

of Public Service Electric and Gas (PSE&G) and past president and CEO of Bell Atlantic-New Jersey, Al Koeppe has been a friend to working families and organized labor as a whole.

In his official capacity at PSE&G and Bell Atlantic and as a former member of the NJ Commission on Higher Education, Al Koeppe works hard to ensure good relations with his workforce, providing workers quality benefits, the opportunity to organize and collectively bargain, and a quality work environment.

In the mid-1990's, as a member of the NJ Commission on Higher Education and chairman of the commission's labor management committee, Al Koeppe's committee recommended that the state's nine colleges be required to collectively bargain with their more than 5,000 employees. This statewide bargaining would cover contract talks with classified clerical, security and maintenance workers who were members of the CWA and the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers. While this decision was not a popular one with the nine college presidents, it was hailed as a huge victory by the workers and their representative unions.

Al also worked very closely with organized labor, including NJ AFL-CIO President Charles Wowkanek and members for the IBEW, in crafting New Jersey's Energy De-regulation law passed in the late 1990's. Al took significant steps in ensuring that not only consumer concerns were met but also the concerns of the men and women who work for our public utilities throughout the state.

Al Koeppe has obviously demonstrated his leadership on behalf of working families in the state of New Jersey throughout his long and distinguished career. Business and industry should look to Mr. Koeppe as an example of how to conduct labor-management relations.

TRIBUTE TO CLIFFORD STANFIELD

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished American and longtime resident of San Mateo County, Clifford Stanfield, who passed away on March 3, 2002, at the age of eighty-four.

He leaves his beloved wife Ruth of thirty-one years, his son Raphael and his daughter Sue Spackman, as well as five grandchildren, two brothers and a sister.

A graduate of the Illinois Institute of Technology, Clifford Stanfield worked as an architect until his retirement in 1984. A distinguished veteran of the U.S. Navy, he worked as a ship's painter during World War II, serving on the destroyer-tender USS *Dixie* in the South Pacific.

A native of Iowa, in 1971, Clifford Stanfield moved with his wife Ruth to California's Coastside where he gave generously of his time and talents to the community. An ardent environmentalist, Clifford Stanfield volunteered as a docent with the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve and the Coyote Point Museum. Utilizing his considerable expertise in architecture and construction, Mr. Stanfield volunteered with the occupational therapy department at Mills

Hospital, designing objects for patients to use in their therapy.

Service was a way of life for Clifford Stanfield. Even on his regular strolls through Half Moon Bay, he was known to pick up trash left in the streets and deliver newspapers to the doorsteps of his neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this great and good man and offer the condolences of the entire House of Representatives to his family. We are a better community, a better country and a better people because of Clifford Stanfield.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DON PEACH

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Don Peach and thank him for his extraordinary contributions to the town of Rangely. His dedication as Mayor to both his job and the people of Rangely is matched only by the level of integrity and honesty with which he has conducted himself each and every day while at his post. As Mayor, he will always be remembered as a man with the utmost dedication and talent, and will continue to be known as a leader in the community. As he celebrates his retirement, let it be known that I, along with each and every person with whom he has worked and the people of Rangely, are eternally grateful for all that he has accomplished in his distinguished tenure.

When Don arrived in Rangely, the town was mired in financial difficulties, and he quickly set out to turn things around. He effectively reduced property taxes, implemented numerous successful grant programs and tightened the accounting reins by emphasizing strict financial administration. Also upon his arrival, plans were already in the offing to build the Desperado Mine, which was projected to bring an additional 35,000 people to the town. At the time, Rangely was ill prepared to accommodate such a massive influx of people, but Don successfully built up the infrastructure to handle the increased population. In order to house the new workers, he acquired land from the Bureau of Land Management for the La Mesa Development, and subsequently began a number of housing programs. He also initiated a program of utility plant expansions in order to provide the necessary power and infrastructure for the town.

Don was also a strong advocate of bolstering community pride. He succeeded in changing residents' attitudes toward their town through the implementation of a town-wide beautification project. Through numerous grants and support from the town council, a Center Square was built, downtown facades were refurbished, an adopt-a-tree program was put in place, and street, curb and sidewalk improvements were initiated. He was also a strong advocate of community development, creating the Rangely Development Agency and the Rangely Development Corporation, as well as putting in place a number of development regulations in the town. He also established the Foundation for Public Giving and has worked tirelessly on the Rangely Museum Project.

Don is presently working on the Rangely School Foundation, which he helped to create and fund, and is also active in a number of other organizations. He serves on the Northwest Colorado Resource Advisory Council, which he has chaired for several years, is a board member of the Rangely Area Chamber of Commerce, the CNCC Foundation and the Rangely Museum Society, and serves on the University of Colorado Business Community Council. I have personally had the opportunity to work with Don in his capacity as Mayor and as chair of the Northwest Colorado Resource Advisory Council, and have always been astounded at his hard work and dedication. Needless to say, Don is a genuine philanthropist and an extraordinary public servant.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Don Peach is a man of unparalleled dedication and commitment to his professional endeavors, his philanthropic endeavors and to the people of his community. It is his unrelenting passion for each and every thing he does, as well as his spirit of honesty and integrity with which he has always conducted himself, that I wish to bring before this body of Congress. He is a remarkable man, who has achieved extraordinary things in his career and for his community. It is my privilege to extend to him my congratulations on his retirement as Mayor of the town of Rangely, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

FALUN GONG

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. UDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out against the religious persecution of Falun Gong practitioners in mainland China. Falun Gong representatives believe that over 100,000 Falun Gong practitioners have been arrested. Tens of thousands have been thrown into labor camps without trial, and at least 1,000 healthy practitioners have been put into mental hospitals and have suffered illegal psychiatric abuse. It has also been reported that between 365 and 1,600 people have been killed in police custody.

It is thought that there are as many as 100 million Falun Gong practitioners worldwide. Falun Gong believers hold that this spiritual practice instills the three principles of truthfulness, compassion and tolerance. They would merely like the opportunity to peacefully practice their beliefs without fear of torture or imprisonment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting Falun Gong and its practitioners' quest for peace and tolerance.

A TRIBUTE TO CULTURAL FEST 2002

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to acknowledge Cultural Fest 2002, hosted by Harold Collins. This event, which will be held in Robeson County,

North Carolina from April 17–21, will bring together ethnic and cultural groups from this area to celebrate the diversity and strength of our region, state, and nation. Robeson County, as confirmed by the latest census, is the most culturally diverse of all one hundred counties in North Carolina.

Robeson County is an area rich in heritage and history. This heritage and history will be on display during a Grand Parade uniting individuals from the numerous cultures represented within the county. Each cultural group will demonstrate its distinctive heritage during the event, providing individuals of all ages the opportunity to learn about the unique blend of cultures surrounding them. Furthermore, the event hopes to be a positive influence on the lives of the youth of Robeson County and surrounding areas, steering them away from drugs and violence and towards more benign outlets.

Cultural Fest 2002 could serve as a model for other communities to emulate as a means of positively promoting the great diversity of our nation. The organizers of Cultural Fest 2002 should be commended for their efforts.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in saluting the organizers of Cultural Fest 2002 for their efforts. May God's blessings shine upon this event.

IN MEMORY OF RON CAWDREY

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Ron Cawdrey, a close friend and driving force in the City of Redondo Beach, California, who died last month.

In addition to being a two-term councilman, Ron served his community in so many other ways, including on the North Redondo Beach Business Association, the Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce and the local Little League. He also was vice president of the Communications Workers of America, Local 9400, representing 10,000 members in California, and was actively involved in local Democratic politics.

But listing Ron's affiliations does not come near to describing the contributions he made to our community and the impact he had on the individuals he touched. A quick glance at the tributes his friends and colleagues have written reveals a man who was inspirational, loving, nonconfrontational and deeply devoted to his family. People just liked being around him.

In short, Mr. Speaker, Ron was well deserving of his 1992 Redondo Beach Man of the Year award, and his recent Redondo Beach Mayor's Lifetime Community Service Award.

I am uncertain when I first met Ron, but believe it was at a meeting of local labor leaders. Ron "adopted" me, and became a tireless worker on my behalf. He was always there for me, and for so many others.

The last time I saw Ron was at a regional Chamber of Commerce breakfast, hosted by the Redondo Beach Chamber. I hadn't seen him in some time, but he bounded up to me with his magnetic smile, gave me a big hug, and asked how I was doing.

Mr. Speaker, my heart goes out to Ron's wife Punky, his four children and four grand-

children, for I know the next few weeks and months will be difficult. But as they grieve, I hope they find comfort in knowing what a wonderful contribution Ron made to the world around him.

IN HONOR OF DR. L. JAY OLIVA,
PRESIDENT, NYU

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a New Yorker who has done a great deal for higher education in America, and for the City of New York. As a proud alumnus of this great university, I wanted to share with Members of Congress some of the accomplishments of this fine leader, and to take this opportunity to salute Dr. Oliva. New York University is the largest private university in this nation with more than 50,000 students, many of them first-generation college attendees. I know because I was one such first-generation college graduate in my family. NYU is clearly one of this country's premier universities.

Dr. Oliva has been its president since 1991, but he has been a leader of NYU for many decades, four decades, in fact. He has provided distinguished leadership of young men and women as its Chancellor, as a Dean, a Provost, and as an Executive Vice President. Yet, I want to recognize him for a role he has played continuously throughout these 40 or so years, and still plays—a teacher. He still personally carries a teaching load; he believes in that role above all. NYU has been at the heart of this man's life.

NYU's motto is a "private university in the public service." These were not just words for Jay Oliva, for, indeed, he was one of the very first university presidents in the nation to lead the fight for AmeriCorps. He helped shape a university that is dedicated to community service and volunteerism. Over 4,000 NYU students participate in volunteer efforts. President Oliva assembled his own President's C-Team that involves over 200 students working directly with him on public service initiatives. NYU is now home to the largest America Reads program in this country. Under his leadership, NYU has distinguished itself as a provider of services for the underprivileged, through its dental clinics providing healthcare to the indigent, low-income and minority populations, to its social work, education, nursing and medical school and initiatives, to its highly distinguished legal and business leadership and assistance. NYU provides tutoring and training for schools throughout the region, leaving a mark on many people's lives.

September 11th 2001 was no exception, when NYU was not only directly hit, but it was a time when its doctors, nurses, dentists, social workers and staff immediately answered the call to provide services to those in New York in need.

Dr. Oliva certainly saw a global vision and mission for NYU, but it was his local vision that has provided a blanket of services over New York City and State. For all of these and many more reasons, I stand now to applaud his leadership of NYU, his dedication to this great institution, and to the principles on which it was founded, and which he did so much to shape.

AFGHANISTAN EDUCATION FOR GIRLS AND WOMEN

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an event that is on its way to the world's history books an event that, last month, changed the lives of girls and women in Afghanistan forever. On March 23rd, Afghan schools went back into session, meaning that, for the first time in five years, girls began to attend school legally.

During the reign of the Taliban regime, women all over Afghanistan refused to give up their right to be educated. Some set up illegal schools in their homes at risk of being severely beaten. Others hid books and pencils under their clothing in fear of being killed if they were found out. But even during these horrific times, Afghan girls remained resolute. "We want to go to school even more," they said. For many Afghan girls, this is the first time they can walk down the street with a book, without the risk of being killed.

The Taliban regime was the most repressive regime in the world with regard to the status of women. The systematic exclusion of women from all positions of status in all aspects of government and society not only marginalized women, but it undermined Afghanistan's entire civic society. Prior to Taliban rule, 40% of Afghanistan's doctors, over half the university students, and two-thirds of Afghanistan's teachers were women. It is clear that for the rebuilding of Afghanistan to be successful, there must be educated and informed women in all walks of life.

I would like to commend the United States Children Fund for their extremely hard work and aid in helping with the "Back to School" campaign. In cooperation with the Afghan Interim government, UNICEF has a goal of bringing more than 1.5 million Afghan children into a safe learning environment. In a country where the literacy rate is just four percent—the lowest in the world—UNICEF has dedicated countless hours to ensuring that each child has access to basic school supplies. The kind of dedication to humanitarian relief that UNICEF has shown in Afghanistan is essential not only to the future of Afghanistan, but to women and children around the world.

I wholeheartedly thank UNICEF for their support of Afghan children. I commend the Interim Afghan government for making education a key priority. Most of all, I thank the teachers and children of Afghanistan who have had the courage and the will to educate and be educated after years of fear, insecurity and oppression.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH MOORE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I pay tribute today to Elizabeth Moore, an incredible woman who recently passed away, but whose dedication to the