

and established a perimeter. Due to their competence and bravery, Al-Amin was arrested without further loss of life, and the weapons he used in both incidents were recovered.

The bravery of Inspectors Lowery and Parker, and Deputy Ergas is yet another example of the high standards of professionalism and dedication honored by federal law enforcement officers every day. I add my voice to the many others who truly appreciate the work they do to keep our homes, schools, and neighborhoods safe.

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STRUCTURED SETTLEMENT  
PROTECTION ACT

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I join today with Mr. Shaw and a broad bipartisan group of our colleagues from the House Ways and Means Committee in introducing the Structured Settlement Protection Act.

I was the Chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittee that considered the original bipartisan legislation in 1982 that enacted the structured settlement tax rules. The Ways and Means Committee, acting on a bipartisan basis, adopted the structured settlement tax rules that are in the Code today to provide long-term financial protection to seriously-injured victims and their families, so that these families would not have to turn to taxpayer-financed programs to meet their basic living and medical needs.

As a long-time supporter of structured settlements, I have been gravely concerned about the impact of so-called "factoring"—in which future damage payments are sold off for a discounted lump sum—on this long-term financial security that Congress intended to achieve for injured victims and their families. That is why I have worked actively with Mr. Shaw and our colleagues on the Ways and Means Committee over several years to put forward legislation to protect structured settlements and the injured victims and their families who depend upon them.

The Structured Settlement Protection Act that we are introducing today with broad bipartisan support on the Ways and Means Committee will bring a final resolution to the factoring issue, protecting the hundreds of thousands of structured settlement recipients and the longstanding Congressional policy of almost two decades.

The Act works in conjunction with complementary State structured settlement protection legislation that already has been enacted by 19 States and is under active consideration in an additional 20 States. The Act and the complementary State legislation rely upon a State court review process to ensure that the structured settlement fulfills its intended purpose of providing long-term financial protection for injured people, while enabling the victim to get access to future payments if the court determines that such access is in the best interests of the injured person, taking into account the welfare and support of his or her dependents, and determines that the sale of future payments does not violate any State or Federal statutes or existing court orders.

This Federal legislation is necessary to ensure compliance with State regulation given

the nationwide operation of the factoring industry, to encourage the remaining States to adopt the necessary regulatory legislation, and to put to rest tax uncertainties that factoring transactions have created for the other parties to the structured settlement.

I understand that the Act has the support of both the National Structured Settlements Trade Association on behalf of the structured settlement industry and the National Association of Settlement Purchasers on behalf of the factoring industry. Given this joint support, the legislation should be non-controversial.

We have worked hard on a bipartisan basis to resolve this issue. I strongly urge that we move forward to enact this bipartisan legislation as soon as possible.

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TRIBUTE TO HERMOSA BEACH  
POLICE CHIEF VAL STRASSER

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, a man with an even bigger heart retired March 31 as chief of police for the city of Hermosa Beach.

Chief Val Strasser served the community tirelessly. Joining the Hermosa Beach police force on September 16, 1973, he was promoted through the ranks until he was appointed chief in July 1993. During the course of his career, he made many friends and I am proud to be counted among them.

Chief Strasser was the epitome of community policing. He is remembered for fostering close ties between the department and the community. He understood that for law enforcement to be successful, it has to enlist all citizens and recruit them to be vigilant.

Chief Strasser had an open-door policy and encouraged citizens to drop in without an appointment to share their concerns, offer advice, or just plain complain. He always received them warmly and always tried to be responsive. Along the way, he made many, many friends and admirers.

Mr. Speaker, the city of Hermosa Beach is known for its surf, sand, and sea. Because of the leadership of Chief Strasser and the dedication of his officers and civilian personnel, Hermosa Beach is also a safe city where residents and visitors can enjoy its small town quaintness as well as its diverse cultural and recreational opportunities.

Val Strasser will be remembered fondly by residents and this Member of Congress. I join in wishing the best to Chief Strasser and his wife, Becky, as they look forward to their retirement years together.

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IN RECOGNITION OF DR. THOMAS  
E. STARZL

**HON. JOHN P. MURTHA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Dr. Thomas E. Starzl, a pioneer in the field of organ transplantation, on this year's 20th anniversary of the first liver transplant performed in Pittsburgh.

Born on March 11, 1926 in LeMars, Iowa, Dr. Starzl received a bachelor's degree in biology at Westminster College before going on to earn a master's degree in anatomy, a Ph.D. in neurophysiology, and an M.D. with distinction at Northwestern University Medical School. Following postgraduate work and a number of surgical fellowships and residencies, he returned to Northwestern University to serve on its faculty. Dr. Starzl moved on to the University of Colorado School of Medicine in 1962, and performed the world's first human liver transplant the following year.

Dr. Starzl joined the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, which already had an established kidney transplant program, in 1981 as a professor of surgery. On February 26 of that year he performed the region's first liver transplant. Amazingly, of the 30 transplant patients that first year, 11 are still alive today because of Dr. Starzl's commitment to the great promise of the procedure despite earlier failed attempts.

A major factor in the success of organ transplantation is the development of immunosuppressant drugs. Dr. Starzl was instrumental in this development, which advanced transplantation to an accepted form of treatment for patients with end-stage diseases of the liver, kidney and heart. It also shed light on the possibility that other organs could be successfully transplanted.

With Dr. Starzl as chief, the University of Pittsburgh transplant program soon became the largest in the world. In the past two decades, over 11,300 transplants have been performed at UPMC Presbyterian, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, and the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, and major advances by university faculty have had a tremendous impact on the entire field of transplantation. Among the countless "firsts" for this transplant program are the world's first multivisceral transplant, heart/liver transplant, and heart/liver/kidney transplant.

From the first successful liver transplant in 1967, through the development of surgical techniques and anti-rejection drugs that revolutionized the field, to his pioneering efforts at xenotransplantation, Dr. Starzl is among the most cited scientists in the field of clinical medicine. Now retired from clinical practice, he continues to influence all aspects of organ transplantation as director emeritus of the institute that now bears his name, the Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring Dr. Tom Starzl for his tireless devotion and countless accomplishments in the field of organ transplantation.

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TRIBUTE TO THE LATE ALBERT  
TAITANO CARBULLIDO

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the island of Guam bids farewell to an esteemed public servant. Albert Taitano Carbullido, a colleague in the field of government service and public administration, passed away on March 23, 2001, at the age of eighty-two.

He was born on January 19, 1919, in the village of Agat, Guam—the son of Antonio

Pangelinan and Maria Taitano Carbullido. On September 23, 1945, he married the former Nieves Pangelinan Martinez. They had eight children: Concepcion, Bernadita, Catalina, Clara, Jaime, Sylvia, Paulina, and Antonio. He was the patriarch of his family—greatly loved by his children and grandchildren. He touched the lives of many nephews, nieces and their children. He understood the meaning of family and served as a role model for parenting on Guam.

Mr. Carbullido's legacy lies in the field of community and public service. He served in executive capacities for the Guam legislature, the Guam Election Commission and the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority. He was also chosen to sit in a number of Government of Guam boards and commissions. He was a member of the Chamorro Heritage Foundation, the Guam Economic Development Authority, and the Agency for Human Resource and Development. He also served as the Arbitrator for the Guam Federation of Teachers (GFT)/Department of Education Grievance Board. In addition to his government service, his record also includes employment in the private sector where he worked in various capacities for the Bank of America, the Bank of Guam, and James Lee Enterprises.

Civic activities and affiliations led Mr. Carbullido towards leadership posts in a number of the island's civic organizations. Aside from being the founder of the Guam Diabetes Association, he was also active with Rotary Club of Guam and the Young Men's League of Guam. Within the Roman Catholic Church, he served as a Eucharistic Minister. He belonged to the parish of Our Lady of the Waters in Mongmong. He was also a member of the Holy Name Society and the Knights of Columbus.

I personally knew Mr. Carbullido for nearly 30 years. He was the quintessential public servant. He provided public service in a number of capacities and he did so with a dignity and demeanor which was inspiring. He was honest, dignified, intelligent and conscientious. He was an excellent role model. We all had notions about his political loyalties, but politics always took a back seat to public service in all of the positions which he took on during his life.

Albert Taitano Carbullido leaves behind not only a grateful wife and family, but a grateful island. I join his family in celebrating his life, honoring his achievements and mourning the loss of a husband, father, community leader, and fellow public servant.

TRIBUTE TO ESTHER KRISTOFF

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and esteem that I congratulate Esther Kristoff on her retirement from the Girl Scouts of the Calumet Council after 32 years of service as the executive director. Esther has dedicated her career to providing the guidance that our children need, a service that is far too rare in today's society. She will be honored at a retirement celebration to be held on April 30, 2001.

Esther Kristoff has enjoyed an outstanding career with the Girl Scouts of the Calumet

Council. When she became the executive director in 1969, she had already devoted over 16 years to the organization. She has held a myriad of positions, from troop leader and troop organizer to member of the Board of Directors. Esther has given innumerable hours of service to the Girl Scouts, but it is the quality of her work that is most impressive. She has received every one of the local Girl Scout Council awards that were available to her, including the Appreciation and Honor Pins and Thanks Badges I and II for outstanding service to both the Council and the surrounding community. In 1998, she received the Girl Scout service pin for 45 years of devoted service.

A graduate of Purdue University Calumet in Hammond, Indiana, Esther has undergone extensive training in the field of management. She has trained at such highly regarded institutions as Columbia University and Harvard University. She has also learned tremendously from her instruction experiences at Case Western Reserve University and the GSUSA Training Center in New York. The knowledge she gained from these programs has enabled her to become a true leader within the Council and the community.

Esther's history of volunteerism is impressive and praiseworthy. She has held a variety of positions and enjoys sharing her experiences with others. She served as president of the Hammond Woodmar Kiwanis from 1993-1995 and was recognized for her outstanding work and loyal service. She is an active member and secretary of the executive committee at the Lake Area United Way. Esther has also volunteered her time to work with local political leaders for the improvement of her community. She has worked with the Hammond mayor's office on several committees, the latest being the Hammond Marketing Committee. While on this committee she helped to organize the Keep Hammond Beautiful program and the Hammond Pride Week celebration. Esther has also served as a guest speaker for the Hammond Historical Society and as a volunteer speaker for the Lake Area United Way speaker's bureau.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Esther Kristoff as she celebrates her retirement from the Girl Scouts of the Calumet Council after 48 years of service and 32 years of service as the executive director. Her commitment to the youth of Northwest Indiana should be recognized and must be commended. She has dedicated her life and her career to helping others, and her efforts will surely be missed.

THE MONUMENT TO FRIENDSHIP,  
CARTERSVILLE, GEORGIA

**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the value of true friendship is too easy to lose sight of in today's society. We work so hard to provide for ourselves and our families, that we too often take for granted the selfless and generous deeds done by our closest friends.

I am proud to say Cartersville, Georgia, is home to an eternal reminder of the invaluable gift of unconditional friendship: The Monument to Friendship.

The monument's distinction as the world's only known memorial dedicated to friendship, is just part of its unique story. Mark A. Cooper, who created the monument in 1860, deserves a special place in the annals of Georgia history in his own right. A pioneer of one of Georgia's first railroad and ironworks ventures, Cooper laid the groundwork for the industrial and agricultural development of the Etowah River area of northwest Georgia, in the mid-19th century.

Ironically, Mark Cooper's Etowah Iron Works only survived the region's pre-Civil War economic slowdown because of a loan from 38 of his friends. After repaying the generous loan in full, Cooper honored his creditors with this timeless marble monument.

As if his business and community development endeavors were not enough, Cooper shone as a celebrated volunteer soldier, a longtime state legislator, and a U.S. Congressman. He served on the Board of Trustees of the University of Georgia for 40 years until his death in 1885.

The Monument to Friendship embodies noble Georgia values, just as Mark A. Cooper's memory personifies the ideal Georgia citizen. I join in recognizing the importance of a monument to all of our truest friends.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE  
MENTAL HEALTH MODERNIZA-  
TION ACT OF 2001

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 4, 2001*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I join with Senator WELLSTONE and my House colleagues to introduce legislation that is long overdue. The Medicare Mental Health Modernization Act of 2001 does just what its title says—it updates and improves Medicare mental health benefits, removing the many roadblocks to treatment faced by seniors and people with disabilities.

This comprehensive legislation modernizes Medicare mental health coverage in three important areas:

Parity for Mental Health Services. Current benefit structure discriminates against people seeking treatment for mental health and substance abuse conditions. In effect, Medicare imposes a "mental health tax" by requiring a 50 percent co-pay for outpatient mental health services instead of the 20 percent co-pay required for most other Part B medical services. In addition, there is a 190 day lifetime cap on psychiatric hospital services—even though no similar cap on inpatient services exists for any other health condition. These discrepancies perpetuate the stigma surrounding mental illness and must be eliminated.

Our bill would eliminate the discriminatory 190 day lifetime cap and reduce the 50 percent co-pay for outpatient mental health services to the 20 percent level enjoyed for other Part B medical services.

Coverage of Community-Based Mental Health Services. Not only does our nation's largest healthcare program impose discriminatory limits and copayments, its overall mental health benefit package is outdated and inadequate. The net result is that seniors and people with disabilities don't have access to the