

highest among the electronic government services they wish to perform. Businesses are most interested in searching court records and obtaining or renewing professional licenses online. Perhaps surprisingly, both citizens and businesses expressed a high degree of willingness to pay modest transaction fees in return for the convenience of being able to access government services via the Internet 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The survey also confirmed that trust is the most critical issue facing government in providing online services to constituents. The survey found, for example, that only one-third of current Internet users trust the government to keep their records confidential. Clearly, government agencies are going to have to work harder to develop the level of trust necessary for citizens to increase their use of the Internet for accessing electronic government services.

As part of the work of the Congressional Internet Caucus next year, we will undertake an effort to educate Members about how this "eGovernment" revolution is proceeding at the state level, as well as how they can better connect with their constituents through electronic means. As part of this effort, we need to assess ways to bridge the digital divide so that all of our constituents can participate in the Internet Century. I anticipate that we also will continue to offer a series of sessions on the most pressing Intellectual Property issues of the day, such as the award of business method patents and ways to update the Copyright Act so that it continues to reflect evolutions in technology.

We will of course welcome the participation of all Members in the Caucus and their suggestions on developing new means of connecting with our constituents.

HONORING MEMBERS OF THE CREW OF THE GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYER U.S.S. 'COLE'

SPEECH OF

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 18, 2000

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, for a number of us, the terrorist attack on the U.S.S. *Cole* struck close to home.

Craig Freeman, a 12-year Navy veteran who suffered multiple injuries, is from Moultrie in my area of southwest Georgia. Thankfully, he will soon be well enough to visit his family on leave. But some of his shipmates remain hospitalized, and 17 of them will never see their loved ones again. These brave young Americans willingly went into harm's way, and, like others who have paid the price for our freedom, they shall forever remain in our hearts.

We extend our sympathy to the families. We also express our rage. But that is not enough, Mr. Speaker.

We must resolve to fight back against these insane acts by committing the country's full resources in an aggressive effort to determine who is responsible, to see that justice is done, and to do everything possible to deter such acts in the future. As Navy Secretary Richard Danzig pointed out, our memory is long and our reach is longer. As a member of the House Select Committee on Intelligence, I will

continue working to ensure that the country is fully prepared to strike back against these forces of evil.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, on October 18, 2000, I missed rollcall votes 531, 532 and 533. I request that the record reflect that had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all three votes.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. DAVID C. DECKER

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Mr. David C. Decker, the 136th Grand Master of Masons in California. Mr. Decker is a member of Upland-Mt. Baldy Lodge No. 419, where he has served as Master since 1974.

A native of Illinois, Mr. Decker was born on April 4, 1937, and attended public schools in Ladora, Iowa. Upon moving to California, Mr. Decker continued his education at Chaffey College and San Bernardino Valley College.

After thirty years of service to GTE, Mr. Decker retired. At GTE, his primary responsibility included the supervision and development of personnel associated with the installation and maintenance of telephones.

Mr. Decker is extremely active in the Masonic community. He is a member of the Santa Anna Scottish Rite, Riverside York Rite, Al Malaikah Shrine Temple where he serves as an Ambassador at Large, National Sojourners, Grotto, Mission Bell Court—Order of Amaranth, Gate City Chapter—Order of the Eastern Star, Royal Order of Scotland, and the Red Cross of Constantine. In addition, he also serves on the Board of Governors at the Shrine Hospital in Los Angeles.

Mr. Decker has held numerous positions within the Masonic Lodge. He served as Inspector of the 606th Masonic District from 1986–1991; from 1991–1992, he was the Senior Grand Deacon for the Grand Lodge; and was named a Trustee of the Board of Trustees of the California Masonic Foundation.

The leadership exhibited by Mr. Decker has been recognized. In January of 1996, he was presented with the Hiram Award, and in 1998 he was honored by the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay with the Legion of Honor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this 106th Congress join Upland-Mt. Baldy Lodge No. 419 as they salute California's 136th Grand Master of Masons, Mr. David C. Decker.

TRIBUTE TO DOUGLAS SIMMONS

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and honor the contributions my good friend, R. Douglas Simmons, has made to one of America's most respected service institutions, the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). On October 27 of this year, Doug will mark 50 years of continuous registration in the Boy Scouts organization. This lengthy record of service both as a youth participant and as an adult leader merits the recognition and commendation of this distinguished body.

First of all, I wish to say a few words about the Boy Scouts of America itself. Few other organizations have as admirable a record of doing good as does the BSA. For ninety years, Boy Scouts have been symbols of everything that is right with America's youth. In fact, in the eyes of many, the faithful Boy Scout has come to embody the virtues of personal integrity and community service.

Scouting is a program that educates young men in countless fields of study, trains them to master practical skills, instills in them a sense of civic duty, encourages them to develop commitment to their faith and country, and teaches them to lead a life of service to others. Boy Scouts learn and practice the principles of cooperation and teamwork. They take an active role in setting goals, making decisions, and executing plans for themselves and for the group. Whether it be in today's businesses, government institutions, schools, or families, these leadership skills are clearly in demand.

Perhaps the BSA's most valuable role in today's society is that it provides boys with positive male role models. In our increasingly fatherless society, it is now more important than ever for young men to have honorable mentors that they can look to for example, instruction, counsel, and companionship.

Mr. Speaker, I am glad to say that my friend, Doug Simmons, has been a part of BSA's sterling legacy for the past 50 years. His scouting career began when he registered as an eight-year-old Cub Scout on October 27, 1950. He remained active in Scouting throughout his youth, eventually advancing to the rank of Eagle Scout and participating in the Order of the Arrow. In each of his Scout troops and Explorer posts, Doug held leadership positions. Perhaps the culmination of his experience as a Boy Scout was when he attended the National Scout Jamboree.

To his credit, Doug has continued his involvement in Scouting as an adult leader. His ongoing leadership training includes Bear Paw and Wood Badge courses and time at Philmont Scout Ranch. He has held numerous positions at almost every level of Scouting. Among the troop level positions he has filled are scoutmaster, troop committee chairman, unit commissioner, and institutional representative. At the district level, Doug Simmons has been Camporee chairman, and he has served on the camping committee. At the council level, he has been a member of the Explorer Advisory Council and the Bear Paw training staff. Furthermore, he has served in Order of the Arrow leadership and as a merit badge counselor.

For his dedication to Scouting, Doug Simmons has received numerous awards, including the Scouters Key, the Scouters Training Award, the Silver Bear, and the Silver Beaver.

In addition to his direct involvement in Scouting, Doug has worked with the young men in his church while serving in various ecclesiastical offices. Among these positions have been bishop, bishop's counselor and deacon quorum advisor.

Mr. Speaker, our nation needs more citizens who are willing to stand up for the values that have made America great. We need more individuals who are dedicated to improving the lives and circumstances of the people around them. We need more of our young people to participate in character-building and community-building activities. We need more responsible adults to take an active role in caring for and guiding the youth of this country. In short, we need more people like Doug Simmons.

I salute both Doug and the institution he loves so dearly, The Boy Scouts of America. As he now commemorates his 50 years of involvement with the Boy Scouts of America, let us honor all Doug Simmons' contributions to advancing the ideals of that great organization.

IN RECOGNITION OF SADIE M. CURRY

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Sadie M. Curry, who is being recognized this weekend for her lifetime achievement. Ms. Curry retired in 1999 after 41 years as a science teacher in Talladega, Alabama.

From the beginning of her teaching career, Ms. Curry received commendations for her teaching. She was named Teacher of the Year for Talladega County even as early as 1960; first designated as Outstanding Elementary Teacher of the year in 1972; and named Teacher of the Year for Talladega Middle School in 1984. She continued to receive the honor of Teacher of the Year for Dixon Middle School, the school from which she retired, throughout the 1990's. She was named as a Finalist in the Jacksonville State University Hall of Fame Teacher of the Year competition in 1985 and again in 1995 and 1996. Further, she was nominated as Alabama State Teacher of the Year three times.

Sadie Curry was deeply involved in teaching science to her students. She became the Coordinator of the Local Science Fair in 1972 and continued in this position through 1994. She also served as Director of the Northeast Alabama International Science and Engineering Fair from 1982–1985. She was honored by the Environmental Protection Agency for her teaching unit on "Learning to Love Trees," and received the Talladega Scientist of the Year Award in 1985. She was honored by the American Society of Microbiology for Aspiring American Youth in 1984 and in that same year received a \$500 mini-grant from the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs to assist teachers in the teaching and promotions of science, technology and energy in the classroom. In 1994, she won the Cata-

lyst Award for Excellence in Science Teaching by the National Chemical Manufacturers Association. In 1995, she and three of her students traveled to Washington, D.C. for the 15th Annual National Recognition Ceremonies for the Youth Awards Program Energy Education.

Her instruction in science included conservation. For this, she was nominated as Conservation Teacher of the Year in 1984 and was named as Conservation Teacher of the Year in 1997. Dixon Middle School was the winner of the Alabama State Campus Cleanup Program in 1996, the 3rd place winner in 1998 and the winner of the Alabama People Against a Littered State Cleanup Campus Award in 1997.

However, Ms. Curry's quality as a teacher has gone far beyond her instruction in science. She cares deeply about her students. Her energy and enthusiasm are contagious, and she has challenged her students to be the best that they can be. They have learned to respect their environment and one another. It is said that the measure of a person's worth is in the effect he has on others. Ms. Curry's worth can be seen in the effect she has had on the many students she has taught and the very fact that many are returning for her tribute this weekend. In her honor there is now a Sadie M. Curry Outstanding Science Award at Dixon Middle School. For the next twenty years, an outstanding science student will have his name engraved on a plaque displayed at the school.

A TRIBUTE TO SIGNAL HILL
POLICE OFFICER LARRY MORRIS

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, today the City of Signal Hill pays tribute to senior police officer Larry Morris, an outstanding police officer who selflessly dedicated himself to protecting children from the dangers of gangs and drugs.

The list of Larry's contributions to the community is a long and distinguished one. He was the father of Signal Hill's D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) and G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Resistance Education, and Training) programs. Larry was a remarkable teacher of these programs in all the local elementary schools. Children were naturally drawn to his sincere, caring ways. When he walked through a school, the children would surround him, just to give him a hug. Larry deeply cared about these young people, and truly made a difference in so many of their lives.

Among his many contributions to our community, Larry served in the Signal Hill Police Department from 1972 to 1998. He worked in patrol, investigations, K–9, and field training. For the last ten years of his career Larry dedicated himself to the youth of the community. He was an originating member of the Operation Jumpstart Mentoring program and the Signal Hill juvenile crime stoppers. He also created the Signal Hill Juvenile Diversion program, was an advisor to the Signal Hill Police Department Explorer Post, and a selector for the R.M. Pyles Boys Camp program.

On October 10, 1999, Larry lost his battle with cancer. As a fitting tribute, on October 14, 2000, the City of Signal Hill and the Signal Hill

Police Department dedicated the city's community youth center as the "Larry Morris Community Youth Center."

Mr. Speaker, we struggle to express feelings of grief, sorrow and appreciation for this fine officer who gave so much to his community and was taken from us far too early in life. The youth center bearing Larry's name will allow his legacy to live on in the minds and hearts of our children, and our community, for many generations to come. I shall always remember Larry with a smile and a twinkle in his eyes. He cared and he served and saved many of the youth of Signal Hill.

ON THE DEATH OF REV. JESSE
TAYLOR

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who was devoted not only to serving the Lord, but to the people around him as well. The Reverend Jesse Taylor of Chicago, died on April 22, 2000. The passing of Reverend Taylor may have indeed been a sad moment for those who shared his life; but the subsequent celebration of the life he lived was a joyous occasion for all. In fact, when I was asked to speak at the home-going services of Reverend Taylor there were not enough words for me to begin to describe the full and virtuous life that he lived. This man lived and breathed all that life had to offer him.

To describe Reverend Taylor is to describe a man who was after God's own heart. He was called into the ministry at the early age of nineteen and from there served as the Assistant Pastor of the Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago, Illinois where he served for over twenty-eight years.

By 1969, he was named Pastor of that same church where he faithfully served for seventeen years. In 1986, Rev. Taylor became the pastor, counselor, teacher, and friend of Greater Love M.B. Church where he served the Lord and his community until his last breath. Rev. Taylor was the Financial Secretary to both the North Woodrider District and the Illinois State Convention. He also was a member of the National Baptist Sunday School and Training Union Congress along with the National Missionary Baptist Convention of America. In addition to being a pastor, Rev. Taylor was a loyal husband of sixty-five years; and to his eight children, a loving father.

I stand before you honoring this wonderful man who represents what we should all strive to be—loving, dedicated, and steadfast not only to oneself, but to all of humankind. The Reverend Jesse Taylor, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends (John 15:13)." Thank you for your life of service. Reverend Taylor lived until the ripe old age of ninety-two and preached his last sermon just a few months before this death.