

measure our use of personnel, money and assets. You have no idea what your plan is doing for us back in Washington."

Patton compared the accomplishments of the local unit—one of the smallest of 45 marine safety offices nationwide—to the heroics of the outmanned and outgunned crew of the "tiny, dinky" revenue cutter Eagle, which was driven ashore in Long Island Sound in October 1814 in an encounter with the British brig Dispatch. The crew dragged their few weapons up a bluff and continued the battle, using log books for cartridges and returning the enemy's small shells that had lodged in the Eagle's hull.

Cmdr. Lincoln Stroh, commanding officer of the local office, also honored U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary member James Perry of Huntington, the local office's communications officer, for improving its pager, cell phone and voice mail systems.

Stroh also praised Perry for working extra hours to help the office meet increased port safety and security responsibilities following the terrorist attacks.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GAYLE POTTER'S EIGHTH GRADE CLASS AT DURAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a group of eighth grade students from Durand Middle School in Durand, Michigan. These students along with their teacher, Gayle Potter, have taken the initiative to send to my office their own ideas for helping rebuild vital areas of our economy after the tragic events of September 11th.

The events of September 11th were meant to create fear in every American, especially our children. Yet, the terrorists who carried out those evil acts have succeeded in only strengthening our resolve as Americans. It is also clear, through these students' great example, that our nation's greatest resource, our youth, is as strong, brave, and as bright as they have ever been.

Mr. Speaker, this group of students truly exemplifies the spirit of all Americans at this time in our history. They have set a wonderful example that every American can follow. I ask that my colleagues join with me in saluting their devotion to our country and its continued prosperity.

WISHING WELL TO MR. NORMAN BRINKER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute a great Dallas-Fort Worth resident. Mr. Norman Brinker is a trailblazer and trendsetter. He has been a pioneer in business and a great friend to our community.

There is perhaps no more amazing restaurateur than Mr. Brinker. He revolutionized the combination of good food, reasonable cost and great customer service through his Steak and Ale restaurant chain. He built the chain to

100 units before The Pillsbury Company, of which Mr. Brinker later became Chairman, bought it.

As Chairman of The Pillsbury Company, he oversaw the world's second largest restaurant organization, presiding over sales of \$4 billion. Never one to rest on his laurels, Mr. Brinker soon ventured out on his own again, buying Dallas based chain Chili's. Under his leadership, the 23 operating units of Chili's became Brinker International, a world restaurant power with hundreds of operating units and over \$2 billion in sales. Brinker International now owns Chili's, On the Border, Macaroni Grill, Cozymel's, Corner Bakery, Big Bowl and Eatzi's restaurant chains.

Brinker International is an extraordinarily important corporate citizen of the Dallas-Fort Worth area, but just as important is Mr. Brinker's leadership in the industry and society. The leaders of Outback Steakhouse, Houston's, Red Lobster and Boston Market all spent time under Mr. Brinker's tutelage. In addition, he has been a trendsetter in philanthropy, encouraging entrepreneurs to pair their financial donations with donations of time, and helping to start the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation with his wife Nancy.

Mr. Speaker, Norman Brinker has relinquished his position as Chairman of Brinker International and is engaged in a new challenge—defeating his own cancer ailment. As he approaches this new challenge with the same zeal as the other challenges in his life, Dallas-Fort Worth looks forward to his leadership for years to come. I ask that the Congress and the country join the citizens of Dallas-Fort Worth in wishing him well.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS BILL

HON. RODNEY P. FREILINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Mr. FREILINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, weeks ago the House acted on President Bush's request for an economic stimulus package. We knew then what has now been confirmed—America is in a recession. And, here in New Jersey, the economic slowdown has been especially acute as many New Jersey residents lost their jobs, many as a result of the tragic events of September 11, and others because our economic slowdown began well before September. First and foremost, we need to help the victims and families of the terrorist attacks and the many workers who have lost their jobs. And, with the \$40 billion in emergency assistance already approved by Congress, President Bush and his Administration are doing just that. Under the emergency federal assistance provided to our state, workers who have lost their jobs as a result of the attacks are eligible for unemployment and health insurance for up to 26 weeks—that's through at least March of next year. And these benefits have been extended to the self-employed and others who are not otherwise eligible for this assistance.

After addressing these immediate, emergency needs, the House acted quickly to take steps to get our economy moving again. Those steps focused on helping to restore consumer confidence and encouraging private sector investment and expansion to help re-

place lost jobs and to add more, new jobs. The House has acted on just such a plan. My colleagues in the other body must act now on an economic security bill to help our economy, and those who have lost their jobs.

While most Americans heard recent news reports that said our nation is now "officially" in a recession, it didn't take a headline in the newspaper or "Breaking News" on CNN for far too many New Jerseyans to realize that these are hard times in America. Even before September 11 changed our lives forever, layoffs at some of New Jersey's largest, most established companies, like Lucent, AT&T and Honeywell, for example, were taking their toll. Alarmingly, 27,000 jobs were lost in the first nine months of this year in New Jersey. Our state's unemployment rate rose to 4.8 percent in October, up from 4.5 percent in September.

It's time for the other body to act and I call on the other body to reject their plans to expand federal programs and increase federal spending beyond our budget agreement with the Administration. More government spending, to my mind, will not serve to stimulate our economy.

Let's face it—the only answer for job loss is to create new jobs. And with the exception of the newly federalized baggage screeners, the Federal Government does not create jobs or economic activity. In fact, the more we "grow" government, the more dollars we take out of the private sector, away from the taxpayer and out of our economy. That is why the House version of the economic stimulus provides rapid tax relief to businesses, large and small, to continue to invest, to purchase equipment, expand production and promote job hiring. While some have criticized the House bill as corporate welfare, we need companies to stop layoffs and hire again! Our proposal is critical to the success of New Jersey business. According to the New Jersey Business and Industry Association, even before the September 11 terror attacks, New Jersey employers as a group had lost their confidence in our economy. Two-thirds of 1,600 employers participating in the Association's 2002 Business Outlook Survey said their industries were already in a recession or heading into one at the time of the attacks. We've got to turn that thinking around and provide the incentives to New Jersey's companies to start growing their businesses again.

The House bill also returns more tax dollars back to working Americans by accelerating the tax rate cuts we passed earlier this year and by including tax rebate checks for those individuals who didn't receive them in the first round. Returning these dollars will give people more dollars to spend and invest. These actions—as opposed to more government spending and more government programs—will better address the underlying weaknesses in our economy, namely consumer confidence, consumer spending, and the need for renewed and sustained business investment and expansion.

And, early next year, when existing unemployment and health benefits may be depleted, I am confident that we will continue to help those who need it most. In fact the House economic security package includes a provision that provides another \$9 billion in surplus Federal unemployment funds to the states. This translates into approximately \$368 million that will be immediately available for

New Jersey to pay for more or to expand regular unemployment benefits. This is real Federal assistance to lend a helping hand to New Jerseyans who are hurting the most.

Prompt Senate action will help get our fellow Americans back in the workforce, not still standing in the unemployment line next Spring. While not every provision of the House bill is perfect, our economic security package is a better starting point than the legislative paralysis in the other body! To the other body, I say, get your job done, and let's get America back to work.

CONGRATULATING MITCH LOUIS MANSOUR ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE GROCERY BUSINESS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Michael Louis "Mitch" Mansour, of Huntington, WV, who, after half a century in the grocery business, retired on November 4, 2001.

For thirty-eight years Mitch owned and operated "Mansour's Market," a family neighborhood grocery market that survived the intense competition brought about by "superstores" and continues to thrive today.

Mitch Mansour's entrepreneurial career began almost from birth. The son of Lebanese immigrants, Mitch was born in 1930 next door to his father's modest grocery store. Even before adolescence Mitch worked alongside his father, Elia, cultivating customer relationships and a solid work ethic. Mitch eventually took over this small store in 1954 after returning home from service during the Korean War.

In 1963, Mitch and his bride, Melanie, began "Mansour's Food Market," which has served as a source of quality foods and employment for hundreds of residents from the local community. From loyal employees that have built careers in catering, meat cutting, grocery management, and customer relations to summer and part-time employees who have pursued professions in law and medicine, "Mansour's" has been a solid and reassuring pillar in the Huntington community.

An innovator in customer service, Mitch would not just point the customer to the desired aisle, but walk them to the display and personally present the product choices. In the 1960's, "Mansour's" began their grocery home delivery service, which continues to be a valuable service today, especially for elderly and disabled residents. If a customer cannot make it to "Mansour's," "Mansour's" comes to them.

In today's transient world it's rare to find someone who spends their life so closely entwined in their community. Michael Mansour and "Mansour's Market" has been an important part of the Huntington community and will continue to be for a long time.

I ask that my colleagues join me in offering sincere congratulations to Mitch on the event of his retirement and best wishes for the future.

PRESIDENT BUSH'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE ABM TREATY

HON. BOB SCHAFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Mr. SCHAFER. Mr. Speaker, President Bush's decision to withdraw from the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) deserves the applause of every American. For too many years our country has been left undefended from the threat of a ballistic missile attack because of the ABM Treaty. Even Soviet Premier Kosygin supported a ballistic missile defense when he remarked, "Defense is moral, aggression is immoral."

We need to defend our country from ballistic missile attack. Withdrawing from the ABM Treaty with its special prohibition against space-based defenses is a major step toward that goal. The terrorist attacks of September 11 should have taught us that we should not let our guard down.

We need to act decisively to build a ballistic missile defense, especially a space-based defense, taking advantage of the benefits of an orbital defense with its global coverage, multiple opportunities for intercepting a ballistic missile, and boost phase interception capability.

Our lack of a space-based ballistic missile defense reflects a lack of political will to build such a defense. The ABM Treaty limited the United States to an inferior defense using ground-based interceptors. The technology for building a space-based ballistic missile defense has been available for years, even decades, but not the funding.

We need to fully fund our ballistic missile defense programs, particularly for space. This will require an increase in spending. This increase is justified. Our lack of ballistic missile defense is not justified. Freedom has a price. The ballistic missile threat is increasing, whether seen in North Korea's missile program, or China's buildup of its road-mobile DF-31 ICBM and other missiles.

Increased funding, for example, is justified for the Space Based Laser. Instead of being funded annually at between \$50 and \$150 million, the Space Based Laser should be funded an order of magnitude greater at \$500–\$1500 million. This will enable the Space Based Laser to be tested and deployed well before 2010, instead of after 2010 as currently scheduled.

Lack of funding, not technology, keeps us from building Space Based Lasers. In 1995, three major aerospace contractors wrote the Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator STROM THURMOND, pointing out how funding of about \$1.5 billion over four years could result in a test launch of a Space Based Laser. The Space Based Laser, moreover, with its boost phase interception capability and global coverage, will provide a more effective defense compared to the Mid Course Phase ground-based interceptor currently under development.

We need a robust ballistic missile defense encompassing a variety of technologies and layers. A defense made up of several layers will more easily defend against counter-

measures such as China's plan to attack U.S. radar and communication nodes, or Russia's use of ballistic missiles as platforms for launching hypersonic scramjets that travel in the upper atmosphere.

Funding is needed to re-start the Brilliant Pebbles space-based interceptor program that was successfully ground-tested under the elder Bush's administration. Additional spending for research and development into high-energy laser technologies is called for. Nor should high-energy particle beams be neglected, which showed promise as in the 1989 BEAR experiment. Particle beams as well as lasers can provide effective mid-course phase discrimination of decoys from warheads.

With defense spending at one of its lowest levels since before Pearl Harbor, the political will is now needed to ask for an increase in funding for a space-based ballistic missile defense. Do we need to wait for another September 11 using ballistic missiles before we defend our country?

TRIBUTE TO THE ART STUDENTS AT CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, the events of September 11th of this year had a great impact on our Country. While the devastating terrorist attacks have caused us great sorrow for the loss of lives, Americans have pulled together like never before.

Those who carried out the attacks thought that they would destroy the American Spirit, but I can tell they did exactly the opposite.

People have come together to show their support for those lost in New York, the Pentagon and Pennsylvania. Recently, art students at Cleveland High School showed their support by creating a mural that depicts the events of September 11th and our resolve to never let this happen again.

This piece of work has been talked and written about in local newspapers and television.

Cleveland High School Art Teacher, Martha Kidwell, created a collage of images from magazines and newspapers which were used as a base for this mural.

The mural measures 13 by 6 feet. This piece of art shows the attacks on America, but it also portrays the heroic firefighters, a determined President Bush, the Statue of Liberty, the American Flag and the Bald Eagle.

This work of art was created by 22 high school students who have shown their patriotism and care for their fellow Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that Martha Kidwell and her students should be commended for their hard work and determination to show their fellow citizens that we will overcome terrorism.

This mural will serve as an inspiration to anyone who sees it. It is currently on display in Southeast Tennessee, and I encourage anyone traveling through this part of the Country to stop by and see this mural entitled, "We Will Never Forget".