

inconsiderate things about others, we disrespect the people we are talking about, those with whom we are engaging in conversation, and especially ourselves. This disparagement can create an environment of negativity and foster a community where the role of each person is underappreciated.

Rabbi Katsof's revolutionary effort to reduce verbal violence and gossip provides us the opportunity to use language to heal our wounds rather than deepen them. The power of words to bring a smile as opposed to a tear cannot be understated. While few people would disagree, despite our best intentions, we sometimes veer off course and need a nudge in the right direction. Rabbi Katsof understands this and his national media campaign designed to encourage us to use ethical speech each and every day has the potential to help us not lose sight of the significance of the words we use.

**AMARILLO HIGH SCHOOL LADY
SANDIES VOLLEYBALL TEAM
WINS STATE TITLE CHAMPIONSHIP**

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the members of the Amarillo High woman's volleyball team in their great victory in the class 5A state championship. Their November 17th triumph marks the fourth state championship title for the Lady Sandies, an accomplishment that is truly deserving of recognition and praise.

The Amarillo High woman's volleyball program has been built upon a solid foundation of hard work, dedication and sportsmanship. This year's team had a strong season with an impressive 37-2 record. The Lady Sandies played every game with powerful determination and energy. This team showcases the ability of today's youth to pull together as a team to reach their goals, and support one another.

It is with great pride that I recognize the members of the Amarillo High's Lady Sandies volleyball team and their coaches for this accomplishment, as well as the administration and fans that carried them to victory. Thanks to their tremendous efforts, Amarillo, Texas is now home to the 2001-2002 Class 5A State Champions. I salute the Lady Sandies for bringing home another state volleyball title.

**H.R. 2269—INVESTMENT ADVICE
ACT**

HON. BRIAN BAIRD

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, over the last twenty years the influx of 401k plans has changed the pension landscape. When the ERISA laws were written back in 1974, we had no idea how popular 401k plans would become. And as the popularity grows for these plans, the need for quality investment advice becomes ever more vital to the retirement plans of pension holders. Although there are many ave-

nues to obtain information about stocks and bonds, many people lack the knowledge to filter out the good information from the bad. Most people do not have the time necessary to investigate the nuances of the market to make informed decisions about market purchases. This is why we need to turn to professionals. Our pensions are too important to American workers and families these days to let this problem go unresolved. That is why I strongly support the Investment Advice Act that is before this body today.

I recognize there is some contention about the conflict of interest between the adviser's and the interest of their clients. However, this legislation specifically requires that a "fiduciary adviser" be personally liable for any failure to act solely in the interest of the worker. Furthermore, investment advisers will be subject to the highest form of fiduciary duty under the law, including civil and criminal enforcement by the Labor Department. I believe these safeguards protect our employees and mandate professional advisors to work in the best interest of their clients.

Mr. Speaker, in the end, it is my belief that the Investment Advice Act will increase the value of pensions for working Americans. I believe this act will lead Americans into a healthier and happier retirement. And lastly, I believe that Americans want and need access to professional financial advice.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING
ELIZABETH JONES**

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Ms. Elizabeth Jones was an upstanding citizen of Bel-
laire, Ohio, and;

Whereas, Ms. Jones never wavered in her enthusiasm and dedication to her education, her family, and her community, and;

Whereas, due to all of Ms. Jones' accomplishments, she will be fondly remembered by her son Allen Kenton Jones and his wife Delores; her sister Rosemary Ney; her grandson Allen Jones Jr; her four great-grandchildren, her four great-great-grandchildren, and her nieces and nephews including myself, along with many others who knew and loved her.

Therefore, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the commitment and effort of Ms. Elizabeth Mary Ney Jones. Individuals like Elizabeth Jones are the key to our nation's success.

**IN HONOR OF LOULA LOI-
ALAFIOGIANNI**

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Loula Loi-Alafogianni, the Executive Global President and CEO of the Euro-American Women's Council. Mrs. Alafogianni has spent her professional life facilitating the needs of the

Greek and American entrepreneurial communities and advancing the cause of women's rights in the areas of business and education.

Mrs. Alafogianni has demonstrated that intelligence, integrity, energy, clear objectives and the love of a task well-executed, creates credibility. Her love for Greece and her desire to promote greater understanding and cooperation between Greece and America has made her a strong advocate and a wonderful ally. Mrs. Alafogianni, like so many talented women of her generation, has had several careers.

For two decades, Mrs. Alafogianni served as an elementary school director, helping to ensure that our young people have a strong educational foundation.

She then turned to the challenges offered by business, public relations and event-planning. Mrs. Alafogianni's entrepreneurial skills are widely recognized and she has served as a delegate to White House Conferences on small businesses since 1990, and has advised numerous public officials and government leaders.

Additionally, Mrs. Alafogianni is very civic-minded. With her husband, John, Mrs. Alafogianni co-founded the United Hellenic-American National Council, which has sponsored numerous White House luncheons for prominent and influential businesswomen from across the United States and Greece.

In 1991, she founded and organized the "Best Buddies Foundation" in Greece, along with Anthony Kennedy Shriver, who serves as its Global President and CEO. In 1995, Mrs. Alafogianni became the Global President and CEO of the Euro-American Women's Council, which promotes ties among Greeks, wherever they may live, and their motherland. She is also President of the "daughters of Roumeli" and of the "Hermes Athletic Club" of New York. She is currently a board member to the Human Rights Advisory Council of New York.

Mrs. Alafogianni has received a number of prestigious awards for her outstanding contributions, including the Crown Award, which recognizes her as one of the most creative minds of the top leading entrepreneurial women of the world. She has also earned the distinguished award of "Honorary Citizen of Baku" as a result of her pioneering efforts to improve entrepreneurial training in the former Soviet Union.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring to the attention of my colleagues the outstanding work of Loula Loi-Alafogianni. Her unwavering dedication to improving relations among the Greek and American entrepreneurial communities, and promoting opportunities for women is truly worthy of our recognition. Thank you.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE HIS-
TORIC ARKANSAS RIVERWALK
OF PUEBLO FOUNDATION**

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

November 27, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate the Historical Arkansas Riverwalk of Pueblo Foundation located in Pueblo, Colorado. The group has recently been selected as the outstanding non-profit organization of the

year at the El Pomar Awards for Excellence banquet. The banquet was created to honor non-profit groups in the State of Colorado.

HARP's mission is to raise the necessary funding to bring improvements to the Arkansas Valley area. Their project involves the creation of a riverwalk for the City of Pueblo to attract shoppers and restaurateurs throughout the area. Voters approved the need for such an attraction in 1995. The river walk has already begun to revitalize and re-energize the area of downtown Pueblo, not far from my district office, thanks to the efforts by many including HARP.

The foundation is led by Jean Rickman who accepted the Julie and Spencer Penrose Award on behalf of the organization on November 13, 2001. The award contributes \$25,000 to the HARP foundation, which seeks funding from private and corporate contributions. The cash award adds to the impressive total of \$7,000,000 now raised for the project.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to congratulate the HARP foundation on their recent achievement award. Through organizations such as HARP, the people of Colorado can be proud of their heritage and their community. HARP is a model group for non-profit foundations throughout the nation. It is again with great pride that I commend and thank HARP for all their efforts in enhancing the community of Pueblo.

HONORING MS. DIANNE O'DELL

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend of mine, a remarkable woman who teaches us there are no limits to what a person can accomplish.

At 3 years old, Dianne O'Dell was diagnosed with polio and, soon after, began her life in an iron lung. Her parents, Freeman and Geneva, were told Dianne would not reach adulthood. Now, more than 50 years later, Dianne is still going strong. It is believed she has lived longer in an iron lung than anyone else in the world.

Ms. O'Dell's physical handicaps have not discouraged her. While living inside the yellow, seven-foot-long iron lung, she used a two-way radio to complete coursework and graduate from Jackson High School. She took classes from Freed-Hardeman College, now Freed-Hardeman University, and accepted an honorary doctorate in psychology from Freed-Hardeman. She wrote a children's book, "Blinky Less Light," and is currently working on her autobiography.

Dianne says she has been able to reach her goals despite her physical limitations because of positive thinking and her sense of humor. She often refers to her iron lung as her "yellow submarine" and enjoys having it decorated for holidays. Dianne remembers one Halloween when she costumed the machine as a giant roll of Life Savers candy.

Ms. O'Dell also credits her strong sense of faith. She worships with the Campbell Street Church of Christ in her hometown of Jackson, Tennessee, although she is not able to attend services. Members of the congregation bring her taped sermons and the Lord's Supper.

Dianne's family has also played a valuable role. Mr. and Mrs. O'Dell, along with Dianne's two sisters, have been by their daughter's side her whole life, often making personal sacrifices for her health.

Over the years, Ms. O'Dell has worked with others coping with disabilities, especially families with disabled children. She tells them how important it is to keep faith and a positive outlook.

I believe Dianne's spirit and love of life are encouraging—not only to those facing similar situations, but to all of us. She is an inspiration to everyone who knows her or has heard her remarkable story. Above all, Ms. O'Dell is a reminder that there is no limit to what a person can accomplish with an unyielding spirit like hers. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues rise and join me in recognizing Ms. Dianne O'Dell.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER JEAN SMITH

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Jennifer Jean Smith on the release of *True North*, a musical album that she both wrote and composed. Jennifer's love of music and words began at an early age. Always a singer and performer, grade school led to choirs, show choirs and many gigs as a soloist.

An outgoing yet introspective young Jennifer displayed her writing skills at an early age. Little blank books became filled with poetry, and an antique typewriter became a favorite tool for composing stories. An old upright piano, passed on by Jennifer's grandmother, Ruth Smith, a beloved music teacher and musician, served as the instrument for the composition of early songs, including "The Energy Crisis" written in the early 70s.

Jennifer said, dreaming of being a star is one thing, but for a small town girl raised on a dairy farm, actually knowing how one goes about such a thing is quite another. "There were many challenges."

Her first years of college were spent at Michigan State University where she pursued a career that included music. Jennifer moved to Ann Arbor in 1990. Once settled and working at the University of Michigan, she turned her attention again to making music and writing songs. Picking up and learning to play the guitar soon led to many finished songs and trips to Nashville. Jennifer launched her own music publishing company, The Michigan Rose Music Co., and record label, Michigan Rose Records.

In June 2001, Michigan Rose Records released its first single, *True North*, the title cut to Jennifer's first CD. *True North*—relating to the life and death of Dale Earnhardt, the race car hero—was recorded along with four other original songs in Nashville this past May. The CD, which was recorded and produced by Phil Dillon at Nickel City Studios, features her daughter Jackie on background vocals and a group of world-class Nashville studio musicians. Despite being an independent release, the single has received airtime on major country radio stations across the United States and

has resulted in further opportunities to write and sing—the beginning of a long-awaited dream.

Mr. Speaker, we congratulate Jennifer Jean Smith for her perseverance and success.

JONES COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE
BOBCATS

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Jones County Junior College Bobcats for winning the state championship. I am very proud of JCJC which is in my home county. Both of my parents are alums of Jones County Junior College and I was raised supporting the school and its athletic programs. The Bobcats finished the season with 10 wins and 1 loss. Congratulations are in order for Jones County head coach Parker Dykes, his staff and his team. Their victory brings pride and respect not only to the athletic program, but to the college as a whole. Jones County Junior College continues to set the standard not only in athletics, but in academics as well. The technical and vocational training provided at JCJC equips students with the necessary skills to enter the 21st century workforce and become successful members of their community. I am always pleased to see our junior colleges excel. Again, congratulations on an outstanding season.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RICH KOLECKI

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

November 27, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Rich Kolecki and thank him for his contributions to the Boy Scouts of America and the community of Glenwood Springs, Colorado. For the past eighteen years, Rich has served in a number of leadership positions in the Boy Scouts and his dedication is certainly worthy of recognition from this body.

Rich began volunteering when one of his sons joined the Cub Scouts in 1983. That led to an eighteen-year career, which was recently recognized by the Scouting community for his time and volunteering efforts to the program. He has served as a Cub Master, Troop Leader, and Assistant Scoutmaster. While serving in his leadership roles, his sons Ricky and Matthew have achieved the highest honor in Scouts, the coveted rank of Eagle Scout.

The Boy Scout program is designed to introduce young men to the outdoor environment and establish them as civic volunteers. As a Scout Leader, Rich participates side by side with his scouts allowing him to share the same experiences with his troop. It is Rich's hope that participation in these programs will instill leadership qualities in the young men they can draw on later in their future endeavors. The overall goal of the entire program is to produce well-rounded individuals for the community.