

Mr. Speaker, in closing, with all the historical grandeur Clifton boasts, we have great reason to celebrate today. Accordingly, I extend my warmest congratulations on its 100th Anniversary. Clifton most certainly has distinguished itself through its historical and social presence, and I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding 100 years of excellence.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
THEODORE JOSEPH BERARDINELLI

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 24, 2002*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Theodore Berardinelli has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America Troop 141; and

Whereas, Theodore Berardinelli has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Theodore Berardinelli must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Theodore Berardinelli for his Eagle Scout Award.

THANKING REVEREND DONALD C.  
NOLDER

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 24, 2002*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Reverend Donald C. Nolder for his contributions to the community and congratulate him for receiving commendation from the Mayor and Town Council of the Borough of Chambersburg for his dedication and service to the community. Reverend Nolder was born in Altoona, Pennsylvania and after graduating from Lycoming College, he attended the seminary at Drew University. Once he completed his education, he was ordained as a minister in the United Methodist Church. Reverend Nolder was appointed the pastor at the First United Methodist Church in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania in July of 1992. Almost ten years later, he continues to serve his congregation and community faithfully and diligently.

Like so many spiritual leaders in communities around the country, Reverend Nolder has known the value of Faith-Based Community Action Programs long before they became a topic of national debate. President George W. Bush is also a great supporter of faith-based programs and has praised their effectiveness because he knows how beneficial they can be to people in all regions of the country. In his own community, Reverend Nolder has been instrumental in establishing programs that make a marked improvement in the lives of community residents and provide an atmosphere that allows for their spiritual and personal growth. Some examples of these programs are: Summer Neighborhood Ministry for Children, English as a Second Language

program, Thursday Evening Community Support and Service, and a Support Group for Young Men with Addictive Behavior.

I believe it is important that we allow the faith-based institutions in this country to become more involved in helping heal our communities from the damage caused by drugs, violence, and other social ills. Help should not only be available to the congregation, but the entire community, regardless of religious, cultural, or other differences. Reverend Nolder is an excellent example of doing just that—after a tragic fire he welcomed the St. Paul's United Methodist Church into his own, and for the past seven years he opened his doors to a Hispanic congregation. He welcomed both congregations with open arms and provided whatever help the church could. By ignoring cultural or religious lines of division, he increased access to help for people outside his immediate congregation and welcomed the addition of new friends.

I would like to commend Reverend Donald C. Nolder again for his contributions, congratulate him on his successful programs, and thank him for his service at the First United Methodist Church in Chambersburg. I hope that he enjoys his retirement and I encourage him to continue his involvement in community activities.

TRIBUTE TO HARRY COLMERY BY  
MICHAEL J. BENNETT

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 24, 2002*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week I participated in a ceremony commemorating the anniversary of the original GI Bill, and its principal author Mr. Harry Colmery of The American Legion. First enacted in 1944, the GI Bill has helped over 20 million Americans reach their educational goals, and in the process helped transform our Nation.

Michael J. Bennett, the author of the book, "When Dreams Came True: The GI Bill and the Making of Modern America," spoke at that ceremony and I want to commend his remarks to all of my colleagues:

Mr. Dooley, my favorite political philosopher, had this to say about Americans: "We're a great people we are, and the greatest thing about us is that we know we are."

I wonder about that. We are a great people—and we know it, but I'm not sure we know why we are. We are a democratic people, citizens of the world's first truly democratic republic. And we are a practical, sensible people; indeed, our national philosophy is often called pragmatism. Yet, all too often, we seem to believe we are great because our Presidents are great, elected leaders whose wisdom is exceeded only by their power, and we are practical and sensible because we study their words and follow their example.

If you believe that, you're in the wrong place today. Franklin Delano Roosevelt preferred an Economic Bill of Rights for everyone in return for everyone, women as well as men, being subject to a universal draft. America got the GI Bill of Rights instead because of the man we're belatedly honoring today. And that is the best proof we have that democracy itself, the wisdom of ordinary people, is what has made us great—and will make us even greater still if we follow

the example, in deeds as well as words, of Harry Colmery. For it was Harry Colmery, who crafted the GI Bill of Rights in Room 570 of the Mayflower Hotel over the Christmas-New Year's holidays of 1943-1944.

In just a few short weeks—and in the little more than six months it took the Legion, Hearst newspaper reporters and editors and Congressional allies in Congress to get the Bill through the House and Senate—these men, and one woman, made modern America possible. And they did so, despite FDR, and the vociferous opposition of the nation's elite, the best and brightest of the time.

The GI Bill will turn the nation's colleges and universities into "educational hobo jungles," Robert Maynard Hutchins, president of the University of Chicago, warned. The Bill will benefit "the least qualified of the wartime generation," moaned James Conant, the president of Harvard, who rallied academic opposition to the Bill in Congress. And he might have prevailed. But Rep. Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts was shrewd enough to use a Southern segregationist to potentially expose the proper Bostonian as a hypocrite to the improper Bostonian readers of The Boston Record-American.

That's just one improbable—but true—anecdote in a story full of improbabilities, but then, everything about the GI Bill is improbable unless you believe that democracy can sometimes, rarely but sometimes, be the best of all possible governments. And that's what makes the GI Bill truly wonderful, a story full of real wonder and authentic inspiration. For this was a bill conceived in democracy and dedicated to the proposition that those called upon to die for their country, if need be, are the best qualified to make it work, if given the opportunity.

And make the Bill work, the men and women who proudly identified themselves as GI's did. They did so despite the fact that the politically correct Pentagon advised newspaper and magazine editors that the word GI, an acronym for general or government issue is, and I quote, "dehumanizing, demeaning and disrespectful." The GI Bill became the catalyst of America as an essentially middle-class society, and the seedbed of the civil rights movement as GI's built the suburbs, transformed arsenals of mass destruction into industries of mass consumption, and democratized higher education, even getting Conant to admit the GI's were "the best students Harvard has ever had."

There's a profound lesson here for all of us, one that transcends the pieties of the left and the banalities of the right; liberal ends are best achieved by conservative means. Capitalism can be democratic. Merit should be determined as much by actual deeds as by test scores. We live in an era of growing rather than lessening class distinctions. Those who go to the college of hard knocks can only expect hard times. And those who are the smartest graduates of the best schools experience little more than virtual reality. In these times, as in World War II, the military is the best preparatory school for life, higher education and citizenship.

Everyone profits. The \$14.5 billion cost of the WWII Bill was paid by additional taxes on the increased income of the GI recipients by 1960. Without the prosperity—and social peace—engendered by the GI Bill, America couldn't have afforded the Marshall Plan's \$12.5 billion. Indeed, the GI Bill, rooted in eternal verities of individual aspiration and political reality, is a far better model for international development than the Marshall Plan.

The authors of the GI Bill were World War I veterans who kept faith with their children, the veterans of WWII. That made possible the peaceful end in 1989 of the 20th century World War that began in 1914. Now, nine

months after the massacres of September 2001, we are engaged in a war on terror that will, undoubtedly, last at least as long as WWI and WWII, if not much of the 21st century.

Unfortunately, we didn't keep faith—as much as we should have—with the veterans of Korea and Vietnam, especially the Vietnam veterans. We didn't adequately respect their service, and sufficiently encourage their potential. But perhaps, starting with this dedication, we're beginning to learn the practical, sensible, and, yes, pragmatic lesson of the WWII bill. We owe the young men and women who are—and will be—our protectors in this long, shadowy conflict no less than a moral—and a financial—equivalent of the WWII GI Bill.

We don't just owe it to them; we owe it to ourselves.

#### NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 19, 2002*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3389) to reauthorize the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3389, the National Sea Grant Program Act, which authorizes Sea Grant through fiscal year 2008. This legislation, which I am pleased to cosponsor, reaffirms federal support for essential marine research programs. I wish to thank the members of the Science and Resources Committees, who have collaborated to craft legislation that will encourage significant developments in marine research in the coming decade.

Sea Grant is particularly important to the state of Rhode Island, whose history and economy have been tied to the ocean since our earliest days. The University of Rhode Island, one of the premier Sea Grant institutions in the United States, has strengthened this bond by delving deeper into the ocean's complexities and enriching us with their findings. I am proud of their impressive accomplishments and will continue my efforts to vigorously advocate full federal support for Sea Grant.

I am particularly pleased that the committees of jurisdiction did not move Sea Grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to the National Science Foundation (NSF), as recommended by the Bush Administration. While I have nothing but the greatest respect for the NSF's work, Sea Grant's research is noteworthy because of its immediate practical application through NOAA and other Department of Commerce agencies. URI's work in the fields of fisheries management, biotechnology, aquaculture, and marine security has helped business leaders, educators, and policy advocates when considering complicated maritime issues. Furthermore, URI's educational outreach efforts, especially in grades K–12, demonstrate Sea Grant's effectiveness not only at undertaking state-of-the-art research, but also in cultivating future generations' interest in ocean and environmental science.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure today so that our universities and scientific institutions will be able to build upon their successes with the Sea Grant program.

#### HONORING THE FIGHTING 105TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

**HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 24, 2002*

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the forgotten heroes of the fighting 105th Infantry Regiment—part of the New York National Guard's 27th Division—activated for duty in October of 1940. These brave soldiers embraced their Nation's call to arms wholeheartedly and without hesitation. On the field of battle, they fought with the fire of freedom in their souls and the fury of the American spirit in their hearts.

On July 7, 1944 an overwhelming force estimated between 3,000 and 5,000 Japanese soldiers strong attacked the First and Second Battalions of the 105th Infantry Regiment, 27th Infantry Division. It was one of the largest attacks attempted in the Pacific Theater during World War II. As the firestorm rained down upon them, the gallant "Appleknockers" of the 105th met the challenge of their foes with unparalleled vigor and tenacity. With gallant fervor, might and determination, the 105th fought on against the enemy. As terror reigned, the red-gray storm over the land swarmed onward breaking through the combined perimeter of the Battalion, inflicting massive casualties on the young troops. Yet, in brotherhood and blood, the fighting 105th pressed on. Inspired with the strength of democracy and infused with the iron will of America, the Appleknockers did not surrender. As the fighting 105th fought on and their foes fell before them, our freedoms were preserved and our way of life secured.

The Congressional Medal of Honor was awarded posthumously to three of the men in the 105th—Lt./Col. William O'Brien, Sgt. Thomas Baker and Captain (Dr.) Ben L. Salomon DDS. There are many other courageous men that also fought gallantly for our country in the July 7, 1944 attack. At least seven unsung survivors of this most difficult day presently live in and around the Troy, New York area and are active members of the distinguished Tibbits Cadets. Among these dignified veterans are Mr. Joseph Meighan, Mr. Sam DiNova, Mr. Joseph Mariano, Mr. Frank Pusatere, Mr. Adam Weasack, Mr. Nick Grinaolda and Mr. Ralph Colangione.

The brave soldiers of the gallant Appleknockers of the 105th have served their country and their fellow man with integrity and valor. In their pursuit of freedom and prosperity for the world, the men of the First and Second Battalions met the fact of fear and fought with honor. As the "Appleknockers" remember the 58th Anniversary of the July 7, 1944 action, may we pause a moment to honor all those that fought in that harrowing battle. To the fighting men of the 105th, I respectfully extend my most heartfelt gratitude and respect—they fought as soldiers, lived as patriots and are forever heroes.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 24, 2002*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 247, had I been present, I would have voted "yes." On rollcall No. 248, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

#### RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF EAST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 24, 2002*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the League of Women Voters of East San Gabriel Valley for its dedication to increase participation in the democratic processes of government.

Founded in 1956 as the Provisional League of Women Voters of West Covina, the organization was officially recognized by the National League of Women Voters in 1958. When the group's name changed to the League of Women Voters of East San Gabriel Valley in 1969, the chapter was the second largest in the state of California. Today the group serves communities in more than 20 cities in Southern California.

The League provides a host of services to fulfill its fundamental mission of providing non-partisan information to citizens that will encourage them to participate in all levels of government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Citizens in my district have benefited from activities such as a year-round voter information service, candidate forums during election season, summaries about Los Angeles County ballot measures, explanations of new voting devices and voter registration drives.

I am proud to have this commendable public service organization in my district. Their efforts to educate our community about the importance of voting and political participation are helping to produce a well-informed electorate that fights for the issues that are important to working men and women.

#### LOS ANGELES TIMES ARTICLE

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 24, 2002*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I call my colleagues' attention to a recent article by Scott Ritter, former chief UN weapons inspector in Iraq, published in the Los Angeles Times. In this article, Mr. Ritter makes a salient point that deserves careful and serious consideration in this body: how will it be possible to achieve the stated Administration goal of getting weapons inspectors back into Iraq when the Administration has made it known that it intends to assassinate the Iraqi leader?

If nothing else, Saddam Hussein has proven himself a survivor. Does anyone believe that