

Community leaders and those who use our public lands admire Chuck for his sensible approach to the stewardship of our natural resources. Chuck's strong belief in responsible multiple-use has made the forests he's cared for a valuable asset for all of us. In his innovative management of the forests, he never lost sight of the fact that the chief function of a forest is to sustain clean and abundant water. Chuck has demonstrated that when you manage a forest for its water, you bring out the best that God intended in a forest.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, we can all take pride in the way Chuck oversaw the merging of the local Bureau of Land Management and United States Forest Service into one, cohesive, efficient, and responsive unit. At the headquarters in Lakeview, the BLM and Forest Service not only share a building, they share a philosophy and a mission. Because they work so well together, Chuck and his BLM counterpart, Steve Ellis, have created the model for effectively combining assets of our land management agencies to deliver great service at a significant savings to the taxpayer.

Those who have worked with Chuck admire his management style. Chuck sees every employee not just for what they are but also for what they can become. He is dedicated to helping his people reach their full potential in an organization that has meant a great deal to him during a long and productive career. He has steered his organization with a steady and gentle hand, always mindful of his responsibility to the health of the forest and the vitality of the surrounding communities.

Chuck is known by the managers of Region 6 as the "go-to guy." When there is a big project, a vexing problem, or an exceptionally bright opportunity, the word in the Regional Office is to "run it by Chuck". Chuck has had a distinguished career of getting things done for us, his neighbors, and for the environment we all share.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me today in saluting a man who has served us well. Chuck Graham represents the best in the Forest Service and serves as an example for all to follow. Chuck's career truly represents the "service" in Forest Service.

RECOGNIZING STUDENTS IN FREE ENTERPRISE AND DR. ALVIN ROHRS' 20 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I stand before this body to honor an institution and its leader who have championed our free enterprise system for two decades. Students in Free Enterprise is a nonprofit education corporation whose mission is to work in partnership with businesses and institutions of higher education to provide university students the opportunity to understand and achieve success in a business world open to individual enterprise. Students are guided through the development of leadership, teamwork and communication skills by learning, practicing and teaching the principles of free enterprise.

For the last 20 years, Dr. Alvin Rohrs has served as President and CEO of Students in

Free Enterprise (SIFE). His tireless work has seen an international expansion of SRFE from 18 to 31 countries. Its classes, which teach of the principles of market economics, entrepreneurship, business ethics and personal financial success, are in 1,200 schools of higher learning worldwide. SIFE proponents and students hold annual international competitions that emphasize the strengths and positive societal contributions of the free enterprise System.

The free enterprise system reaches its zenith when it is coupled with individual liberties. Its principles resonate with many people who believe in the idea that hard work, free markets, and democracy lead to prosperity and social responsibility. More than 170 of America's business executives from some of the world's largest companies are members of the SIFE board.

Alvin Rohrs' commitment to free enterprise has been unwavering. Prior to his work with SIFE, Rohrs served as the Director of the Gene Taylor National Free Enterprise Center at his alma mater, Southwest Baptist University. He came to SIFE in 1983, a year after receiving his Juris Doctorate from the University of Missouri Columbia School of Law, where he graduated with full honors in the top ten percent of his class.

Dr. Rohrs has received the National Charity Award twice, honoring his leadership in SIFE. He has also received the National Entrepreneur of the Year Award for "Supporter of Entrepreneurship." Active in community service and church work, Rohrs is a member of the Missouri Bar Association and serves as a member and Deacon at First Baptist Church in Bolivar, Missouri. He resides in Bolivar with his wife, Bolivar Municipal Court Judge Elizabeth Rohrs and their two children.

We wish him and Students in Free Enterprise continued success in spreading the gospel of free enterprise and entrepreneurship, on which our American way of life is founded.

SPECIAL JOINT SESSION OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, September 6 of this year, a special Joint Session of the United States Congress gathered in New York City to remember the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. This special session reminded us of the lives that were lost and the heroes that were found all across this country on that terrible day. I am honored to have taken part in this unique session.

We convened at Federal Hall, where the first Congress met over two centuries ago, and a few blocks from where the World Trade Center towers once stood proud and tall.

Mr. Speaker, we met to remember the thousands of lives that ended so abruptly that day. We prayed for the families of those that were lost. We prayed for the families who had to say goodbye before they were ready. The wound that America suffered on that day will always be remembered.

We also expressed our most sincere thanks to the firefighters, police officers emergency personnel, and all others who risked and gave

their lives on that day. These brave men and women, along with their peers across the country, risk their lives every day to protect those around them. Expressing our thanks to them is a long overdue action.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, we recommit ourselves to eradicating terrorism from the world and to making sure that those responsible for this horrible attack on America are brought to justice. American soldiers are now stationed across the globe, helping to create a world where those who live in freedom can also live free of the fear of terrorism. America and the world owe these soldiers a debt of gratitude.

I am proud to have joined Congress on September 6, to remember the lives that were lost and to show those who would harm America that we will not forget, but we will overcome.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF RUNAWAY YOUTH PREVENTION MONTH

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleague from New York, Mr. ISRAEL, in introducing a resolution recognizing the goals and ideals of Runaway Youth Prevention Month, which is being sponsored by the National Network for Youth and the National Runaway Switchboard.

Recently, a number of highly publicized child abductions focused the attention of Americans on the plight of exploited and abducted children, and the pain and agony suffered by the families left behind.

Recognizing the serious threat that faces our children every day as they travel to and from school and play with friends in parks and neighborhoods, President Bush last week convened a conference on missing, exploited and runaway children.

Again, the main focus was on abducted and exploited children. And rightly so. One child abduction is one too many.

But let's put the problem of child abductions into perspective. Five times as many children run away as are abducted in this country, and one runaway child is also one too many.

There are approximately 1.3 million young Americans on the street every day as a result of running away and/or homelessness. One in seven children between the ages of 10-18 will run away. Some will return within a few days, while others will remain on the streets and never return. And each year, assault, illness or suicide will take the lives of 5,000 runaway youth. That's 5000 too many.

There are many reasons why children run away from home. Some are expelled from their homes by their families, or separated from their parents because of death or divorce. As much as violence is involved in the abduction of a child, so too does physical, sexual, and emotional abuse at home often cause a child to run away.

Having run away, these youth are now homeless, too poor to secure their own basic needs, and are often ineligible or unable to access medical or mental health resources.

Many runaway youth also have difficulty obtaining an education because they are homeless. Being a runaway or being without a

home should not mean being without an education. Yet that is what homelessness means for far too many of our poor and runaway children and youth today.

Congress recognized the importance of educating homeless and runaway youth when it enacted in 1987 the McKinney Education program. But despite the progress made over the past decade, we know that homeless children continue to miss out on what often is the only source of stability and promise in their lives—school attendance.

That's why I introduced H.R. 623, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act of 2001, which was included in the No Child Left Behind Act that became law at the beginning of this year.

By incorporating the innovative provisions contained in my legislation, H.R. 1 strengthened the McKinney program, ensuring that a homeless or runaway child is immediately enrolled in school. That means no red tape, no waiting for paperwork, and no bureaucratic delays. A school liaison helps runaway or homeless youth make certain decisions about their education, and upon enrollment, ensures they have access to the special assistance and services available to runaway and homeless youth.

This is one small way that more is being done to help children who are runaways or homeless. There are many others—individuals and organizations—who are doing whatever they can to assist America's runaway youth by providing food, shelter, clothing, and counseling. Others are working with families to prevent a child from running away in the first place. And still others are intervening and advocating on behalf of children and giving them options other than running away.

One such organization is the National Runaway Switchboard, which provides crisis intervention and referrals to reconnect runaway youth with their families, and to link young people to local resources that provide positive alternatives to running. I am compelled to call attention to this important resource because it originated in Chicago.

Founded by a group of Chicago agencies, the National Runaway Switchboard was established in 1971 to provide comprehensive crisis intervention services for young people in Chicago. It was conceived as a centralized organization with free, 24-hour services, expertise in all youth-related issues, and as an information clearinghouse. In 1974, it became a national resource, and now is the federally designated national communication system for runaway and homeless youth. The Switchboard is still available 24 hours a day, and fields more than 100,000 calls each year from the nation's runaway and homeless youth.

The National Runaway Switchboard and the National Network for Youth have designated November as National Runaway Prevention Month. The purpose of this month is to call attention to the problem, its causes and impacts, and all those organizations and services that exist to help both runaways and their families.

It is fitting for Congress to support the goals and ideals of National Runaway Prevention Month, and I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this resolution.

TRIBUTE TO MR. LES SCHWAB

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding business leader and gentleman from Oregon's Second Congressional District, Mr. Les Schwab. I am pleased to announce that this year marks the 50th anniversary of the company he founded, Les Schwab Tires.

In 1952, Les bought a small tire store in the city of Prineville, deep in the heart of Central Oregon, for \$3,500. From that simple investment, Les Schwab Tires has grown to become the nation's leading independent tire business with over 330 stores throughout the West. Today, there is hardly a town in Oregon that does not fall under the shadow of a Les Schwab Tires sign.

His innovative business programs inspire a fierce loyalty that few other companies can match. The tenets for achievement are the same for all of his 7,000 employees: start at the bottom, work hard, and never rest on your laurels. The many profit sharing programs he pioneered ensure all employees have a stake in the success or failure of a store. To this end, the company returns over forty-nine percent of each store's profits to its employees. As Les explained in his inspirational book, "Pride In Performance", this return investment is "unselfish for good reasons." It is his sincere wish to instill within his current and future employees a desire to succeed in business to last for many generations to come.

The same honesty and fairness that Les shows his employees is bestowed upon his customers as well. Customers know that Les is a man of his word. Westerners, especially Oregonians, appreciate his commitment to customer service and satisfaction, and have rewarded his efforts with 50 years of loyal business. Now, at 85 years of age, Les continues to lead by example. He comes to work daily at his headquarters in Prineville, right where it all started. Ultimately, it is Les' own straightforward leadership and no nonsense Oregon values that have made Les Schwab Tires an American success story.

Les is also known for his civic leadership. He gives back generously to the communities that made his company thrive. Les Schwab Tires sponsors numerous charitable events to support local food banks, youth shelters, and several different scholarship foundations. The state All-Star high school football game, the Les Schwab Bowl, benefits athletic programs for disadvantaged youth in the greater Portland area and provides free equipment and sportsmanship education for underprivileged youth in all Oregon high schools. Les is also the chief supporter of the Les Schwab Invitational, a four-day basketball tournament that showcases the top Oregon high school basketball teams and matches them against other outstanding teams from around the country. This event, now in its seventh year, expects to raise \$30,000 to help curb the dramatic cuts in the state's athletic programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating this extraordinary man and great American, Mr. Les Schwab. I wish continued happiness for him and Dorothy, his

wife of 66 years. Personally, I would like to thank him for all the opportunities he has provided to the people of Prineville, the Second District, and all of Oregon.

RECOGNIZING THE CONVOY OF HOPE IN SPRINGFIELD, MO

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Convoy of Hope being organized in Springfield, MO on October 26, National Make-A-Difference Day. Volunteers make a difference in the quality of a nation and how we treat the less fortunate. A great number of community services rely on volunteers. Volunteers come from all walks of life and often have the skills and experiences of a lifetime of work that make them invaluable resources and problem solvers.

On October 26, the Convoy of Hope will bring 1,000 volunteers together to honor 5,000 guests—the working poor and the needy. These guests will receive a hot lunch, medical and dental screenings at a health carnival, a KiddsZone carnival, free haircuts, services from state and local agencies, and job search activities.

This is an effort by dozens of local churches to reach out to the poor and needy and raise awareness of local needs in our communities. The goal is to improve the quality of life for the less fortunate and to share a message of spiritual faith and hope.

These churches in Springfield, Missouri share the same goal as the U.S. Congress. In the last five decades, Congress has created and expanded and re-created dozens of programs to help the less fortunate. In contrast, the churches and faith-based organizations of our nation have an even longer history and a greater number of success stories to tell about these compassionate endeavors. These organizations also seem to accomplish their goals more efficiently and with less cost than many programs created by the Congress.

The Convoy of Hope will touch the lives of thousands of volunteers and guests on October 26, 2002 and unite them in a meaningful expression meant to change lives not only for that day but for days to come. I wish them great success in this undertaking.

IN MEMORY OF "SNOOKY" SALEH

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 10, 2002

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a great friend and great American, Jameel Joseph "Snooky" Saleh, of Tyler, Texas, who leaves behind a powerful legacy of hard work, generosity, and dedication to his family, community and country. He was a friend to so many—and a special friend of mine.

Snooky passed away in August at the age of 78. The son of Lebanese immigrants, he attended Tyler Junior College and spent two years at Texas A&M before being called to