

with a 49–15 win over Regis High School. This is the only time an Oregon public school has managed to win three straight state championships. The Warriors amassed an amazing 583 yards of total offense and held Regis to 67 rushing yards. I want to extend my warm congratulations to Coach Jeff Flood for another successful year.

The players, their families, their coaches, and their communities have all contributed to this fabulous football season. It is an honor and privilege to represent such talented athletes and I with them continued success in academics, sports, and their future lives.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT C.
PROPHATER

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and work of Dr. Robert C. Prophater following his half-century service to his fellow man, as a physician, a leader and as a father. During his fifty year career, Dr. Prophater worked to improve the health and well-being of his community both as a doctor and as Vice President of Corporate Medical Affairs for Bay Health Systems in his home town of Bay City, Michigan.

For more than five decades, Dr. Prophater has applied his healing hands to the medical needs of those under his care. His dedication and devotion to the precepts of the Hippocratic oath serve as a model for younger physicians and those considering entering this honorable profession. Indeed, one has to look no farther than Dr. Prophater's family to find an example of his influence in drawing others to the medical profession. His son, Dr. Robert C. Prophater Jr., has followed in his footsteps and is also practicing medicine and saving lives.

During his long and venerable career, Dr. Prophater has taken seriously his duty to share his vast knowledge and experience with his colleagues as an active member of numerous medical boards and medical associations throughout the state of Michigan and the entire Midwest. Of all of these honors, perhaps closest to his heart was his tenure on the Board of Directors of the Bay Medical Center in his home town of Bay City, including a four year term as Board President.

While Dr. Prophater above all deserves our praise for his dedication to medicine, he has also made a tremendously positive impact on Bay City, where he has lived and worked since moving from Ohio in 1958. His civic involvement epitomizes the spirit of public service to which all citizens should aspire, but few ever achieve. During his time serving Bay City, Dr. Prophater volunteered his talents and intellect to the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, the local advisory board for a professional football league, to the board of a local college and a host of other activities. In the classic American civic tradition, he also served his community in the political arena, including a stint as President of the Bay City Commission. His accolades are many, including the Michigan State Medical Society Community Service Award and induction into the Saginaw

Valley Chapter of Commerce Hall of Fame in 1989.

Mr. Speaker, I earnestly hope my colleagues will join me today in publicly honoring Dr. Robert C. Prophater with the official gratitude of the United States House of Representatives for a lifetime of contributions to the health and welfare of his community, his state and his family.

CONTINUING HEALTH CARE ACTIVITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT REFORM COMMITTEE

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, as we close out the 106th Congress, the Government Reform Committee, which I am proud to serve as Chairman, is continuing several health care oversight activities.

Last year we began a review of this nation's vaccine immunization program. While childhood immunizations have been lauded as one of the greatest advances in public health of the twentieth century, we have learned that there is a paucity of research evaluating the long term safety of these vaccines, particularly as they are currently given to babies, six shots in one day. We also have learned that the epidemic rise in pervasive developmental delays including autism may be unrecognized adverse effect of vaccines. Research conducted in England discovered that autistic children, who also suffer with chronic diarrhea and bowel disorders, have the measles virus in their bowel. We also learned that many of these vaccines are made with the preservative thimerosal. Thimerosal is a derivative of mercury, which is a known neurotoxin. We learned that mercury toxicity has very similar symptoms to autism. Many children who are treated for mercury toxicity show an improvement in the autistic symptoms.

I have asked the Department of Health and Human Services to recall vaccines that contain thimerosal since most of the vaccines on the childhood immunization schedule are now available without thimerosal. However, thus far, they are satisfied with allowing companies to continue to sell these vaccines and putting 8,000 children in the United States at risk for mercury toxicity. As part of this investigation we looked at the advisory committees at the Centers for Disease Control and at the Food and Drug Administration and found that many of the individuals appointed as advisory council members had significant financial ties to the pharmaceutical companies that manufacture the vaccines under consideration. The report of our findings is on the Committee website.

As part of our vaccine investigation, we looked at the Defense Department's Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program. We found that this well-intentioned program had many problems and I have supported legislation that would halt the program. The existing anthrax vaccine manufactured by Bioport Inc. in Lansing, Michigan was licensed in 1970 to protect against cutaneous exposure to the anthrax. It was not originally licensed to protect against inhalation anthrax. While the label states that less than one percent of individuals who receive the vaccine will suffer an adverse

events, each of the prospective studies that have been done have shown that in excess of twenty percent of those who receive the vaccine suffer an adverse event. Many of these events have proven difficult to treat and are very similar to those seen in Gulf War Syndrome. An investigation conducted by the General Accounting Office indicates that the mandatory AVIP program has resulted in a significant morale and retention problem.

There are some that think that because I have dared to initiate an oversight investigation into vaccines, that I am anti-vaccine. Nothing could be further from the truth. I believe that safe and effective vaccines should be made available to everyone with full declaration of the benefits and the risks involved. I also believe that we need to do more research to determine who will be at risk for adverse events and that just because a vaccine is licensed does not mean it needs to be added to the children's immunization schedule to be mandated at the state level. We saw with the rotashield vaccine investigation that the move to put this vaccine on the schedule took place before the vaccine was even licensed. There is concern we have gone too far in our desire to protect the public at large from infectious diseases by mandating every vaccine that is licensed instead of only those that are truly significant health concerns in this country. There is a tremendous difference between the consequences of polio and those of chicken pox.

Also during the 106th Congress, we have conducted an investigation into the role of complementary and alternative medicine in our health care system. Americans are increasingly turning to therapies such as acupuncture, massage therapy, chiropractics, naturopathy, touch and energy therapies, herbal medicine, traditional healing systems such as Ayurveda, Tibetan Medicine, Traditional Chinese Medicine, Native American medicine, mind-body techniques, aromatherapy, nutrition, and music therapy to improve their health. We have conducted numerous hearings looking at ways to improve cancer care through the integration of complementary and alternative medicine in oncology.

I was pleased to introduced H.R. 3677 the Thomas Navarro FDA Patients Rights act this past spring. Four year old Thomas, who was shown to the world by Ambassador Alan Keyes during the Republican debates, was diagnosed with medulloblastoma, was denied access to a non-toxic cancer treatment by the FDA because he had not first gone through and failed chemotherapy and radiation. After his initial surgery, Thomas' parents, Jim and Donna Navarro, looked at the benefits and risks of these two treatments and found that the success rates had been overestimated and that the risks were too much to ask of them without first trying something less risky. We learned that of the three chemotherapy drugs which are routinely recommended to treat this cancer, two of them clearly state on their label that they have not been proven to be safe and effective in the pediatric population. In other words, the drug had not gone through the rigors of an FDA approval process for treating medulloblastoma or for use in children. I am very concerned that the FDA will force cancer patients into treatments they as an agency have not evaluated while denying them access to a clinical trial that the FDA is monitoring. I was pleased that many of my

colleagues joined me in support of this legislation. This issue points to something that we are lacking in this country—medical freedom. In the United States, a country based on freedom, we are not guaranteed the freedom to make our own health care choices. Americans are tired of this and I will continue working to change this.

We also looked at the role of improving care at the end of life. We learned that 38,000 World War II veterans die each month. Many of them die alone and in pain. Our veterans deserve better from us and I will continue to work to improve this.

We learned that the hospice approach to care, which many of us know from personal family experience has great benefit, that has been underutilized. We also learned that many complementary therapies such as music therapy, touch therapy, aromatherapy, massage, whole life review, and acupuncture offer a great benefit to the terminally ill. The importance of the hospice team approach was stressed as well. That is a team of patient, and care givers, doctor, nurse, chaplain, home health aid, social worker, and the tireless hospice volunteer working to offer care to the terminally ill and their family. Comfort rather than curative care is offered and oftentimes when spiritual, relationship, and personal healing can take place.

We will continue working on these issues as well as working with the White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy and improving our health care system with the integration of complementary and alternative therapies.

IN MEMORY OF DR. CONRADT

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of the Fourth District of Texas, the late Dr. L.W. "Bob" Conradt of Terrell, who died on November 8. Dr. Conradt was an active and beloved member of his community—and he will be dearly missed.

Dr. Bob Conradt served Terrell as an excellent doctor. After closing his office where he practiced medicine for 26 years, he joined Blue Cross-Blue Shield as a Vice-President and medical director and served in that capacity until he retired in 1986. His community endeavors included membership in the Kaufman County Medical Society and the Texas Medical Association, as well as serving as President of the Terrell Independent School District School Board from 1963 to 1970. He also was a member of the Executive Committee of the Texas Association of School Boards, and active member of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, and a Scout Master for the Terrell Boy Scouts. As evidenced in all of these commitments, Dr. Conradt gave his time and energy to helping make Terrell a better place in which to live.

Dr. Bob Conradt was born in Lometa, Texas on March 9, 1921, to the late Albert Herman and Lennie Mae Cornelius Conradt. He attended Tarleton State University, the University of Texas, Baylor College of Medicine and graduated in the very first class of the Univer-

sity of Texas Southwestern School of Medicine in 1944. He served in the U.S. Army while attending medical school, and upon graduation he was stationed at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas as the General Medical Officer. In 1947, his military service was completed and Dr. Conradt moved his family back to Terrell, where he began his medical practice.

Throughout his distinguished career as a doctor in Terrell, Dr. Conradt received many recognitions, including Terrell Rotary Citizen of the Year in 1965, President of the Society of Life Insurance Medical Directors in 1985, and Advisory Trustee to the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Dallas from 1962 to 1967.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Montie K. Conradt and his daughter, Montie Cathleen Conradt. He is survived by his son, Bill Conradt; a daughter, Patricia Conradt; grandsons, Tracy and Rob Morgan; son-in-law, Joe Morgan; and many other family members and friends.

Mr. Speaker, Bob was one of a kind—and we will miss him. As we adjourn today, let us do so in memory of Dr. L.W. "Bob" Conradt.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN CANADY

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to man who has not only been an outstanding Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, but also a good friend and a help to me during my time in Congress. CHARLES CANADY, first elected in 1992, has been a leader on Judiciary issues, and a shining example of a citizen legislator who kept his word, and now returns to his home state of Florida to pursue other endeavors.

There are two issues on which I have especially appreciated Congressman CANADY's legal knowledge and leadership. The first is the issue of partial-birth abortion. Congressman CANADY has been an eloquent and persistent voice on behalf of the most innocent and defenseless in our society. Although the outcome of his diligent efforts may not yet be what we would have hoped, his vigilance will be the foundation on which we will one day build the law that will outlaw this barbaric procedure.

The other issue is Congressman CANADY's effort to protect religious liberty in America. Responding to the constant attacks on the free exercise of religion, Congressman CANADY has led the fight to restore the Constitutional protections for religious expression that our Founders intended, and to ensure that people of faith need not live as second class citizens in a nation that was founded on the principle that religion was an integral part of societal life.

For these reasons, and for many more, I thank Congressman CANADY for his service in Congress, and for his friendship. I wish him Godspeed in his pursuits upon his return home to Florida.

COMMEMORATING THE ARDENNES AMERICAN CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, on December 4, 2000, 1 and my good friend from California, Representative SAM FARR, had the honor and privilege of visiting the Ardennes American Cemetery and Memorial, near the village of Neupre in Belgium. The visit was an extremely moving experience, and I am grateful to have had the opportunity not only to view the beautifully maintained cemetery and memorial, but to lay a wreath in honor of the Americans who gave their lives in protection of their nation and the liberation of Europe.

The Ardennes American Cemetery is one of 14 permanent American World War 11 military cemeteries constructed on foreign soil by the American Battle Monuments Commission. It lies among the battlefields of the Ardennes plateau, across which American and Allied forces courageously fought their way first to the German frontier, then to the Rhine River, and eventually into the very heart of Nazi Germany. On December 16, 1944, a major German counteroffensive stalled the Allied advancement across the Ardennes. The "Battle of the Bulge," as the Ardennes-Alsace Campaign has come to be known, proved to be a furious struggle in bitter cold and harsh conditions, and in the first days of 1945, all attacks ground to a halt. On February 2, 1945, the First U.S. Army struck out to the Roer River. Six days later, the Canadian First Army advanced to the southeast, followed by a converging attack in the northeast by the Ninth U.S. Army. In the following weeks, the Allies found success and continued their march eastward toward the Rhine River. By the end of March, Allied armies, including French forces, advanced into Germany across a broad front.

Allied forces liberated the site of the Ardennes American Cemetery in September 1944, and a temporary cemetery was established on February 8, 1945. After the war, the remains of American military personnel buried in temporary cemeteries were moved to the new permanent foreign cemeteries upon the request of next of kin. Many of those interred at the Ardennes American Cemetery died during the Battle of the Bulge and the subsequent offenses and counter-offenses in the region.

The beauty and grandeur of the cemetery and memorial at Ardennes quietly convey the courage and sacrifice of the Americans who lost their lives on foreign soil while fighting for the highest principles on which their nation was established. The grounds and visitor center are wonderfully maintained by a diligent and knowledgeable staff. In particular, I would like to thank the Cemetery Superintendent, Hans Hooker, and his wife Virginia, for the wonderful treatment our delegation received on our visit. I would also like to recognize Vincent Joris for his valuable contribution in the upkeep of cemetery.

One of the more interesting and heartwarming aspects of the Ardennes cemetery is the support and commitment shown to it by the people of Belgium. In fact, 85 percent of the soldiers' graves at Ardennes are "sponsored" by a Belgian family, who watch over