

for the lifelong exploration of nature, humanity and technology. Its mission is to promote informed stewardship and lifelong interactive learning of the world for all ages. The staff members have extensive backgrounds in science and technology education. They work closely with regional school districts and educators in order to fulfill their goal of bringing the enjoyment of scientific discovery to children.

The LSC has recently initiated a unique, visionary "Partnership Program" with 28 at-risk school districts in New Jersey. This program provides students with a challenging inquiry-based learning experience aligned with New Jersey State Core Curriculum Standards, as well as teacher training and opportunities that encourage the whole family to get involved in the education process. Since the Partnership's inception during the 1998-1999 school year, student participation has increased from 45,000 to 160,000. The New Jersey State Legislature has already appropriated \$6 million to support expansion of the Partnership Program making the Science Center and the State of New Jersey a model for other partnerships between public school systems and private institutions everywhere in the United States.

The LSC aims to complete a major infrastructure expansion project by the year 2005, so that even more at-risk students and families can reap the benefits of hands-on scientific learning. The museum seeks to emerge as a landmark destination in the region offering experiences that significantly advance the reach and impact of a complete science education both onsite, offsite and online. With this proposed expansion, LSC intends to provide an indispensable public service and remain broadly involved in the growth of Jersey City's diverse urban neighborhood as it begins a renaissance.

I would like to call upon my distinguished colleagues to join with me in the next session of Congress to make the expansion of the LSC a priority on our legislative agendas.

Our most precious resource is our children. Providing them with exciting educational opportunities to expand their horizons should always be a top priority of our nation's leaders, and I hope to continue this important work with my colleagues in the 107th Congress.

HONORING TOM CAMERLO

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize an outstanding citizen, Tom Camerlo of Florence, CO. Tom has recently been named an inductee into the Colorado Agricultural Hall of Fame. It has been Tom's devoted leadership to the dairy farming community that has helped him to earn this distinguished honor. At this time I would like to pay tribute to Tom for his many personal accomplishments and numerous contributions to his community and profession.

Tom attended Florence High School before enrolling at Colorado State University where he began a course of study that would prepare him for what has become a truly impressive career. He received his Bachelor of

Science degree in General Agriculture and has used this knowledge to help benefit dairy farmers all over the country. Along with his education at Colorado State University, Tom also used his leadership as a Captain in the U.S. Army to benefit his community and State.

Tom has used his natural ability to lead along with his knowledge of agriculture to help further such organizations as the Mountain Empire Dairymen's Association, the United Dairy Industry Association, and the Dairy Promotion Federation Association, all in which he served in the capacity of president. Tom is also a current board and executive committee member of the National Milk Producers Federation and serves as president of the National Milk Producer's Federation, a position he has held for over a decade.

Tom's remarkable dedication to the farming industry has also earned him a number of different awards. The awards include Livestock Leader's Award from Colorado State University, the National Cooperative Statesmanship Award from the American Institute of Cooperation and he has been named Colorado Livestock Producer of the Year. Among his greatest accomplishments have been being appointed to the Colorado Agricultural Development Committee and the Presidential Advisory Committee on Trade Policy and Negotiations.

Tom, for the past six years, has been an active member of the Board of Directors for First National Bank of Florence, serving as Chairman for four years. He has also been an active member of School Board RE-2J for almost a decade and has served as president for four years. In addition to these impressive roles in his community he is also part of the Florence Elks Lodge, Lions Club, VFW, Chamber of Commerce and St. Benedict's Catholic Church.

Tom has worked very hard to help the farming community and his many accomplishments are widely admired in the dairy farming industry. He has earned the respect of this body and on behalf of the State of Colorado and the U.S. Congress I would like to congratulate Tom on this distinguished honor. I wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY MAKES HISTORY BY PROVIDING HEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL CHILDREN

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, Santa Clara County in California has just made history by approving a plan to provide health coverage for all of the estimated 70,000 uninsured children in the county. Unwilling to wait for national and state officials to respond to the problem, the county has obtained funding from a variety of diverse sources to ensure that children receive the health care coverage they need, starting January 2, 2001.

The county will streamline application forms, aggressively conduct outreach, and enroll the approximately 50,000 children who qualify for state and federally funded programs. For the other 20,000 children who don't qualify for existing government assistance, the county will pay the majority of their health insurance premiums.

Not only will Santa Clara County's children be guaranteed health coverage, but also they will be guaranteed comprehensive coverage. Currently, children can obtain access to health care through Medicaid, State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), and the private sector. Often, the health coverage varies widely. Under Santa Clara County's program though, all children up to the age 19 will be guaranteed comprehensive coverage of a range of services, including vision, dental, and medical care.

I want to commend Santa Clara County for being the first in the nation to set its sights on covering all children with health insurance. The county has proactively found a solution to our nation's pressing problem of the uninsured and has built partnerships with diverse groups to achieve coverage for all children.

I hope that other counties, states, and the federal government will follow Santa Clara County's lead. With over 10 million uninsured children in this country, the problem faced by Santa Clara County is one that is faced by numerous counties across America. This year, I introduced H.R. 4390, the MediKids Health Insurance Act to provide health coverage for every child in the country. It would provide a health care safety net for uninsured children by guaranteeing access to comprehensive medical care.

MediKids, which builds on our successful experience with Medicare, is one approach to ensuring coverage for all children in the nation. There are alternative approaches that build on other existing programs, similar to the new effort being undertaken by Santa Clara County. I hope everyone in Congress can join in continuing our efforts to expand coverage to our nation's uninsured children. Passage of the SCHIP program in 1997 has certainly moved us forward, but much more needs to be done.

All of our nation's children deserve a healthy start in life. For the children living in Santa Clara County, they should now get precisely that.

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF THE GOLD STAR WIVES CHAPTER OF COLUMBUS, GA

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2000

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, our nation is blessed by many veterans organizations including the Veterans of Foreign War and the American Legion. These organizations honor the living veterans and the deceased for their service to our country. But I would like, at this point, to remind the House of another veterans group which keeps alive the memory of veterans. The Gold Star Wives of America is a national organization composed of the spouses of men either killed in action, or who died as a result of an injury or disease incurred while on duty.

The Chattahoochee Chapter of the Gold Star Wives of America has been particularly active. Thirty years ago, they began setting out flags on Columbus' Victory Drive on holidays honoring our veterans. This is one of the city's finest sights, with the star spangled banner waving on both sides of the avenue.

Mrs. Wanda Funderburk, the Chattahoochee Gold Star Wives Club's president, says the other veterans groups help them place 120 flags along this road. They do this twice a year, and sometimes more often.

The Chattahoochee Gold Star Wives became the first chapter in the organization to place a monument in a veterans cemetery when it erected a monument on the Fort Mitchell, Alabama veterans cemetery's Walk of Honor.

Mr. Funderburk has been with the Gold Star Wives since 1985, when her husband, a Korean War veteran died. She is one of 80 fine women who are keeping the spirit of patriotism and the memory of our veterans' sacrifices alive in Columbus, Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Funderburk describes her chapter as: "We have a really nice bunch of ladies and we still believe in honoring what our husbands did, and not only our husbands, but all veterans, regardless of race, creed or color, or religion. We think there is no better way to honor our men than to raise the flag."

"I'm like a child, whenever I drive down Victory Drive and see those flags, I still get tears in my eyes," she said the other day.

That is not being a child, that is being a patriot.

TRIBUTE TO BANGOR DAILY NEWS COLUMNIST JOHN DAY

HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2000

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, the long-time Washington correspondent for the Bangor Daily News retired. John Day worked for my hometown newspaper for nearly 40 years. During a distinguished career in which he filed more than 15,000 news stories, he covered municipal government in Bangor and state government in Maine's capital city of Augusta. Since 1978, John has reported on Federal issues from Washington. In that same year, he was chosen Maine Journalist of the Year by the Maine Press Association—the first time a reporter had been selected.

In addition to reporting on some of the most important national issues of the past two decades—including early, insightful stories about the Iran-Contra matter—John Day has delivered more than 1,700 opinion columns which have provided a unique perspective on the American political scene.

Knowledgeable and aggressive, John Day shared a wealth of information with generations of Bangor Daily News readers. Whether they appreciated John's viewpoint or not, they always knew where he stood. Never shy about saying what was on his mind, John inevitably gave readers something to consider.

As a Member of Congress, I have become better acquainted with John and have enjoyed the experience. John covered my father as a City Councilor in Bangor during the early part of his newspaper career in the 1960's, and concluded it covering myself and the other Members of Maine's congressional delegation at the start of a new century.

As John starts a new chapter in his life, I wish him the very best. My hometown newspaper will certainly be less colorful and it will never be the same.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. CARMELA ASCOLESE KARNOUTSOS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Carmela Ascolese Karnoutsos for her dedicated service to the community of Bayonne, NJ, and for her exceptional contributions to the field of women's history. Today, Dr. Karnoutsos will be presented with the Volunteer of the Year Award at the Bayonne Historical Society's annual Holiday Dinner Dance.

Dr. Karnoutsos graduated Magna Cum Laude from Jersey City University and received her Master's Degree and Ph.D. at New York University. She is currently Professor of History at New Jersey City University (NJCU), specializing in women's history and new Jersey history. She is the author of *New Jersey Women: A History of their Status, Roles and Images* (1997). At NJCU, Dr. Karnoutsos has served as the Chair of the History Department, as Chair of the Intercollegiate Athletic Council, and as a member of numerous committees, including the General Studies Coordinating Committee.

Dr. Karnoutsos is a charter member of Bayonne Historical Society, Inc., and has been a trustee since its founding in 1990. She has spoken at many of the society's programs and events, edited and contributed articles regarding the city of Bayonne, and recently developed the society's web sight. In addition, she recently became a member of the Bayonne's Historical Preservation Commission, which was formed in 1999.

As an important authority on the history of New Jersey, Dr. Karnoutsos presented the keynote address at the 125th anniversary of Bayonne in 1994; served as the moderator of the city's mayoral debate in 1998; and appeared in the video "What is a Freeholder? An evaluation of the Role of County Government."

Because of her dedication to the history of New Jersey women, Dr. Karnoutsos has made great contributions to the Women's Project of New Jersey, Inc., as associate editor of its publication *Past and Promise: Lives of New Jersey Women* (1990), and as a member of its editorial board.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Carmela Ascolese Karnoutsos for her exceptional contributions to the history of women and New Jersey, and for her selfless service to her community and country.

IN COMMEMORATION OF JEROME M. MILLER

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2000

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a dear friend and a loyal and devoted member of the Lauderhill, Florida community, Mr. Jerome "Jerry" M. Miller. Sadly, Jerry Miller passed away on November 1, 2000 and his guiding presence in the Inverrary community will be greatly missed.

After moving to South Florida in 1974, Jerry Miller took an active role in ensuring that the City of Lauderhill, and in particular the Inverrary community, remained a beautiful and harmonious residential area where residents could enjoy their picturesque surroundings. Jerry worked hard to ensure that as South Florida grew, Lauderhill and Inverrary would remain a pleasant and desirable place for people to live. Jerry served on several city boards where he consistently advocated for positive and aesthetically pleasing development. Similarly, as the President of the Inverrary Association, Jerry accepted nothing less than top rate planning which would enhance and improve the beauty and spirit of his community.

In one of his last great projects, Jerry took the lead in the conceptual and physical development of the Inverrary Meditation Park. These serene gardens filled with exotic fauna, chirping birds, and tropical fish ponds have become a centerpiece of the community. Here residents come to reflect on their thoughts, talk with their neighbors and enjoy the tranquility of their tropical surroundings. In this peaceful park, as in the hearts of those who knew him, the spirit of Jerry Miller's care and commitment to his community will forever be remembered.

TRIBUTE TO BETTY ANN DITTEMORE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I take this moment to recognize the accomplished life and admirable career of Betty Ann Dittmore. Betty, a former Colorado State representative, recently passed on at age 81. While her friends and family mourn her passing, I would like to take this opportunity to honor a truly amazing lawmaker—a woman who encompassed profound strength in all realms of life.

After campaigning using her initials (B.A.D.) as a slogan, Betty was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives in 1968, becoming the first woman from Arapahoe County to be elected to the state legislature. While serving in office from 1968 to 1978, Betty engaged in one of Colorado's fiercest battles: passing Colorado's first comprehensive planning law, a feat that would not have been possible without her wit and tenacity. Throughout her time in office, she successfully climbed in leadership positions serving as minority whip and later as majority leader.

She was instrumental in creating the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority, an authority that has become eminently successful in assisting the state's poor and elderly in finding reasonably priced homes. In 1980, she became an Arapahoe County Commissioner, where she was able to bring the same experience and expertise to the Board of County Commissioners that she brought to the legislature.

Mr. Speaker, there are few people in Colorado's proud history who have served as zealously and wholeheartedly as Betty. Her career was a model that every official in elected office, including myself, should seek to emulate. I know I speak for the state of Colorado when