

who are making the Hall of Fame for Great Americans centennial celebration possible.

**SUPPORT OF THE MILLION MOM MARCH**

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2000*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support the Million Mom March. This weekend, mothers from across the nation will convene on the National Mall to put the U.S. Congress on notice that common sense gun policy—specifically licensing and registration—is the will of the people.

I stand beside and applaud these women. They and many of their families have been devastated by the unnecessary and preventable deaths of their children. Many of them have seen first hand the harrowing effects of too many massacres, too much heart break and too many tragedies, sometimes, even at the hands, of our children.

We promised these moms and the American people common sense gun control legislation. We have not delivered on that promise. In fact, we have gone in the other direction—engaging in a war of words only. For more than two months now, the Congress has had an opportunity to act responsibly and at a minimum insist that the conferees to the Juvenile Justice bill meet immediately. Yet our Republican leadership refuses to assert their leadership and do the right thing.

In my district, in Northern California, the Oakland City Council has taken a strong stance on gun control. They are putting human lives first by prohibiting the sale of compact hand guns, penalizing firearms “straw sales,” and prohibiting people under the age of 18 from entering establishments that display firearms. Yet here in Congress we won’t take even the minimum steps, such as requiring child safety trigger locks, to ensure the safety of our children.

As a mother, I too feel that we can no longer afford to play partisan politics while so many children’s lives remain at stake. All of the moms who will be in Washington, D.C. this weekend want results. They want us to do the right thing. They too want the Juvenile Justice Conferees to meet immediately and they want the Congress to deliver on its promise. Congress must pass common sense gun control legislation.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE GALLATIN COUNTY MARCHING HAWKS**

**HON. DAVID D. PHELPS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2000*

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and congratulate one of my district’s marching bands. The Gallatin County Marching Hawks from Gallatin County High School in Junction, IL recently won second place in the Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D.C. They competed against fifteen other bands from the state of Illinois.

Led by Kathy Hanrahan, members of the band include Rhesa Armstrong, Whitney Belford, Brandy Bratcher, Sarah Burtis, Michelle Crayne, Megan Creemeens, Carrie Dillard, Haley Downen, Alex Drane, Wes Duffy, Jaclyn Edwards, Lane Golden, Brandi Hargrave, Sarah Head, Jennifer Holt, Laura Holt, Jennifer Howard, Kareicia Hufsey, Brittney Lane, Natalie Lane, Sarah Lawler, Amanda Lindsay, Racheal Luckett, Allison Maloney, Florence McCue, Abraham Naas, Katy Newton, Katie Noel, Rikki Pritchett, Braxton Raben, Christina Raben, Jessica Rister, Jennifer Roberts, Julia Roe, Chris Sanders, Daniel Sehoy, Tabitha Vaughn, Victoria Vickery, Abby Wargel, Andrew Wargel, Benita Wentzel, Becky West, Ella York, Emily York, Kory Newton, Ben Austin, Lindsay Adams, Stuart Aud, Emily Bickett, Justin Brown, Anthony Drone, Brett Drone, Josh Drone, Andrew Fritschle, Phillip Givens, Bryan Hargrave, Brittany Jones, Lacie Jones, Hannah Naas, Natalie Ozee, Jordan Raben, Deborah Roberts, Nick Scates, Lacie Wood, Megan Zirkelbach, Kara Crayne, Kendra Fromm, and Josh Austin.

The members of the Gallatin High School Marching Hawks should be proud of their achievement. I congratulate them and wish them good luck in their future competitions.

**CELEBRATING MOTHER’S DAY**

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2000*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Mother’s Day, today I celebrate the enormous contributions of mothers all over the country. I want to pay a special tribute to those mothers who have lost their children in the prime of their lives, much too early. One such mother is Ruth Tinsman, who has served as my Congressional Aide for seven years. Ruth served my two predecessors in Congress as well, and did so with the highest level of commitment and honor. Her commitment as a mother, however, has been her truest and most noble calling, as she will remind those who admire her long and devoted public service.

Mr. Speaker, Ruth Tinsman lost her son Robert Tinsman in Miami, Florida last week, his candle burned out all too soon, as the poet E.E. Cummings once said. “Bobby,” as he was known to his friends and family, was a veteran of the Vietnam War, an American hero to those of us who recognize the value of his tremendous sacrifices, and whose service will never be forgotten. Bobby will be remembered fondly by all who knew him, but most lovingly by his mother, whose life has always revolved around her children and grandchildren. My heart is saddened because her heart is heavy, but my sorrow is tempered by the wonderful memories that this devoted mother will always cherish. As a Member of Congress, I am honored to take this opportunity to praise the remarkable women who each day in their own way work to build a society where all of us can be free. Ruth Tinsman is such a woman, such a mother. As I salute all the mothers in this country, it is my special honor to salute her this Mother’s Day.

**STATEMENT IN HONOR OF TAIWANESE-AMERICAN HERITAGE WEEK**

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2000*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege for me to pay tribute to Taiwanese-American across the country as we celebrate Taiwanese-American Heritage Week.

The Taiwanese-American community is the keystone of a strong and mutually beneficial United States-Taiwanese relationship. For decades, Taiwanese-Americans have advocated on behalf of United States-Taiwan friendship, and have contributed immeasurably to American society while maintaining their Taiwanese heritage.

My Congressional District in New York is particularly fortunate to have a vibrant and strong Taiwanese-American community. And New York as a whole has benefitted from the tremendous contributions of this community to the economic and cultural character of the state. The more than half-million Taiwanese-Americans across the United States have made priceless contributions to our country, and organizations like the Formosan Association for Public Affairs have helped further these outstanding accomplishments.

Taiwan and the United States share a common commitment to the ideals of democracy, freedom, and human rights. The 1979 Taiwan Relations Act, which formed the official basis for friendship and cooperation between the United States and Taiwan, continues to provide a strong foundation for the bond between the people of both countries. And that bond is made stronger each day by the Taiwanese-American Community.

I am privileged to represent a strong Taiwanese-American community, and I am proud to pay tribute to their strength and activism during Taiwanese-American Heritage Week.

**IN HONOR OF DUNCANVILLE HIGH SCHOOL**

**HON. MARTIN FROST**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2000*

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I pay honor to the outstanding achievement of students and others associated with Duncanville High School in Duncanville, Texas.

This school has been chosen by judges of the 17th Annual American Set a Good Example Competition to receive one of three national second place awards. These awards go to a school for a project done by students to influence their own peers in a positive way—away from drug abuse, crime and violence while forwarding commonly accepted moral values such as honesty, trustworthiness and competence. Additionally, Duncanville High School won the \$2,500 Learning Improvement Award for the work students did on researching career information and determining a direction they want to pursue, including making resumes and completing Pell Grant applications, and writing for a minimum of five scholarships. Such projects enhance student opportunities, strengthen character and better prepare our young people for a positive future.

I commend the students, principal, administrators, teachers and parents of Duncanville High School for a job well done in these successful projects.

HONORING DR. CHARLES H.  
MCCOLLUM, MD

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2000*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am honoring Dr. Charles H. McCollum for being named the Houston Surgical Society's "Distinguished Surgeon" of 2000.

An extraordinary surgeon and teacher, Dr. McCollum has served since 1967 as Assistant Professor and then Professor of Surgery at Baylor College of Medicine. He is renowned as a lowkey yet demanding teacher who instills in his residents the excellence that he himself brings to his profession. While sharing his knowledge with residents and enhancing their performances, he is still dedicated to his patients and to his daily work in the operating room at the Texas Medical Center's Methodist Hospital.

A native of Fort Worth, Texas, Dr. McCollum graduated from the University of Texas in Austin with a B.A. in 1955. He received his Medical Degree from UT's Medical Branch in Galveston in 1959. Dr. McCollum did his internship and his residency training at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

Dr. McCollum is known throughout the Texas Medical Center community as a fine physician and civic leader. From 1961–1969, Dr. McCollum was a Captain in the United States Army Reserve. He has had many academic and professional society appointments and offices. He served as President of the Texas chapter American College of Chest Physicians for 1975–1976. He lent his expertise to the Michael E. DeBakey International Surgical Society, serving as an officer from 1977 to 1992. He has served as President of the Houston Surgical Society, Southwestern Surgical Society, and the Texas Surgical Society.

Throughout his career, Dr. McCollum has distinguished himself as a caring doctor who puts his patients first and a gifted teacher who demands the best. I congratulate Dr. McCollum for being named the Houston Surgical Society's, "Distinguished Surgeon" of 2000.

TRIBUTE TO AMY SCHLUETER

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2000*

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amy Schlueter as an exceptional teenager from Rolla, Missouri. Amy was recognized yesterday at the Fifth Annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards as one of Missouri's top two student volunteers for the year 2000. Amy received a \$1,000 award, a silver medallion and her trip to D.C. for her exemplary volunteer service in her community.

Amy Schlueter started reaching out to others at a young age. Amy, a senior at Rolla

High School, implemented and organized a "Random Acts of Kindness" club at her school to challenge her peers to act with kindness, not violence. Since her club began, 89 students and faculty members have been rewarded for random acts of kindness, and in January, a two-week celebration in Rolla recognized hundreds of community members who made a difference by being kind to others.

In Amy's words, "Our nightly news provides us with images of savage car crashes, rapes, assaults, mutilated children, gang wars, telling us this is reality. It is exceptionally rare to hear about people doing good things for one another, and the reality is, random acts of kindness happen every day."

This kind of maturity and dedication to a community is not often recognized in today's youth. As Amy said, we often hear about the bad behavior in our youth. I hope Amy will serve as an inspiration to today's youth as she demonstrates that it is cool to be kind to others, and youth can play an important role in their community.

Next week is National Random Acts of Kindness Week. As we work on our annual spending bills, and go about our day-to-day business, I hope that my colleagues can follow Amy's example. I also hope we as a society can spend more time focusing on the Amy Schlueter's of the world when we watch the evening news so we will have good examples to follow.

REGARDING PERMANENT NORMAL  
TRADE RELATIONS WITH CHINA

**HON. DAVID D. PHELPS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2000*

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today after months of information-gathering, discussion, and deliberation, I am announcing my position on the issue of granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) status to China. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the hundreds of constituents, colleagues, community leaders, and representatives of groups with a stake in this debate, for sharing their views and answering my questions as they patiently engaged in this process with me. Seldom in my legislative career have I taken an issue more seriously than this one. While I realize that my decision will not please everybody, I hope there is no doubt that every voice and every argument presented to me was given the utmost consideration.

I believe it to be in the best interests of the 19th District of Illinois, and the nation as a whole, that I oppose extension of Permanent Normal Trade Relations to China. I do support China's accession to the World Trade Organization. However, I am convinced that the United States must maintain annual grants of NTR until we have ascertained that China is living up to WTO rules and our own expectations regarding human rights, labor rights, religious tolerance and environmental protection.

China has a long history of failing to live up to its agreements, and Chinese officials have recently indicated they do not intend to abide by certain components of the WTO agreement either. While I hope this will not be the case, I am not comfortable relinquishing bilateral enforcement tools like Section 301 and anti-

dumping provisions in favor of a WTO dispute resolution process which is notoriously slow. We must not place ourselves in a situation where American jobs are sacrificed while we wait two or three years for a WTO ruling, only to have no recourse if the ruling is adverse.

Many argue that only through engagement and open trade will we see programs in China on matters of labor rights, human rights, religious persecution, and environmental degradation. If this is indeed the case, then we need not worry, for China will be engaged with the global marketplace through its WTO membership regardless of the outcome of our PNTR vote. Unfortunately, there is reason to doubt this contention. The United States has been trading with China since 1980, and since 1994 we have followed a policy of "delinking" human rights from trade policy, based upon the theory that free trade equals greater freedom in society. Yet every year since delinkage conditions in China have worsened, and according to a 1999 State Department report, human rights there have deteriorated markedly.

I represent an agricultural district, and I have seen first-hand the devastation that recent price drops have wrought. I am sympathetic to the need for expanded export markets and other opportunities to improve the farm economy, and if I believed that the China agreement was the answer to agriculture's problems, I may have taken a different position. Unfortunately, several factors lead me to the opposite conclusion. First, as I have mentioned, China has not been a model trading partner in the past, and I remain skeptical that they will follow through with promises regarding agriculture and other products. Second, China is a nation committed to preserving its national independence and improving rural stability, and its agricultural production consistently outpaces demand. China maintains nearly a three-to-one ratio of agricultural exports to imports, and I worry that China's objective is to improve its domestic distribution system, rather than bring in more agriculture products when they already have surpluses. If this is the case, our agreement with China will bring minimal benefits to struggling farmers in Illinois.

The argument has been made that increased trade with China will obviate the need for federal assistance like the \$8.7 billion in emergency farm aid that Congress provided last year. However, even under the rosiest scenario, the total value of U.S. exports of wheat, rice, corn, cotton, soybeans and soybean products to China would increase by \$1.6 billion dollars in 2005 when the agreement is fully implemented, and the average annual value of U.S. exports from 2000 through 2009 would increase by \$1.5 billion dollars. The administration estimates that net farm income would be higher by \$1.7 billion in 2005, and higher by an annual average of \$1.1 billion per year through 2009, although higher feed costs and reduced government payments would offset part of the increase.

These potential increases, even if fully realized, fall billions short of the assistance that has been required in recent years to help farmers weather hard times, suggesting to me that China's export market is not the panacea it has been portrayed to be. I recall that during the NAFTA debate, proponents of the agreement made similar arguments about the importance of new export markets for American