

and those of us who live there are safer because of their service and dedication. The Merchant Marine's role in the defense of this nation is under-recognized. Few people realize that in Operation Desert Storm, over 95 percent of the equipment, goods, and ammunition used were carried to the theater by the American Merchant Marine. This resolution serves as a means to honor their service, and I join my colleagues in applauding Rep. KUYKENDALL's work to bring this matter before this Body today. I also would like to take this time to pay tribute to Representative BATEMAN, who was one of the biggest supporters of the American Merchant Marine. His passing is a great loss to this Body and this Nation.

At a time the people of the United States are benefitting more than ever before from the sacrifices made by so many to secure peace and prosperity, it is highly appropriate to recognize the service of the men and women of the United States Merchant Marine. I urge your support of this resolution.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE RENAL DIALYSIS PAYMENT FAIRNESS ACT OF 2000

#### HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to be joined by Representative KAREN THURMAN and Senators FRIST and CONRAD in introducing the Medicare Renal Dialysis Payment Fairness Act of 2000 and 15 other original cosponsors. This legislation takes important steps to help sustain and improve the quality of care for the more than 280,000 Americans living with end-stage renal disease (ESRD).

In 1972, Congress ensured that elderly and disabled individuals with kidney failure receive appropriate dialysis care. At that time, Medicare coverage was extended to include dialysis treatments for individuals with ESRD.

Over the last three decades, dialysis facilities have provided services to increasing numbers of kidney failure patients under increasingly strict quality standards; however, during this same time frame reimbursement for kidney services has not kept pace with the increasing demands of providing dialysis care.

While these efforts were a step in the right direction, a recent Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) report suggests that we must take further action to sustain patients' access to dialysis services. In particular, MedPAC recommends a 1.2 percent payment adjustment for Medicare-covered dialysis services in the next fiscal year. In addition, MedPAC recommends that the Health Care Financing Administration provide an annual review of the dialysis payment rate—a review that most other Medicare-covered services receive each year.

I believe these recommendations represent critical adjustments that must be addressed this year. For this reason, I have worked with Representative THURMAN, Senator FRIST, and Senator CONRAD to develop the Medicare Renal Dialysis Payment Fairness Act of 2000. This legislation would provide the payment rate improvements recommended by MedPAC and would establish an annual payment review process for dialysis services. This pro-

posal would help ensure all dialysis providers receive reimbursement that is in line with increasing patient load and quality requirements. This is particularly important for our nation's smaller, rural dialysis providers that on average receive Medicare payments that do not adequately reflect costs.

As Congress considers further improvements to the Medicare program, I urge my colleagues to support this important effort to ensure patients with kidney failure continue to have access to quality dialysis services. I thank my colleagues for working together on this bipartisan and bicameral proposal.

WELCOME C.J. CHEN

#### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my friends on Capitol Hill, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the Republic of China's Representative in the United States, Mr. C.J. Chen. He is now serving a Taiwan's top diplomat in the United States and his office is in Washington, D.C.

Representative C.J. Chen is uniquely qualified for this top diplomatic post. Representative Chen has spent his entire career in the Republic of China's government service. After receiving his education in Taiwan and Europe, Representative Chen joined the ROC's foreign service and served in many capacities over the last 2 decades.

Most notably, he was the ROC's Deputy Representative in Washington (1982-1989); Administrative Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs (89-93); a Senator in the ROC Parliament (93-96); Political Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs (96-98); and Foreign Minister (99-00).

Representative Chen's appointment to Washington is timely. We are fortunate to have someone like Representative C.J. Chen to brief us on the latest developments in his country and the latest issues affecting both our countries.

Representative Chen is a hardworking diplomat. Even during the summer recess, he has met with a number of us and briefed members about President Chen's recent trip to countries in Central America and Africa as well as the need for the ROC to be recognized as a team player in international affairs. Taiwan's financial strength, democratization, and record on human rights are accomplishments worth universal recognition and praise.

I look forward to working with Representative C.J. Chen and his staff.

#### TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR PER ANGER ON HIS RECEIVING HON- ORARY ISRAELI CITIZENSHIP

#### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on the 18th of September, Israel will award honorary citizenship to Ambassador Per Anger, the distinguished Swedish diplomat who worked so closely with Raoul Wallenberg to rescue Hun-

garian Jews during the Second World War. I would like to invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing Anger's lifetime accomplishments, including his association with Raoul Wallenberg during 1944, as an example of the good that human beings can accomplish, even when faced with incomprehensible darkness.

Per Anger received his first diplomatic assignment at the age of 27 as an attache to Berlin in the early stages of the Second World War. During that year (1941) he worked for the Foreign Department's trade section dealing with relations between Sweden and Hungary. It was this position which eventually led him, in November of 1942, to join the Swedish legation in Budapest. In March of 1942 he became second secretary in the Swedish legation in Hungary.

Mr. Speaker, for two years prior to the Nazi occupation of Budapest, Anger reported that conditions in Budapest were relatively stable and calm. But with the arrival of the German military in March 1944 and the subsequent deportation of Hungary's Jewish population, he entered the defining year of his life and career as a diplomat. When the Nazis initiated deportations, Anger assumed an early role in devising schemes to protect Jews. While the later *schutzpasse* was Wallenberg's innovation, Anger originally conceived the idea of issuing special certificates to Hungarian Jews who had applied for Swedish citizenship. Before Wallenberg arrived, the Swedish legation had issued 700 certificates and provisional passports which had no legal validity, but served their purpose in preventing the shipment of individuals to Auschwitz.

With Wallenberg's arrival on July 9, 1944, Per Anger began a partnership that would deliver tens of thousands of Jews from deportation and almost certain destruction in Nazi death camps. While Wallenberg's tragic end has made him the more recognizable rescuer, Anger made a substantial contribution in his quiet but efficient manner. Per Anger was frequently Wallenberg's partner in missions of mercy to the columns of Jews forced to march out of Hungary after Allied bombing had made the railways unusable. Where the Jews marched and died, Wallenberg and Anger distributed food, administered comfort, and often managed to return with some of the suffering people to Budapest.

Mr. Speaker, Per Anger's life and legacy are permanently linked with Wallenberg, not only because their shared efforts in Budapest during the Second World War, but also because of Anger's lifelong compassionate quest to discover the fate of his partner, who disappeared mysteriously behind Soviet lines in January of 1945. Throughout the second half of the twentieth century Anger labored to disseminate information about Wallenberg and to bring his plight to the attention of world leaders. In 1989 he urged Helmut Kohl to take the issue directly to Mikhail Gorbachev, and listened in to a telephone call as Kohl pleaded with Russian leader to "let that old man go." Gorbachev, according to Anger, had no response.

Mr. Speaker, it is most appropriate and fitting that the state of Israel has granted Per Anger the high recognition of making him an honorary citizen. He has spent most of his life in the service of others, including that turbulent year in Budapest collaborating with Raoul Wallenberg in saving innocent lives. I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this distinguished Swedish diplomat for his

courage, humanitarian dedication, and good works.

IN HONOR OF FATHER JOSEPH A.  
ROMANSKY

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Father Joseph A. Romansky who is celebrating his 25th anniversary as a priest of the Cleveland Catholic Diocese. Father Romansky is a native of the Cleveland area. His first of many admirable assignments was at St. Catherine's Parish on East 93rd Street. Following his dedicated service to St. Catherine's, Father Romansky worked at the diocesan offices in downtown Cleveland while also assisting at St. Francis in the East 71st Street and Superior area. From there, Father Romansky became pastor of Holy Family Catholic Church on East 131st Street, and later he was chaplain at the Light of Hearts Villa. Father Romansky has spent the last several years spreading hope and peace as chaplain at St. Augustine Manor.

Over the course of the last 25 years, Father Romansky has fully devoted his life to serving his parish and the people of Cleveland. More importantly, he is committed to the well-being and happiness of all people regardless of race, creed, gender, or class. Father Romansky is a kind and generous man who makes all those he comes in contact with feel special and loved.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members of the House of Representatives to recognize the achievements of Father Joseph A. Romansky as he celebrates his 25 years of service to the Cleveland Catholic Diocese. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his charity and dedication to his faith, his parish, and the entire city of Cleveland.

TRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUT GOLD  
AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. THOMAS W. EWING**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute Laura David, Erin Wiggins, Jennifer Iversen, Christina Barnes, and Merideth Holmes. They are outstanding young women who were honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award by Green Meadows Council in Urbana, Illinois. Laura, Erin, Jennifer, Christina, and Merideth were honored on May 8, 2000 for earning the highest achievement that a young woman aged 14-17 or in grades 9-12 can earn in Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments and has five requirements, each of which helps girls develop skills in the areas of leadership, career exploration, self-discovery, and service. The fifth requirement is a Gold Award Project that requires a minimum of 50 hours of participation.

Girl Scouts of the U. S. A., an organization serving over 2.5 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Awards to Senior

Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. To receive this award, a Girl Scout must earn four interest project patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, and also design and carry out a Girl Scout Award project. A plan for fulfilling these requirements is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl, her troop leader, and an adult Girl Scout volunteer mentor.

Laura and Erin's Gold Award project was "Communities Helping Communities." They are members of Girl Scout Troop 299 in Champaign, Illinois. The idea for their project came when they participated in a school sponsored city clean-up project. They recognized the need to help elderly neighbors with yard work and beautification of their property. Together they organized and coordinated volunteer workers, obtained donations of plant materials and supplies and provided gardening services for eight elderly families and three churches. Upon completing this project, they evaluated the results. Laura felt that one of the benefits of this project was the families were able to provide input into the selection of flowers and how their flowerbeds were designed. Erin said she gained self-satisfaction from providing such a tangible improvement to homes. Benefits of the project were the experience of intergenerational and multi-racial neighbors working together.

Jennifer Iversen's Gold Award project involved obtaining computers for the residents of Manor Care Health Services. She is also a member of Girl Scout Troop 299 in Champaign, Illinois. Jennifer and a friend taught residents basic computer skills and how to access the Internet. These new skills provided residents the ability to use e-mail to correspond with family friends. Jennifer applied for and received a grant for continuation of this project next year with volunteer assistance from the social advocacy class at University Laboratory High School.

Christina Barnes's Gold Award project titled "Assistant Softball Coach" provided her the opportunity to share her talents and love of softball with young women aged 13-15. Christina is a member of Girl Scout Troop 400 in Philo, Illinois. She coached and taught this group fast pitch softball skills through the Park District. Her project also included developing a Fist Aid kit for the team and emphasizing nutrition in her instruction.

Merideth Holmes is an Independent Girl Scout from Monticello, Illinois, and her project, "Christian Cuddliness" involved working with members of a Junior Girl Scout troop to make teddy bears for children admitted to the emergency room go Ganta Memorial Hospital in Ganta, Liberia. Merideth enjoyed involving the Junior Girl Scouts in her project and being able to make an emergency room more comforting and less threatening for children.

I believe that Laura David, Erin Wiggins, Jennifer Iversen, Christina Barnes, and Merideth Holmes should receive public recognition for their significant service to their communities and country.

HONORING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARIES OF ST. DAVID'S CHURCH AND ST. PETER'S CHURCH IN THE GREAT VALLEY

**HON. CURT WELDON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the parishioners of St. David's Church, Wayne and St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley, near Paoli, Pennsylvania for celebrating their 300th anniversaries. This historic milestone was reached on September 2, 2000.

It is often said of Pennsylvania that "America starts here." This is particularly true for the greater Philadelphia region, where so many of our Founders came together to deliberate, where the Declaration of Independence was signed, and in whose fields and valleys so many cruel and bitter battles were fought during our Revolution. During this time of remembrance it is fitting to recall the people who settled Chester County, lived in its towns, educated its young, built its businesses, reached out to its needy, fought its wars and ultimately returned to its soil. A prominent role in the development of Chester County was played by St. David's Church in Wayne and St. Peter's Church in the Valley.

As we reflect 300 years later on this rich history, it is my honor and privilege to congratulate the two current rectors, The Rev. John G. Tampa of St. Peter's and The Rev. W. Frank Allen of St. David's, who have the honor to serve their parishioners during this momentous time of celebration. Continuing a walk in faith begun over three centuries ago, they provide the leadership and vision that have made St. David's Church and St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley a cornerstone of spiritual leadership as well as a source of inspirational outreach and service. These churches remain to this day vibrant members of their community providing food, education, health care, shelter, training and countless other services to people in need.

The two parishes were established in 1700 as missions of the historic Christ Church, Philadelphia, serving what was then the frontier regions of Chester County, Pennsylvania. Christ Church is familiar to students of our history, for it was the site where our Founders met to discuss and later to proclaim our country and its unique form of government.

From the moment of their founding, St. David's Church and St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley have played a prominent role in the history of Pennsylvania, and indeed of the nation. The first services were held in small log cabins, were tended by a circuit-riding clergyman and drew only a handful of Welsh pioneers. Today, the combined congregations of St. Peter's and St. David's exceed 3,000 parishioners, and they continue to grow.

It is interesting to note that it was from St. David's Church that General Anthony Wayne, whom some regard as the real founder of the American Army, went off to fight with General Washington. It was to St. David's Church that his body was returned years later. Not surprisingly, St. David's and its graveyard have been designated as National Historic Landmarks.

St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley, another National Historic Landmark, served as a