

Newburgh, Indiana held a hose cutting ceremony to dedicate its new fire and EMS stations in the name of Former Fire Chief Larry Grimes.

Mr. Speaker, it is written that a good name is more precious than rubies. The good people of Newburgh have put a good name on this new facility.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this esteemed man and cherished friend who as a family man, an educator, an attorney and a fireman, made southwestern Indiana a better place for his having been there.

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CALLING ON CHINA TO RELEASE  
LI SHAOMIN AND ALL OTHER  
AMERICAN SCHOLARS OF CHI-  
NESE ANCESTRY BEING HELD IN  
DETENTION

SPEECH OF

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 25, 2001*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for his laudable work in the area of human rights and injustice worldwide.

This matter we discuss today hits particularly close to home. Li Shaomin is an American citizen that China is holding hostage.

Sal Cordo, from Bloomfield, was his supervisor when Dr. Li worked for AT&T in New Jersey. Now Sal faces the unimaginable task of leading the charge to get his friend freed from a Chinese prison, where Dr. Li faces trumped up charges.

In a recent article, China's Foreign Minister stated that, "In China, observance of human rights is now in its historically best period."

If China is at its best when it is detaining American citizens without just cause, and waiting three months to press charges, then I cannot imagine them at their worst.

We granted China permanent most favored nation (MFN) status. This trade we grant China has a price. MFN for China costs our nation both our values and our dignity.

I would think they would be walking on eggshells to not act in such an offensive manner as they are by detaining Dr. Li. The Chinese government seems as determined as ever to quash expressions of personal freedom.

In yesterday's Washington Post, there was an article entitled "China Growing Uneasy about U.S. Relations."

The Chinese government should note that the people of New Jersey are not just uneasy about their actions, they are outraged!

Those in the Chinese government should note that the U.S. Congress has not forgotten about Li Shaomin.

The Bush administration should use every avenue at their disposal to encourage the Administration to place pressure on the Chinese government in asking for the release of Dr. Li and the other U.S. hostages.

Before granting annual MFN, before we decide an official position on their Olympic bid, the Administration must convince the Chinese government that it is in their best interest to do as we ask, and they do it now.

HONORING LINDA ENGELHART  
FOR HER WORK WITH THE EL-  
DERLY

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 26, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend Linda Engelhart for working selflessly to improve the lives of the elderly, especially the work she did at Columbine Manor in Salida, Colorado. Linda believes, as Arlene Shovald of the Mountain Mail quotes, that if everybody "would do one kind thing a day," then "it would be a better world." Linda, whose actions demonstrate her commitment to such kindness, has improved this world for many.

Linda, who has also worked for Area Agency on Aging, has acted as admissions and marketing director at Columbine Manor for three years. In order to ensure that each resident always has something to look forward to, Linda initiates many projects at the Manor. For instance, she holds a weekly meeting called "Conversations with Linda," to which she brings a tasty cuisine like lemon meringue pie or crab cakes to spice up the normal meal schedule. The meeting offers more than just a delicious treat, however. Each Tuesday, according to Linda, the residents "share beautiful stories about their past." In addition, she has involved herself with a committee that plans activities for residents and their families such as Operation Christmas Child, which creates shoeboxes full of gifts for small children. Also, she helps hold a party for every holiday, and a barbecue every month. Linda, always a good listener, makes sure that her events bring what her residents desire. For instance, she says, "Today, we're helping the residents make potato salad . . . They wanted homemade potato salad, so we let them do it."

Linda has helped transform the Columbine Manor into a rehabilitation center, sending home about 40 percent of its residents within a month or two. Perhaps the rehabilitation rate at Columbine Manor is so high because Lisa has treated her job as an opportunity to increase morale, to work alongside, and to generally get to know the residents there.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, Linda Engelhart has acted with compassion, and has served as a model for the young and old of our nation. Today, I would like to thank and honor her on behalf of Congress for all that she has done for her residents and for humanity.

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INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE CON-  
CURRENT RESOLUTION 173—THE  
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS  
EQUALITY RESOLUTION

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 26, 2001*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today with the support of 26 of our colleagues—including both Republicans and Democrats—I introduced House Concurrent Resolution 173, the "International Human Rights Equality Resolution," a Resolution decrying human rights vio-

lations based on real or perceived sexual orientation and gender identity. We introduced this legislation Mr. Speaker, because we believe very strongly that we must send a strong message that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people must be treated with dignity and respect, not with hatred and violence.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we have introduced our Resolution today, which is the U.N. International Day in Support of Survivors of Torture. This Resolution, together with Amnesty International's newly released report, "Breaking the Silence," highlights the use of torture against people based on sexual orientation and condemns governments who perpetrate these outrageous human rights violations, or fail to do anything to prosecute the perpetrators. All around the world, unacceptable violations of human rights have taken place against individuals solely on the basis of their real or perceived sexual orientation. These ongoing persecutions against gay people include arbitrary arrests, rape, torture, imprisonment, extortion, and even execution.

The scope of these human rights violations is staggering, and for the victims, there are few avenues for relief. Mr. Speaker, some States create an atmosphere of impunity for rapists and murderers of gays and lesbians by failing to prosecute or investigate violence targeted at these individuals because of their sexual orientation. These abuses are not only sanctioned by some States, often, they are perpetrated by agents of the State.

Mr. Speaker, in Afghanistan, men convicted of sodomy by Taliban Shari'a courts are placed next to standing walls by Taliban officials and are subsequently executed as the walls are toppled upon them and they are buried under the rubble. In Guatemala and El Salvador, individuals are either tortured or killed by para-military groups because of their real or perceived sexual identity. In Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Kuwait, Mauritania, and Iran persons are summarily executed if they are convicted of committing homosexual acts. In Pakistan, individuals are flogged for engaging in sexual conduct with same-sex partners, and in Uganda and Singapore individuals engaging in such conduct are sentenced to life in prison. In Brazil, a lesbian couple was tortured and sexually assaulted by civil police. Despite the existence of medical reports and eye-witness testimony, the perpetrators of these heinous crimes are never prosecuted.

Mr. Speaker, around the world, individuals are targeted and their basic human rights are denied because of their sexual orientation. The number and frequency of such grievous crimes against individuals cannot be ignored. Violence against individuals for their sexual orientation violates the most basic human rights.

House Concurrent Resolution 173, puts the United States on record against such horrible human rights violations. As a civilized country, we must speak out against and condemn these crimes. Our Resolution details just a few examples of violence against gays and lesbians in countries as wide ranging as Saudi Arabia, Mexico, China, El Salvador, and other countries. By calling attention to this unprovoked and indefensible violence, the International Human Rights Equality Resolution will broaden awareness of human rights violations based on sexual orientation.

House Concurrent Resolution 173 reaffirms that human rights norms defined in international conventions include protection from violence and abuse on the basis of sexual identity, but it does not seek to establish a special category of human rights related to sexual orientation or gender identity. Furthermore, it commends relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations (such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission) for documenting the ongoing abuse of human rights on the basis of sexual orientation. Our Resolution condemns all human rights violations based on sexual orientation and recognizes that such violations should be equally punished, without discrimination.

This legislation is endorsed by a broad coalition of international human rights groups, gay rights groups, and faith-based organizations, among others. They include: Amnesty International, International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, Human Rights Watch, National Gay and Lesbian Taskforce, Human Rights Campaign, Log-Cabin Republicans, Justice and Witness Ministries of the United Church of Christ, and the National Organization of Women.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to the United States Department of State and the United Nations for documenting the ongoing abuse of human rights on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Mr. Speaker, the protection of gender identity is not a special right or privilege, but it should be fully acknowledged in international human rights norms. I ask that my colleagues join with me in wholeheartedly embracing and supporting human rights for all people, no matter what their sexual orientation might be. It is the only decent thing to do.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAURA INGALLS WILDER LIBRARY

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 26, 2001*

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and pride that I stand before the House today in observance of the 50th Anniversary of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Library. The Laura Ingalls Wilder Library is located in Mansfield, Missouri, a small town in Missouri's Eighth Congressional District.

Many will remember with great fondness the Laura Ingalls Wilder books. In fact many of us or our children grew up reading her accounts of life in the great outdoors. She wrote simply and vividly—with such detail that her accounts of pioneer life have become the way that many of us view life on the Midwestern frontier. Through her writing, Laura Ingalls Wilder provided us with a chronology of life during the Pioneer days that has allowed us to preserve a lost era in American history.

But Laura Ingalls Wilder did more than just evoke a love for the rural way of life in her writing. Through her writing, she instilled a love of reading and over time that love of reading was translated into action as she became a tireless advocate for our public libraries.

In rural America, public libraries are not just a luxury or a convenience, they are a way of life. Most small towns don't have a Barnes and Noble and many folks don't have access to Amazon.com.

As a result, the tireless endeavors of the Laura Ingalls Wilder's of today are keeping Ms. Wilder's efforts alive. In Wright County, the community is working in a cooperative and most inspiring manner to create the Laura Ingalls Wilder Library and Community Center, an expanded library that will provide a technology and community center. The center will give folks the opportunity to embark on a journey of learning and to inspire adults and children with a love for reading.

Mr. Speaker, on this very special occasion, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Library. May the blessings of the last 50 years serve as a vision for the next 50 years.

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM E. MARTIN,  
PRESIDENT OF UNITED WAY OF  
HUDSON COUNTY, UPON HIS  
RETIREMENT AFTER 45 YEARS OF  
SERVICE

**HON. ROBERT MENEDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 26, 2001*

Mr. MENEDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William E. Martin, who will be recognized by the United Way of Hudson County, New Jersey. On Wednesday, June 27, 2001, the City of Jersey City will honor Mr. Martin during a dedication ceremony to rename Vroom Court the William E. Martin Way. A luncheon in honor of Mr. Martin will follow the ceremony.

William Martin began his distinguished career with the United Way Foundation in 1956, serving as President of the United Way in Hudson County, New Jersey. During his tenure, Mr. Martin was instrumental in establishing over 30 Tri-State United Way agencies. As a result of his hard work and dedication, United Way now provides social services in over 700 communities throughout the Tri-State area, lending assistance to over 8 million people a year.

Beyond his administrative duties, William Martin has also served as an ambassador for the United Way Foundation. In 1988, he was chosen by his peers to set up United Way services in Beijing, China and Hong Kong. In addition, he has assisted in the implementation of United Way services in Vietnam, Pakistan, Egypt, and the Philippines.

Youth outreach and community service initiatives have also been top priorities in William Martin's life. Prior to his tenure with United Way, he was Director of Human Services at Camp Crowder in Missouri and served as Athletic Director at the CYO Center in Jersey City, New Jersey for nine years.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring William Martin for his distinguished service on behalf of the United Way of America and the residents of New Jersey.

MARVIN OLINSKY: VISIONARY,  
PUBLIC SERVANT, AND HUMANITARIAN

**HON. TONY P. HALL**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 26, 2001*

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Marvin Olinsky, who is retiring after serving 14 years as chief executive of the Five Rivers MetroParks, a regional park system in Dayton and the Miami Valley, Ohio. Marvin has been an extraordinary steward of the park system and a tireless advocate for clean, safe parks for us and future generations.

Ten years ago, the park district managed 6,900 acres. Under Marvin's leadership, MetroParks has grown to an 11,000 acre system with an annual attendance of 5.6 million visitors. He increased law enforcement within the parks, expanded educational programs and recreational facilities, and made the parks cleaner. These improvements have made the park system enormously popular among residents of the Miami Valley.

Marvin has been more than a park system director to the community. He has been a true visionary, helping to make the physical surroundings in the Dayton area more attractive and friendly. He was a moving force behind the current downtown Dayton renaissance and he has actively participated formally and informally in a broad range of civic activities.

Beyond Dayton and this country, Marvin's spirit of helping stretches to the war-torn West African nation of Sierra Leone. As a private citizen, he has visited the country on a regular basis to bring much-needed books, medicine, clothing, and food. I have traveled with him to Sierra Leone on a humanitarian mission. It has been an honor to work with him in the struggle for justice in that country.

I have had the privilege of working with Marvin on other projects, including the Hope Foundation, which he chairs. This group supports needy citizens in Africa and around the world.

For me, Marvin is more than just a partner in public service. I am proud that he is my friend.

Dayton is fortunate that Marvin plans to stay in the area and continue his civic involvement. His creativity, vision, and energy can always be used here.

TRIBUTE TO THE REV. DAVID  
KALKE

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 26, 2001*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute a constituent of mine, the Reverend David Kalke, recipient of a 2001 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Award, for his work in creating a "safe zone" for our youth. The award is the nation's highest honor for community health leadership and includes a \$100,000 program grant.

The Reverend Kalke has done remarkable work with teen health and education programs in an area of San Bernardino, CA, known to have the state's highest teen pregnancy and