

After joining the Army in 1940, Otis was put in charge of the Victory Garden due to his background in farming, and was eventually sent to infantry school. This was followed by his deployment to France in December of 1944. In his first battlefield experience, his 12-member squad was sent ahead of the group to scout. This scouting effort led to the group being ambushed, leaving only Otis alive as the other soldiers were killed in the line of duty. One other notable battlefield experience that caused his life to flash before his eyes happened as he and two other soldiers were rushing into town when a mortar shell hit immediately in front of them, causing permanent damage in his right ear.

On December 20, 1945, Otis returned home to find employment as a carpenter. Although this paid the bills, his true passion was music. He joined a band in 1946 called the Trailblazers and ventured to Montana to play for audiences for about three years, until his hearing would not permit him to continue anymore. Otis then returned to Colorado and was employed by Gates Rubber Company for 31 years. Today, he enjoys spending time with his family.

While much time has passed since the war, the importance and acknowledgement of the heroism that Otis Chartier exhibited shall not vanish with time. He was a part of the victorious effort to ensure peace across the globe. It is my pleasure to offer my congratulations and sincerest thanks to Otis for his dedicated service and patriotism.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. IRA  
JEFFREY

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2001*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, in his forty years of working with cancer research and treatment, Dr. Ira Jaffrey has contributed to a movement that has saved many lives and has enhanced the quality and duration of many others and I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to him. While his technical expertise has proven essential for providing professional and quality health care, his emotional understanding and support have made him a hero.

After working at Mount Sinai Hospital and School of Medicine in New York, Ira and his wife, Sandy, headed to the western slope of Colorado where they started Western Slope Oncology in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Currently, Ira works with Valley View, Aspen Valley, Clagett Memorial and University hospitals, and the Vail Valley Medical Center. In addition, he is an assistant clinical professor at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and a treasurer and state delegate for the Mount Sopris Medical Society. Sandy is a registered Physician's Assistant with extensive training and experience in oncology nursing. Between the two of them, they care for between 350 and 500 patients.

Ira and Sandy have personally experienced the challenges and destruction that cancer brings; Sandy is a breast cancer survivor, and Ira lost his sister to cancer in 1970. Perhaps because they grasp the understanding that can only come with experience, they give their

patients the most dedicated care, such as encouraging their patients to call them at home. Ira explained to Heather McGregor of The Glenwood Post-Independent that he deals largely with people for whom cancer will ultimately prove fatal. "My job is to eliminate pain and suffering, to improve their quality of life, and to increase their survival time," he told her. "There are lots of ups and downs, and we have to be there for them."

Mr. Speaker, for forty years, Dr. Ira Jaffrey has not only worked as a skilled and talented oncologist, but he has acted with compassion and sensitivity toward one of the most destructive diseases of our time. I would like to take this time to thank him for helping improve the quality of life for the many people today who suffer from cancer.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE U.S.  
MILITARY'S HUMANITARIAN  
WORK IN EAST TIMOR

**HON. TONY P. HALL**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2001*

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege to be in East Timor on July 2–5, 2001 to assess the current humanitarian situation and see first hand how American tax dollars are being spent. I was quite impressed with the work of the United States military and its ongoing humanitarian assistance in East Timor. This is a story which is not getting told to the American people. The U.S. military is doing incredible work at improving peoples' lives and generating good will towards the United States.

The U.S. military presence is coordinated through the United States Support Group in East Timor (USGET). Colonel Charles E. Cooke, U.S. Marine Corps, is Commander of USGET and is doing a superb job. Commanders for USGET have a three month rotation. USGET's purpose is to be a visible U.S. presence in East Timor and to plan/execute rotational humanitarian assistance missions. Since its inception in September 1999, USGET has conducted community relations and engineering projects, provided free medical and dental care, coordinated U.S. military ship visits, and repaired schools and medical clinics. For example, in April 2001, the USS *Boxer* visited East Timor. It was the largest effort in USGET history. The ship personnel provided medical assistance to 2,028 patients, completed five community relations projects, delivered 165 tons of humanitarian assistance by air and 86 tons of humanitarian assistance by sea. The ship crew also delivered \$53,000 in direct donations from the United States.

My trip to East Timor coincided with the visit of USNS *Niagara Falls*. Thirty personnel from the ship were detailed to repair a school in Dili which was burned down by the militias in 1999. They rebuilt and painted the school, and installed a new electrical system while East Timorese children looked on, excited to get their school back, and thankful to the U.S. military. It was quite an impressive thing to see.

On the morning of July 4th, I traveled on a helicopter from the USNS *Niagara Falls* to observe food delivery to the city of Lospaios in the Lautem district. In June, flooding de-

stroyed many homes in this district and washed out the main bridge which connected the area with East Timor's capitol city of Dili. The U.S. military, working with the World Food Programme, was ensuring that food and supplies were getting into the region.

I am extremely proud of these men and women in the U.S. military for their humanitarian work in East Timor. They represent the best which our great nation has to offer. I salute them for their work and hope it will continue into next year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2001*

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that I was not here to cast my vote on Roll Call Vote No. 289, Representative Menendez's amendment to H.R. 2620, last Friday. If I had been here, I would have voted "yea" on this amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2001*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I regret that due to an airline delay, I was unavoidably detained arriving from my district in California, and missed three votes this evening (July 30, 2001).

Had I been present, I would have voted AYE on the following rolls:

Roll 290, H. Res. 212, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance presents a unique opportunity to address global discrimination.

Roll 291, H. Res. 191, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United Nations should immediately transfer to the Israeli Government an unedited and uncensored videotape that contains images which could provide material evidence for the investigation into the incident on October 7, 2000, when Hezbollah forces abducted 3 Israeli Force soldiers, Adi Avitan, Binyamin Avraham, and Omar Souad.

Roll 292, H. Con. Res. 190, supporting the goals and ideals of National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NURSING  
HOME QUALITY PROTECTION ACT

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2001*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Nursing Home Quality Protection Act. It is imperative that we do everything in our power to protect our most vulnerable citizens—the elderly and disabled who live in nursing homes. That is why I and my colleagues are introducing this legislation today—

to take a crucial first step towards ensuring that seniors in nursing homes are provided the care they deserve.

This legislation is a product of a series of investigations reports conducted by my staff into nursing home conditions. These reports have consistently found numerous violations of federal health and safety standards in nursing homes throughout the country. Many of the violations harmed residents. Common problems included untreated bedsores; inadequate medical care; malnutrition; dehydration; preventable accidents; and inadequate sanitation and hygiene.

Moreover, during the course of these investigations, we began to notice an unexpected and extremely disturbing trend. Many of the nursing homes we examined were being cited for physical, sexual, or verbal abuse of residents. I asked my staff to investigate whether these abuse cases were isolated occurrences—or whether they signaled a broader, nationwide problem. The report I released today presented the results of this investigation.

What we found was shocking. Within the last two years, nearly one-third of the nursing homes in the United States have been cited by state inspectors for an abuse violation. In over 1,600 nursing homes—approximately one out of every ten—these abuse violations were serious enough to cause actual harm to residents or to place them in immediate jeopardy of death or serious injury.

As documented in the report, we found examples of residents being punched, choked, or kicked by staff members or other residents. These attacks frequently caused serious injuries such as fractured bones and lacerations. And we found other examples of residents being groped or sexually molested.

We also found that the percentage of nursing homes cited for abuse violations has doubled since 1996. I hope that this is the result of better detection and enforcement. To its credit, the Clinton Administration launched an initiative in 1998 to reduce abuse in nursing homes, and this initiative may be responsible for some of the increase in reported cases of abuse.

But I am concerned that some of the increase in abuse cases may reflect an actual increase in abuse of residents. In 1997, Congress unwisely decided to repeal the Boren Amendment, which guaranteed that nursing homes receive adequate funding. Since then, federal funding has not kept pace with the costs of providing nursing care. As a result, it is harder and harder for nursing home operators to provide seniors the kind of care they need and deserve.

I know many operators of nursing homes who are dedicated to providing the best care possible. They would never knowingly tolerate abuse or other dangerous practices in their facilities. But unless we are willing to pay nursing homes enough to do their job, intolerable incidents of abuse and other types of mistreatment will continue to persist in too many nursing homes.

I do not want to suggest that most residents of nursing homes are being abused. The vast majority of nursing staff are dedicated and professional people who provide good care. In many instances, the only reason that abuse is even reported is because of the actions of conscientious staff members.

On a personal note, my mother-in-law is in a nursing home in Maryland. I've met with

many of the people that care for her. They are good people, but they have difficult jobs. They work long hours in understaffed conditions, and they don't make a lot of money. Under such trying circumstances, it's not surprising that staff turnover is high and that facilities are forced to hire people who shouldn't be working in nursing homes.

But the bottom line is clear: Something clearly needs to be done to improve nursing home conditions. The senior citizens who live in nursing homes are frail and vulnerable. Frequently, they are defenseless and cannot even report problems to others. They deserve to be treated with respect and dignity—not to live in fear of abuse and mistreatment.

It would have been intolerable if we had found a hundred cases of abuse; it is unconscionable that we have found thousands upon thousands.

That's why I and many other members are introducing the Nursing Home Quality Protection Act later today. Our bill is a comprehensive approach to improving conditions in our nation's nursing homes. The bill would:

Increase resources to nursing homes so they can hire more staff;

Institute minimum nurse staffing requirements;

Impose tougher sanctions on poorly performing nursing homes;

Require criminal background checks on employees; and

Increase Internet disclosure of nursing home conditions.

This is a good piece of legislation that has been endorsed by organizations representing nursing home residents and workers. It will do much to improve the quality of care received by the one and a half million people who live in our country's nursing homes.

I want to assure all Americans who have a family member in a nursing home that we will do all we can to protect their aging loved ones. They helped our generation when we needed their help. And now it's our turn—and our obligation—to make sure they can live safely and without fear.

#### 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF OLDER AMERICANS ACT NUTRITION PROGRAMS

### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 30, 2001

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H. Con. Res. 199 that celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs to occur in March 2002. I wish to first commend the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Program (NANASP) and my good friend Bob Blancato for their work on behalf of this resolution. I hope all my colleagues and the many national, state and local aging organizations will join in support.

In 1972, Congress passed legislation authored by my friend and colleague, Senator EDWARD M. KENNEDY of Massachusetts, to establish for the first time a federal program to provide senior citizens with daily meals served either in congregate settings or in their home. It was viewed then as an important federal initiative to address the growing number of "at

risk" seniors who faced hospitalization or time in a nursing home due to malnutrition and poor diet.

During these past 30 years Older Americans Act nutrition programs have done a marvelous job of serving millions of senior citizens with vital nutritional meals and also providing them equally valuable socialization opportunities.

We should also acknowledge those federal programs, which achieve and exceed their mission. The Older Americans Act nutrition programs so ably administered by the Administration on Aging, state and area agencies on aging and thousands of dedicated nutrition providers and volunteers, is one such program.

I hope during the 30th anniversary celebration, we can recommit ourselves to the cause of promoting good nutrition for our older Americans through the Older Americans Act nutrition programs and the many vital private sector programs that complement the public dollars. One such excellent program is City Meals on Wheels that operates in my home New York City. Each year City Meals on Wheels raised millions of dollars to provide senior citizens with weekend, holiday, and emergency meals.

I commend the dedicated men and women who work each day in our senior centers, community centers, schools and other congregate sites serving the meals under the Older Americans Act nutrition program. I also salute the many thousands of people who deliver meals to the homebound elderly. They are a vital link to these older Americans and often their work goes unheralded.

#### EAST END COOPERATIVE MINISTRY

### HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 30, 2001

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to let my colleagues know about an important milestone in the civic life of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

On September 22, 2001, the East End Cooperative Ministry will celebrate its thirtieth anniversary with a dinner at Freehof Hall of the Rodef Shalom Congregation in Pittsburgh.

The East End Cooperative Ministry, Incorporated, consists of 50 local religious institutions. For the past thirty years, the East End Cooperative Ministry has worked to provide food, shelter, training, and other assistance to needy members of our community.

This organization has operated a soup kitchen and provided homeless men and women with shelter. The East End Cooperative Ministry has also helped needy people move from crisis shelter to independent living, and it has provided employment training and life skills to a number of individuals.

The East End Cooperative Ministry has helped hundreds of elderly people with day-to-day tasks and delivered meals to frail and elderly households.

The East End Cooperative Ministry has also been active in providing recreation and developmental guidance to children. Among other activities, the East End Cooperative Ministry has operated a summer day camp for several hundred children, and it has provided leadership and conflict resolution training to more than 500 at-risk youth.