

Mrs. Lyons explained that the long months away from his family are accepted as part of her son's job.

Although it can be difficult to be gone for extended periods of time, she said her son is doing what he loves.

"He's happiest when he's on the ocean. There's a certain calm about it that he enjoys while he's on the ship," she explained.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the service to our nation of the crew of the USS *Russell*, including Boatswain Mate 1st Class Stephen Lyons, as well as all the military personnel from Northeastern and Central Pennsylvania, and I send my best wishes to them and their families.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ELECTRONIC MARKETPLACE OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the Electronic Marketplace Ownership Disclosure Act. This legislation requires operators of Internet sites that match buyers and sellers to disclose whether they have financial relationships with parties involved in transactions that take place on their sites. Some Internet sites portray themselves as disinterested third parties that simply host a site matching buyers and sellers. The Electronic Marketplace Ownership Disclosure Act requires companies hosting such sites to affirmatively disclose corporate relationships they have with companies offering goods or services on their site.

Many consumers now rely on Internet marketplace sites to compare prices and buy goods. They should have the right to know who really owns an Internet exchange purporting to provide a neutral marketplace. The Electronic Marketplace Ownership Disclosure Act will enable consumers to make more informed purchasing decisions. In the long term, the continued growth of Internet commerce depends on the medium's integrity as a marketplace. This legislation will support the Internet's continued growth by increasing public confidence.

There is a tangible need for this legislation. Last year, Money magazine disclosed that QuickenInsurance.com, a site owned by Intuit Corporation, claimed to provide the "best prices from America's top insurance and loan companies." However, according to the article, Quicken does not disclose on their site that they receive a commission from every insurance policy they arrange.

The American people deserve honesty, whether they are shopping online or in person. For too long, some Internet retailers have avoided telling consumers the truth about who they are owned by and who benefits for special arrangements that may do harm to consumers. The Electronic Marketplace Ownership Disclosure Act let American consumers know the whole truth. This bill is good for consumers, it is good for businesses, and it will benefit the Internet.

TRIBUTE TO MR. MITCHELL
ROBINSON

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, on December 10th my good friend Mr. Mitchell Robinson passed away after a lengthy illness. He was someone who made a difference and dreamed the American Dream, and he truly represented what this country is all about. The following is a tribute to my friend.

Mr. Robinson, a Knoxville native for 77 years, founded Modern Supply Company in 1949. He devoted his life to family, business and philanthropy. He was married to Natalie Levison Robinson for 50 years.

Mr. Robinson was a lifelong member of Heska Amuna Synagogue and was a leader as chairman and longtime board member. He also chaired the Knoxville Jewish Federation. He established the Sylvia Robinson Memorial Fund and endowed the A.J. and Sylvia Robinson Chapel at the synagogue in memory of his parents.

Mr. Robinson, who served as president of the Southern Wholesalers Association and a Director of the American Supply Association, pioneered the concept of bath and kitchen showrooms in East Tennessee.

He was also active in the Knoxville business community, where he was a charter member of the Midtown Sertoma Club. He was a loyal supporter of the University of Tennessee, contributing to the Departments of Judaic Studies and Athletics.

A World War II veteran, Mr. Robinson served as a flight controller in the U.S. Air Corps Radar Unit in the Pacific.

His beloved family also includes children Rabbi Rayzel and Dr. Simcha Raphael of Philadelphia, A.J. Robinson and Dr. Nicole Ellerine of Atlanta, and Pace and Karen Robinson of Knoxville; grandchildren Yigdal and Hallet Raphael; Micaela, Ethan and Nathaniel Robinson, and Asher and Eli Robinson; sister and brother-in-law Fay and Bob Gluck of Boynton Beach, Fla.; brother-in-law Gilbert Levison of Knoxville; brother- and sister-in-law Jarvin and Deanne Levison of Atlanta; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Mitchell spent most of his 77 years in Knoxville, Tennessee. He was part of a generation that had a significant impact on Knoxville and the surrounding area. He came back from World War II with no money, no business, and a limited education. But he had enduring self-confidence, determination, and a desire for accomplishment that stayed with him his entire life right up to the end.

He was part of that "greatest generation" that we read so much about today, and who Tom Brokaw has made so famous. Men and women who have impacted and enriched all of our lives over the last half of the 20th century.

But as many of you know, and as Sinatra sings, Mitch did it his way . . . whether it was in his business, in his synagogue, or the various other circles he traveled. Everyone was a part of his empire, family, friends, customers, and employees alike. He shared the good and the bad with everyone.

The child of immigrant parents, he created his own style, his own flair in everything he did and everybody he touched.

He had style in his clothes, in his cars, in his hats, in his dancing, in the showrooms at Modern Supply, in the "Pitch from Mitch" stationary, in the incentive trips for his customers that he so tediously planned and enjoyed. He bought things in a big way whether it was a truckload of sinks, shirts for himself, or smoked turkeys for gifts. He was able to charm about anyone he met, particularly the females. He had an appetite for food and people that was enormous.

Mr. Robinson was a leader, perhaps not always knowing where he was going, but knowing he was going somewhere. His devotion to his business was inspiring. His family's contributions to the religious community in time and money are in the record books.

Members of the community called on him when something was needed for those who were less fortunate. He was always there. He was generous to a fault and has set a standard for all of us to follow.

In a Yom Kippur Sermon several years ago, Rabbi Joseph Weinberg, said:

"Always we are commanded to seize the day, to create a life which will be remembered as a blessing. Not how long, but how well did I live? Not how many honors did I obtain, but how honorable was my life. Not how many things did I acquire, but how much was I able to give."

This quote is very fitting for the life of Mitchell Robinson. I would like to offer my deepest sympathy to the Robinson family. Our Nation and our community have suffered a great loss.

HONORING DAVID SAYLES
ENGLISH

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor David Sayles English of Arlington, Virginia, as he joins the Arlington County Police Department.

Throughout most of his adult life, David English has devoted himself to the safety and protection of others. A 1989 graduate of Yorktown High School in Arlington, Virginia, Mr. English attended Western Maryland College prior to serving in the United States Army. His service in the military, most notably at Fort Greely, Alaska and Fort Detrick, Maryland, gave him a unique insight into helping his fellow man.

Following his honorable discharge from the military, Mr. English put his medical knowledge to work as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) while earning his paramedic's license. Shortly after earning his license, David returned to his hometown to work as a firefighter at Fire Station #8 in Arlington County, Virginia. As it has been his lifelong dream to work in law enforcement, David joined the Arlington County Police Department earlier this year.

Tomorrow morning, December 21, 2001, David Sayles English will graduate from the Arlington County Police Academy, officially becoming a Police Officer in Arlington, Virginia. He joins an illustrious group of men and women throughout our nation of whom I am proud. Let me extend my personal thanks to those who serve in uniform. If the efforts of

our civil servants taught us anything on September 11, 2001, it is that this badge is a symbol of heroism and honor. I know that he will wear it with pride.

HONORING COPELAND AND WINONA GRISWOLD ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to announce to you and the other members of this distinguished body, that on December 21, 2001, my in-laws, Copeland and Winona Griswold of Chumuckla, Florida, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

Copeland and Winona were married on December 21, 1951. They met in Chumuckla, Florida during grade school and later became high school sweethearts and valedictorians of their senior classes. They have lived in Chumuckla these past 50 years, and have shared their love with their children Marty, Von, Vicki and Paul, and their many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The Griswolds were agricultural pioneers in the State of Florida. They were named the Farm Family of the Year for Santa Rosa County in 1985, and Copeland was inducted into the Florida Agriculture Hall of Fame in February of this year.

Their love story is one that is still in progress. I can tell you firsthand their love for each other has grown even stronger through the years and serves as an inspiration to us all.

Love has flourished between these two hearts, and I wish them continued happiness and love for years to come.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the people of Northwest Florida, I extend our sincere congratulations to Copeland and Winona Griswold, whose love stands as a shining example to an entire community.

IN HONOR OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY MEMBERS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as Congress prepares to end this session, unique in our history, I ask the House to recognize the work of nine Washingtonians who have just completed a uniquely important public service for our nation's capital, and therefore for our nation. The nine served the District of Columbia on the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority. They are the two chairs, Andrew Brimmer and Alice Rivlin, the vice chairs, Stephen Harlan and Constance Berry Newman, and the members, Eugene Kinlow, Darius Mans, Joyce Ladner, Edward Singletary, and Robert Watkins. They are very distinguished Americans and among the most distinguished and most

accomplished residents of the District of Columbia.

This year, the Authority completed six years that have brought the District of Columbia out of the worst financial crisis in a century. To cope with this crisis, Congress passed the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority Act in 1995. The city had followed several others—Philadelphia, New York, and Cleveland among them—to junk bond status indicating an inability to borrow, or insolvency. As with the cities that preceded them, the District required a "control board" or Authority in order to continue to borrow the necessary money to function. Unlike other cities, however, the nation's capital reached this point not only because of local mismanagement, but also because it is a city without a state and a city that carried the full complement of state functions and costs. To the credit of the prior administration of President Bill Clinton, which designed a package relieving the city of the most costly state functions and of the Congress, which approved it, the District has had a remarkable recovery.

Working countless hours with the Mayor and the City Council, the Authority helped the District achieve investment grade bond status by the third year of the control period, rather than in four years; create a budget reserve of \$150 million and left the city well on its way to creating a 7-percent cash reserve three years ahead of schedule; repay all borrowings from the U.S. Treasury; eliminate the accumulated deficit; and post four years of balanced budgets with surpluses, two years ahead of the congressional mandate to do so.

Elected officials, who continued to run the city throughout, deserve credit for this improvement. However, they would doubtlessly agree that more than any single group or individuals, the Financial Authority deserves the credit for the four-year rapid recovery of the District. It was the credibility of the individuals on the Authority and the extraordinary job they did that enabled the District to borrow in its own name. The city never had to have the Authority borrow for the District. It was the Authority that worked hand in glove with D.C. elected officials to assure that the finances and the management of the D.C. government would proceed apace to improve. And it was the Authority that gave Congress the confidence that the city would be ready for the sunset of the Authority on September 30, 2001.

It would be difficult to overestimate the importance of these Washingtonians to the recovery of the city or the difficulty of the work they were called upon to do—and did. The District could never have purchased from experts of their special competence what each gave to the city as a contribution of unique expertise, endless hours, extraordinary effort, and plain, priceless wisdom.

The city the Authority found had been wracked with many years of overspending and an accumulated deficit as well as a dysfunctional government of city agencies. The city they have left has had four straight years of balanced budgets plus surpluses and a much improved fully functioning city government. At the end of the last fiscal year, the District had a larger surplus than Maryland and larger than Virginia, which had no surplus. The bottom line that is expected of every jurisdiction of living within its budget, credit to assure bor-

rowing and clean audits has been achieved. The huge task of restructuring and reforming each city agency is proceeding with many notable improvements. The Authority, working with elected officials has improved the most critical agencies, including public safety and education, where resident concern was pronounced. These financial and management improvements are among the many rich features of the Authority's legacy.

However, the Authority also left an important warning not only for the city but for Congress about the future of the city. Despite remarkable city improvements and the Revitalization Act's assumption of \$5 billion in pension liability and some state functions, the Authority warned of a structural deficit not of the city's making that urgently needs congressional attention. Next session, I will introduce a bill to meet the structural problem the Authority has left Congress to remedy.

Today, however, let us be grateful that the most difficult part of the job of revitalizing the nation's capital has not been left to Congress. It has been done by nine extraordinary citizens who asked nothing from Congress, not pay, and not even praise. Yet, considerable praise is the least they are due from the Congress of the United States. It is praise and honor that I ask this House to give to these nine Washingtonians today from a grateful Congress and a grateful nation.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT AND ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY
FIRST AUTHORITY

Andrew Brimmer (Chair)

Dr. Andrew Brimmer served as the first chair of the Authority. Mr. Brimmer, the first African American to serve on the Federal Reserve Board, has long been recognized as a distinguished economist. Among his many posts and achievements is service as an economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and posts teaching economics at Michigan State University, the Wharton School, the University of Pennsylvania, and other colleges and universities. Dr. Brimmer is the President of Brimmer and Company.

Dr. Brimmer became the chair of the Authority when the city was at its lowest point of financial and management disrepair. He led the Authority as it took on very large and intractable fiscal and operational problems and managed them with skill and determination.

Stephen Harlan (Vice Chair)

Stephen Harlan served as vice chair for the first term of the Authority. He was the chair of H.G. Smithy Company, a specialized real estate firm providing mortgage banking, finance and investment, and multi-family property management services. He previously served as vice chairman of KPMG Peat Marwick.

Mr. Harlan successfully led the Authority's public safety revitalization at a time when crime was the primary concern of District residents and officials.

Joyce Ladner

Dr. Joyce Ladner has served as Interim President of Howard University, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and professor of sociology at the Howard University School of Social Work. She is currently a Senior Fellow of Government Studies at the Brookings Institution.

Dr. Ladner successfully concentrated on improving public schools when education was the primary concern of the Authority.

Constance Berry Newman

Constance Berry Newman, one of the most versatile officials in the public life of the