Born on February 20, 1942, Senator MCCONNELL demonstrated his leadership and political skills at an early age. He was elected student body president of his high school, student body president of the University of Louisville College of Arts and Sciences, and president of the Student Bar Association at the University of Kentucky College of Law. After graduating from law school, Senator MCCONNELL quickly ascended Washington politics as an intern for U.S. Senator John Sherman Cooper, chief legislative assistant to U.S. Senator Marlow Cook, and deputy assistant general under President Gerald R. Ford.

After serving in Washington, Senator MCCONNELL returned home to Kentucky to help build the Republican Party he loves so much. He was elected as County Judge-Executive in Jefferson County in 1978 and to the United States Senate in 1984. He is the only Republican in Kentucky history to be elected to three full terms in that esteemed body.

Since arriving in the Senate, Senator MCCONNELL has achieved recognition as being one of Washington's most influential people. He is the Ranking Member of the Senate Rules Committee, the Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, a senior member of the Senate Agricultural Committee, and a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Senator MCCONNELL's committee assignments position him well to champion issues that matter to Kentuckians.

Perhaps one of the biggest honors of Senator MCCONNELL's political career came in January 2001. As the Chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, he directed the planning and production of President George W. Bush's Inauguration as the 43rd President of the United States. Not only did he serve as emcee of the 2001 Inauguration Ceremony and escort President Bush throughout the day's historic events; he also helped coordinate the ''Bluegrass'' Inaugural Ball.

Along with the long list of accomplishments in his political and professional life, Senator MCCONNELL is a committed husband to his wife, Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao, and a loving father to his three daughters: Elly, Claire, and Porter.

On Senator MCCONNELL's 60th Birthday, I think it is important to thank him for the guiding light he provides to other folks in Kentucky. I speak personally and on behalf of a number of Republican candidates who have been inspired and helped by Senator MCCONNELL's leadership. He taught us that Republicans can win in Kentucky.

Mr. Speaker I would ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in wishing him a very happy birthday and continued service for Kentucky and America.

TRIBUTE TO WALLACE E. GOODE, JR.

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Mr. Wallace E. Goode, Jr., who will be awarded the Franklin H. Williams Award by the U.S. Peace Corps this month.

Most Americans visualize the Peace Corps as groups of student volunteers working in the ''developing world.'' A far away world dogged by poverty and disadvantagement, a place we only visit through somber images of undernourished children and devastated villages on television.

However, the developing world is not necessarily that remote. In fact, it may reside within our own borders. Wallace Goode fully understands this, as Executive Director of the Chicago Empowerment Zone and an individual with a solid record of serving and helping in areas that need it most. Mr. Goode has a crucial role in the revitalization effort, as he manages the push for community self-sustainability for distressed neighborhoods in Chicago.

The Peace Corps mission pinpoints ''to help; to learn; to teach'' as core duties.

Mr. Goode learned as a student at Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, IL, a grad student at the University of Vermont and as a doctoral candidate at Loyola University while studying Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.

Early in his career of helping and giving, Mr. Goode served as Director of Rural Development in Central Africa, Community Development Field Officer in the Solomon Islands and Trainer for the U.S. Peace Corps.

Furthermore, he helped to teach others as a Dean at Allegheny College in Meadville, PA, Assistant Dean of Students at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, IL, and a Manager at International Orientation Resources (IOR) teaching fellow managers and executives how to approach business with other cultures and cross-cultural conflict resolution.

Today, he continues to advance the Peace Corps legacy of civic service by addressing Chicago's Empowerment Zone revitalization initiatives, of economic empowerment, affordable housing, public safety, cultural diversity, Health and Human Services, and Youth futures.

Each year, the Franklin H. Williams Award honors the outstanding leadership contributions that Peace Corps volunteers of color have made in the area of community service. And I can't think of a better, or more deserving recipient, and that is most likely how the Chicago Area Peace Corps Association felt when they nominated him.

Mr. Speaker, seldom do we get to sing the praises of individuals whose hard work and positive deeds improve the world. Thanks to the Peace Corps, Mr. Wallace Goode's inspiring example will not be unsung.

FARM BILL PAYMENT LIMITATIONS A NECESSARY STEP

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues the following editorial from the February 12, 2001, Omaha World-Herald. The editorial emphasizes the importance of reviewing the purpose of farm programs. It also expresses support for limiting farm payments, which would benefit family farmers and restore public confidence in farm programs.

[From the Omaha World-Herald, Feb. 12, 2001]

WHY A FARM BILL? TO EVALUATE SUBSIDY CAP, WE NEED TO REVISIT FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS

A U.S. Senate amendment aimed at lowering the cap on farm subsidies to $275,000 a year for the biggest farms is a move in the right direction, although it may not be the revolutionary step its backers have portrayed.

The new limit is designed for a worthy purpose. It would prevent huge corporate farms from receiving multimillion-dollar payments, thereby removing a factor that has tarnished the subsidy program in the eyes of many Americans.

This isn't a major issue in the Midlands, where most farms are family-operated and where federal payments are much more modest.

But in the South, where large corporate operations exist, the amendment is bitterly opposed. Currently the farm program has a theoretical limit of $460,000. Corporate farmers with platoons of lawyers and accountants have found many options, including the breaking up of one operation into separate units, at least on paper. In effect, there is no limit. One Arkansas operation harvested $49 million in federal funds from 1996 to 2000.

Some observers say that Southern opposition to the cap will be enough to sidetrack the farm bill.

If debate must be extended, it would be useful if some members of both houses of Congress addressed the underlying philosophy. America has had a subsidy program for so long that its purpose is sometimes forgotten. It originated in the 1930s as a way to help small and medium-sized farms survive a period of surplus-depressed prices. But in recent years it has morphed into a safety net for an ever-widening array of food and fiber producers, whether or not they were family farmers. In effect, it subsidizes surpluses, perpetuating a cycle of low returns and pressure for more subsidies.

Congress might start by putting up the fundamental questions for review: Why do we have a farm program? To help the little guys or the big guys? To encourage surplus production or discourage it? To ensure raw materials for processors? To protect all elements of the agricultural industry from the perils of weather and market? Is the farm bill corporate welfare or community stabilization?

Once the philosophy is established, perhaps a rational debate can take place. With or without it, the lower cap backed by Nebraska's delegation and others seems sound.

Nothing in this amendment reduces the overall cost of the farm bill, which in its present form would add about $74 billion in spending over the next 10 years. But it does aim at keeping the program from being increasingly a form of income-protection for mega-farmers. In that context, the amendment deserves respect and the sponsors are right to give it a try.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MONETARY FREEDOM AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Monetary Freedom and Accountability Act. This simple bill takes a step toward restoring

Congress' constitutional authority over the monetary policy of the United States by requiring Congressional approval before the President or the Treasury Secretary buys or sells gold.

Federal dealings in the gold market have the potential to seriously disrupt the free market by either artificially inflating or deflating the price of gold. Given gold's importance to America's (and the world's) monetary system, any federal interference in the gold market will have ripple effects through the entire economy. For example, if the government were to intervene to artificially lower the price of gold, the result would be to hide the true effects of an inflationary policy until the damage was too severe to remain out of the public eye.

By artificially deflating the price of gold, federal actions in the gold market can reduce the values of private gold holdings, adversely effecting millions of investors. These investors rely on their gold holdings to protect them from the effects of our misguided fiat currency system. Federal dealings in gold can also adversely affect those countries with large gold mines, many of which are currently ravished by extreme poverty. Mr. Speaker, restoring a vibrant gold market could do more than any foreign aid program to restore economic growth to these areas.

While the Treasury denies it is dealing in gold, the Gold Anti-Trust Action Committee (GATA) has uncovered evidence suggesting that the Federal Reserve and the Treasury, operating through the Exchange-Stabilization Fund and in cooperation with major banks and the International Monetary Fund, have been interfering in the gold market with the goal of lowering the price of gold. The purpose of this policy has been to disguise the true effects of the monetary bubble responsible for the artificial prosperity of the 1990s and to protect the politically-powerful banks who are heavily invested in gold derivatives. GATA believes federal actions to drive down the price of gold help protect the profits of these banks at the expense of investors, consumers, and taxpayers around the world.

GATA has also produced evidence that American officials are involved in gold transactions. Alan Greenspan himself referred to the federal government's power to manipulate the price of gold at a hearing before the House Banking Committee and the Senate Agricultural Committee in July, 1998: "Nor can private counterparties restrict supplies of gold, another commodity whose derivatives are often traded over-the-counter, where *central banks stand ready to lease gold in increasing quantities should the price rise.*" [Emphasis added].

Mr. Speaker, in order to allow my colleagues to learn more about this issue, I am enclosing "All that Glitters is Not Gold" by Kelly Patricia O'Meara, an investigative reporter from Insight magazine. This article explains in detail GATA's allegations of Federal involvement in the gold market.

Mr. Speaker, while I certainly share GATA's concerns over the effects of federal dealings in the gold market, my bill in no way interferes with the ability of the federal government to buy or sell gold. It simply requires that before the executive branch engages in such transactions, Congress has the chance to review it, debate it, and approve it.

Given the tremendous effects on the American economy from the federal dealings in the gold market, it certainty is reasonable that the people's representatives have a role in approving these transactions, especially since Congress has an all-too-neglected Constitutional role in overseeing monetary policy. Therefore, I urge all my colleagues to stand up for sound economics, open government and Congress' constitutional role in monetary policy by cosponsoring the Monetary Freedom and Accountability Act.

[Insight Magazine, March 4, 2002]

ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD

(By Kelly Patricia O'Meara)

Even though Enron employees and the company's accounting firm, Arthur Andersen, have destroyed mountains of documents, enough information remains in the ruins of the nation's largest corporate bankruptcy to provide a clear picture of what happened to wreck what once was the seventh-largest U.S. corporation.

Obfuscation, secrecy, and accounting tricks appear to have catapulted the Houston-based trader of oil and gas to the top of the Fortune 100, only to be brought down by the same corporate chicanery. Meanwhile, Wall Street analysts and the federal government's top bean counters struggle to convince the nation that the Enron crash is an isolated case, not in the least reflective of how business is done in corporate America.

But there are many in the world of high finance who aren't buying the official line and warn that Enron is just the first to fall from a shaky house of cards.

Many analysts believe that this problem is nowhere more evident than at the nation's bullion banks, and particularly at the House of Morgan (J.P. Morgan Chase). One of the world's leading banking institutions and a major international bullion bank, Morgan Chase has received heavy media attention in recent weeks both for its financial relationships with bankrupts Enron and Global Crossing Ltd. as well as the financial collapse of Argentina.

It is no secret that Morgan Chase was one of Enron's biggest lenders, reportedly losing at least $600 million and, perhaps, billions. The banking giant's stock has gone south, and management has been called before its shareholders to explain substantial investments in highly speculative derivatives—hidden speculation of the sort that overheated and blew up on Enron.

In recent years Morgan Chase has invested much of its capital in derivatives, including gold and interest-rate derivatives, about which very little information is provided to shareholders. Among the information that has been made available, however, is that as of June 2000, J.P. Morgan reported nearly $30 billion of gold derivatives and Chase Manhattan Corp., although merged with J.P. Morgan, still reported separately in 2000 that it had $35 billion in gold derivatives. Analysts agree that the derivatives have exploded at this bank and that both positions are enormous relative to the capital of the bank and the size of the gold market.

It gets worse. J,P. Morgan's total derivatives position reportedly now stands at nearly $29 trillion, or three times the U.S. annual gross domestic product. Wall Street insiders speculate that if the gold market were to rise, Morgan Chase could be in serious financial difficulty because of its "short positions" in gold. In other words, if the price of gold were to increase substantially, Morgan Chase and other bullion banks that are highly leveraged in gold would have trouble covering their liabilities. One financial analyst, who asked not to be identified, explained the situation this way: "Gold is borrowed by Morgan Chase from the Bank of England at 1 percent interest and then Morgan Chase sells the gold on the open market, then reinvests the proceeds into interest-bearing vehicles at maybe 6 percent.

At some point, though, Morgan Chase must return the borrowed gold to the Bank of England, and if the price of gold were significantly to increase during any point in this process, it would make it prohibitive and potentially ruinous to repay the gold."

Bill Murphy, chairman of the Gold Anti-Trust Action Committee, a nonprofit organization that researches and studies what he calls the "gold cartel" (J.P. Morgan Chase, Deutsche Bank, Citigroup, Goldman Sachs, Bank for International Settlements (BIS), the U.S. Treasury, and the Federal Reserve), and owner of www.LeMetropoleCafe.com, tells Insight that "Morgan Chase and other bullion banks are another Enron waiting to happen." Murphy says, "Enron occurred because the nature of their business was obscured, there was no oversight and someone was cooking the books. Enron was deceiving everyone about their business operations—and the same thing is happening with the gold and bullion banks."

According to Murphy, "The price of gold always has been a barometer used by many to determine the financial health of the United States. A steady gold price usually is associated by the public and economic analysts as an indication or a reflection of the stability of the financial system. Steady gold; steady dollar. Enron structured a financial system that put the company at risk and eventually took it down. The same structure now exists at Morgan Chase with their own interest-rate/gold-derivatives position. There is very little information available about its position in the gold market and, as with the case of Enron, it could easily bring them down."

In December 2000, attorney Reginald H. Howe, a private investor and proprietor of the Website www.goldensextant.com, which reports on gold, filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court in Boston. Named as defendants were J.P. Morgan & Co., Chase Manhattan Corp., Citigroup Inc., Goldman Sachs Group Inc., Deutsche Bank, Lawrence Summers (former secretary of the Treasury), William McDonough (president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York), Alan Greenspan (chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System), and the BIS.

Howe's claim contends that the price of gold has been manipulated since 1994 "by conspiracy of public officials and major bullion banks, with three objectives: 1) to prevent rising gold prices from sounding a warning on U.S. inflation; 2) to prevent rising gold prices from signaling weakness in the international value of the dollar; and 3) to prevent banks and others who have funded themselves through borrowing gold at low interest rates and are thus short physical gold from suffering huge losses as a consequence of rising gold prices."

While all the defendants flatly deny participation in such a scheme, Howe's case is being heard. Howe tells Insight he has provided the court with very compelling evidence to support his claim, including sworn testimony by Greenspan before the House Banking Committee in July 1998. Greenspan assured the committee, "Nor can private counterparties restrict supply of gold, another commodity whose derivatives are often traded over the counter, where central banks stand ready to lease gold in increasing quantities should the price rise." Howe and other "gold bugs" cite this as a virtual public announcement "that the price of gold had been and would continue to be controlled if necessary."

According to Howe, "There is a great deal of evidence, but this is a very complicated issue. The key, though, is the short position of the banks and their gold derivatives. The central banks have 'leased' gold for low returns to the bullion banks for the purpose of keeping the price of gold low. Greenspan's remarks in 1998 explain how the price of gold has been suppressed at times when it looked like the price of gold was increasing.''

Furthermore, Howe's complaint also cites remarks made privately by Edward George, governor of the Bank of England and a director of the BIS, to Nicholas J. Morrell, chief executive of Lonmin Plc: ''We looked into the abyss if the gold price rose further. A further rise would have taken down one or several trading houses, which might have taken down all the rest in their wake. Therefore, at any price, at any cost, the central banks had to quell the gold price, manage it. It was very difficult to get the gold price under control, but we have now succeeded. The U.S. Fed was very active in getting the gold price down. So was the U.K. [United Kingdom].''

Whether the Fed and others in the alleged ''gold cartel'' have conspired to suppress the price of gold may, in the end, be secondary to the growing need for financial transparency. Wall Street insiders agree that as long as regulators, analysts, accountants, and politicians can be lobbied and ''corrupted'' to permit special privileges, there will be more Enron-size failures.

Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Harvey L. Pitt, well aware of the seriousness of these problems, recently testified before the House Financial Services Committee that ''it is my hope there are not other Enrons out there, but I'm not willing to rely on hope.''

Robert Maltbie, chief executive officer of www.stockjock.com and an independent analyst, long has followed Morgan Chase. He tells Insight that ''there are a lot of things going on in these companies, but we don't know for sure because much of what they're doing is off the balance sheet. The market is scared and crying out to see what's under the hood. Like Enron, much of what the banks are doing is off the balance sheet, and it's a time bomb ticking as we speak.''

Just what would happen if a bank the size of Morgan Chase were unable to meet its financial obligations? ''It's tough to go there,'' Maltbie says, ''because it could shake the financial markets to the core.''

TRIBUTE TO DON I. FOLTZ

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise today and recognize Don I. Foltz, a proud citizen, honorable man, longtime public servant, and friend and trusted advisor. Don has dedicated his professional years to the service of countless California elected officials and communities and I am happy to honor his accomplishments today.

Don was born in Glendale, California but has spent most of his years in Long Beach, California, where he continues to reside today. He was the loving husband of Mary Lou—his lifetime personal and professional partner. He is also the proud father of two sons, David Foltz and Steven Foltz, and grandfather to Parker C. Foltz, the apple of his grandpa's eye.

Don began his long tenure in public service in 1959 as an Administrative Assistant to California State Senator Richard Richards and served in the same capacity with Assembly Member and then State Senator Joseph M. Kennick, Assembly Member Bruce Young and State Senator Paul Carpenter. He has also served as a Consultant to the Assembly Committee on Oil, Mining, and Manufacturing, as a Deputy to Board of Equalization Member Paul Carpenter, and as an advisor in a volunteer capacity to Assembly Member Bob Epple.

Don's extensive experience in press and media relations, speech writing, and researching and drafting legislation serve him well as today he works as a political advisor to many candidates and office holders throughout Los Angeles County. I have counted on Don as an advisor and trusted confident throughout my first year in office and I thank him for offering his vast knowledge of experience to me.

So it is with great pleasure that I ask all Members to join me in thanking Mr. Don I. Foltz for his contributions to our American political system and his many years of service to the people of California and our Nation.

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM JEFFERSON JR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of William Jefferson Jr. in recognition of his 102nd Birthday.

William Jefferson Jr. was born in Columbia, South Carolina in 1900 to Carrie and William Jefferson Sr. He moved to New Jersey at age 13 and on to New York during his 20th year. On March 10, 1937, William Jefferson Jr. married Maybell Stevens. Together they had five daughters: Willamae, Carrie, Louise, Maybell and Theresa.

William worked for 38 years for an interior decorating company and retired at the age of 67. Nevertheless, William has continued to help his family members to this day, redesigning their apartments and houses. While living at Linden Plaza in Brooklyn, New York, he started the Garden Club and was still working there until a few years ago.

Mr. Speaker, William Jefferson Jr. has lived to see 19 different presidents, from President William McKinley to President George Walker Bush—two world wars, and countless inventions that would have been thought unimaginable at the time of his birth. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this man who has experienced so much.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained earlier today during the rollcall vote #19 on H.R. 2356. I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been here, I would have voted ''aye'' on this rollcall vote.

RECOGNIZING LUCIAN ADAMS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and recognize an American hero, Lucian Adams, who risked his life for his country and went far beyond the call of duty. It is my honor to salute this valiant man in his heroic efforts and his exceptional community service in the 9th Congressional District of Texas.

On April 23, 1945, President Harry Truman awarded Mr. Lucian Adams with the Congressional Medal of Honor. Mr. Adams is the recipient of this prestigious award for his brave actions during World War II. He is also the recipient of a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star. Mr. Adams served as a Staff Sergeant in the 30th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division, under the United States Army. On October 28, 1944, Sergeant Adams was responsible for saving the lives of his company near St. Die, France.

On that fateful day, Adams and his company were stopped by the enemy while trying to drive through the Mortagne Forest to reopen the supply line to the isolated 3rd Battalion. Sergeant Adams encountered the concentrated fire of machine guns in a lone attack on a force of the German troops. Despite intense machine gun fire which the enemy directed at him and rifle grenades which struck the trees over head engulfing him with twigs and branches, Sergeant Adams made his way to within 10 yards of the closest machine gun and killed the gunner with a hand grenade.

This and other actions allowed Sergeant Adams to personally kill nine soldiers, eliminate three enemy machine guns, dismantle a specialized force which was armed with heavy artillery, and clear the wood of hostile opponents. The course of actions that were taken by Sergeant Adams would seem to be a scene directly from a movie however, all of these courses took place in a time of unsettling war.

Throughout the years, Mr. Adams has exhibited an unyielding commitment to his community and city at large. In 1986, the city of Port Arthur changed the 61st Street to Staff Sgt. Lucian Adams at the request of the Port Arthur Mexican Heritage Society. For his efforts in reaching out to the youth of Port Arthur, a scholarship fund has been set up in his name.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Adams' life is rich with countless examples of self-sacrifice and extraordinary accomplishment in service to our great Nation. His contributions to Southeast Texas are immeasurable. He has dedicated his life to the United States Army and this country and I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Lucien Adams in serving our great nation for over 50 years.

Congratulations, Mr. Adams on a job well done. God bless you, and God bless America.