

continues to be a friend to Monroe County and Monroe County Hospital in this endeavor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 574, a bill approving the Journal of October 29, 2000. Had I been present I would have voted "yea." Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 575, H.J. Res. 119, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2001. Had I been present I would have voted "yea." Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 576, a motion to instruct conferees on the Labor, Health and Human Services for fiscal year 2001. Had I been present I would have voted "nay."

HONORING JAMES HEIDEN

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Mr. James Heiden upon his retirement from Easter Seals. It is an honor to recognize Mr. Heiden and the outstanding service he has given to the entire community of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Heiden has served Easter Seals for 26 years and is currently Executive Director of the local affiliate. Over the past 20 years as director of the local Easter Seals, he has worked tirelessly to implement new programs for this community and to expand Easter Seals services to thousands of families.

Under the direction of Mr. Heiden, the local affiliate serving Montgomery, Philadelphia, Bucks and Chester Counties has become a national leader in early intervention services for children up to five years of age and their families. The Easter Seals affiliate has also been successful in expanding home- and community-based services. They have implemented many cutting-edge programs including specialized assistive technology services for children and adults with disabilities, programs for siblings and families of children with disabilities, and a variety of adaptive recreation programs.

Easter Seals has received accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. This is a prestigious recognition that has been achieved by only seven percent of early childhood programs nationwide.

It is a privilege to honor the contributions of Mr. James Heiden to the Easter Seals foundation of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. His hard work and dedication is appreciated by all whose lives he has touched.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on October 28 and 29, 2000, I was detained with business in my District, and therefore unable to cast my votes on roll call numbers 570 through 576. Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "yea" on roll call votes 570 through 576.

In addition, this morning, I was unavoidably detained, and therefore unable to cast my votes on roll call numbers 577 and 578. Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "yea" on roll call votes 577 and 578.

TRIBUTE TO ELMER A. FERGUSON

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, and I am proud to recognize Elmer A. Ferguson in the Congress for his invaluable contributions and service to our nation.

Elmer Ferguson distinguished himself through his devotion to his family, friends, and community. He was born in DeWitt, Arkansas on September 17th, 1910, the son of a local farmer. His family instilled in him the value of an education, and he and his sister enrolled at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville in 1930, but he was able to remain only for one year because of financial difficulties. Elmer never forgot his hardship, and he would later do everything he could to make sure that deserving students could go to college.

Of course, Elmer made the most of his opportunities, despite his initial challenges. After returning from Russellville, he worked his way from a \$15 a week job at a DeWitt grocery store to being the manager there. Eventually he became a successful grocery store owner, an accomplished farmer, and the well-respected board chairman of the DeWitt Bank and Trust Co., a position he held until he died last week.

Elmer would probably count his family as his greatest success, however. After marrying Gladys Guthrie in 1934, he was blessed with three daughters, seven grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

As mentioned earlier, Elmer always remembered his humble beginnings, and used his success to help others have the opportunities he missed. In 1987, he established the Elmer Ferguson and Gladys Ferguson Charitable Trust, which funded four-year college scholarships for DeWitt students. Elmer also donated a scholarship to the University of Mississippi.

Elmer's generosity and empathy had no limit. He and Gladys gave \$250,000 to the Children's Miracle Network Telethon, and underwrote the creation of the Neuroscience Unit at Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock, which is named for them. Just eight years ago, both were also named to the honorary board of patrons by the Baptist Medical System Foundation in recognition of their support to that organization.

Sadly, Elmer Ferguson passed away on Friday, about a month after Gladys died. They

were great friends of mine, and I will miss them as much as their family, friends, and the great community of those who ever knew them. On behalf of the Congress, I extend my deepest sympathies to their family, even as I encourage them to join me in celebrating their extraordinary lives.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK, NOVEMBER 19, 2000–NOVEMBER 26, 2000

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to serve as Congressional Co-Chairman of National Bible Week with Senator CONRAD BURNS. It is fitting that National Bible Week occurs the week of Thanksgiving, a week used by many to reflect on the past and give thanks for their blessings. Whether you consider the Bible a book of comfort, guidance, or literature, I hope this week will be one of reflection and study of the Bible.

I have read and studied the Bible for as long as I can remember. I memorized passages for Sunday school as a child. As an adult, the Bible has become an important source of guidance.

I have always found the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 25:31–46, most helpful as a guide to setting public policy. But even more important is Matthew 16:26 which says, "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" This verse is especially relevant to today's national leaders who are increasingly faced with votes of conscience.

I commend the National Bible Association for setting aside this week to encourage others to read and study the Bible. The Bible has influenced Western art, literature, music, and even our laws. I encourage you to read and study it this week.

RECOGNITION FOR ADOPTIONS TOGETHER

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, as National Adoption Month 2000 approaches, I take great pride in recognizing the exceptional work being done by Adoptions Together, a nonprofit organization in my Congressional district, on behalf of children in need of a permanent, loving adoptive home. Since its founding ten years ago by Janice Goldwater of Silver Spring, Maryland, Adoptions Together has worked to help all children in need of a home regardless of the child's age, health, race, physical or mental handicap. Adoptions Together welcomes every child who seeks its help.

Many things about adoptions needed to be changed for the better then Janice Goldwater began Adoptions Together in 1990. At the time, there was little hope that medically fragile infants whose birth families could not care

for them would quickly find their way to loving adoptive homes. African American infants waited for years in temporary placements because there were so few resources available to them. Families who had already adopted had no place to turn when their children asked difficult questions and struggled with adoption issues. Ms. Goldwater, a licensed clinical social workers, set out to make Adoptions Together a place where these difficulties could and would be overcome.

The organization that Ms. Goldwater founded and continues to lead as executive director has helped change the picture of adoptions in Maryland and the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Through Adoptions Together, more than 1,400 children have been welcomed into loving, healthy adoptive homes. One homes in particular deserves recognition. Darren and Laurie Morgan of Burtonsville, Maryland have fostered 93 children, adopted one, and raised three. Their willingness to open their hearts and their homes to so many children is an amazing kindness that all of us can learn from. The Morgans have touched so many lives through Adoptions Together and I am honored to have them in our community.

In addition, older children who have languished for years in foster care are now finding adoptive homes through Adoptions Together. It is the first private-sector organization in Maryland authorized to provide adoption services for the thousands of older Maryland children who are growing up in public foster care. Adoptions Together has helped more than 300 children with special medical needs such as HIV, birth defects, or serious prenatal drug exposure to become part of loving, permanent families. The organization has provided over 10,000 days of care to more than 300 newborns while their futures were being settled. More than 600 children left orphanages and institutions in Eastern Europe, Asia and Central America to happily join their new adoptive families in Maryland and beyond in other states.

Adoptions Together serves the needs of both adoptive families and birth parents, offering programs that can be a model for adoption organizations nationwide. Every birth parent who has sought the organization's help has received free adoption counseling for as long as they wished. Over the past ten years, more than 5,000 women facing unplanned pregnancies have received counseling and other help, whether or not they chose adoption for their child. At Adoptions Together, birth parents who are unable to raise their child themselves consider adoption as a pro-active plan for assuring that their child's needs will be met.

Adoptions Together believes that placing a child is only the first step in building a strong adoptive family. Once a child is placed, the goal becomes helping the family through life-long education, counseling and support. More than 1,000 families—clients of Adoptions Together and many other adoption organizations—have found support and guidance in Adoptions Together's Center for Adoptive Families program. More than 500 teachers, educators, social workers, ministers and therapists throughout the country have received professional training by Adoptions Together on adoption topics.

Today, the need for this organization's good work is greater than ever before. More than 3,000 children in Maryland and the District of

Columbia are now waiting for a permanent home. Increased drug abuse, institutional poverty, and the lack of community resources make Adoptions Together a safety net for these children. Fortunately, members of our community are rallying behind Adoptions Together's efforts. Corporate and private benefactors teamed up September 22 at the Adoptions Together Tenth Anniversary Gala to raise funds that will support Adoptions Together's second decade of care giving. Among those instrumental in this effort were: gala co-chairs Judy Polk of Rockville, Pam Cole Finlay of Bethesda, Jane Philips of Howard; television's Rosie O'Donnell; and corporate sponsors Credit Management Solutions, Inc. (CMSI), Hecht's, OTG Software, SFX Entertainment, and Sun Trust. In November, washingtonpost.com will sponsor an innovative, two-month on-line fundraising effort for Adoptions Together. With help from these and other benefactors, a great Maryland nonprofit organization will begin a new year—its second grade—of loving care giving, welcoming all children who turn to Adoptions Together for a permanent adoptive home. I applaud the past efforts of Adoptions Together and wish them all the best on behalf of the children of Maryland and their families.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE BILL ARCHER

SPEECH OF

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and colleague, the distinguished Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, BILL ARCHER. Few legislators have the opportunity in their careers to effect such far-reaching reforms as the gentleman from Texas has during his time in this body, particularly his years as Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

As we all know, the Committee on Ways and Means carries a very heavy legislative load, dealing each and every year with 100 percent of our nation's revenues. BILL ARCHER has taken this responsibility very seriously since becoming Chairman in 1994, and his accomplishments reflect this.

First and foremost, BILL ARCHER left his mark on legislative history with his work on the Balanced Budget Act of 1977. Among its many provisions, the Balanced Budget Act gave Americans the first tax cut in 16 years. It also helped taxpayers by shifting the burden of proof on tax issues from the taxpayer to the Internal Revenue Service. Taxpayers received new rights and protections in their dealings with the Internal Revenue Service, and the Internal Revenue Service in turn became subject to the oversight of an independent agency.

However, reforming the Internal Revenue Service is not BILL ARCHER's only legacy. He also fought hard and successfully for welfare reform which has resulted in millions of former welfare beneficiaries leaving the welfare roles and moving back into the workforce. In addition, he has worked toward meaningful Social Security reform, and we know that the ground-work he laid will help us realize that goal effectively.

BILL ARCHER's legislative accomplishments speak volumes about his integrity, dedication, and commitment. These are the characteristics that have led his constituents to send him back to Washington 15 times. These same characteristics are the ones we, his colleagues, will miss most when BILL ARCHER retires. I join all BILL ARCHER's friends and colleagues in thanking him for his many years of service and wishing him the best of health and happiness in the years to come.

SALUTING EARL LLOYD

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 30, 2000

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, October 31, 2000, the New York Knicks of the National Basketball Association will commemorate 50 years of integration in the NBA. The Knick's special guest in Madison Square Garden on this historical evening will be Mr. Earl Lloyd. Mr. Lloyd was the first African American player to participate in an NBA game. Drafted by the Washington Capitols, Mr. Lloyd made his NBA debut against the Rochester Royals on October 31, 1950. There were two other players making their debuts the following day. Chuck Cooper was the first choice of Red Auerbach and the Boston Celtics. Nat "Sweetwater" Clifton's contract was bought by the New York Knicks from the Harlem Globe Trotters. Earl Lloyd grew up on the other side of the 14th Street Bridge in the shadows of the White House in Alexandria, Virginia. He was an all around athlete at Parker Gray High School. He excelled in football, basketball and baseball. It was on the Banneker and Park View playgrounds in Washington, D.C. that he developed his game. Mr. Lloyd and his friend the legendary running back of Parker Gray and West Virginia State Bubba Ellis would make regular walks across the 14th Street bridge into the Nation's Capital for pickup basketball, D.C. playground style—no holds barred!

Mr. Lloyd would graduate from high school with honors and as one of the school's greatest athletes. He would matriculate to West Virginia State on a basketball scholarship. In college he was named to the All-American team and here he would leave a lasting impression on his opponents. Hall of Fame basketball coach Clarence "Big House" Gaines, former coach of Winston-Salem State University says, "I knew we were in trouble when I first laid eyes on him. He could run up and down the floor better than any big man I had ever faced." In college they called Mr. Lloyd "The Moon Fixer" because of his great size. He would have a great college career and be named to the Black College All-American team. Mr. Lloyd says, "Everything good in my life can be traced back to those college years."

In 1950 Mr. Lloyd was also drafted by another team the United States Army! On Halloween night after serving his military time Mr. Lloyd returned to make professional basketball history. The Washington Capitols would play the Rochester Royals. In the stands that night would be Mr. Lloyd's proud mother. Mrs. Lloyd was sitting directly in front of two fans who acknowledged that Mr. Lloyd was the first