

Governors and other political leaders from the state, recording humorous, sad, dramatic and moving stories that will forever be preserved because of Lee's hard work and passion. She is also a talented woodworker, having crafted numerous pieces of fine furniture; a white water rafter, having conquered some of the toughest rivers in the world; and a mother of three successful daughters. She is truly a remarkable woman, who has lived her life in a manner befitting her remarkable character and personality.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before you today in order to bring the life of such an extraordinarily caring and compassionate woman to the attention of this body of Congress. Lee Bahrych has lived a truly remarkable life, and I, along with the people of Colorado whose lives she has so profoundly affected and enriched, are eternally grateful for everything she has done. I wish to offer her my sincere congratulations today on being named the recipient of the Colorado Women 2002 Power of One Award, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING NANCY PELOSI
ON EARNING THE POSITION OF
DEMOCRATIC WHIP

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, one of the things we all prize and value is the friendships each of us have made with our colleagues, our staff, and the people that work in this building and on the Hill. It is indeed a unique place where lasting friendships are made—and that is among the many things that make this a special place to work.

As Wallace Stegner once wrote, "Friendship is a relationship that has no formal shape . . . there are no rules . . . or obligations . . . or bonds, as in marriage or the family. It is held together by neither law . . . nor property . . . nor blood, there is no glue in it but mutual liking. It is therefore rare."

NANCY PELOSI is a wonderful, bright and strong person, and I treasure her friendship. Maya Angelou once stated that "the most called-upon prerequisite of a friend is an accessible ear." And I'm sure NANCY will master the art of lending her ear to over 200 people all at the same time!

From the moment she first arrived in 1987, it was clear that NANCY PELOSI not only had leadership skills, but that she had steadfast resolve and determination. When I look at her career, I can think of no one whose fought harder and has been more dedicated to promoting the basic values of human rights, freedom and democracy.

She was one of the first Members to join the Central American working group to promote peace and democracy in the region. She was one of the first to raise our awareness about the need to invest in breast cancer and HIV/AIDS research. She wouldn't let Congress go home in 1996 without passing a law to protect the historic Presidio park in San Francisco. She taught us that in order to tackle the basic problems of poverty, we need to allow women and their families to plan for their future. And we need to ensure they have enough resources to raise their children.

But when she led the fight on our trade relationship with China, the world knew just how committed and focused NANCY PELOSI could be. She never, ever forgot the tens of thousands of political prisoners and dissidents that were being held in Chinese prisons for simply trying to express themselves freely. And she was undoubtedly responsible for the release of dissident Wei Jing Sheng [Way Zhing Zhang] from Chinese prison.

NANCY never lost sight of the basic values of democracy, and her belief, her tenacity, and her commitment to those values could not be challenged. There's an image that comes to mind; I think we all remember the lone Chinese dissident standing in front of a tank in Tiananmen Square. Wherever that tank went, he tried to stop it. He was standing up for his belief that Chinese citizens should be treated with dignity, respect, and should have the right of free expression. Every time I see that often-played film on the news, or see that picture in a magazine, I think of NANCY.

NANCY is like that dissident; wherever there is injustice, wherever there is inhumanity, wherever there is indecency, NANCY will stand firmly in the way. She will have the courage to stand up and say, "that's not right," and you know what? Others will follow. That's why she is a leader.

As our whip, NANCY will get our votes, but she will also raise our consciousness. She will remind all of us about what's important, about why we are here, and she will never let us forget where we came from. She will lead us by example, and she will push us to be better Members and better citizens. She will, to paraphrase Eleanor Roosevelt, make us do the thing we think we can't. And in many ways, today's swearing in is just another example of how NANCY has followed the words of John F. Kennedy, "Things do not happen. Things are made to happen."

I have no doubt NANCY will help us all do the things we think we can't, and she will make these things happen.

Congratulations to NANCY on earning the position of Democratic Whip.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE
THAT SCHEDULED TAX RELIEF
SHOULD NOT BE SUSPENDED OR
REPEALED

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2002

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this farcical, time-wasting resolution.

Have we no real work to do?

We have a duty to protect our great nation in times of crisis and war. We do not, however, have a duty to help our Republican colleagues look out for their fat cat buddies through an unbalanced and, frankly, unfair tax cut like the one passed last year.

The tax cut was passed; that is over. I would now, however, ask my colleagues to join me in opposing this ridiculous resolution today.

I would further ask that my colleagues join me in cosponsoring a bill introduced by my good friend from Massachusetts, Representa-

tive FRANK. His bill, H.R. 2935, would repeal the reduction in the top income tax rate. This would add about \$100 billion to federal revenue over the next 10 years. All of this money would go into the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds, so we can keep our commitment to our seniors.

Mr. Speaker, the budget submitted by President Bush this week proposes a budget deficit every year for the next decade. This means a \$1.5 trillion budget deficit over the next 10 years. The Bush tax plan that passed last year left too little room for error, and no room for unexpected events like September 11. No one in this chamber would deny that we need to defend our nation, but we must do so in a fiscally responsible manner. In addition to the threats posed by terrorism both at home and abroad, we face other great domestic challenges. Our kids are taught in dilapidated schools that are not equipped to handle technology that is so vital to their future. Seniors cannot afford the prescription drugs they so desperately need. We have no Patients' Bill of Rights and we must do more to protect our environment. These are important issues that need to be addressed before we give tax cuts to the fat cats. Mr. Speaker, where are our priorities?

It was bad enough to debate this foolish policy once. I am perplexed as to why the GOP leadership now wants us to waste time reaffirming our support for this ridiculous tax scheme. I am forced to conclude that my Republican colleagues truly believe we have no more important work to do.

I ask my colleagues to reject this resolution and to stand strong for fiscal responsibility.

NO ROOM FOR RACISM
RESOLUTION

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution condemning discrimination and supporting the No Room for Racism campaign initiated by citizens of Hayward, California.

Since the horrific attacks on September 11, 2001, our country has come together in remarkable ways. Citizens across the nation have donated blood, volunteered their time, and contributed money to help those who were victimized by the ruthless attacks. During this difficult time, America's true colors have been displayed to the world. In times of national crisis, we take care of each other.

Unfortunately, despite this unity, some of our citizens have misplaced their anger at the terrorists by discriminating against their fellow Americans. Although this has not been widespread, even a few reports of discrimination and hatred are cause for concern. Discrimination against anyone in America is simply not consistent with our heritage or our laws. In order to combat discrimination, all Americans must work for tolerance and social justice.

Citizens in my district have taken the initiative to do just that. They have launched a campaign called "No Room for Racism" condemning all acts of discrimination against people because of their appearance. I applaud the citizens of Hayward for this worthy endeavor.

Through community action such as this, the American tradition of tolerance and acceptance will continue to thrive.

The resolution that I introduce today is modeled after the one organized by my constituents in Hayward. As the resolution states, judging people by appearance, color of skin, or religious beliefs is contrary to the fundamental principles of our country. Racism undermines our unity as a people and leads to social unrest and alienation. Therefore, there truly is no room for racism in our society.

During this time of heightened tension, we must be particularly vigilant to protect the rights of all Americans, regardless of color or creed. I applaud my constituents in Hayward, California for their campaign against racism and I am pleased to introduce this resolution on their behalf.

THE TANF REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2001

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, all too often, we forget that work-first policies do not just affect adult individuals.

We must remember that—when we talk about adults—we are also talking about families—and families include children.

While their parents are away from home at work, children require quality—affordable—child-care.

It is an unfortunate reality that many of the jobs performed by parents supported by TANF involve working late at night or at irregular hours—in fact, at the very times when it is extremely hard to find safe, affordable child-care.

These circumstances are particularly difficult for families with young children and children with disabilities.

Even when the parents are able to find child-care, they often find that their jobs do not pay enough to cover food, housing and utilities. Stretching those dollars to cover the cost of child-care can be extremely difficult for low-income families.

I have co-sponsored the TANF Reauthorization Act of 2001 (H.R. 3113) because—as we continue to emphasize work as a means to achieving economic security—we must stand up for working families by making safe, quality, affordable child-care accessible to all children.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WALT WINKLER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I pay tribute today to Mr. Waldemar “Walt” Winkler, a good friend of mine and a good friend to all who knew and loved him. Walt was a man of unquestioned integrity and of unparalleled morality. He will be sorely missed by each and every person whose life he touched, and I am no exception. As his family mourns his loss, I believe it is

appropriate to remember Walt and pay tribute to him for his contributions to his city, his state and his country.

Walt, who was born on October 27, 1912, was an avid outdoorsman who dedicated his life to his nation and to the principles of forestry. He received a forestry degree from the University of Minnesota and went to work for the U.S. Forest Service shortly after graduating. When Pearl Harbor was attacked, Walt joined the Air Force and fought bravely in the European Theatre. After returning from the war, he went back to work for the U.S. Forest Service, serving in the Medicine Bow, Rio Grande and Black Hills national forests. In 1957, Walt took a position with the White River National Forest, where he served until his retirement in 1975.

Walt was not only a soldier and a trusted government employee, but he was also a dedicated volunteer. He selflessly gave his time to the Boy Scouts of America, the American Red Cross, the Rotary Club, the American Legion and the Society of American Foresters. He was also an avid painter and sportsman. He is survived by his wonderful wife Jane, his son Waldemar Jr., brother Clyde, daughter-in-law Lisa Pedolsky and granddaughter Merritt.

Mr. Speaker, we are all terribly saddened by the loss of Walt Winkler, but take comfort in the knowledge that our grief is overshadowed only by the legacy of courage, selflessness and love that Walt left with all of us. Walt Winkler's life is the very embodiment of all that makes this country great, and I am deeply honored to be able to bring his life to the attention of this body of Congress.

ELECTION FUND FREE CHOICE AND SAVINGS ACT

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce legislation today that will strengthen our political parties and at the same time reduce our federal deficit.

The bill I am introducing today, the Election Fund Free Choice and Savings Act of 2002, reduces the deficit by providing that contributions made to the Presidential Election Campaign Fund must be made with after-tax additions to the contributor's regular tax payment. This would provide for a truly voluntary contribution from the citizen rather than a reallocation of funds from the Treasury or from the Social Security Trust Fund.

Additionally, the bill provides free choice by allowing taxpayers to choose to designate contributions to the Fund to a particular political party.

For over 25 years, presidential elections have been financed largely through public funds which are raised through a voluntary tax checkoff. All Americans are familiar with the checkoff box for the Presidential Election Campaign Fund which first appeared on their tax forms in 1972. By checking the box, taxpayers allocate dollars from the Treasury to be distributed to federal candidates, nominees, and party nominating conventions. The taxpayer has no voice as to whom these funds go or where these funds will be spent.

My proposal allows taxpayers who contribute to the Fund to have the option of designating a particular political party to receive their contribution. This free choice for American taxpayers would recognize the importance of America's political parties in our electoral system. It would strengthen the parties' ability to educate citizens, to register new voters and to promote voting in general. Furthermore, it would assure the taxpayer that their contribution is not going to an individual who holds political views in opposition to their own.

Additionally, by requiring that contributions to the Fund be made with after-tax dollars, the federal deficit is reduced substantially. In 2000 the Fund disbursed over \$200 million to candidates. In the future these funds would stay in the Treasury or the Social Security Trust Fund and help to pay down the national debt.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this important reform to the Presidential Election Campaign Fund. It is a simple question of fairness and fiscal discipline that merits your support.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, during today's rollcall votes on S. 1888, H. Con. Res. 312, H.J. Res. 82, and ordering the previous question on H. Res. 342, I was in Ohio attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of each of these measures.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL PETER T. BENTLEY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2002

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication to the community and to the overall well-being of California's Inland Empire and the Nation is unparalleled—Colonel Peter T. Bentley.

Calvin Coolidge, America's 13th President, once said, “Patriotism is easy to understand in America; it means looking out for yourself by looking out for your country.” On Saturday February 9th 2002, Colonel Bentley will be honored for over 30 years of distinguished military service in which he dedicated his career in protecting fellow Americans.

Colonel Bentley is the outgoing commander of the Air Force Reserve Command's 452nd Air Mobility Wing at March Air Reserve base in Riverside California. The wing is the Air Force Reserve's only unit-equipped air mobility wing with 18 C-141Cs, 10 KC-135Rs and more than 4,000 reservists.

With true valor and love of country, Colonel Bentley voluntarily enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1970 through Officer Training School in Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. He has served in a variety of flying, command and staff positions throughout his career in the Air Force and Air Force Reserve. He is a command pilot with more than 8,000 hours in air