

The Republic of Iceland took these extraordinary measures in anticipation of Falun Gong protests during the state visit of President Jiang Zemin. The Icelandic government, as I understand its position, consistently maintained that, despite its commitment to free speech and peaceful protest, its security forces could not cope with "thousands" of demonstrators. And, indeed, the airport detainees were eventually released and allowed to proceed to the capital and to demonstrate at designated sites. I do not wish to portray these events as brutal violations of human rights, such as those that Falun Gong practitioners do, in fact, suffer in China.

Nonetheless it is wrong and unacceptable for Asian Americans to be treated differently from other Americans. It is wrong and unacceptable for foreign governments to discriminate among American citizens on the basis of religion or ethnicity. Such discrimination is wrong and unacceptable when it happens abroad. It is wrong and unacceptable, and most certainly illegal, when it takes place in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or anywhere in the United States of America. The Congress must defend the rights of all Americans to equal treatment, and, occasionally, we must remind even friendly democratic countries that we are one people, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The great strength of any democracy rests in its citizens, and my constituents report that the people of Iceland themselves demonstrated in solidarity with them. Hundreds signed a full-page ad that appeared in the June 13 issue of the Morgunbladid, Iceland's major daily paper, apologizing in Chinese, English, and Icelandic for their government's actions. One of my constituents, So Dai Yee of Cambridge, told me that she drew comfort from these "people with righteous hearts."

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to the people of Iceland who rose to defend human rights.

#### RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENTS OF HILLSBORO JOURNAL

##### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 9, 2002*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of, Hillsboro Journal, in Hillsboro, Illinois.

Every so often, a corner stone is set in place to build upon a future full of hope. With countless hours of hard work by individuals who deeply care about the product they are producing, a dream of fulfilling their potential can be achieved. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of the Hillsboro Journal for their hard work that has resulted in quality news delivered to the people for 150 years now.

Many people have contributed to the success of the Journal, including founders Frank and Cyrus Gilmore, and the first editor Rev. Thomas Springer. Mr. James Slack bought the paper in 1875 and named it the Hillsboro Journal, which had been called The Montgomery County Herald, The Democrat, and The Anti-Monopolist in the past. The present owners, the Galer Family, began with the paper in 1945, and Mr. Little who joined the paper in

1900 and was with the paper until his death in 1970 have also made significant contributions to the Journal.

So often in our world today, family owned businesses cannot sustain the place that they once held because of massive corporate takeovers. It is a pleasure to see the Journal maintain their place in the Hillsboro area. After many years of reporting the important news of the day, the Hillsboro Journal is celebrating its 150th Publication Year. For serving the Hillsboro area for so many years, it is my pleasure to congratulate them on a job well done, but not completed. I look forward to the future of the Hillsboro Journal and the superior writing it gives us all.

#### HONORING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF PAUL HETH, JR.

##### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 9, 2002*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Paul Heth, Jr. of Jesup, Iowa, who will celebrate his 90th birthday on Monday, July 15.

Paul, the son of German immigrants, was born on his family's farm southeast of Fairbank, Iowa on July 15, 1912. When Paul started school, he first went to the local country school on County Line Road, which was a mile west of the Heth Farm, and then onto the parochial school in Fairbank situated behind St. John's Lutheran Church. Upon the family's move to a farm just north of Jesup, Paul began attending the Jesup School.

Like many young men his age, Paul's labors were needed on the family farm during his eighth grade year. Possessing a traditional Midwestern work-ethic, at age twelve, Paul began working for neighboring farmers as well. In fact, one time a local fanner, who was driving by a field in which Paul was working, stopped to compliment the young man on the straight rows of corn he was planting.

Life wasn't all work for Paul in those days. In 1937, Paul and a young lady named Ruby Rachuy headed for the Illinois state line, where in Galena they exchanged marriage vows. On May 13 of this year, Paul and Ruby celebrated 65 years of marriage. With a new wife and a growing family came new responsibilities. This led to a change of career for Paul as he headed to the John Deere Company, where he worked in the farm equipment manufacturer's "Heat Treat" facility for over 33 years, retiring in 1974.

As a member of the "Greatest Generation," Paul is devoted to his church, his community and his country. In addition to being a long-time member of Grace Lutheran Church in Jesup, Paul served three terms on the Jesup City Council, which culminated in one term as Mayor. The Jesup newspaper announced his victory, proclaiming: "Paul Heth Elected Mayor of Jesup by a Landslide." And although a family deferral prevented his own uniformed service to America, three of Paul's sons proudly represent over 50 years of service to their nation in the United States Navy.

On behalf of his wife Ruby, and children Carolyn, Verla, Bob, Ron, Patricia, Rick, Pam and Randy, I call on my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in ex-

pressing appreciation to Mr. Paul Heth, Jr. on his 90th birthday.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 9, 2002*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 284, and 283, had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MADISON CIVICS CLUB

##### HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 9, 2002*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to today to recognize the Madison Civics Club. For 90 years, the Madison Civics Club has brought world leaders, illuminating thinkers and local innovators to the citizens of Madison. The club began in 1912 through the tireless efforts of five charter members.

These five had just spent several grueling, and unsuccessful, months trying to convince members of the Wisconsin Legislature to adopt women's suffrage. The founding members—Georgia Lloyd Jones, Alice Bleyer, Edna Chynoweth, Lucille McCarthy and Mary B. Orvis—decided to gather for lunch, review their mistakes, seek strength and "lick their wounds generally." From that effort, the club was born. Its goal was, and remains to this day, developing a civic conscience through being informed on local and foreign affairs.

The Madison Civics Club has flourished. Its members number more than 800. It has hosted such world leaders as Winston Churchill, Nelson Rockefeller and Eleanor Roosevelt. The Madison Civics Club brought those who have mastered the arts to Madison, including Carl Sandburg, Arthur C. Clarke and Peter Bogdanovich. Amelia Earhart, Bella Abzug and Alex Haley are just some of the inspirational individuals who have illuminated Madison's citizens. Those that shape the message of our mass media, including David Broder, Ray Suarez and Hedrick Smith, have been a part of Madison Civics Club history.

Prominent citizens, including those on the faculty of the world-class institution, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, also have addressed Madison's local concerns.

The 2002–03 season shares the hallmark of again promising an engaging and thoughtful series of speakers. The theme, as determined by the 2002–03 chair Lynn Stathas, is "The American Dream." Speakers include: Harry Wu, Chinese dissident and human rights activist; Judith Miller, an author and Pulitzer-Prize winning correspondent at the New York Times who is considered an expert on terrorism and was in fact the target of one of the heinous and infamous anthrax letters that were mailed in 2001; Wisconsin Supreme Court Chief Justice Shirley S. Abrahamson, the first female chief justice on the Wisconsin high court and an important figure, the 150th anniversary of the Wisconsin Supreme Court; Diana L. Eck, a professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies at Harvard University; and Dr.

David Satcher, the 16th Surgeon General of the United States.

Through these speakers, as in past years, the Madison Civics Club celebrates the enduring freedoms our nation has sustained and nurtured, building a civil society for more than 200 years. America has built a legacy of justice, freedom and hope that will be heralded through the Madison Civics Club in its 90th year.

As the representative for the 2nd Congressional District of Wisconsin, I wish the Madison Civics Club officers and members, and its past and upcoming speakers, all the best as they continue their exemplary tradition of molding a civic conscience that builds communities and benefits all.

#### RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENTS OF CHARLES L. BRIMM

#### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 9, 2002*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Charles L. Brimm, from Dupo, Illinois.

Charlie Brimm has been an influential leader in the Dupo, Illinois V.F.W., Post 6368, for years now. His past positions include 14th District Commander from 1992 to 1993, Jr. Vice Commander, and Sr. Vice Commander of the Department of Illinois. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Brimm on his recently named position as Department Commander of the State of Illinois.

Service in the military, the police force, county deputies office, and organizations like the Shiners have made Charles Brimm a fixture of law enforcement and an upholder of the law, as well as a caring individual. Through his leadership and efforts to improve the community, Charlie has had a positive impact on the town and people of Dupo.

I would like to thank Mr. Brimm for his service to this great country and to the people of the Dupo community throughout the years, and wish him well in his continued service with the V.F.W.

#### BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV

#### HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 9, 2002*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, on May 9, Bert Foer of the American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, was scheduled to testify before the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs, of which I am a member, on the university's important work in the critical field of desertification and water resources.

Unfortunately, because of the committee's deliberations on the supplemental appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2002, that hearing was canceled. Thus, members were unable to hear Mr. Foer's testimony about these efforts, which have received the support of Congress because of the essential role they play in the effort to achieve peace in the region.

As Mr. Foer stated in his prepared statement, even in the turmoil that is now occurring in the Middle East, water remains a central element of hope for the future. Ben-Gurion University and its Jacob Blaustein Institute for Desert Research have played an important role in improving relations among the nations of the Middle East. The work of Dr. Eilon Adar, the director of the university's new Institute for Water Sciences and Technology, figured prominently in the critical water allocation process set forth in the Israeli-Jordanian peace agreement of 1994. His efforts are perhaps even more important today.

Congress last year recommended that the Department of State and the Agency for International Development should consider up to \$1 million for the Institute to address the flow and transport of pollutants in groundwater in the region. This served to highlight the Institute's unique regional partnerships in applied water research.

Ben-Gurion University is situated on the edge of three of the world's four major dryland regions. This gives the university and its world-renowned research scientists a unique perspective on the challenges and solutions to regional water quality, supply and allocations issues—issues that surely will be key components of future peace negotiations. As Mr. Foer stated, even in the turmoil that is now occurring in the Middle East, water remains a central element of hope for the future.

Most of the ground water aquifers in the region are shared by at least two countries. In spite of the current conflict, water management agreements have remained in effect. Once all parties return to negotiations, the success of a lasting peace and security agreement will depend on the ability of all parties to agree on an equitable allocation of the region's scarce water resources. Thus, we should continue to support these essential initiatives.

Mr. Foer noted in his statement that we know the strains in the Middle East will not easily go away. But it is important that we seek out and support initiatives that address areas of tension and that provide opportunities for the nations of the region to work together on matters of mutual interest and interest.

The efforts of Ben-Gurion University and its Blaustein Institute are, as Mr. Foer so eloquently said in his statement, an investment in more than simply cleaner water. They are an investment in the peace process and in the cause of improved cooperation between Israel and its neighbors.

H. RES. 459

SPEECH OF

#### HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 27, 2002*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 459, a bill expressing the sense of the House that Newdow v. U.S. Congress was erroneously decided.

Like many of my colleagues, I was disappointed and shocked that the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled the Pledge of Allegiance unconstitutional. The Ninth Circuit ruling defies common sense and the timing of the decision couldn't be worse. Now more

than ever we as Americans remember the important purpose of our Pledge of Allegiance, stand in awe of the magnificent symbolism of our flag, and take pride in the triumphant chords of our national anthem, the Star Spangled Banner.

Every day in this Chamber, we honor our nation by reciting the Pledge. Schoolchildren across our nation should be allowed to make that same statement, thus building a foundation of patriotism and citizenship. Generations of Americans regard the Pledge of Allegiance as a solemn statement of our nation's values. We must not allow this misguided decision to change that fact.

As a cosponsor of this important resolution, I urge all of my colleagues to support H. Res. 459.

#### GOD AND COUNTRY

SPEECH OF

#### HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 27, 2002*

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I find the ruling by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals regarding the Pledge of Allegiance an outrage. Labeling the Pledge unconstitutional and banning it from Public Schools is an uninformed and narrow-minded decision by a notoriously irresponsible and radical court.

Mr. Speaker, I denounce this decision, and for the record, I want to include the following remarks, which include quotations from some of our founding fathers as respects their view on religion and the law:

Any high school student with a basic knowledge of history and with a minimal interest in politics understands that there exists a strong separation of church and state in the United States today. This idea of separation is bitterly enforced by some politicians and always emerges as a hot topic in political debate.

But ask these same high school students about the religious beliefs of our founding fathers and the place of religion in the early history of our government, and you will probably find that their knowledge of these subjects is vague and incomplete.

In fact, many Americans today would be surprised to find out that the creators of our nation were profoundly religious, that many of them had no reservations about the role of God in our Government.

Yet, it is amazing to me that our understanding of the founding fathers and the creation of our country has been forgotten or ignored. For in one of our most cherished documents, The Declaration of Independence, which holds our most basic statement of our rights as Americans, we are told that it is "self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

It goes on, "That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among men . . ." It is as simple as that—our morality, the basis for our laws, comes from our Creator. Our government, or any democratic government for that matter, is based on our divinely inspired sense of right and wrong. This was an undisputed understanding amongst our founding fathers, which, somehow, escapes the modern imagination.