EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATIONS, TED LOIS WELLINGTON, ON WEDDING ANNIVERSARY AND BEAR RIVER MIGRATORY BIRD 65TH REFUGE SETTLEMENT ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two outstanding citizens of California's 27th Congressional District. Ted and Lois Wellington, life long residents of Burbank, California, celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary on March 27, 2002. Over their lifetime, both Lois and Ted have devoted themselves to the well being of the greater Burbank community.

Ted and Lois both attended Burbank public schools while growing up and met each other while attending Burbank High School. But it wasn't until Ted became the accountant in Lois's father's mechanic shop that they began dating. They were married on March 27, 1937 and remained in Burbank to raise their family. They raised two children in Burbank—Barbara "Dee" Erman of Placentia and Frederick "Rick" Wellington of San Gabriel. They are extremely proud of their two children and are also blessed to have four grandchildren: Michael, Lawrence, Edward, and Patrick, and two great grandchildren: Sean and Haley.

Over the years Ted has worked for Fox Studios, Lockheed, and he concluded his accounting career in the Los Angeles County Tax Assessor's office. Lois, while working for the City of Burbank Department of Water and Power, is one of the original founders of the Burbank Public Employees Association.

Lois's involvement in the community is not only limited to Burbank, she has served as the President of the Retired Public Employees Association, as the President of the Congress of California Seniors, as an officer for the International Seniors Council Association and as the Chair of the President's Council of the National Council of Senior Citizens. She is currently a Senator of the Silver Haired Congress.

Not to be outdone, Ted has been active in local, county, state, and national politics throughout his life. Locally he has been persistent in his attempts to attract young people to politics. And when Ted isn't reading, he is tending to his vegetable garden, which some say produces the best tomatoes in Burbank.

I would like all Members of the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Ted and Lois Wellington on their 65th Wedding Anniversary. They have truly shown devotion not only to each other but to their family and community as well.

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, rise today to give my whole-hearted endorsement and support for H.R. 3958, the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge Settlement Act.

This bill provides more than just a mere settlement between the federal government and the State of Utah, it is a model of how state and federal interests can work together in order to protect our shared environment.

The Bear River Refuge is an ecological treasure. Surrounded by a desert and a brackish marsh, the Bear River is truly an oasis for thousands of birds. In 1843, explorer John C. Freemont visited the site and said that the sounds of waterfowl were like "a thunder, and the whole scene was animated with waterfowl."

The refuge, however, is threatened. In 1983 the Great Salt Lake breached its banks and flooded the fragile ecosystem of the refuge. The pristine waters became contaminated; microbes, plants, and animals were all put at risk.

The refuge is now on its way to recovery. There has been a concerted effort by the federal government and the state to remediate the damage caused and return the refuge to its prior condition.

That job has been complicated, not by the forces of nature but by the anachronistic ambiguities of lines of ownership between federal and state holdings. The lack of a meander line survey of the land has led to uncertainty of ownership within the refuge.

State and federal agencies are unsure of their jurisdiction, and that uncertainty has stymied the important environmental work that needs to be completed.

This \$15 million agreement would invest much needed resources into the continued protection of the refuge-\$10 million would be provided into a wetlands protection account. The remaining \$5 million will be used for development, improvement, and expansion of a trail system throughout the refuge.

This is a good deal for the United States, a great agreement for Utah, and important step in preserving a fragile ecosystem.

IMPORTANCE OF ORGAN DONATION

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, after September 11th, Americans proved once again that they are the most compassionate and

generous people in the world through their financial generosity to the victims of the tragedy. Unfortunately, organ donors—Americans who sacrifice for others—are often overlooked. Organ transplantation is a unique medical procedure, since it relies on the kindness and compassion of others—often strangers—to save lives. Despite the generosity of thousands of donors, however, the supply of organs still falls short of the need.

Currently, there is a nationwide shortage of available and suitable organs for patients needing a transplant. Nearly 75,000 people are currently waiting to receive a transplant, and every 14 minutes another name is added to the list. In the last decade alone, the waiting list has grown by over 300 percent. Because of low donor rates, thousands of people die each year for lack of suitable organs.

Through his tragic death, the grandson of one of my constituents was able to give life and hope to many others. Corey had been involved with motorcycles since he was a small boy. He was riding at a motorcycle track, like he had done many times before, practicing with his new motorcycle. The cycle over-throttled and crashed into his best friend, who was riding a motorcycle in the opposite direction. Corey suffered immediate brain swelling and never recovered. But fortunately for others, Corey's parents chose to donate his organs and give others the gift of life. I would like to personally thank them for their gift and commend their great sacrifice in their own time of mourning.

Through a gracious letter from the donor services organization, Corey's family was able to learn how his gift was able to touch the lives of so many others. His heart went to a young 14-year-old in Alabama, who required a transplant due to a heart defect from birth. Corey's liver went to a 67-year-old mother from Virginia, and his pancreas to a 49-year-old mother of two from Tennessee.

Donation of a person's organs is a profoundly selfless act that should be respected and acknowledged. Out of Corey's donation, many lives were touched and many people now have hope that they might not have had otherwise. I would encourage all Americans to follow Corey's example and register to donate their organs so that others may live.

HONORING ACHIEVEMENTS AND BIRTHDAY OF CESAR CHAVEZ

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES $Thursday,\,April\,11,\,2002$

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements and birthday this March 31st of the late Cesar Chavez, a true pioneer for workers and communities who rose to become one of our nation's—and world's—greatest advocates of nonviolent social change.

Cesar Chavez is best remembered for founding and leading the first successful farm

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor. Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor. workers' union and becoming the president of the United Farm Workers of America. His tremendous efforts—and those who worked with him—improved the lives of tens of thousands of workers and families, and inspired millions of people from all walks of life around our nation and world.

Born on a small Arizona farm on March 31, 1927, Cesar Chavez began his life as a farm worker in the field at age 10. He served in the United States Navy during World War II.

With the strength of family and the unity of fellow farm workers, Cesar Chavez became an organizer with the Community Service Organization, a civic group of Mexican-Americans, in the early 1950s. Soon thereafter, he moved with his wife. Helen, and eight children to California's Central Valley where he founded the National Farm Workers Association. With his young children by his side, Cesar would visit California farm communities to bring public light to the substandard working conditions and lack of sufficient pay and benefits of thousands of Latino migrant workers who worked long hours on farms. Chavez led peaceful boycotts to bring national attention to the fight for equality and justice for migrant farm workers. His passionate leadership brought together a remarkable alliance of students, unions, minorities, churches and others to fight for their fellow men, women, and children working in the agricultural sector.

I was proud to be a member of the California State Senate in 2000 and vote to have the State of California recognize Cesar Chavez's birthday as a day to remember his good work and to re-ignite our personal and social passion for continually improving the conditions of workers and communities across our nation and world.

So, Mr. Speaker, today I ask all Members of the United States House of Representatives to pause and honor a great man, Cesar Chavez, and the great cause he helped lead of advancing fairness, justice, and the improvement of the living and working conditions of our fellow human beings.

H.R. 3848, WASHINGTON COUNTY, UTAH RECREATIONAL AND VIS-ITOR FACILITIES

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES $Tuesday,\ April\ 9,\ 2002$

Mr. MATHESON.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to lend my voice in support of this important legislation.

Washington County, Utah is one of the fastest growing counties not only in Utah, but in the United States. Within the last ten years the population of Washington County has grown by more than 80 percent. The City of St. George is fast becoming one of America's premier retirement and vacation gateway communities in the country.

With this growth come two very basic needs. First, all cities, regardless of size, geography, lay out, structure, or economy, need water. Nowhere is this need felt more than in the red rock desert of southwestern Utah.

Secondly, vibrant cities need a place for people to recreate. They need areas where families can gather, where picnics can be held, where activities can be organized, and communities can come together.

This legislation will help to do both. The bill authorizes \$2.5 million for the construction and maintenance of the Sand Hallow Recreational Area. This will help provide the needed resources to allow for the continued water and recreational resources of Washington County.

As a child, I spent many days in the area around Sand Hollow. It is a magnificent area, and a place that will only be enhanced by this authorization.

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{GREATEST WINTER OLYMICS} \\ \text{EVER} \end{array}$

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate the people of Salt Lake City and the State of Utah, as well as athletes from around the world for a successful 19th Winter Olympics. I express my appreciation for the hard work by the thousands of volunteers of what has been described as the world's greatest Winter Olympics ever.

The Games showed how as Americans, we have not given up, but have rallied around our national— and international—banners. Over 27,000 people served as volunteers during the games. Volunteers made up almost the entire cast of the opening and closing ceremony performances. Doctors, nurses, businessmen, housewives, and even teenagers worked for 17 straight days to make sure this event was one that no one would ever forget.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that as Members of this body watched the Games on television that they too saw what I saw: People from throughout the world coming together to celebrate the spirit of fair competition and sport. I appreciate the work of the Congress and the President to ensure that the games ran smoothly and securely. It is my hope that the Salt Lake Olympic Games will be an example for the world of how to host a large, safe, secure, and successful international event.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 377 and to acknowledge the importance of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, an award established by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations to applaud individuals of various ethnic groups for their contributions to the United States.

The Ellis Island Medal of Honor organization is a member of the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations, the largest organization of its kind in the United States, representing over 5 million family members and serving as a uniting force for 275 organizations in the fields of ethnic heritage, culture, and religion. The com-

mitments of this organization include the preservation of cultural diversity, the promotion of equality, the battle for justice, and the peace-keeper among all peoples.

The Ellis Island Medal of Honor serves to acknowledge individuals whom have accomplished personal achievements while promoting their particular heritage. The award is named in honor of the persistence of 12,000,000 immigrants as they entered a new world to pursue freedom and economic opportunity. This award honors the commitments of peoples seeking to preserve their heritage in a diverse nation.

The Ellis Island Medal of Honor is important in that it acknowledges the contributors of our great nation.

Since the Ellis Island Medal of Honor was established in 1986, over 1,500 individuals from many different ethnic groups have received the award, including over 5,000 individuals whom are nominated each year. I was honored to receive the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and I greatly respect the achievements of the other recipients of this award.

At the 2002 Ellis Island Medal of Honor ceremony, contributors to the relief and recovery efforts of September 11 will be honored. These honorees and other contributors to the United States will rightly be recognized under the Ellis Island Medal of Honor for their achievements and dedication to their country.

TOM JOYNER MORNING SHOW

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the award winning syndicated radio talk show, "The Tom Joyner Morning Show," and Congresswoman CARRIE MEEK for a job well done in making sure that everyone was included in the 2000 Census count.

More than one million people in the African American community were counted who would not have been counted, but for the efforts of this radio program. I also wish to thank Mr. Joyner, his team, and Kweisi Mfume for their efforts in turning out the vote in the November 2000 Election. Their numerous presentations during this critical time on a continuing basis were outstanding!

Each morning the program was informative, motivational and highly successful in achieving its goal. Because of this program, the percentage of African-American votes was greater than that of Whites and other groups of the voting age population in the state of Florida and in most Southern states.

The group's impact was so tremendous that it served as a catalyst for motivating African-Americans across this country to register to vote and participate in the Census count. This newfound sense of empowerment increased African-American interest in social and political affairs; increased their social, financial and political wealth; and resulted in their becoming better citizens.

Mr. Joyner has been a creative trailblazer and by taking the show on the road he has inspired, motivated, educated and informed America. In addition, he has brought his family into millions of households in America. By actively participating in the work of "The Tom