

sound judgment, and total dedication to duty, he has served well this body, the United States Marine Corps and our Nation. Please join me in wishing Master Gunnery Sergeant Fletcher, his wife, Barbara, and their sons, Joel and Gary, all the best as he begins this new chapter in life.

TRIBUTE TO THE 13-COUNTY MUTUAL ASSISTANCE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the North Alabama 13-County Emergency Management/Civil Defense Mutual Assistance Association as it celebrates over three decades of dedicated service to the North Alabama community. The association, which dates as far back as 1971, consists of the Emergency Management officials in Colbert, Cullman, DeKalb, Franklin, Jackson, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Morgan and Winston Counties across North Alabama. This organization has tirelessly protected countless lives in Alabama over the last thirty years, and I rise on behalf of my constituents in North Alabama to express my sincere appreciation to these EMAs.

Formally organized in December 1978, the association was established with a purpose of working together among the thirteen counties across North Alabama to help each other protect lives and property in a coordinated, efficient, reliable and effective way during times of emergencies that exceed the capabilities of any single affected local government. The association works closely with the State of Alabama Emergency Management Agency to better facilitate effective response to critical situations.

The EMAs from these thirteen counties had the foresight over three decades ago to recognize a concept that is today strongly advocated by all levels of government, that being, just how critical it is to cooperate across artificial jurisdictional boundaries in order to respond to emergencies. And now, when securing our homeland and preparing for emergency response is of utmost importance, the rest of the country has begun to realize the value of this kind of cross-district cooperation by strongly promoting and requiring mutual aid and regional response capabilities. I want to commend the North Alabama EMAs in the 13-County Mutual Assistance Association who have worked so hard to protect the livelihood of North Alabama citizens.

The 13-County Mutual Assistance Association serves as a standard for EMAs across our nation. In today's uncertain world, our first responders have to be ready to react quickly and effectively to large-scale emergency situations that cross city and county lines. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of North Alabama, I am pleased to recognize and thank the 13-County Mutual Assistance Association of North Alabama for leading the nation with their innovative outlook on cooperative emergency response developed over thirty years ago.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WARREN BYSTEDT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual from Grand Junction, Colorado. Over the years, Warren Bystedt has grown to love cross-country running and he continues to run competitively today at the age 72. It is a great pleasure today, to honor Warren Bystedt for his numerous achievements and accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation.

Earlier in Warren's life when he was an amateur boxer, he trained consistently, but avoided running because he disliked that element of conditioning. Today the Grand Junction resident has a different view, and can be seen pounding the pavement diligently every morning. Warren's passion for running has motivated him to train everyday for fifty or so yearly races. Gus said, "If I didn't start my morning with that, (run) I wouldn't know what to do." Warren provides the same determination and thoroughness to his daily activities and events.

Warren consistently finishes among the top in the sixty or seventy and older of age divisions in races throughout the country. His competitive nature comes from his earlier days as an amateur boxer when he lost only seven of seventy bouts fighting in the flyweight division. A long time educator and administrator in Minnesota, Illinois, and Iowa, he took up running after taking a hard look at his family history noting that his brothers and father all died of heart attacks and not wanting to suffer the same fate, he began running around his neighborhood in Davenport, Iowa, in 1979. Grand Junction, Colorado, has given Warren the optimum climate in which to run on a year-round basis and he is an active member the Mesa Monument Striders.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the work and contributions of Warren Bystedt, a distinguished citizen and role model for his community. His achievements are impressive, and it is my honor to recognize his accomplishments today. Best wishes to Warren, and good luck on all your future races.

HONORING ANDREA FOX

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrea Fox of San Rafael, California, a talented professional planner, community volunteer, athlete, and breast cancer activist and an inspiration to many.

Andrea Fox lost her tenacious battle against breast cancer on July 2, at the age of 35, leaving a legacy of extraordinary courage and compassion.

A beautiful young woman with incredible grace and dignity, "Annie" Fox was dedicated to finding a cure for breast cancer. Diagnosed with a particularly aggressive cancer in 1998, the former triathlete, who ate organically and

exercised regularly, had none of the traditional risk factors for cancer. Undergoing a lumpectomy, she continued her athletic training and the stage IV cancer seemed to disappear. But, in April 2000, cancer came back and, pursuing every treatment she could find, including non-western, untraditional methods, Annie appeared to have beaten it back again.

Andrea focused her considerable energies on increasing public awareness and getting national attention for the serious epidemic of breast cancer in Marin County, joining the board of Marin Breast Cancer Watch. "Annie was our angel," said Board President Roni Peskin Mentzer.

Whether lobbying in Sacramento for breast cancer research or educating the community about the dangerously high rates of cancer in Marin, Annie made a difference, she made history. Never daunted, she participated in athletic events such as the renowned Dipsea Race and the Human Race, and was organizing new events, like the July 20, 2002 foot race from Mill Valley to the Mountain Theater on Mt. Tamalpais to increase public knowledge and raise much needed funds for research.

In October 2001, only two months after her engagement to longtime partner and soul mate, Chris Stewart, the cancer reappeared and Annie mounted still another heroic campaign. Not one to seek sympathy, she was driven to passionately lead the fight for all women to find a cause to this insidious disease. Despite increasing pain, she continued her work at the Marin Civic Center. "Annie was a special person . . .", Stewart said, "bringing a wonderful happiness to all those who knew her. . . . She was passionate about her work and about preserving the environment."

A woman of uncommon positive spirit, Andrea Fox lost her courageous battle with breast cancer surrounded by friends and family, leaving her devoted fiancé, mother, brother, and a grieving community.

We are all more fortunate to have been graced by the presence of Andrea Fox, her beauty, wisdom and strength. Her love, resolve and remarkable will are the cornerstones of the legacy of courage she has left so that we might continue the fight. While Annie is gone, the spirit of this "angel" of our community will forever be with us.

STATEMENT ON THE ELI HOME CARIÑO WALK-IN CENTER

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Eli Home Cariño Walk-In Center in Anaheim which opened its doors on July 13 to families throughout my district.

Many families in my district do not have a place to go to get support, find information, or just ask questions. The Center will help these families, many of whom are dealing with economic crises and other stress creating situations.

The Eli Home is dedicated to providing free, bilingual services to Spanish-speaking families. The center offers parenting classes, weekly forums, case management, counseling, and child-abuse prevention.

The City of Anaheim has recognized this organization and has welcomed it into the community. I would like to do the same.

I would like to personally thank The Eli Home Cariño Walk-In Center staff for their hard work and dedication to the community and for creating a positive environment for my district.

SCOTT DETROW: REACHING TO
AMERICA'S FUTURE

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize Scott M. Detrow from my district, a talented young man who recently won the 2002 Voice of Democracy Broadcast Scriptwriting Contest. Sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), this competition provides an opportunity for high school students to voice their opinion on their responsibility to our country. More than 85,000 secondary school students participated this year, with only 58 winning a national scholarship.

Mr. Detrow's essay on the American response to the September 11 terrorist attacks captured the contest's theme of "Reaching to America's Future." He channeled his feelings and emotions to create an inspirational piece upon which everyone can reflect. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Scott M. Detrow for his special achievement, and I submit to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the complete text of Mr. Detrow's piece:

A hush fell over the students as they entered the plaza. Their joking and fidgeting suddenly stopped as their eyes came upon the massive sculpture before them. It was a sunny and cool autumn day in lower Manhattan, perfect for a field trip to the World Trade Center Monument. The high-schoolers found it hard to believe that some fifty years before, two of the tallest buildings in the world had stood there, and that they had been destroyed in a matter of minutes.

"Imagine the terror New Yorkers and Americans must have felt that day," the tour guide began. "No one knew what to expect, who had done it, or why. For the first time since the War of 1812, mainland America had been attacked; for the first time since Pearl Harbor, flung headlong by surprise into war."

"How did the country react?" piped up one of the more outgoing students. "Excellent question," replied the tour guide. "From the ashes of the Trade Center and the Pentagon rose the Phoenix of Patriotism, of courage, of will. Americans rushed to blood centers, waiting for hours to give the gift of life. Hundreds of millions of dollars were raised to help the victims. Millions more prayers were offered, as Americans flocked to their mosques, synagogues and churches. Rescue teams were overwhelmed by the crush of volunteers, and the support of the entire nation was heaved upon their president and leaders, wholeheartedly trusting in the American system of democracy."

"Soon you could not go a block without seeing Old Glory. From the steps of the Capitol—still standing thanks to courageous passengers who fought off suicide hijackers—to the playing fields of professional sports, to

schools all across the country came the sweet sound of 'God Bless America.'"

By now many students had their hands up. "But I read that the economy went into a recession, and that soon afterward biological terrorism began arriving by mail. How could this spirit be maintained in such a dark time?"

"That's a paradox that helps make America such a great country," answered the guide. "It seems that throughout our history, our darkest hours were also our finest. In 2001 we refused to let the terrorists win. People continued with their regular lives, but a bit more mindful of what was really important. Friendships were bonded, old rifts erased, and the country truly became one nation under God. The country felt up to any challenge, and took it one day at a time. Every time a new problem arose, Americans simply dealt with it and continued to march forward. Everyone rose to the occasion, from the President to the firefighters, to the average Joe."

The students gazed at the monument, reflecting on the greatness of the generation past. They had never seen their grandparents and great grandparents in this light, and were stunned by the character they showed and the actions they took in the face of adversity. Faced with pure evil, they had stood up to it and won. These were the true heroes, these men and women who stood on the very spot where they were now, working non-stop for months on end sorting through the rubble, hoping against all odds to find survivors.

As a distant clock struck twelve, the sun shone directly upon the monument. The students saw the memorial in its full splendor, a firefighter, a police officer, old man, and young girl, all gazing and pointing off into the distance. The reflecting pool cast a glimmer of hope in the statues' faces: the promise of a new tomorrow.

HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, while our nation recovers from the tragedy of September 11 and turns its focus toward hemispheric defense, we should also realize that crucial human rights issues are in jeopardy in our own backyard. Unbeknownst to many in this country, the situation in Guatemala is worsening by the day. During the Cold War, a 36-year civil war raged in this Central American nation, resulting in an estimated 200,000 civilian deaths. Now, the infamous architect of Guatemala's most intense period of genocide against the Maya indigenous population, ex-director General Efraín Ríos Montt, has staged a political renaissance thanks to a climate of intimidation and violence produced by the military's death squads.

Andrew Blandford, Research Associate at the Washington-based Council on Hemispheric Affairs (COHA), has recently authored a press memorandum entitled "Ríos Montt's Political Resurgence in Guatemala Coincides with Increase in Violence with Impunity." This important analysis, which was released on July 26, will shortly appear in a revised form in the upcoming issue of that organization's estimable biweekly publication, *The Wash-*

ington Report on the Hemisphere. Blandford's research findings spotlight the developing Guatemalan human rights tragedy and examine the role played by that nation's government and military in violently covering up its sanguinary past.

The inauguration of a second cycle of death squad activity in Guatemala was brought to the world's attention in 1998 when Bishop Juan Gerardi was bludgeoned to death in his garage just two days after delivering his report itemizing the army's responsibility for thousands of massacres during the 1980s. This year, human rights activist Guillermo Ovalle de León was shot at least 25 times while eating lunch at a restaurant in Guatemala City, and a June 7 fax signed by Los Guatemaltecos de Verdad labeled 11 prominent Guatemalan human rights activists as doomed enemies of the state because of their cooperation with UN Special Representative Hina Jilani during her May visit. Clearly, Mr. Speaker, Guatemala's militant regime is willing to commit whatever atrocity is necessary to shield its murderous past from the eyes of the international community.

COHA researcher Blandford calls for the renewal of the 12-year U.S. ban on International Military Education and Training (IMET) to Guatemala. This resolution would illustrate the desire of the United States to attain peace and justice, as well as security, in Central America. By denying funds to the Guatemalan military, the U.S. would inherently be guarding civilians from political intimidation and violence. Consequently, the article is of great relevance since the need to constructively engage Guatemala is likely to grow in intensity in the coming months, given the nation's mushrooming trend of death squad killings.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PARKVIEW
HOSPITAL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you, this body of Congress, and our nation to recognize Parkview Medical Center of Pueblo, Colorado. For the past eighty years, Parkview Hospital has provided medical care to the community in a kind, friendly, and dedicated manner. It is hard to match the kind of integrity and honesty provided by the staff of Parkview, and I thank the staff for their extraordinary contributions.

Parkview Hospital first emerged because of the influence of six prominent physicians in 1921 after a disastrous flood in 1921. Parkview was officially established in 1923 and had great success from its inception, which required the facility to expand and renovate every ten years. Today, several additional wings have been added to create what is today a state-of-the-art medical center in Southern Colorado. Parkview offers the citizens of Pueblo and surrounding communities a radiological cancer treatment department, obstetrical floor, surgical section, Psychiatric and Chemical Dependency Unit, Neurological Intensive Care Unit, Computer Axial Tomography Whole Body Scanner, Same-Day Surgery Wing, and Kidsville Pediatric Unit. Moreover, Parkview fulfilled requirements to classify