

CONGRATULATING DIANA
CONNOLLY

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2001

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the public service career of Diana Connolly. Diana is retiring from her astonishing 42-year career at the Port of Long Beach, California, in the 38th Congressional District. In no small way, Diana helped to make Long Beach America's busiest port over those 42 years.

Mr. Speaker, what may be most astonishing is that during her tenure, after her long days of service at the Port, she went to school earning a degree at Long Beach City College at night, then a Bachelor of Arts degree and finally a Masters at California State University, Long Beach where I had the privilege of serving as President for many years.

In all of this, it is said that Diana Connolly has been the wheel-horse of the executive staff at the Port. It is no secret that one can phone the Port at 10 a.m. from the nation's capital, which is 7 a.m. at the Port, to find Diana answering the phone. And again, many of us know she is still answering phones long after the Port's traditional quitting time.

Mr. Speaker, I know that such public service dedication can be an important example to young people beginning careers today, and I cannot think of a finer example.

For Diana, her long work hours and always-dependable delivery of results appear at times almost effortless. Certainly Diana has used her fine education record, her hard earned experience, and her dedication to make a difference in the lives of many Southern Californians.

Mr. Speaker, I join Diana's colleagues who will be celebrating her career today in Long Beach. Those of us here in Washington who have known and worked with Diana wish her a well-deserved retirement. We certainly admire her steadfast dedication, her unequaled 42 years of service at the Port and wish her well on what I am sure will be yet another kind of career, which she may now choose to begin.

Congratulations Diana!

CHARTER OF PRIVILEGES

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2001

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution commending the life and work of William Penn—particularly his foundational document, the Charter of Privileges—and celebrating the anniversary of the Liberty Bell and the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence.

William Penn was a distinguished statesman and a principled fighter for religious freedom. Penn was ahead of his time in his thinking about religious freedom and Native American rights and his commitment to republican principles. Revolutionary for its time, Penn's Charter is considered by some to be the Magna Carta of American religious liberty.

Mr. Speaker, the events of September 11 are an eloquent reminder that liberty is not something that we should take for granted. Many people around the world are denied the right to worship freely and to have basic human rights—such as the freedom of assembly and the freedom of association.

We must remember that it was not long ago, in the history of our own nation, that religious freedom and human rights were reserved for a privileged group. When Penn wrote his Charter of Privileges, in Penn's own hometown of Philadelphia, slavery was legal and Roman Catholic worship was illegal. It was in this crucible of prejudice that Penn sought to create a new society—one that would embrace the tenets of individual dignity and freedom of conscience.

In the Charter, Penn ensured that no citizen would be discriminated against because of his or her faith, nor would any citizen be denied a role in civil government because of the expression of his or her faith. Penn recognized the role of religion in public life and affirmed its importance.

Penn's vision of a free society with freedom of religious conscience was conceived in the Tower of London where he was imprisoned for his Quaker convictions. Penn's radical dream that Philadelphia would be a city of brotherly love—where liberties entirely unknown elsewhere in the world would be legislated and practiced—set a new standard for religious liberty that profoundly impacted American history.

Many people are unaware that the Liberty Bell was made in order to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Penn's Charter of Privileges. With the Liberty Bell as its inspiration, abolitionists in Pennsylvania moved swiftly to make Pennsylvania one of the first colonies to work toward the abolition of slavery. In addition, the Liberty Bell was tolled to summon the citizenry to the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 8, 1776.

Under William Penn's leadership, an atmosphere of liberty and religious tolerance was cultivated that had a large impact on the intellectual and commercial life of Pennsylvania, particularly Philadelphia. Some of our nation's founding documents, including the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, were crafted in Philadelphia during this time of extraordinary commitment to individual liberty.

Mr. Speaker, throughout our nation's history, we have been fortunate to have men and women of strong character and firm convictions who have led our country to greater heights and a purer vision for our nation. William Penn was such an individual, and it is my privilege to honor him today by introducing this resolution.

ECONOMIC SECURITY AND
RECOVERY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2001

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the Republican economic stimulus plan and in favor of the Democratic substitute, which will truly help those workers affected by this recession.

September 11th changed the world. As we respond to the economic uncertainty, there is no way that we should allow special interests to use this moment to push and solidify their corporate welfare agenda. Paying off special interest contributors does not stimulate the economy and does not ensure the safety of our country.

An economic stimulus plan should target those who need it the most. Creating jobs, creating economic development activities stimulates the economy. Providing fair unemployment and health care benefits to those who have lost their jobs creates economic stability and is the right thing to do. The wrong thing to do is to provide \$70 billion in corporate tax cuts and only \$2 billion in benefits to workers who have lost their jobs and their health care, which is what the GOP economic stimulus package does. In fact, a full two-thirds of the GOP economic stimulus bill goes to profitable businesses and not to workers affected by the recession.

Let me give just a few examples of the huge corporate tax breaks in this bill. The repeal of the alternative minimum tax for businesses, which was passed in 1986 to ensure that companies could not get out of paying income taxes by using deductions, is not only repealed in the GOP economic stimulus bill, but it is retroactive, allowing businesses to deduct this tax all the way back to 1986! This ridiculous repeal would cost over \$25 billion, with huge amounts of this benefit going to a select few corporations. For example, IBM would get over \$1 billion in tax breaks just from this provision. General Motors and General Electric would each get hundreds of millions of dollars in tax breaks.

At the same time, the GOP barely spends any money at all on unemployment assistance. The amount that IBM would receive through the AMT tax break is the same amount that the GOP would spend on unemployment assistance for laid-off workers. So one corporation benefits the same as all the millions of workers who have lost their jobs? This makes no sense.

So today, I join with my colleagues to oppose this irresponsible tax cut, the so-called "economic stimulus" bill, and to support a real, responsible economic stimulus plan offered by the Democrats.

TRIBUTE TO SYRACUSE'S MILTON
J. RUBENSTEIN MUSEUM OF
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ON OC-
CASION OF ITS 20TH ANNIVER-
SARY

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2001

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 20th anniversary of the Milton J. Rubenstein Museum of Science & Technology (MOST) in Syracuse, New York.

What began as a vision of the National Council of Jewish Women Greater Syracuse Section, the Junior League of Syracuse, and the Technology Club, now exists as a permanent fixture for all to visit and enjoy. Dedicated to the exploration of science and technology through hands on participation, the MOST today boasts hundreds of exhibits, a domed IMAX theater, and a planetarium.

During the past twenty years, the museum has welcomed more than two million visitors, provided educational programming for thousands of children, and encouraged individuals to pursue careers in science and technological fields. The MOST has enabled the Central New York community to embrace learning through its innovative science fairs, educational workshops, and collaborative efforts.

Residents of Central New York and beyond can rest assured that by supporting the MOST, its vision to dispense knowledge and understanding will continue well into the future.

On the occasion of its 20th anniversary to be celebrated on Thursday, November 15th, it is my honor to recognize the Milton J. Rubenstein Museum of Science and Technology and extend best wishes for many more successful years of providing knowledge to the youth and families of Central New York. Congratulations.

HONORING PHILIP RUBENSTEIN

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2001

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Philip Rubenstein for his 57 years of government service, including 27 years as Director of the Ocean County Office of Senior Services.

During his long and distinguished career Phil has received numerous awards. In particular, he has received three Distinguished Federal Service Awards, as well as a Distinguished Award from the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

A dedicated leader of Ocean County's senior community, Phil Rubenstein has served selflessly and implemented many programs of benefit to Ocean County's seniors.

Mr. Rubenstein originated the transportation system for dialysis and chemotherapy patients in Ocean County. His original concept has grown into the County's transportation system which today services seniors and the disabled. In addition, he initiated prostate and mammogram screening programs for the County's older adults prior to their inclusion under the Medicare program.

Phil has also been committed to funding the Interfaith Volunteer Caregiver program, which has grown under his leadership to four individual service groups.

It is a privilege to honor Philip Rubenstein for his many years of community service. He is truly a devoted ombudsman for Ocean County's elderly.

TRIBUTE TO UNITED STATES
NAVY COMMANDER TIMOTHY AT-
KINSON

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Commander Timothy Atkinson of the United States Navy as he prepares to assume command of the Surface

Combat Systems Center in Wallops Island, Virginia this October.

Commander Atkinson, a native of Newport, Rhode Island, received a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering from Auburn University and a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

Commander Atkinson has enjoyed a successful naval career. He served as the Combat Information Center Officer and made a Western Pacific deployment during his time aboard the USS *California* from 1984 to 1986. In 1987, he was assigned to the Coastal Systems Center in Panama City, Florida, where he worked on the combat systems testing aboard amphibious ships and the research and development of Landing Craft Air Cushion, the Navy's hovercraft.

From 1991 to 1993, Commander Atkinson repaired and maintained forward-deployed ships at the Ship Repair Facility in Guam. Following his assignment in Guam, Atkinson reported to the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command in Arlington, Virginia, where he managed command, control, communication, computer, and intelligence systems aboard Aegis-class destroyers and cruisers.

Atkinson became a member of the Navy's Acquisition Professional Community after completing the Department of Defense's Program Management course at the Defense Systems Management College in Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

In 1996, Commander Atkinson transferred to Arlington, Virginia, to lead the implementation of combat systems and C41 systems aboard surface combatant ships at the Program Executive Office for Theater Surface Combatants. Most recently, Commander Atkinson completed a two-year tour in Millington, Tennessee, where he was the Engineering Duty community's job assignment officer at the Navy Personnel Command.

TRIBUTE TO NEIGHBORHOODS
INCORPORATED

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2001

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great honor to pay tribute to Neighborhoods Incorporated, a nonprofit organization that promotes and enhances neighborhoods through resident training, innovative lending programs and other community sponsored activities in Hammond, Indiana.

Through the efforts of Neighborhoods Incorporated and its executive director, Keith Speaks, Indiana's First Congressional District, and Hammond in particular has worked to improve their neighborhoods. Communities are transforming in Northwest Indiana due to an organized campaign to help revitalize neighborhoods and businesses along the Indiana and Illinois State Line.

The Neighborhood of Lights program is an example of how neighbors are actively working together to take their neighborhoods back. This program is a grassroots coalition of neighbors and businesses from Hammond and Calumet City working together to improve the quality of life in the State Line corridor. The purpose of the Neighborhood of Lights program is to unite the communities and to beau-

tify the area. These goals are achieved by improving properties, promoting security measures, and most importantly by empowering neighbors and businesses to take an active role in their neighborhood. Businesses on both sides of the State Line are effected by what is happening in these neighborhoods just as much as the residents. Creating partnerships between the residents and businesses in the neighborhood truly creates a formidable force, which is effective in creating an improved atmosphere for both families and businesses to prosper.

Through the work of organizations like Neighborhood Incorporated, communities and lives are being transformed. Neighborhood Incorporated works to promote home ownership and to strengthen neighborhoods by helping to deliver improved affordable housing. Additionally, they offer a variety of services designed to address the demand of the local neighborhood. For example, they support the growth and development of resident leadership, rehabilitate homes, and collaborate with other organizations to improve the neighborhood image and restore pride and hope in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in thanking Mr. Speaks for his tireless dedication to improving the quality of life in Indiana's First Congressional District. Through the efforts of Neighborhoods Incorporated, individuals have come together at all levels to help their neighbors, their neighborhood schools, churches, block clubs, and their own families for the generations to come.

NEW YORK'S CREDIT UNIONS

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2001

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about credit unions. Representatives of New York City credit unions and the New York State Credit Union League visited my Washington office to explain the response of the credit union community in the wake of September 11th. The trip had been planned for quite some time and they thought about canceling their visit out of respect for the larger issues before Congress. Instead, they came with a message that has defined credit unions since their inception—one of cooperation and a "people-helping-people" service to their membership.

Branches of three credit unions, Excel Federal Credit Union, US Alliance Federal Credit Union and FAA Regional Federal Credit Union, were lost in the collapse of the World Trade Center towers. Municipal Credit Union—which serves predominantly emergency service personnel and city employees—had its main office and a branch office severely damaged. All employees were fortunate to escape, but hundreds of members undoubtedly perished. The New York State Credit Union League opened a "command center" to channel information to distressed credit unions and assist in their recovery. The New York State Credit Union Foundation created a disaster relief fund that has raised nearly \$500,000 from credit unions throughout the country and the world to assist families and help rebuild community programs in Manhattan. Fire and police