

The Minnesota Stand Down is a fitting and worthy event, recognizing the efforts of the veterans in our community and providing needed relief from the difficulties of day-to-day life. As a state legislator, I was especially proud to represent veterans in Minnesota and champion their patriotism, courage and honor. As a Member of Congress, I will continue supporting Stand Downs across the country and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

RECOGNIZING NORMAN AND LINDA
MANZER FOR BEING WORLD
CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Norman and Linda Manzer for being named St. Helena World Citizens of the Year 2002. As residents of St. Helena for over 30 years, they have continued to make positive contributions to my hometown.

Norm and Linda Manzer have dedicated their lives to making their city, their country and the world better through community service. Norm and Linda have made thirteen trips to Russia in the past decade for humanitarian work with Rotary International, which is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Norm and Linda have been instrumental in Rotary International's Children of Russia Project. Norm and Linda's tireless work to improve the lives of the Russian people has been invaluable.

Norm has worked as a General Insurance Agent for 29 years. His insurance office has grown along with the St. Helena community to provide for over 1200 families. He has volunteered his time to a number of organizations. He served as President of the Silverado Chapter of the American Red Cross, President of the St. Helena Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of the Napa County Farm Bureau and the co-founder of Friends of Napa Valley. He has lectured at Pacific Union College and St. Helena High School.

Linda has dedicated her life to her family and community. In addition to her community service work, she and Norm raised two wonderfully successful children.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the achievements of Norm and Linda Manzer. The town of St. Helena, the entire Napa Valley, and our nation should aspire to achieve the success of these two great Americans.

LORI BERENSON

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, for almost seven years, Lori Berenson, an American, has been imprisoned in Peru under exceptionally harsh conditions that have seriously affected her health. From the beginning, many of us have said that Lori's convictions

were based on extremely flawed trials in which she was denied due process. Her first conviction by a hooded military tribunal was so tainted that it was thrown out by Peru. Earlier this month, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights announced that her second trial was also flawed, determining that the Peruvian government violated Ms. Berenson's rights.

Indeed, much of the evidence used against Lori was gathered during her discredited military trial, in many cases from witnesses who had been subjected to torture. Most of the witnesses have since recanted their earlier statements. The only witness against Lori at the second trial received a reduced sentence in return for his initial testimony condemning Lori and, on the eve of Lori's second trial, was given a new trial so that he can get another reduction in sentence. Furthermore, court proceedings clearly show that the judges had decided the verdict long before this trial began. How fair is a trial in which a judge proclaims a defendant guilty while witnesses are still being heard? Even this badly tainted court admitted that Lori was innocent of terrorist acts or of belonging to a terrorist organization. Further, the law under which Lori was convicted has been widely condemned by the international community for its broad scope and outrageously heavy penalties.

The Inter-American Commission has spoken and Peru should listen. Lori has condemned terrorism and has said that she opposed the violence and deaths there have been. Peru embarrasses itself by continuing to keep her in prison based on a flawed trial and an indefensible statute.

She has been in prison for far too long. It is time for Lori to come home.

COMMENDING MR. DENNIS
DEMELOPINE

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Dennis DeMelloPine, and to wish him and his fiancée, Miss Pattie Christman, the very best on the occasion of their marriage. A native of Santa Clara, California, Mr. DeMelloPine has devoted a tremendous amount of time and energy to community leadership, labor leadership, and charitable causes. His greatest contribution, however, has been his professional career—thirty years of dedicated service to the Bay Area as a firefighter.

Dennis's love for aviation as a young man led him to become a United Airlines mechanic, in which capacity he perfected the skills that would eventually help him become a licensed pilot. But Dennis decided to make aviation an avocation rather than a career, and in 1972, he joined the Santa Clara County Fire Department. Over the course of the next decade Dennis served in several different communities, and became a Fire Captain in 1979. A few years later, he settled in permanently at the University Avenue Station in Los Gatos, where he has served for the last twenty years. His fellow firefighters could not have been happier about that decision: when Dennis is not out on a job he is busy cooking his company some of the best meals to be found in town.

Considering the long hours required of a firefighter, and how strenuous those hours can be, it is amazing how much Dennis has contributed to our community outside of his firefighting duties. For fourteen years, Dennis served as President of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1165, bringing improved working conditions and increased benefits to his peers while working to maintain a strong labor-management partnership. He has also helped the Department procure governmental relief from budget problems, and has played a major role in making the County Fire Department more efficient and accessible. He not only understands the needs of the employees in his own community, but also works effectively between community fire departments by using his managerial savvy to facilitate mergers. From every point of view, he has made an invaluable contribution to the fire departments of the Bay Area.

Dennis received a letter of commendation in 1997 for fighting the "Cats" fire in Los Gatos and a Merit Award for outstanding service in 1999, but Dennis has done much more for the community that goes largely unnoticed. He is a coach in the local PONY baseball and softball league, and he is an organizer and active participant in local fundraisers for charity and labor concerns. Much to my delight, Mr. DeMelloPine is also a strong and active supporter of the Democratic Party.

Dennis's commitment to family is every bit as strong as his commitment to the community and to his career. He has close relationships with his brothers, cousins, aunts and uncles, relationships serving as an important balance to the demanding nature and stressfulness of his job. Most importantly, Dennis's mother has been a good friend and a great parent to her son for his whole life, and much of the success Dennis has enjoyed in life can be attributed to this wonderful woman.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Mr. Dennis DeMelloPine and wish him and his lovely fiancée, Miss Pattie Christman, all the best on the occasion of their wedding. They have both brought much happiness and security to our community, and may they now do the same for each other.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE SERVICE
OF MARION P. CARNELL

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Marion P. Carnell of Ware Shoals, South Carolina. Mr. Carnell has led an extraordinary life, more than half of which has been dedicated to our state in the capacity of a state legislator. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress.

Mr. Carnell graduated from Ware Shoals High School in 1945. Among his many accomplishments are an Honorary Doctor of Law Degree from The Citadel in 1993 and an Honorary Ph.D. of Law from Lander University in 1999. Currently Mr. Carnell is a successful retail merchant and President of Piggly Wiggly Stores in the towns of Ninety-Six and Ware Shoals, South Carolina. Mr. Carnell and his wife of 52-years, Sara, are the proud parents of Marion Ray and the late Toni Lynn. They

are also the proud grandparents of five grandchildren.

Since being elected to the General Assembly in 1961, Mr. Carnell has diligently worked to improve the health care system in South Carolina, taking extra steps to advocate for the mentally and physically disabled.

On several occasions many organizations have named Mr. Carnell Legislator of the Year. The Greenwood Area Chamber of Commerce inducted Mr. Carnell into the Greenwood County Hall of Fame for his contribution to the economic prosperity and quality of life in Greenwood County. In 1962 he was named the Woodman Outstanding Man of the Year, in 1990 he was awarded the Special Service Award, and in 1995 and 1999 the S.C. Citizens and Merchants Association honored him as an Outstanding Legislator. These are just a few of his many accomplishments that have set him apart and are a testament to his service to South Carolina.

I am exceptionally proud to note that Mr. Carnell has recently received the Order of the Palmetto. Awarded by the Governor of South Carolina, this award is the state's highest civilian honor. Mr. Carnell rightly deserves this great honor for his 40 years of hard work and dedication in ensuring a bright future for our state.

Mr. Speaker, I hope this body will join me today in honoring Mr. Marion P. Carnell for his hard work and dedication to the people of South Carolina.

EXTRADITION TREATY WITH MEXICO

HON. DAN MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. DAN MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring an issue to the floor of great importance to every member of this body and to the entire nation. Throughout my career on Capitol Hill I have worked hard to ensure that criminals who flee our borders are returned to face our justice system. Unfortunately, many criminals are never returned to the United States, particularly those who flee to Mexico. Too many criminals are running south where, in violation of our bilateral extradition treaty, the government refuses to extradite criminals who may face a penalty of life imprisonment or the death penalty. This is an outrage! Why should hardened criminals with no respect for human life be allowed to serve lesser penalties in Mexico or even be set free in direct violation of our treaty? They should not. They should be returned to face our legal system.

This is a problem that has tormented many prosecutors and plagued many states, including my home State of Florida. I recognized the need for extradition reform after Jose Luis Del Torro killed a mother of four in Sarasota, Florida and fled to Mexico. After an enormous amount of negotiation, we were able to bring Del Torro to justice. But instead of a possible death sentence, arrangements were made for Del Torro to spend the rest of his life in a jail cell.

In May of this year, David March, a dedicated 33-year-old Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy, was shot to death during a routine

traffic stop in Irwindale, California. The prime suspect in the cold-blooded execution style murder of this police officer is a known and repeated violent criminal and is believed to have fled to his native Mexico. If arrested in Mexico, there is no guarantee that Deputy March's killer will ever be brought to justice. Current Mexican policy would prevent extradition for any future prosecution in the United States for the murder of Deputy March—a crime that under California law requires at least a potential life sentence.

For years criminals have fled our southern border to evade our justice system, and we now have a case where a cop killer is believed to have done the same.

Mr. Speaker, Mexico claims that no matter what the crime, a criminal can in fact be rehabilitated and thus does not respect our penalties. Our penalties, however, are the way we, the United States, send a message to those who disdain our laws and way of life. I strongly urge everyone in this room to support extradition reform and ensure that cop killers do not flee to Mexico to escape justice.

HONORING THE BLUE CROSS OF CALIFORNIA STATE SPONSORED PROGRAMS FOR THEIR DEDICATED SERVICE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Blue Cross of California State Sponsored Programs (BCC SSP) for their dedicated service to the citizens of California. The BCC SSP has had a tremendous impact on over one million low-income Californians who would otherwise be without health insurance. BCC SSP is the largest commercial health plan provider involved in California's Medi-Cal Managed Care and Healthy Families Programs, and is the only health plan that serves every county in the state.

One of the primary challenges that the BCC SSP has faced is the vastly different ethnic and regional characteristics of California. To meet the challenge of serving this diverse population, the BCC SSP has created Community Resource Centers in eleven counties. These centers are staffed by local professionals who have a deep understanding and commitment to the community. Using this regional approach ensures that every community gets the most appropriate and helpful health care services it needs.

The BCC SSP has received awards from the California Department of Health Services for quality improvement and clinical quality of care standard assessment studies. In 2001 the American Association of Health Plans recognized five of BCC SSP's innovative member service programs as Best Practices, including: the Asthma Management Program, the Prenatal Program, its AIDS Program, the Fire Safety Program and the statewide Telemedicine Program. The BCC SSP has received numerous awards for its innovation in health care.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize the Blue Cross of California State Sponsored Programs for the tremendous

services that they provide for the people of California. The programs are true assets to the State of California and its communities and I speak on behalf of the people of California when I thank the BCC SSP for its services.

THE LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERSHIP TO COMBAT TERRORISM ACT

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Law Enforcement Partnership to Combat Terrorism Act. This legislation seeks to designate 25 percent of available COPS grant funding for the hiring and training of intelligence officers and analysts by state and local police departments, in an effort to further promote our nation's anti-terrorism efforts.

Much has changed since September 11, 2001. With a heightened awareness of the devastating effects of terrorism, our nation is undergoing change on every level, in order to ensure that National and Homeland Security are at the forefront of our agenda.

As the Chairman of the House Armed Services Special Oversight Panel on Terrorism, I have played an active role in many of these initiatives. While many important steps have already been taken in fighting the war of terrorism, I believe that more can be done to ensure a concentrated, connected, nation-wide effort.

To this end, I feel that it is imperative to enhance the anti-terrorism efforts of our police departments, as opposed to simply providing funding for the traditional community policing efforts. Designating 25 percent of available COPS funding to increase the number of law enforcement officers involved in activities that are focused on intelligence efforts is an important step in this direction.

The Law Enforcement Partnership to Combat Terrorism Act states that specialized training will be provided for one intelligence officer and one analyst officer per grant recipient. Such training will include enhancing the officers' observation, information gathering, foreign language, and analytic skills necessary to spot terrorist threats in their communities. These officers, in turn, will be able to share their skills with the other members of their police force. In addition, my legislation directs the Attorney General to ensure that all intelligence and analyst officers have top secret security clearances. Such security clearances will allow these State and local law enforcement officers to share information with Federal officials, facilitating a concentrated effort.

By providing the necessary funding, we can further promote coordination among Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers to ensure an interconnected, concentrated effort in our war on terrorism. I am confident that these efforts will be successful in allowing state and local law enforcement officers to play a vital role in the enhancement of our Homeland Security.