another state title. His teams have won 18 league titles in 20 years, frosh-soph league titles all 20 years, 12 section or valley titles, five Grand Masters championships—meaning all-valley—and the seven state titles. His team has been ranked No. 21 in the nation in pre-season. He was the Bakersfield California's "Coach of the Year" nine times, California Track and Field News "Coach of the Year" five times, and the California Coaches Alliance "Coach of the Year" four times. He was a finalist in 1996 for National Coach of the year.

Born in Sweetwater, Texas, May 14, 1941, he lived briefly in Albuquerque, New Mexico, before being raised in Stockton. He played baseball and basketball growing up and in college played basketball and pitched baseball. At Magic Valley Christian College in Idaho he met and married Cheryl Waldrum in 1961. In 1964 he graduated from Pepperdine University and moved to McFarland for his first teaching position. His first teaching assignment, for nine years, was instructing fifth grade science. He then taught seventh and eighth grade woodshop and PE for 11 years and presently he instructs seventh and eighth grade PE at McFarland Middle School and coaches the high school program. The

cross-country program was dropped for a year before he took over, and White was told that the program could be started if he could keep 10 athletes out for the season. He kept 18 and built the program to three boys' teams and two girls' teams.

Probably the greatest reward and compliment he could receive is to have many of his former students and athletes join him in assisting with the cross-country program. The list has included Amador Ayon, Thomas Valles, Ruben Ozuna, David Diaz, and Johnny Saminiego.

Although White has never been a runner himself—he rides a bicycle following the team through its country workouts—he started coaching a Little League baseball team and won several championships during his early days in McFarland, worked many years for the McFarland recreation department in its summer programs, and also coached winning basketball teams. He started the McFarland Pop Warner football team.

White has traveled with the coaching staff of International Sports Exchange, a group that tries to give athletes a chance to experience cultural sights, sports and fiends. He has taken teams to Singapore, Taiwan, Germany and China.

To raise funds to help promote a sport or buy team supplies, he has been seen in his old faithful '59 Chevy pickup gathering pop bottles and newspapers, going door to door, and raising funds through raffles, pizza sales, car washes, and an annual barbecue.

He has been the grand marshal for the McFarland Christmas parade and he and his team have been featured in many newspapers including the Los Angeles Times telling the story of McFarland's rise to the top and dynasty built in cross-country. Most importantly, he has become a father image to many students and athletes who have journeyed through McFarland High. This Clint Eastwood look alike is now coaching the "kids of the kids" he had when he started. White tries to live by example.

The Whites have three grown daughters, Tami, Julie and Jamie, all of who attended and graduated from McFarland High School and Lubbock College in Texas with degrees in education. He is called "grandpa" by seven grandkids—five boys and two girls.

In January, wearing a sweatshirt emblazoned with "McFarland Cross Country—it's all in the attitude," two van loads of cross country runners and White were off to Sacramento where they were recognized by the state.

The latest article heralding the McFarland High cross country team is a feature story in The People's Magazine in Espanol in the May 2000 issue.

White, a "youngish" 58, has worked in McFarland schools for 36 years and has dedicated much of his career in coaching McFarland cross-country teams. His coaching duties "stretch" to being involved in all aspects of the boys' lives, visiting them at home, driving them to practice, getting tutoring if they need help in school and counseling them in relationship issues.

White will some day leave a legacy that few coaches or men can ever claim—a winning tradition and numerous proteges who have set their sights on greater goals and succeeded in attaining them.

MARIA DOLORES ANDRADE

Maria Dolores Andrade, while living a life of poverty and selfless devotion, has raised a family of seven children, through her work in the fields. She was able to provide education for all of her children, with the three youngest graduating from college. Through her work and sacrifice, the family has created a successful family business which is the pride of the community.