

ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Rafferty for his lifetime of service and dedication to Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

IN HONOR OF THE STATEWIDE  
HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COM-  
MERCE OF NEW JERSEY

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (SHCC), an organization whose efforts have contributed to the increased prosperity and achievement of Hispanics throughout the State. New Jersey's Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will be holding its 12th Annual Convention Expo and Career Fair at the Newark Airport Marriott in Newark, New Jersey, on October 11, 2002.

The Hispanic market represents the fastest growing demographic sector in the United States. The SHCC has contributed to this growth by forming new partnerships in Latin America, bringing products and jobs back to New Jersey, and creating further economic development and business opportunities throughout our region.

The general business community, government agencies and Hispanic entrepreneurs have all benefited from the many innovative events and networking opportunities of the SHCC.

At the Career Fair, the SHCC provides participating organizations with the chance to meet college students, professionals, and inner city residents to identify them for internships, full-time jobs, and career opportunities. SHCC considers employment to be an important factor in economic development of our communities and acts as a link between employers and career seekers.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey for its contributions to the economic development and empowerment of the Hispanic community throughout New Jersey.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRIVATE  
PARTY JUDICIAL FAIRNESS ACT

**HON. LAMAR S. SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced legislation to help private parties seek justice against the Federal Government. The Private Party Judicial Fairness Act allows for pre-judgment interest to accrue in cases where it is now prohibited. Interest will be paid from the date the action is filed in the United States Court of Federal Claims.

Upon receipt of a judgment against the United States, this legislation will allow private parties to receive the proper proceeds. It also will create an incentive for the government to process these suits at a reasonable pace.

Under current law, a narrow group of suits against the United States are ineligible for pre-judgment interest.

The lack of pre-judgment interest available in these cases encourages government lawyers to delay the ultimate resolution of the cases. Some of these cases have been pending before the Court for ten or more years. And even if the private parties win their cases and are awarded judgments, it is usually far less than what they deserve.

It is time to aid this small class of claimants and create an incentive for the prompt administration of justice.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
THE RETIREMENT OF TECH-  
NICAL SERGEANT ALAN MONTE  
DE RAMOS

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, TSgt Alan Monte de Ramos is retiring from the United States Air Force after 21 years of service; and

Whereas, TSgt Alan Monte de Ramos married Cheryl in 1989 and they have a daughter, Rachel and a son Kyle; and

Whereas, TSgt Alan Monte de Ramos has received many recognitions including, the Air Force Commendation Medal First Oak Leaf Cluster and the Air Force Achievement Medal; and

Whereas, TSgt Alan Monte de Ramos is to be commended for serving his country with professionalism, dedication, passion, and integrity;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in celebrating TSgt Alan Monte de Ramos' retirement from the United States Air Force.

RECOGNIZING DAVID GREEN, JR.,  
FOR HIS FUNDRAISING BIKE  
RIDE ACROSS AMERICA

**HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the selfless deeds of David Green, Jr., of Macon, GA. During this past summer, David spent six weeks riding his bicycle across our great nation from Seattle, Washington to Savannah, Georgia in order to raise money for the Methodist Home for Children and Youth's new Intergenerational Activity Center in Macon, GA.

With today's endless media stories depicting our nation's youth in a negative light, it is refreshing to see the giving attitude of this young man. To date, David has raised over \$63,000 in gifts and pledges toward the new "Teen Center." The mission of the Methodist Home for Children and Youth is to provide a redemptive ministry in South Georgia of healing and nurturing to children, youth and their families in the most appropriate setting, enabling them to grow and become more productive in society. His selfless act will help provide opportunities for young individuals for many years to come.

David's record of community service is well established. His years of giving back include

work with the Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, as well as the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. While in high school, David also served as a member of Students Against Drunk Driving as well as a member of Teen Advisors, pledging each year not to drink alcohol or smoke. A distinguished Boy Scout, he obtained scouting's highest honor, the rank of eagle. He has recently graduated from Stratford Academy in Macon, GA, and is currently attending the University of the South in Seawane, Tennessee, where he is a member of the Boys Varsity Soccer Team.

Mr. Speaker, I am convinced that David Green, Jr., will continue his service to others as he moves toward a higher education. It is comforting to know that tomorrow's leaders are already positively affecting our nation. I am truly proud to represent such an individual from the eighth district of Georgia. Today it is my pleasure to commend David for his ongoing efforts to better society.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BOUIE FISHER

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Mr. Bouie Fisher, recipient of the 2002 Laborers' Local Union 332 Outstanding Community Leader Award. It is a privilege to recognize a person whose commitment to family and community has enriched the lives of countless individuals.

Mr. Fisher received his first union work permit with Laborers' Local #332 when he began his construction career at the age of 17 in 1944. In both construction and amateur boxing, Mr. Fisher became a mentor and supporter of his coworkers. His success in professional boxing and in labor was propelled by the belief that any good fighter is only as good as the people around him and that a strong team can make the difference between success and failure. Even after leaving the labor field, Bouie Fisher demonstrated loyalty to Local #332 by helping on picket lines and remaining available to assist the labor movement.

Mr. Fisher built a record of 13-5 fighting. The strength and support he received and imparted came largely from his wife of 55 years, Peggy, five daughters, three sons, and twelve grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Bouie Fisher is a model citizen. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Fisher for his lifetime of service and dedication to Laborers' Local #332 and Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

HONORING RICHARD A. BOIARDO,  
M.D.

**HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 10, 2002*

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Richard A. Boiardo, for his dedicated efforts in service to New Jersey through

his work in the medical field. Dr. Boiardo has been a practicing orthopedic surgeon in New Jersey since 1986.

Dr. Boiardo graduated Phi Beta Kappa and summa cum laude from Georgetown University in 1974. He went on to study medicine at the New York Medical College in Valhalla, New York, and completed his residency in orthopedic surgery at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City.

Currently, Dr. Boiardo serves as Chief of the Orthopedic Department at Saint Mary's Hospital, in Hoboken, New Jersey, and is on the orthopedic medical staff at several other hospitals in Passaic and Newark. He is a member of the Essex County Medical Society and the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. And he is also the team surgeon for the Newark Bears, a minor league baseball team.

The Columbian Foundation, a non-profit organization of business and professional men of Italian descent, will recognize Dr. Boiardo with a Humanitarian and Achievement Award on October 12.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor Dr. Boiardo today for his good works and providing New Jersey with his talent and service.

#### U.S.-IRELAND BUSINESS SUMMIT

### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 9, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to join with my colleagues in voting unanimously on September 10, 2002, to pass H. Res. 513, a bipartisan recognition of the historical significance and timeliness of the 3-day U.S.-Ireland Business Summit. This gathering was held September 4-6, 2002 at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center in Washington, DC.

It was a great pleasure for me to participate in this first-ever Summit which was organized and chaired by a distinguished Irish-American leader, Susan Ann Davis. As members of this institution with an interest in the Irish isle know, Susan Davis is a great advocate for the peace process and for strengthening the bonds of friendship between the U.S. and the people of Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. In addition to the founding Susan Davis International, one of Washington, DC's most respected public affairs and communications firms, Susan serves as the President of the National Assembly of Irish American Republicans.

The U.S.-Ireland Business Summit brought together business leaders from the Republic of Ireland, from Northern Ireland and the United States to discuss the importance and the advancement of our bilateral commercial ties across the Atlantic. The special relationship which America enjoys with Ireland is reflected in the increased trade between our two nations over the past decade. This has produced enormous benefits both for Ireland as well as for the United States, and continues to underscore our common values, our traditions and our commitment to free trade. Moreover, expanding international commercial links has underscored and reinforced the benefits of peace in Northern Ireland at a critical time.

It is clear that an environment free of violence and fear is vital to fostering a prosperous business community. Though, it is

clear that the hard-won peace in Northern Ireland still remains fragile as we again see strains and developments that threaten the power sharing arrangement.

In fact, violence we saw this last summer in the interface areas of Northern Ireland demonstrates that there is much work to be done. Fortunately, as reflected by the coverage in the media, the U.S.-Ireland Business Summit has created a new momentum for peace and a sense of hope and optimism. I want to commend President Bush for his outlining the bold vision for strengthening the peace process that the Summit embodies and for ensuring that the Summit received strong support from across his Administration. In fact, a key to the Summit's success—and the success of initiatives announced and launched at its conclusion—were a result of the personal involvement and efforts of the Secretary of State, Mr. Powell, Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Evans, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Mr. Thompson, and the President's key advisor on the Irish peace process, Ambassador Richard Haass.

I look forward to continuing to work with the President, my colleagues, Susan Ann Davis and other concerned Irish-Americans in the private sector to complete the work begun at the U.S.-Ireland Business Summit.

#### RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE CU SOLAR DECATHLON TEAM

### HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a talented group of students from the University of Colorado who designed and built the winning entry at the Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon. I am submitting for the RECORD a recent article from the Daily Camera describing the team's achievement.

The Solar Decathlon is a competition organized by the Department of Energy that gives college students an opportunity to demonstrate practical uses of solar power. This October, 14 university teams from around the country competed in the first-ever Solar Decathlon to build the most energy-efficient, solar-powered house. Each team was required to use solar energy to power the entire house, and was judged on how well its house was able to produce energy for heating, cooling, hot water, lighting, appliances, computers, and charging an electric car. The houses were also critiqued on their overall aesthetic design.

The students from the University of Colorado designed a building that demonstrates how clean, renewable, solar energy can practically and efficiently power a home. They focused on making the design of the house attractive and affordable to show that homeowners don't have to compromise style and convenience to live in a sustainable and environmentally friendly way.

These enterprising students from the University of Colorado had a challenge—to take advanced architectural and engineering concepts, put them together in a design, and build a house that could be a model of our energy future. These students met that challenge and

met it better than any of the other teams. I'm proud of these students and I'm proud that the University of Colorado produced such a talented team. Most of all, I am proud to represent these young people who are working so hard to make our way of life a sustainable one.

[From the Daily Camera, Oct. 6, 2002]

#### CU WINS CONTEST FOR SOLAR HOUSE DESIGN BUILDERS TRIUMPH OVER 13 OTHER COLLEGE TEAMS

(By Ryan Alessi)

WASHINGTON.—The bright sunny October morning proved an appropriate backdrop Saturday for the 14 Solar Decathlon teams to finish the last few tasks of the weeklong competition.

The 14 homes built on the National Mall by college teams from around the country and Puerto Rico had been probed, monitored, inspected and judged since last weekend. Architects and U.S. Department of Energy officials rated the teams in 10 categories ranging from the appearance of the homes to how much energy they saved. And of course, everything from the fridge to their electric buggy-mobles had to be powered by sunlight.

By Saturday morning, the University of Colorado sat atop the standings as the team to beat. Then, shortly after noon, video cameras, photographers and a crowd began gathering outside the CU team's house, leaving little doubt that they had, in fact, won.

At a brief ceremony, David Garman, assistant energy secretary for energy efficiency and renewable energy, presented a polished steel trophy to Michael Brandemuehl, the CU team's adviser and professor of civil, environmental and architectural engineering.

The University of Virginia, which started the day in third place, passed Auburn University for second place. "We were pretty confident," said Mike Renner, CU's engineering design leader. "All the other teams had pretty much decided they were going for second."

The judges scored the CU house among the top five in all the design-based categories. And the engineering spoke for itself as the team received the best marks in the competition for the amount of electricity it generated and how efficiently the home used the power.

"It's a well-oiled machine because of the team's all-around planning," said Sheila Hayter, one of the scoring officials from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden. She said the team's use of recycled materials also boosted the team's scores. "They put together a very environmentally conscious house." That also caught the attention of many of the estimated 75,000 visitors who have streamed through the solar village.

"I loved their efficient use of space and their overall design," said Elizabeth Ridgeway, visiting Washington from North Hollywood, Calif. She voted for CU's house in a separate People's Choice competition whose winner will be announced today. "And they used a lot of interesting materials," said Bill Lyon, also from Los Angeles. "I really liked to see so many students focusing on the environment."

After the Energy Department declared CU the winner, other onlookers couldn't wait to see the house, so a group rushed up to the porch and into the foyer before team members could stop them.

"Geez, they're practically breaking the doors down," Renner said. "Good thing we don't have any goal posts."

Team members said that type of public response has been the real trophy that they