

individual achievers who are making a difference in the communities and lives of African Americans and persons of African decent across the globe.

The Links, Inc.—Southern Maryland Chain Chapter began in 1980 as an interest group led by the visionary Albertine T. Lancaster. After two years of community projects within Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's counties, the 26 dynamic women were installed into the Links, Inc.

Today, President Sandra Billups and the Southern Maryland Chain Chapter have 30 members who continue to build links of service to those in need. The Chapter is strongly rooted in building friendships and volunteering their services to fill needs locally and globally. The work of these dedicated women has created financial opportunities and support to so many.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the dedicated, distinctive and diligent women of the Links, Inc.—Southern Maryland Chain Chapter for 20 years of outstanding service to Southern Maryland communities. The Links, Inc. continue to sponsor such projects as the Annual College Scholarship, African American Family Fun Fest, Annual Civic Luncheon, Project Lead: High Expectations and Tri-County shelters.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the Links, Inc.—Southern Maryland Chain Chapter and the virtuous women that serve daily for their commitment to excellence and am honored to recognize their many contributions to making Southern Maryland a stronger, more responsive community.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRED STAHL

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I have the honor of recognizing the accomplishments and life of Fred Stahl, of the Western Slope of Colorado. For the past twenty-five years, Mr. Stahl has greatly contributed to the preservation of Colorado's resources in his duties at the Plant Insectary Division of the Colorado State Department of Agriculture. His selfless contributions to his community are quite deserving of our recognition and I am honored to bring forth his accomplishments before you today.

Fred Stahl began his environmental preservation career after he graduated from Colorado State University in 1977 with a Masters of Botany and Plant Pathology. When he joined the Plant Insectary Division on April 22, 1977, he immediately began working to reverse the adverse impact of immigration to the ecosystem in Colorado, which were caused by the transportation of unnatural organisms from other countries. He is credited with reducing the amount of pesticide use in Colorado by providing farmers with alternative, environmentally safe methods of pest control. These new methods of pest control have lowered agricultural production costs, decreased the amounts of toxins deposited into the environment, and offered various pest-control options to the farming community.

Mr. Speaker, I stand before you to show my appreciation to Mr. Stahl for his efforts to pre-

serve the environment and natural beauty of Colorado. He has truly set an example for not only his community, but also the entire state. I am honored to praise his accomplishment before this Body of Congress and this nation today. Good luck to you, Fred in your retirement and all your future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW J. HOGAN FOR HIS APPOINTMENT AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to congratulate Matthew J. Hogan on his appointment by Department of Interior Secretary Gale Norton to be the Deputy Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Since 1998 Matt has served as the Director of Conservation Policy for the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation and will be leaving on July 26th to assume his new position with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

During his four years at the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation Matt was the liaison between the hunting, fishing and conservation community and the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, on which we serve as co-chairs. Matt has played an important role in increasing the value of the Caucus to the hunting and fishing community and furthering the Foundation's role as a conduit between the two.

Before his tenure at the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation Matt served as the Government Affairs Manager for Safari Club International where he was the liaison to Congress on hunting and conservation issues. Prior to that, Matt was a Legislative Assistant, and later Legislative Director for the Honorable Pete Geren (D-TX).

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that at this time to recognize Matthew J. Hogan for his outstanding service to the sportsmen, wildlife conservation organizations and the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus. We believe his dedicated service will continue with his appointment as Deputy Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Please join us in congratulating him and wishing him the best of luck.

EXPRESSING CONCERNS ABOUT THE FEDERAL BUDGET

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. DICKS. Speaker, since the passage of the President's tax cut bill last year, I have been very concerned about the effects such a massive decrease in federal revenues could have on our ability to meet the other critical needs of the United States—Social Security, Medicare, education and national security

among them. In Monday's New York Times, Janet Yellen, a professor of economics and business at the University of California at Berkeley, wrote this interesting analysis of the tax cut and its long term effects on the national economy. I would like to submit this article for the RECORD for consideration by my colleagues.

[From the New York Times, July 22, 2002]

THE BINGE MENTALITY IN THE FEDERAL BUDGET

(By Janet Yellen)

BERKELEY, CALIF.—We read in the news of the plight of older Americans as their nest eggs, invested in the stock market, have dwindled. Some can no longer afford to retire as planned; others are going back to work.

The stock market binge of the late 1990's, with its dreams of double-digit gains as far as the eye could see, was based on illusion, not reality. Now we know it. Irrational exuberance fed the bubble. Accounting tricks that inflated reported corporate earnings reinforced investor optimism. Insiders reaped huge gains; investors and employees saw their savings tank.

Another equally pernicious set of illusions—created by the same binge mentality—surrounds the federal budget, but has so far received less public notice because the negative effects have not yet surfaced. The budget binge is supported by the same kinds of unrealistic projections of future revenues, low-balling of spending and obfuscatory accounting that are now the focus of the Wall Street scandals. But the impact in this arena could prove even more enduring than the current problems on Wall Street. Those counting on Social Security for their retirement, along with future taxpayers, in due course will be left high and dry.

The perpetrators of the budget binge—President Bush and Congress—are sacrificing the public's long-term welfare for their own short-term political gains. In the case of Enron, the company's long-run stability was sacrificed for inflated stock prices in the short run. In the case of the federal budget, the health of Social Security and other programs is being sacrificed for unaffordable tax cuts. The motivation is the same: the decision makers don't believe they should be accountable for the long-run problems. Kenneth Lay walked away from Enron with millions. And the president and most lawmakers in Congress will be gone from office before the effects of the budget policies are fully felt.

Americans are told that we can have it all: more defense and more education; more homeland security and more agricultural subsidies; and a Medicare prescription drug benefit, in addition to last year's multi-trillion dollar tax cut. On top of all this, we're told that it's possible to fix Social Security—which is expected to exhaust its trust fund in 2041 if no action is taken.

These promises, of course, did not add up even in official budget projections, which unrealistically assumed no growth at all in inflation-adjusted discretionary spending, no relief for the 33 million taxpayers who, in the absence of a remedy, will unexpectedly face an alternative minimum tax, and the expiration without renewal of popular business tax incentives like the research tax credit. None of this could be sustained in reality. But the problem is even worse than merely having too little in federal revenues to do what politicians promised voters. The deeper problem is that the wayward budget takes off the table the resources that are needed to reform Social Security if we are to avoid politically unacceptable benefit cuts.

In his campaign, George W. Bush promised that Social Security could be repaired painlessly, by allowing younger workers to divert

a portion of their Social Security payroll tax into individual accounts. Since the stock market has historically offered higher returns than government bonds and substantially higher returns than Social Security, he suggested that such new-found investment freedom would repair the finances of the retirement system. With the fall in the stock market we now see that a secure, defined-benefit pension has its merits after all. Imagine the political pressures for bailouts in the face of the current stock market decline if Social Security included individual accounts!

Even absent the failing stock market, privatization of Social Security has a fatal flaw: it can only be achieved at huge budgetary cost. Under the current system, the younger generation's payroll taxes pay the older generation's benefits. If Social Security is privatized, so that the younger generation diverts part of its taxes into individual accounts, then the government must finance, at enormous cost, the retirement of the older generation. It's like a family that hands down its clothes from one brother to the next: if somewhere along the way a brother gets to keep his clothes, the family has to head to the mall.

The price tag for the missing generation of clothes was disclosed in December, but without the emphasis it deserved, in the report of the President's Commission to Strengthen Social Security. This commission was supposed to devise a scheme of individual accounts without jeopardizing the benefits of current or near-term retirees. Two plans proposed by the commission would eliminate the long-term deficit in Social Security. Both plans entail large benefit reductions for future retirees while still requiring substantial infusions of cash into the Social Security system.

This is the bottom line: there is no silver bullet to fix Social Security. Any realistic plan is likely to require a lot of cash to make it politically viable. Yet Mr. Bush allocates trillions of dollars to permanent tax cuts, mainly for the rich, and not a single additional dime to Social Security. Forgoing parts of the president's tax cut that will take effect over the next decade could provide the funds necessary to address the Social Security gap.

We can't afford this budget binge of irresponsible tax policies based on unrealistic accounting. Earnings projections that sounded far too good to be true on Wall Street have turned out to be illusions, even though the public desperately wanted to believe in those numbers. The same is true with bad numbers in the federal budget—the principles of arithmetic can't be denied. If the tax cuts are left in place, high-income individuals, including billionaires exempted from estate taxes, stand to gain while future retirees and taxpayers will lose.

President Bush has called for honest accounting in corporate America. The administration could set an example with an honest budget that ensures that retirees will have the nest egg they depend on most, their Social Security benefits. And to make that a reality, Congress should repeal the tax cuts that have not yet been phased in.

HONORING DR. JAMES POWERS
FOR HIS SERVICE TO MIDDLE
TENNESSEE

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my long-time personal friend,

Dr. James M. Powers, for his invaluable dedication and leadership to our community. Dr. Powers is a past mayor of Waverly, Tennessee, and has run one of middle Tennessee's largest private dental practices. He has proven time and time again that he is a leader among his peers, and now all our best wishes go with him and his family as he settles into retirement.

Dr. Powers contributed to the community through his political leadership. He was elected mayor of Waverly and served in that position for 19 years. During his tenure as mayor, he assisted in the development of a new city hall, opened a police department, upgraded the water system and helped attract several companies to Waverly. He served at the state level on the Tennessee Water Quality Control Board and the Tennessee Arts Commission, and was chairman of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

An alumnus of Austin Peay State University, Southwestern at Memphis, and the University of Tennessee, Dr. Powers moved back to our area and with his brother helped build a highly successful dental practice that will continue to help people in our community. He also served two years in the United States Army Dental Corps.

He has proven his dedication and leadership in dentistry through his membership in several associations, including the American Dental Association, Nashville Dental Society, Tennessee Dental Association, Academy of General Dentistry, Fellow of the American College of Dentists, and Fellow of the International College of Dentists. He was also named outstanding alumnus of the University of Tennessee's College of Dentistry.

Dr. James Powers and his wife Helen have four children and three grandchildren and have established themselves as true leaders in Middle Tennessee. While Dr. Powers begins this new chapter in his life, I am hopeful that they will continue to be leaders in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in thanking Dr. James M. Powers for his years of selfless service and leadership in our community.

HONORING NATIONAL 4-H PROGRAM'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, as the National 4-H Program celebrates its 100th Anniversary, I rise in honor of this, great milestone.

Under the U.S. Department of Agriculture, today's 4-H program began as a series of clubs for boys and girls in rural America, originally aimed at teaching youngsters skills related to agriculture with a learning-by-doing approach. While the program has grown in scope to encompass a wide array of subject matter, hands-on learning remains a core curriculum of the 4-H.

In New Jersey, 4-H clubs are administered on a county government level through the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office. Each club has a particular project area that they concentrate on.

Operating on the same four principals the 4-H was founded on: head, heart, hands and health, the organization has provided opportunities for thousands of young people in my district, and millions across the country, to gain knowledge, skills, and compassion as they grow into the men and women that will be our future.

On the 4-H's centennial birthday I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge three outstanding programs in my district: Morris County, Somerset County, and Sussex County programs.

In Morris County over 400 youth are involved in over 30 clubs which focus on over 25 project areas. With a very active alumni base, the Morris County 4-H has over 100 volunteers that help to reach the young people in the community through club leadership, and event staffing. The Morris County 4-H will celebrate the centennial anniversary at the 32nd Annual Morris County 4-H Fair, which will take place July 26 to 28, with activities for children and adults alike.

The Somerset County 4-H is home to over 1,200 children with over 600 volunteers leading clubs and planning the annual 4-H fair. Focused on reaching as many youths as possible, the Somerset 4-H offers a variety of school enrichment programs based on science and the environment as well as a summer adventure day camp that runs two weeks each summer. This year's fair celebrates the centennial of 4-H in America with the theme "One Hundred Years of 4-H—A Thousand Reasons to Celebrate" and will take place August 14 to 16.

Over 750 youths in 67 clubs make up the Sussex County 4-H Program, not to mention the 5,000 youngsters that the organization reaches through school enrichment programs and camping trips.

Every year the program participates in the Sussex County Farm and Horse Show, where this year they will celebrate this anniversary on August 2 to 4.

Mr. Speaker, as the 4-H celebrates its 100th birthday I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this program which continues to exemplify the best of our youth and our nation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ALAN WAYNE WYATT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the untimely death of a fallen firefighter who gave his life in defense of this nation's forests and the people of Colorado. Alan Wayne Wyatt, 51, of Moore's Hollow in eastern Oregon, was killed by a flame-weakened tree or what firefighters sometimes call a "widowmaker", while fighting the Missionary Ridge Fire, which has been burning since June 11th. —

Alan worked as a firefighter, cattle rancher, and rodeo saddle bronc rider, and was considered by many to be a "modern cowboy". Alan was a loving husband and father of two and was known to his family as a man who took his job seriously and never undertook a job