

of Business and Industry, where he chaired the Project 2000 Task Force, and the Luzerne Foundation, of which he is also treasurer. He has also served as an elected member of the Council of Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants and as a member of the Group B Advisory Council of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Mr. Speaker, as indicated by his peers' selection of him for leadership roles, his professional achievements are impressive. He co-founded Parente, Randolph & Co., now known as Parente, Randolph P.C. and was instrumental in the planned growth of the firm to 10 practice offices with revenues in excess of \$25 million. When he retired from the firm in 1995, it was ranked as the 20th largest firm in the United States.

From 1995 to 1996, he served as senior executive vice president and treasurer of the Wyoming Valley Health Care System. Since that time, he has served as chairman of the board of directors and chief administrative officer of MotorWorld Automotive Group, Inc., as well as a special consultant to a variety of regional businesses.

John Randolph also served the nation as a member of the military for six months in 1964. He and his wife, Sharon, were married the following year. They have two grown sons, John III and Scott.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the achievements and good deeds of John M. Randolph, Jr., and I wish him all the best.

HONORING NASHVILLE METROPOLITAN PARK SYSTEM FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO TENNESSEE RESIDENTS

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the park system of Nashville, Tennessee, on its 100th Anniversary of existence.

The Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation, under the direction of Mr. James H. Fyke, currently oversees parks, historic sites, community centers, greenways, art galleries, golf courses, swimming pools, senior centers, and numerous other facilities which add to the quality of life for the 5th Congressional District of Tennessee.

Mr. Fyke and his staff are ardent supporters of the community by offering professionalism and vision as the parks system makes the transition into the 21st Century. The continued support of the Nashville Metropolitan Government over the years has been a crucial factor in the upkeep and maintenance of these properties, which benefit so many Nashvillians.

The Tennessee General Assembly approved legislation to enact and charter the Nashville Park System on April 13, 1901. That same year Mayor James Head appointed five individuals to the very first City Park Commission. On their first meeting, April 16, they began work with one mule, a handful of employees, one park, and no financial support whatsoever.

Nashville's first official park was Watkins Park, followed by Centennial Park in 1902. By 1903, the City Park Commission had an an-

nual operating budget of \$25,000, and employed Robert Creighton as the first Superintendent of Parks.

It wasn't until 1912 that additional parks were added to the system. These included Hadley and Shelby Parks. The first community center was added to Centennial Park just four years later, while the first public golf course opened in Shelby Park in 1924.

One of the crown jewels in the Nashville Park System is the Warner Parks, which the city acquired in 1926. To date the Warner Parks, located at Old Hickory Boulevard near Bellevue, offer 2,681 acres of natural beauty for the public to explore and enjoy, along with a Nature Center, picnic area, two golf courses, hiking and driving trails, and much more.

Another significant landmark belonging to the Nashville Park System is the Parthenon, the only full-scale replica of the original in existence. It was originally created as a temporary structure for the Tennessee Centennial Exposition in 1897, reflecting the city's nickname as "The Athens of the South". It was rebuilt during the 1920s and officially re-opened its doors to visitors from around the world during the 1930s. The structure is nearing the conclusion of a \$13 million renovation and today houses many of the city's official art collections, while hosting visiting artwork from around the world. It is also the home to Athena, a 42-foot statue said to be the tallest indoor sculpture in the Western World.

The 1940s saw construction of the first gymnasium in Elizabeth Park Community Center and the first running of the Iroquois Steeplechase in Percy Warner Park. As the Park System celebrated its 50th Anniversary in the 1950s, the Cumberland Golf Course opened its doors as the first black golf course. However, by the end of the fifties segregation of Nashville's golf courses ceased for good.

The Metropolitan Board of Parks and Recreation as we know it today, first met on June 5, 1963. By 1976 the parks system had earned for itself an outstanding reputation and as such was selected as the most outstanding local agency in the United States. The seventies saw much activity as Greer Stadium, home of Nashville Sounds baseball, Fort Negley Park, Ice Centennial ice rink, Wave Country, and Hamilton Creek Sailboard Marina all opened to the public under the direction of newly appointed parks director Jim Fyke.

The now popular Riverfront Park was added in 1983, which has become the site of the city's annual Independence Day Celebration and numerous concerts and festivities. During the 1990s the following additions were made to the Nashville Parks System—the Centennial Sportsplex opened, the Metro Greenway Commission was created, Ted Rhodes Golf Course re-opened, Grassmere Wildlife Park was acquired, Metro Parks received the largest land donation in its history of 1500 acres, Shelby Bottoms opened, the Predators Ice Practice Facility opened, and many other improvements were implemented.

Most recently the parks system dedicated the new McCabe Golf Clubhouse and the VinnyLinks First Tee Golf Course and Learning Center in Shelby Park in 2000. Also, the countywide parks/greenways master plan will offer numerous improvements well into the 21st Century.

Today Metro Parks celebrates 100 years of existence with 93 parks, 9,350 total acres, 450 year round employees and 350 seasonal em-

ployees, as well as, 173 tennis courts, 85 ballfields, 14 swimming pools, 25 community centers, and 7 golf courses. The system also offers a sailboat marina, a wave action pool, 2 indoor ice rinks, 2 indoor tennis centers, a zoo, a nature center, a children's museum, a countywide greenway/trail system and a professional baseball stadium.

Metro Parks is to be commended for its legacy of excellence and service to the Nashville/Davidson County community for the past 100 years. May it continue to grow, prosper, and impact our region in the 21st Century. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE FLOYD SPENCE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1928–2001

HON. VAN HILLEARY

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and public service of a great advocate for our nation's defense, a true gentleman in the finest Southern tradition, and my good friend, Floyd Spence.

For those of us who knew him only later in life, it may come as a surprise that this gentle soul spent his early life as a terror on the gridiron at Lexington High School and the University of South Carolina. It's less of a surprise that he had a distinguished 36-year career in the U.S. Navy and Naval Reserve, because his knowledge of our nation's military was rivaled only by his deep affection for it.

Mr. Spence was a leader with the courage of his convictions. He became a Republican in 1962, when Republicans in the South were still a rare commodity. That party switch cost him his seat in the South Carolina House of Representatives, but the people of South Carolina came to respect his courage and shortly thereafter sent him to Congress in 1970. By the time I first came to Capitol Hill in 1994, Southern Republicans had become relatively commonplace. That happened because people like Floyd Spence followed their conscience and accepted the consequences willingly.

When I met Floyd, he was then the newly installed Chairman of what was then called the House National Security Committee. He handled his considerable responsibility with grace and dignity, displaying fairness to all members, regardless of party, and showing considerable patience with us freshmen who showed up full of enthusiasm but short on experience.

Chairman Spence knew that freedom isn't free and deeply believed that lasting peace could best be achieved through unquestioned strength. He pushed for better funding for training, modernization, readiness and quality of life initiatives. His leadership was instrumental in finally stemming the tide of declining defense budgets and placing our military on the road to recovery. The soldier enjoying his new pay raise, the military families moving into improved post housing, the pilot stepping into a much-needed new fighter jet—each of these people, and many others, can thank Floyd Spence for fighting for them. We would be well-advised to continue along the path to recovery that this remarkable man worked so hard to put us on.

An old historian once noted that, "Great men are not often good men." Well, Floyd Spence was certainly both. Those of us who have had the great opportunity to know him are far better for the privilege.

TRIBUTE TO SISTER MIRIAM
THOMAS, S.C.

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to pay tribute to Sister Miriam Thomas, S.C., a phenomenal individual who has devoted her life to enhancing the lives of others. After her 50 years of ceaseless work to educate and counsel others, and improve the communities she lives in, I take great pride in honoring Sister Thomas's 50th anniversary of service to God and humanity with this congressional tribute.

Sister Thomas was born and received her early education in South Brooklyn. Upon graduation from high school, Sister Thomas answered the calling to devote her life to God. At age 18 she entered Sisters of Charity where she received an invaluable theological education as well as a degree from Mount Saint Vincent College in the Bronx. Once she professed her vows, Sister Thomas brought her newly-honed ministry skills to Ascension Grammar School in Manhattan, where she remained for 8 years. She then relocated to Ponce, Puerto Rico where her education was enriched at Catholic University. At this point, with more years of training and instruction, she was ready to take on the South Bronx. There, she was assigned to St. Athanasius Parish where she has shared her gift of easing souls and invoking smiles for the past 39 years.

Mr. Speaker, in 1972, Sister Thomas, along with her neighbors, heard that a woman who served as the administrator of Simpson Street Development Association was murdered while on the job. Courage and an unflinching sense of devotion allowed Sister Thomas to stand up and fill this important position. There, with a tireless and supportive staff, Sister Thomas works miracles daily by providing social services and emotional guidance to people in need. Beyond these commitments, Sister Thomas also sits on the South Bronx Community Board 2 as chairperson. Her involvements in other community-based organizations are too numerous to mention. She says that her ceaseless community involvement was inspired by Father Louis Gigante, a visionary and dear friend.

Sister Thomas's ability to take the Gospel and translate it into language that speaks to the hearts and souls of nearly every St. Athanasius parishioner, has made her a priceless component of many people's spiritual and earthly lives. I am not the first to recognize her contributions, of course. Of the many rewards Sister Thomas has received throughout her years of service to the Church and humanity in general, she most treasures being named a Sister of Charity and her acceptance as a resident in the Hunts Point Community of the South Bronx.

Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege of representing the 16th district of New York where

Sister Thomas practices her faith each and every day and I am truly delighted to acknowledge her today. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable woman.

TAIWAN AND THE UNITED
NATIONS

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, as the United Nations General Assembly prepares to convene on September 11, I believe it is appropriate to recognize the achievements of Taiwan. Over the past several years, Taiwan has established itself as a world economic power and a stable political presence in Asia. Since the passage of the Taiwan Relations Act in 1979, the United States and Taiwan have developed a strong friendship and understanding of each other.

Most importantly, Taiwan is a thriving, multi-party democracy. Its leaders have successfully confronted the most difficult moment emerging democracies face: turning over offices to others when their own party loses. They have allowed open competition for office, and encouraged public discussion on the full range of issues that face Taiwan. It is clear that the people of Taiwan have the right to determine their nation's future.

Unfortunately, at a time when Taiwan's example and its assistance could be most beneficial to the world community, it continues to be isolated from that community. Restoration of its membership to the United Nations would end that isolation. As new democracies emerge, I am convinced that the world could greatly benefit from the counsel of a nation that has recently transformed itself into a democracy.

DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, when the Defense Production Act was enacted in 1950, considerable damage was done. Some of the worst damage occurred as a result of wage and price controls and the improper delegation of economic powers to the President (much of which economic power even Congress itself didn't have).

This bill's entire existence rests on the presumption that its supporters have absolutely no confidence whatsoever in either freedom or the market process. In a time of crisis, you don't need an "industrial policy" and you don't need some fascist or corporatist variety of socialism. What one needs more than ever in a time of crisis is the market—deviation from the market process is the worst thing an economy can do. Oftentimes, it's the "industrial policy" which is the very cause of the economic crisis one hopes to remedy with yet another round of "industrial policy" intervention.

We have an energy crisis in California created by the bureaucrats and the politicians. As prices skyrocket and a crisis is declared, it is

later said that prices are now down and there's less of a shortage or crisis. But it's the market process that worked because the prices skyrocketed rather than skyrocketing prices becoming the justification for abandoning the market process.

Of course, if one likes socialism and rejects the notion that freedom works, this type of an Act and improper of delegating and centralizing such powers is ideal. But why accept the notions of socialism when you really need an economy to provide products and services in the nation's time of most dire need? This whole notion that the powers in this bill should be illegitimately granted to a President and then turned over to the head of FEMA is potentially one of the most dangerous things this body will ever do (or continue doing).

Mr. Speaker, I encourage the members of this body to begin thinking about the amount of false hope they place in the centralization of power in the hands of a central-planners and reconsider their apparent lack of confidence in the market process and a free society. I encourage a strict adherence to market principles and strongly oppose H.R. 2510.

THE HISTORY MUSEUM OF
SPRINGFIELD AND GREENE
COUNTY

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an institution which for a quarter of a century has served an invaluable role in preserving and remembering our Southwest Missouri history and heritage.

Twenty-five years ago The History Museum of Springfield and Greene County was created in honor of the Bicentennial of our great nation. The citizens of Springfield and Greene County established the museum to educate others about the area's culture and open a new window on the history of day-to-day life in the region. A key local education resource was born.

Teachers and other educators in Southwest Missouri have been blessed to have such a historical museum readily available. Over the years it has become a favorite field trip destination, permitting thousands of young minds to experience some of the culture that nurtured their parents and grandparents as well as other generations before them. Many educational trips have been hosted by The History Museum for Springfield and Greene County. The Museum, founded and guided in its early years by Springfieldian Kitty Lipscomb, is also a place of remembering and learning for adults too.

The museum is a storehouse of knowledge about past experiences which helped shape our families, neighborhoods and communities and are still molding us as a society today. It reveals the common threads that bound neighborhoods and communities together in past generations. Capitalism, Democracy, Liberty and Faith were the core values that stirred our imagination and gave birth to America's work ethic, innovation, and self betterment through a commitment to education, and personal independence. Each of these qualities is on display at the History Museum for Springfield