

IN HONOR OF DARIEN'S 2000
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ed Tomei, the 2000 Citizen of the Year for Darien, Illinois.

The city of Darien is at the heart of Illinois' 13th Congressional District. It is a central crossroads for a growing region. Incorporated in 1969, it is still a young community in comparison to many of its surrounding neighbors. Over the last 31 years a great deal of hard work and dedication has been invested to make this community what it is today. The people of Darien continue to work hard to live up to the city's understated motto—"a nice place to live."

Well, I am happy to confirm that it is a nice place to live, and much of the credit for that goes to Darien's Citizen of the Year, Ed Tomei.

Ed and his family moved to Darien in 1970 shortly after the city's incorporation. Ed soon threw himself into the work of improving and representing the community he called home. He served eight years as an alderman and four years as the Fire and Police Commissioner. He became a member of the Hinsdale South High School Booster Club as well as the Hinsdale Jaycees. Ed also took part in the West Suburban Ducks Unlimited Group, a wildlife preservation organization.

Ed invested countless hours to help make the creation of the Indian Prairie Library a reality, and he has shown time and again his commitment to his community. Despite his heavy schedule, Ed continues to find the time to play Santa Claus at Christmas.

Ed Tomei put his heart and soul into Darien—and his neighbors noticed. As impressive as his civic accomplishments are, it is the words that his neighbors wrote about that show the true mark of this man.

One wrote, "he has always exhibited generosity, enthusiasm, diligence and integrity of the highest order. . . . After thirty years of progress it's easy to forget how much of the smooth running of the City in the early days was due to efforts 'above and beyond' the call of duty such as Ed provided."

Another said, "[i]ntegrity, commitment and leadership are the three traits that comprise the heart of Ed Tomei's character and what make him an outstanding citizen."

That is high praise indeed, but praise that is well deserved. It is outstanding citizens like Ed that have built the great nation that we live in today. Congratulations to Ed Tomei, Darien's 2000 Citizen of the Year. He has made Darien much more than "a nice place to live."

THE FUEL TAX COST REDUCTION ACT

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, with a fill-up at the gas pump draining more and more of a worker's wallet, it is time for Congress to pro-

vide relief to consumers. Congress has the power to help offset the rapidly increasing costs that are being imposed on working Americans, and we must act now.

Today I rise to introduce the Fuel Tax Cost Reduction Act—a bill to repeal a 4.3 cents per gallon tax on gasoline. This bill expands on legislation I have introduced in the past by repealing the 1993 deficit reduction fuel tax as it applies to all modes of transportation.

Mr. Speaker, this tax was included in the massive 1993 tax-hike. The purpose of this tax increase was to "reduce the deficit" during the time period when the old Congressional majority was regularly passing deficit-driven budgets that far outspent each year's tax receipts. Since that time, the Republican majority has taken action to balance the budget so that today the Federal government is running a positive cash flow. The end of annual deficits should mean the end of "deficit-reduction" taxes.

Today, world oil prices are climbing, and experts now predict that the price of gasoline will rise to at least \$2 a gallon. American families need help and this is the kind of tax relief that will help working families the most.

SALUTE TO FEDERAL WORKERS' 1999 COMBINED FEDERAL CAM- PAIGN

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the generosity of our local federal workers, who participated in the 1999 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Federal employees in the national capital area contributed a record setting \$44.3 million in 1999, far exceeding campaign goals by 8.5 percent. Thanks to their generosity, these funds will be used to help needy people in the District of Columbia, across the nation and around the globe. As we know, the CFC provides more than money, it builds stronger, healthier lives and communities.

My sincere congratulations to Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala, who chaired the 1999 CFC and promoted it through more than 40 visits to federal agencies. A special salute as well to the thousands of committed CFC volunteers and federal workers who made this year's campaign a resounding success.

HONORING SISTER CATHERINE SCHNEIDER ON HER GOLDEN JU- BILEE AS A SERVANT SISTER OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Catherine Schneider who is celebrating her Golden Jubilee as a Servant Sister of the Immaculate Heart of Mary on March 17, 2000.

Sister Schneider dedicated her entire body of knowledge to the educational development

and advancement of children of all ages. She introduced the fundamentals of primary education to younger children by teaching first and second grade at St. Gabriel and St. Raphael parishes. She continued this advancement of education with her insightful and thought-provoking classroom instructions in Religion and Social Studies at St. Cecilia, Assumption, Our Lady of Fatima, and St. Laurence parishes.

Beyond the scope of her classroom responsibilities, she continued to enhance the educational prowess of her students. She selflessly did this by sacrificing her lunch periods to tutor her students who may be floundering in certain areas of their education. She implemented several student-centered programs such as the May Procession and the altar servers to ensure the stewardship and spirituality of a Catholic education.

Constantly striving to serve her devotion in all of its capacities, Sister Schneider held two secretarial positions at St. Augustine and the Holy Name of Jesus parishes. She willingly accepted the tasks that were presented to her and genuinely welcomed visitors to both schools. She freely served the infirmity patients at Camilla Hall by simply listening to their needs and by offering them a kind word of inspiration. Even as a patient herself, she toiled with the switchboard as an operator. Sister Schneider continually served and educated others which had reciprocal benefits and values on her own life.

Mr. Speaker, Sister Catherine Schneider should be commended for her tireless pursuit to support and value the advancement of education and her deep devotion to duty. I congratulate and highly revere Sister Schneider upon this most glorious occasion of her Golden Jubilee, and I offer her my best wishes for continued faith and dedication in the coming years.

WE NEED NOT SIT IDLY BY

HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, the citizens in my district and across the Northeast have struggled this winter to pay for their heating bills because of the extraordinary recent spikes in the price of home heating oil. The price of diesel fuel rose sharply, too, delivering a severe economic blow to farmers, truckers, and businesses that depend on shipping products by truck. And since just about everything we wear, eat and use in our daily lives is shipped over land by truck, the high cost of fuel took a bite out of just about every consumer's budget. It's been a rough winter for the Northeast.

Unfortunately, it looks like we're not in the clear, yet. Recent headlines report that many experts now predict steep prices of gasoline during the peak driving season this summer, making this winter's crisis seem "like a cake-walk" by comparison.

Why are we all of a sudden experiencing such exorbitant energy prices? Are they simply the outcome of free market forces, the perpetual balancing of supply and demand? No. We are being held hostage by oil producing countries—many of whom have accepted generous assistance from the United States in the

past—who now have colluded to slash oil production, distort the market, and drive up the price of oil, which has climbed to about \$32 a barrel, up from \$12 this time last year.

But we need not sit idly by. There are actions we can take to break the resolve of these oil producing countries. A release of oil from our Strategic Petroleum Reserves would have an immediate and dramatic impact on the price of oil—and send a strong signal to oil producing countries that the U.S. will not stand for unfair and harmful trade practices.

Today I am introducing legislation expressing the sense of Congress that the President and Secretary of Energy immediately draw upon the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to supplement the oil market in the United States, bring the price of fuel back down to reasonable levels, and counter the anti-competitive practices of oil producing countries and the economic hardship they have caused Americans.

Identical legislation has been introduced in the Senate by Senators SCHUMER and COLLINS. I urge my colleagues to join me in calling upon the Administration to use the authority it already has—and indeed has used in the past—to draw upon our oil reserves and come to the assistance of businesses and consumers across the country.

HONORING ANNE STANBACK FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to Anne Stanback for her service and dedication to the Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund (CWEALF).

As the Executive Director of the Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund, Anne has led the organization in its mission to empower women and their families to achieve equal opportunities in their personal and professional lives. After a five year tenure at the helm of this organization, Anne is closing this chapter of her professional life to seek new endeavors. Her unique combination of energy and spirit has brought great success to the CWEALF.

Recently celebrating its 25th anniversary, CWEALF has long been a powerful voice for women's rights—a vital source of solidarity and inspiration for women. Under Anne's leadership, CWEALF has expanded its membership, accessibility, and programs, ensuring that the voices of women across Connecticut are heard. With Anne as Executive Director, CWEALF established a toll free referral hotline, allowing women access to legal information and referral services. They also established a \$250,000 endowment and increased membership, ensuring that their services will be available well into the future.

Anne has worked hard to ensure that the voices of women are not lost. With her guidance, CWEALF expanded its child-support program, which provides information to single mothers about child support enforcement laws. By educating child-care workers, CWEALF was able to establish community networks,

working to ensure the safety and security of our most precious resource—our children. One of the most impressive victories CWEALF has achieved under Anne's direction was blocking the establishment of a surgical center that was willing to extend reproductive healthcare services only to men. Anne and CWEALF led the opposition to this project, making a strong statement that in all facets of public and private life, women must be treated equally.

I applaud Anne's efforts to improve the lives of Connecticut women and their families—she is indeed a true role model for today's young women. It is an honor for me to join with the CWEALF organization to bid farewell to Anne and extend my best wishes to her and her family as she begins a new journey. Connecticut is truly a better place for her work.

SENIOR CITIZENS' FREEDOM TO WORK ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the H.R. 5, the Senior Citizens Freedom to Work Act.

I would like to applaud the efforts of Representative SAM JOHNSON who sponsored this bill and my fellow republican colleagues. Your hard work on behalf of our nation's seniors to repeal the Social Security earnings limit should be commended.

Within North Carolina alone, 24,386 seniors were effected by the earnings limit in 1999, 2.1 percent of all seniors.

In my opinion, this tax is unfair and un-American.

Penalizing productive and hardworking citizens who choose to continue working during their golden years undermines the very fabric of this nation.

As the baby boom generation retires the number of effected seniors will only continue to rise.

Please join me in supporting this legislation to ensure that working seniors do not receive a smaller Social Security check just because they earn a paycheck.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CON- TRIBUTIONS OF E.R. (BOB) GREGG

HON. JIM TURNER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, a patriot and leader, a successful businessman, a fellow Texan and a good and loyal friend, E.R. (Bob) Gregg, who after many years of dedicated service to his community, to his county and to the State of Texas, passed away on November 19, 1999.

Following in the footsteps of his grandfather, Capt. E. L. Gregg, and his parents, Eldredge and Helena Gregg, Bob Gregg worked diligently and tirelessly to help those in need, to

strengthen East Texas' business community, and to improve our education system. Following graduation from Kemper Military Institute, the University of Texas at Austin and the Southern Methodist University School of Banking, the Rusk native served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and held an officer's position with the Texas National Guard.

Bob's work with various organizations in East Texas and his list of contributions are numerous. Bob Gregg was very active in the banking community for more than 30 years and served as vice president, president and board chairman of Allied Texas Bank of Jacksonville. He was a Mason, a Past Potentate of the Sharon Shrine Temple in Tyler, a lifetime member of the Jaycees, and a recipient of the Jaycee's "One of the Five Outstanding Young Texans" award. He was a past chairman of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce and was named Jacksonville's Citizen of the Year in 1992. Because of his dedication to the value of education, he served for five years on the Jacksonville Independent School District Board of Trustees and for 18 years on the State Board of Education.

Bob Gregg was a dedicated member of the Jacksonville First United Methodist Church and a member and past president of the Jacksonville Lions Club. He was a charter member and three term past president of the Jacksonville Rodeo Association Board and treasurer of the Jacksonville Unit of the Salvation Army for 45 years. He was a board member of the Rusk Industrial Foundation and a member of the Board of Trustees of Lon Morris College, which he attended earlier in his life. From his post as a member of the Commissioners Court for a decade, Bob was a compelling and effective leader for East Texans. He had been Cherokee County Commissioner for precinct 1 since 1989 and was a member of the East Texas Council of Governments Executive Committee. He was also a member of the Region 1 Water Group and a board member of both the East Texas Housing Development and Cherokee County Crimestoppers.

Bob made a positive impact on the lives of many East Texans and personified the definition of a true and loyal American who set a high standard for us all to live by. He was an outstanding example to his family and friends, and has been as asset to the many communities that he touched over the years.

Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere gratitude and the utmost respect that I rise today to ask that you join me and our colleagues in honoring the selfless service of Bob Gregg, who will be missed by so many people who were lucky enough to know him. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my heart-felt condolences to his wife Mary, his two sons, and the entire Gregg family. Although Bob is no longer with us, his will and drive to make East Texas a better place will continue on forever.

IN MEMORY OF NEW YORK TIMES MANAGING EDITOR E. CLIFTON DANIEL, JR.

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death