

Al Yates not only makes his community proud, but also his state and country. It is a true honor to commend to the House such an extraordinary citizen. We owe him a debt of gratitude for his service and dedication to the state, community and nation. I ask the House to join me in extending whole-hearted congratulations to the President of Colorado State University, and Citizen of the West, Dr. Albert C. Yates.

IN TRIBUTE TO CLAUDE "ROBEY"
ROBILLARD

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Claude "Robey" Robillard, who retired from the Ventura County (California) Sheriff's Department on January 5, 2002, after 14 years with the department and 36 years in law enforcement.

I first met Robey when I made my first run for public office, the Simi Valley City Council. At that time, he was an investigator for the Ventura County District Attorney's Office, where he served for 7½ years. Robey also worked for the Fillmore Police Department for 13 months and for 13 years with the Oxnard Police Department.

Over the years we became good friends. I know him to be a professional in every sense of the word, a dedicated family man, and a man whose trust can never be questioned.

During his 14 years with the Sheriff's Department, Robey received numerous letters of commendation and appreciation from Ventura County's citizens and the Sheriff's Department. He has served as a patrol field sergeant, shift sergeant, watch commander, Standards and Training for Corrections divisional training sergeant and division traffic sergeant.

Robey was involved in the development of the 12-hour shift schedule at the Pre-Trial Detention Facility, which has been credited with maintaining security, reducing overtime and maximizing revenue. He researched and wrote the policy and procedures for contagious disease control and testing with the Detention Services Division and was involved in introducing the Incident Command System to Detention Services supervisors.

In addition, Robey and another sergeant were involved in the research, development, policy, training and implementation of Emergency Response Teams for all custody facilities. Her has served as treasurer, vice president and president of the Peace Officer Association of Ventura County and, since 1996, as the department's public information officer.

Robey is a 41-year resident of Ventura County. He and Gail have been married for 27 years and have two sons, Kristopher, 21, and John-Michael, 17.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in thanking Sergeant Claude Robillard for his dedication to protecting the people of Ventura County, CA, for nearly four decades, and in wishing him and his family all our best in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINE WILLIAMS

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students: Christine Williams. In February, the young women of her troop will honor her by bestowing upon her the Girl Scouts Gold Medal.

Since the beginning of this century, the Girl Scouts of America have provided thousands of youngsters each year the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

These awards are presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. The Gold Awards represent the highest awards attainable by junior and high school Girl Scouts.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipient of this award, as her activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Christine, and bring the attention of Congress to these successful young women on their day of recognition.

TRIBUTE TO DR. WALTER
ZIELONKO

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Walter Zielonko of Troy, IL, and the great work he has done for his community over the 51 years he has served it.

Dr. Zielonko was born on February 10, 1923, and was raised in Detroit, MI. He worked his way up through medical school and unpaid internships, bouncing from town to town until he met his wife, Florence, and eventually settled down in the small town of Troy. There he served for 51 years, interrupted only by a 14-month tour of Korea as a captain of the U.S. Army Medical Corps.

During his time as a general practitioner in Troy, Dr. Zielonko—affectionately known as "Dr. Z"—served thousands of patients and delivered over 1,400 babies. He has watched the population of Troy grow nine times over, and has participated in many local projects, including the founding of Anderson Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Zielonko has reason to be proud of the accomplishments in his life—in it he has served both the Troy community and his country. His skills have helped people from the smallest children to the elderly; from birthing mothers to wounded soldiers. His retirement was long in coming and is hard earned; he deserves our thanks and our gratitude.

May God bless him and his family on this special day.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KARLA
SAFRANSKI

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual from Silverton, Colorado and thank her for her dedication and hard work in the community. Karla Safranski has brought much needed economic growth to Silverton and to the Southwest Colorado region. I would like to mention several of her accomplishments before this body.

Karla's efforts to inspire economic growth have been spearheaded through the San Juan 2000 organization. This organization is responsible for providing loans for startup businesses as well as providing affordable housing for the residents of San Juan County. As the past President and current Board Member, Karla has been instrumental in leading the successful organization to its present position and statute. Her dedication is impressive considering Karla, along with husband Ken, spend a great deal of their time operating their own successful business in the community, ZESupply.

As a result of Karla's and her colleagues' efforts, the community of Silverton has experienced a significant increase in economic growth. San Juan 2000 has raised money and gathered support throughout the region to develop affordable industrial and commercial business space. The group has worked side by side with county leaders, private landowners, city officials, elected officials, and various organizations throughout the area to stimulate economic growth. The organization's and Karla's efforts have led to the creation of a strong year-round economy in the Silverton area.

Mr. Speaker, to reward Karla's efforts, she was recently named Economic Development Leader of the Year by the Region 9 Economic Development District. The district provides various economic services to several counties and Indian tribes in Southwest Colorado. This is quite an accomplishment and I am extremely proud to represent the City of Silverton and residents like Karla Safranski. Keep up the hard work Karla and good luck to you and your husband Ken in your future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF GLADYS J.
HERRON

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today we celebrate Gladys J. Herron, who passed from this life on December 5, 2001, at the age of 87 years. Gladys was an activist, teacher, mentor, and friend, a businesswoman and a woman of God. Her life is a story of richness born of struggle and of quiet triumph over oppressive odds.

Born in Florida, Gladys came to Toledo with her family in 1924. She attended Toledo schools and its university, and married a firefighter, Capt. Robert D. Herron, from whom she was widowed.

Gladys' fortitude first became publicly apparent when, in response to the discrimination prevalent at the time, she founded the first beauty school for young black women. The Herron Beauty School was the first black school of cosmetology in the Toledo area, and it eventually yielded twenty independent beauty salons. Hundreds of women owe their businesses and careers to this persevering, dignified woman. In 1955, she became the president of the Ohio Association of Beauticians, and she also served as president of the Toledo Beauticians and the Toledo Business Women's Club. She accomplished this at a time when racial equality and women-owned enterprises were only horizons on the American landscape.

She mothered our community in every way. Continuing in community activism, Mrs. Herron was involved in more than a dozen organizations including 1970s-era social programs CETA, SASI, EOPA and PIC, Toledo Affirmative Action, the Urban League, NAACP, the Head Start Policy Council, the Cordelia Martin Health Center Board, the Lucas County Welfare Advisory Board (which she chaired for fifteen years), the Concerned Women for Better Government (of which she was a charter member), the Perry Burroughs Democratic Club and the Lucas County Democratic Party. A religious woman, Mrs. Herron also served her church, Third Baptist Church, singing in the Sanctuary Choir and serving as a member of the Board of Trustees, the Advisory Council, and the 20th Century Literary Club.

Not content to rest on the laurels of her earlier years or settle down into retirement, Gladys in her later years was a founding leader in the senior citizen movement, involved in both the AARP and the Area Office on Aging of Northwest Ohio. It was Mrs. Herron's tireless effort and expert leadership which led to the establishment of the J. Frank Troy Senior Center. She was the center's first director, and together with two other Toledo women who established centers in other parts of the city, made up the core of senior rights in our region. I appointed her as our district's delegate to the decennial White House Conference on Aging held in 1995, where she represented her fellow seniors most ably and admirably.

Gladys Herron leaves an imprimatur on our community and in our hearts. Her passing writes the preface to a new chapter in American life that will be felt through generations and will be better for all because of her vigilance, faith, and vision.

COMMENDING JESSICA ANN OWENS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Jessica Ann Owens on her completion of the Aviation Machinist Mate school program with the U.S. Navy. Miss Owens is the first female to "ace" the entire course since its inception in 1947. She was

also awarded the Military Excellence Award at Boot Camp out of over 600 sailors.

A local news station interviewed Miss Owens while she was home for Christmas. She will be stationed on the NAS Oceana in Virginia Beach. Her parents, Randy and Gini, are very proud of Jessica and know that she will do well wherever she goes.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Miss Owens' efforts and commend her for a job well done. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jessica's service to our country and wishing her all the best for future success.

REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.: LEADER, VISIONARY, HERO

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, each year, we Americans commemorate the birthday of one of the outstanding citizens of the 20th century, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Many years ago, I was pleased to be one of the original sponsors of the legislation making his birthday a national holiday, and I urged all Americans to commemorate January 15 with appropriate ceremonies, sharing Dr. King's message, vision, and legacy.

We should all avail ourselves of this opportunity to once again honor the legacy of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. more than thirty years since his life was senselessly snuffed out by an assassin in Memphis, Tennessee. It is more important than ever that all Americans, especially our young people, are reminded of his significant contributions and his message.

Regrettably, many Americans view Martin Luther King Day as a holiday just for African Americans. Rev. King would have been the first person to repudiate that attitude, for his message was for ALL people, of all races, creeds, colors and backgrounds. His message of equality in both government and economic opportunity is universal and should be heeded by all citizens of America and, in fact, all citizens of the world.

Dr. King contributed more to the causes of national freedom and equality than any other individual of the 20th century. His achievements as an author and as a minister were surpassed only by his leadership, which transformed a torn people into a beacon of strength and solidarity, and united a divided nation under a common creed of brotherhood and mutual prosperity.

It was Dr. King's policy of nonviolent protest which served to open the eyes of our nation to the horrors of discrimination and police brutality. This policy revealed the discriminatory Jim Crow laws of the South as hypocritical and unfair, and forced civil rights issues into the national dialectic. It is due to the increased scope and salience of the national civil rights discussion that the movement achieved so much during its decade of our greatest accomplishment, from 1957 to 1968.

It was in 1955 that Dr. King made his first mark on our nation, when he organized the black community of Montgomery, Alabama during a 382-day boycott of the city's bus lines. The boycott saw Dr. King and many

other civil rights activists incarcerated in prison as "agitators," but their efforts were rewarded in 1956, when the U.S. Supreme Court declared that the segregational practices of the Alabama bus system were unconstitutional, and demanded that blacks be allowed to ride with equal and indistinguishable rights. The result proved the theory of nonviolent protest in practice, and roused our nation to the possibilities to be found through peace and perseverance.

In 1963, Dr. King and his followers faced their most ferocious test, when they set a massive civil rights protest in motion in Birmingham, Alabama. The protest was met with brute force by the local police, and many innocent men and women were injured through the violent response. However, the strength of the police department worked against the forces of discrimination in the nation, as many Americans came to sympathize with the plight of the blacks through the sight of their irrational and inhumane treatment.

By August of 1963 the civil rights movement had achieved epic proportions, and it was in a triumphant and universal air that Dr. King gave his memorable "I Have a Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. In the following year, Dr. King was distinguished as Time magazine's "Man of the Year" for 1963, and subsequently, in 1964, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Throughout his remaining years, Dr. King continued to lead our nation towards increased peace and unity. He spoke out against the Vietnam War, and led our nation's War on Poverty. To Dr. King, the international situation was inextricably linked to the domestic, and thus it was only through increased peace and prosperity at home that tranquility would be ensured abroad.

When Dr. King was gunned down in 1968 he had already established himself as a national hero and pioneer. As the years passed his message continued to gather strength and direction, and it is only in the light of his multi-generational influence that the true effects of his ideas can be measured.

Dr. King was a man who lacked neither vision nor the means and courage to express it. His image of a strong and united nation overcoming the obstacles of poverty and inequality continues to provide us with an ideal picture of the "United" states which still fills the hearts of Americans with feelings of brotherhood and a common purpose for years to come.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to bear in mind the courageous, dedicated deeds of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and to join together on Martin Luther King Day, in solemn recollection of his significant contributions for enhancing human rights throughout our nation and throughout the world.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAMES CHRISTIANSEN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I would like to pay tribute to the life and memory of cattleman James E. Christiansen, who recently passed away in