

effort for decades to come. I wish the Spina Bifida Association of America and the Spina Bifida Association of the Tri-State Region the best of luck in their endeavors and urge all of my colleagues and all Americans to support their important efforts.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER J.  
D'AMELIO

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 12, 2002*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Christopher J. D'Amelio, Boat-swain's Mate First Class, United States Coast Guard, a longtime resident of Aptos, California. Petty Officer D'Amelio has been selected to receive the 2002 Gold Medal from the Association for Rescue at Sea for his integral role in a rescue that occurred near Peacock Spit at the mouth of the Columbia River.

Petty Officer D'Amelio deserves recognition for his heroic actions on September 2, 2001. His excellent performance as Surfman aboard Coast Guard Motor Life Boat 47248 was directly responsible for the saving of three lives. Petty Officer D'Amelio expertly maneuvered the MLB through plunging breakers 18 feet high to reach a capsized fishing boat. He calmly squared the bow into the oncoming surf and skillfully backed the MLB to the four individuals clinging to the overturned vessel. With the assistance of a rescue swimmer, Petty Officer D'Amelio successfully retrieved all four survivors and then escaped to calmer water where he and his crew could more accurately evaluate their condition. Upon discovering that one individual required immediate medical attention, Petty Officer D'Amelio quickly coordinated and directed the transfer of the individual to a waiting Coast Guard helicopter. Petty Officer D'Amelio's superb Surfman skills, his leadership, and his poise under great pressure prevented an already disastrous situation from becoming even worse.

Since joining the United States Coast Guard in 1995, Petty Officer D'Amelio has consistently demonstrated the three core values—Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty—that have contributed to this service's distinguished heritage. In recognition of his repeated displays of leadership, bravery, and outstanding achievement Petty Officer D'Amelio has twice received the Coast Guard Good Conduct Medal, the Commandant's Letter of Commendation with the Operational Distinguishing Device, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal with the Operational Distinguishing Device, and the Coast Guard Commendation Medal with Operational Distinguishing Device. In addition Petty Officer D'Amelio was named the Enlisted Person of the Year for the Thirteenth Coast Guard District in 2001.

While maintaining his professional excellence, Petty Officer D'Amelio has also maintained the role of devoted husband and father. He and his wife, Courtney, have two children: Taylor Brooke D'Amelio and Matthew John D'Amelio. In all spheres of his life, Petty Officer D'Amelio's extraordinary efforts and superb accomplishments merit respect and appreciation. I offer him congratulations for his years of dedicated service in the United States Coast Guard, and it is my great honor to represent such a courageous constituent.

CITIZEN INPUT

**HON. BOB SCHAFFER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 12, 2002*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, throughout the 6 years I have represented them in Congress, the people of Colorado have shared with me their thoughtful insights, beliefs, and dreams for a better state and country in a variety of ways. In writing, by telephone, by e-mail and through personal visits, I have enjoyed the input of tens of thousands of Coloradans.

These efforts have been indispensable in my efforts to accurately and completely represent my state in the Congress, and I am grateful to every citizen who has ever taken the time to contribute their best judgment toward resolving the important issues of the day. Thanks to them, I have learned much about often complex issues, about the country and about Colorado.

Through these letters, e-mails, and telephone calls my constituents have expressed the values of hard-working families. Consistently, the themes of less government intervention, more personal freedom, and opportunity for prosperity have been the most vivid expressed by those who have contacted me. It is clear that Coloradans are a self-reliant and outspoken people for whom faith, integrity and an honest day's wage form the foundation of a thriving community.

In particular, I am grateful for the personal artifacts included with so many letters. Items such as pictures, pins, and books truly exhibit the character of the individuals I am elected to serve. These are among the things that have made the greatest impression on me while serving in Congress.

In addition, I am thankful for all the people who have ever attended my weekly breakfast town meetings in Larimer County, CO. Each Monday morning they share their hopes and expectations with me, on legislation and politics. I have found the attendees to be dynamic and sincere. They come from around Colorado, and quite often, other states. They are never timid about stating their opinions, which have been a valuable resource for me. In fact, my work at the nation's capital always reflects the ideas and comments expressed during these meetings.

Surely, among the most significant duties of a U.S. Representative is aiding individuals in fighting the red tape of insensitive government agencies. During my time in Congress, I have had the privilege to help thousands of people who came to me for help. Some common examples include cases of ensuring veterans receive benefits promised in exchange for their years of dedicated service, assisting Social Security recipients in getting monthly checks, helping entrepreneurs fight the Internal Revenue Service, assisting farmers in getting drought relief, and helping immigrants become legal U.S. citizens.

Regardless of the issues confronting the Congress, fighting for Coloradans is the most gratifying work. I am thankful for the people of Colorado who contacted me for help. Serving in this great Congress to represent the values of Colorado has truly been an honor. Those Coloradans who volunteer their opinions have contributed to a solid record for which I am most proud. My voice has been theirs as I

have endeavored to be nothing more than a reflection of my constituency. I will forever remain in their debt. They are the best of America.

TRIBUTE TO KRISTA ANDERSON

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 12, 2002*

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a member of my Medford, OR, district staff. During her time with us, Krista Anderson has tirelessly served the people of the Second District of Oregon, and will soon be on her way back to Western Oregon University to finish her degree. Her cheerful demeanor and strong work ethic will be greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, Krista has volunteered countless hours this summer assisting my district staff. Whenever something needed to be done, Krista readily stepped in and offered to help. From simple tasks like answering phones to helping with complex preparations for the visits of President George W. Bush and former Speaker Newt Gingrich to Medford, Krista proved herself to be an extremely reliable and efficient worker. My staff came to rely on her heavily, and she never let them down. I'm sure this strong work ethic will serve her well in any path she chooses to pursue.

Krista is the daughter of John and Renee Anderson of Medford. She graduated from South Medford High School in 2000 with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. While at South Medford, she proved to be not only a top-notch student, but excelled in extracurricular activities, as well. She was a member of the International Thespian Society and helped with the production of eleven plays, earning honors as best technician.

From Medford, Krista moved to Monmouth, OR, to attend Western Oregon University, where she has continued to stand out in her college years. She is a member of the Honor Society Phi Kappa Phi and is currently working toward a degree in Public Policy Administration with a minor in Speech Communication, maintaining a 3.94 grade point average. This is quite a feat given that she also devotes her time to Concert Choir, College Republicans, Campus Crusade for Christ, and a cultural group called Conversation Links.

Mr. Speaker, Krista has proven herself to be a kind, upstanding, hard-working individual, both personally and professionally. Mr. Medford office was very fortunate to have such a dedicated intern during an especially busy summer. I know that Krista will only continue to excel, and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

HONORING ROSEMARY DUNCAN

**HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 12, 2002*

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Rosemary Duncan on her outstanding leadership and dedication to helping our military personal at the Samuel S. Stratton

VA Medical Center in Albany, New York. Ms. Duncan received her degree as a Nurse Practitioner, from Albany Medical College/Russell Sage College in 1973 and has been a Registered Nurse since 1960. Although a Nurse Practitioner, her activities within the Hospital have extended far beyond the realm of patient care.

Always considering patient care to be very important, Ms. Duncan has permeated many different facets of the Stratton VA Medical Center. By taking on positions in the Public Relations department and becoming the Enrollment Director between 1998–2000, she has aided the Stratton VA Medical Center in many different manners in order to improve patient care. Ms. Duncan has also held many other prestigious positions; she has worked in Internal Medicine and was also the Associate Chief of General Internal Medicine. In addition, she has worked in the Emergency Room at both the Stratton VA Medical Center and at St. Peter's Hospital.

Rosemary Duncan has received many major awards. Most recently, she received the Homeless Veterans Stand Down Appreciation Award of 2002. Some of her past awards include, the National DAV Award in 1999 and the New York State American Legion Award in 1997. With her strong dedication to Veterans affairs and her caring nature, Rosemary has volunteered to be a board member for the Military Heritage Institute as well as Vet Care in 1996. She also participated in the Freihofer's Run for Women in 1994.

Instilled with a strong sense of compassion, Rosemary Duncan has dedicated her life to the well-being of veterans. She serves her country in an admirable capacity through her selfless acts. She is a friend of all people who are in need of care and is an important asset to the Stratton VA Medical Center.

#### TRIBUTE TO EMMITT SMITH

#### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 12, 2002*

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent and the new National Football League's All-Time leading rusher, Emmitt Smith.

On Sunday, October 27, 2002, Emmitt Smith took a handoff and crashed through the line for an 11-yard gain, giving him 16,728 career rushing yards, breaking the 15-year mark set by the former Chicago Bears great, Walter Payton, and establishing him as the most complete running back in NFL history.

At Escambia High School, Emmitt Smith posted some of the state's highest career rushing and scoring titles with 8,804 yards, 106 touchdowns and two state titles. As a senior, Emmitt Smith was an All-American running back and prep Player of the Year by Parade magazine and USA Today. He was also selected as the "Just Say No" anti-drug campaign's prep football players representative at the White House.

Being one of the nation's top high school recruits, Emmitt Smith decided to stay at home in the Sunshine State and attend the University of Florida. In his seventh game as a Gator, he passed the 1,000-yard mark faster than any other runner in college football his-

tory and led the Southeastern Conference in rushing as a freshman with 1,341 yards.

Following his college career, Emmitt was the 17th pick by the Dallas Cowboys in the 1990 NFL draft. Considered too small and too slow by critics, he made an impression few other players can equal. Throughout his 12-year career, he has established himself as one of the games all-time greats. He has won three Super Bowl titles, four NFL rushing titles and a league and Super Bowl Most Valuable Player award.

This same man who is impossible to tackle on the football field has trounced his biggest adversaries not in the football stadiums across the country, but on the streets and neighborhoods of our communities. Emmitt Smith is active in the communities of Northwest Florida, dedicating his time to aiding youth and children. He hosts the annual Feed the Children food drive and is a national spokesman for the "Take a Player to School Program" and is one of the many supporters of Big Brother/Big Sisters and Boys Club of Pensacola.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate Emmitt Smith, number 22, on his great achievement and offer my sincere thanks for his example to the communities of Northwest Florida.

#### TRIBUTE TO NEWARK EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR FAMILIES, INC.

#### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 12, 2002*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I stand today to recognize the 25th anniversary of Newark Emergency Services for Families, Inc. Founded in 1977 by a group of concerned Newark citizens, the organization sought to help residents who had suffered job loss and displacement after the civil uprisings of the 1960's. Opening its doors in 1979 as the "Emergency Service Network", the organization has grown immensely in both breadth and depth.

Since its beginnings, the Newark Emergency Service for Families, Inc. has gone from seeing 1,257 Newarkers annually in 1984, to over 50,000 Essex County citizens annually. Programs now not only include basic emergency services but also long-term programs designed to promote stabilization and self-sufficiency.

The Newark Emergency Service for Families, Inc. has become a vital organization not only in Newark, but also in the Essex County community as a whole. The organization, started by citizens themselves, has reached out to help neighbors in need, thus enriching the lives of many and strengthening our community.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that my colleagues here in the House of Representatives join with me today in recognizing the vital contributions of the Newark Emergency Services for Families, Inc. on their anniversary of 25 years of service to the Newark community.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO JACKIE ELAINE MEADOWS WALLACE

#### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 12, 2002*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I take this opportunity to recognize Jackie Wallace for her many years of service in Colorado. Jackie, a resident of Mancos, Colorado, is an outstanding example of the hard work and dedication that citizens throughout rural America devote to their communities. It is with great pride that I pay tribute to her today before this body of Congress and this Nation.

Jackie grew up around the agricultural and ranching communities of Colorado where she learned firsthand of the joys and hardships that come with life on the range. Born to Jack and Lucille Meadows on a snowy night in 1932, Jackie was raised on a ranch in McElmo Canyon. The fourth daughter of five, she attended the local Battlerock School until the girls moved to Cortez where they could attend high school.

On Christmas Day 1951, Jackie married Dwight Wallace. When Dwight was drafted to serve two years in the Army, Jackie and Dwight's mother Mary ran the family ranch themselves, with the generous help of Doreen and Jimmy Fitzgerald. But Jackie hasn't restricted herself to just the ranch. As a charter member of the Southwestern Cowbelles, Jackie co-chaired their napkin committee, sold the most brand-quilt tickets, and even presided as their president from 1964 to 1965. For all her efforts with the organization, the Southwestern Cowbelles recently honored Jackie with an Honorary Lifetime Membership.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration that I recognize the dedication of Jackie Wallace. Jackie is an outstanding example of rural American values and it is my honor to extend to her my congratulations before this body of Congress and our Nation. Keep up the good work, Jackie!

#### OPPOSITION PARTY MEMBERS BEING ARRESTED IN PUNJAB

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 12, 2002*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, in Punjab, there are elections coming up for the SGPC, the organization that is in charge of all the Gurdwaras, or Sikh temples, in India. According to the Times of India, members of the Shiromani Akali Dal, which used to run the state government until it lost the state elections to the Congress Party earlier this year, are being arrested in connection with these elections. Many members of the party are going into hiding.

The Akali government under the leadership of Parkash Badal was the most corrupt government in Punjab's history. They came up with a new term for bribery. They called it "fee for service." You didn't get the service unless you paid the fee. And they did nothing to get Sikh political prisoners released or to bring police officers who committed murder and other