

Mr. Speaker, the Upper Mississippi's health and water quality essential to growing the economies of the larger river cities of Bettendorf, Davenport, Clinton, and Dubuque, and the picturesque river towns of Guttenberg, LeClair, Bellevue, and Marquette. All of these communities, along with farmers and conservationists, have invested much time and effort in promoting a clean river. I believe this legislation helps to insure these investments by coordinating the many interests of those living in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. Accordingly, I am a proud sponsor of this bill, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

HONORING SERGEANT WAYNE
SEITA

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Wayne Seita for receiving the 2002 Police Personnel of the Year Award from the Sanger District Chamber of Commerce.

Sergeant Seita joined the Sanger Police Department on January 27, 1975, and was named permanent sergeant on July 1, 1990. Sergeant Seita's colleagues refer to him as a professional, moral, ethical and nonbiased person. His ability to maintain the work schedule for patrol, without any complaints, is enough to deserve a commendation alone. In May of 2000, Wayne was wounded while responding to a call of a wanted suspect with a firearm. Thankfully, Sergeant Seita was able to recuperate and return to work after a short time. Nothing could stand in the way of him protecting the citizens of Sanger and discharging his duties as a public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sergeant Wayne Seita for his dedication and contributions to the Sanger Police Department. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Wayne for his exceptional service to the community of Sanger and wishing him many more years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OPENING
OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
CONSULATE OF THE SLOVAK RE-
PUBLIC

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the official opening of the Northern California Consulate of the Slovak Republic in Walnut Creek, CA.

The Slovak Republic became a free and independent Republic in January 1993, and in June 2001, opened their new embassy in Washington, DC. The Slovak people are determined in their quest for liberty, dignity, and cultural and economic independence.

The United States continues to be the beneficiary of the work, sacrifice, and patriotism of citizens of Slovak heritage, who have earned recognition and respect throughout our land,

including the agricultural fields and the technological and academic centers in California.

Barbara Pivnicka, Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic in northern California, was appointed in June 2001 by Eduard Kukan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic, with approval by the U.S. State Department, to establish a Consulate of the Slovak Republic in California.

I am pleased that the Honorable Martin Butora, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Slovak Republic to the United States, and his wife, Dr. Zora Butorova, are visiting the San Francisco Bay Area this month for the purpose of officially opening the Consulate of the Slovak Republic in San Francisco.

A number of activities and celebratory events are taking place in recognition of the opening of the Consulate and the visit by the Slovak Ambassador, including a reception at the Fairmont Hotel on the day of the official opening.

It is an honor for me to welcome Ambassador Butora and Dr. Butorova to northern California, and to congratulate and welcome the Consulate of the Slovak Republic to northern California.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the efforts of the many Slovak and American citizens in making this opening possible. This Consulate will be a tremendous asset to people of the Slovak Republic and the United States.

UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN
PROTECTION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3480, the Upper Mississippi River Basin Protection Act. I'd like to thank Mr. KIND, my colleague on the Upper Mississippi River Task Force for all his hard work on this legislation.

The Upper Mississippi River Basin has a significant problem with sediment, which has a variety of harmful effects. Sediment is directly linked to soil erosion, which is harmful to the family farmer. It creates a need for over \$100 million each year in dredging of the main shipping channel of the Mississippi River. Sediment fills wetlands and impacts recreation and tourism on the Mississippi. While the problems of sedimentation are documented, there is inadequate scientific data on the amounts and sources of sediment and nutrients flowing into the River basin because local, state and federal efforts are not coordinated.

This legislation develops a coordinated public-private approach to reducing nutrient and sediment losses in the Upper Mississippi River basin. The bill establishes a water quality monitoring network and an integrated computer-modeling program using information gathered from existing federal, state and local programs. This data will provide the baseline numbers needed to make scientifically sound and cost-effective decisions.

Mr. Speaker, this is good legislation which will help alleviate the problems of sedimentation and nutrient loss that are common in the

Upper Mississippi River Basin. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

TRIBUTE TO GIRL SCOUTS' 90TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th anniversary of Girl Scouts USA. For ninety years, Girl Scouts has inspired girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens. It helps both young girls and adults develop qualities that will serve them all their lives—like strong values, a social conscience and conviction about their own potential and self-worth.

Girl Scouts strengthen our country by developing future female leaders. They offer a broad range of activities that address today's interests and tomorrow's role as women. Girl Scouts learn a wide range of real life skills—first aid, resume writing, and managing money—as well as reap the benefits that are less quantifiable, including enhanced self esteem, greater confidence in their abilities, and the strength and conviction to lead and excel in their endeavors. All of this is accomplished while constantly striving to reach their three goals: values, leadership and diversity.

Girl Scouts USA serves over 2.7 million girls across the country. They are a shining example of what society can be if we focus on teaching values to future generations. I congratulate Girl Scouts on their 90th anniversary, thank them for developing solid citizens, and wish them well in the future.

TRIBUTE TO CORRINE GUNTHER

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a truly outstanding individual, my constituent, Corrine Gunther of Morristown. On April 16, Corrine's friends and family will honor her contributions and accomplishments as The Zonta Club of Morristown presents her with the "Woman of the Year" award.

Corrine Gunther was born in Baltimore, Maryland. She went on to attend Oberlin College and obtained a degree in English and Anthropology. She used her education to become a teacher and taught first grade at a school in Long Island, where she also coached field hockey, lacrosse and basketball. Later, Corrine served as a Research Associate for a Federal grant at Fairleigh Dickinson University on a volunteerism in government project, and changed careers again to become Executive Director of the Visiting Health Service of Morris County where she served for fourteen years.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Corrine has served her communities as a volunteer in a multitude of ways. Throughout her years of service she has served as the

Chairman of the N.J. Home Care Committee for the White House Conference on Aging; as Vice Chairman of the Human Services Advisory Council; as a Board Member of First Call for Help, an information and referral service; and as a peer reviewer for the National Home Care Council. Corrine was also past President of NORWESCAP, an umbrella agency for five counties, overseeing 54 action service programs; past President of the League of Women Voters of the Morris Area and the Morris County League; and also as a charter member and past President of The Human Services Association of Morris County.

Corrine Gunther has been a member of The Zonta Club of Morristown for the last twenty six years and is a past President. Zonta International is a worldwide service organization of women executives in business and the professions working together to advance the status of women.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Corrine for all of her past achievements and hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating her on her honor, and all of the accomplishments and service she has performed throughout her life!

RECOGNIZING THE EMPLOYEES OF ARTHUR ANDERSEN

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 26,000 employees of Arthur Andersen who are facing great uncertainty as the Department of Justice pursues its federal obstruction of justice charges. In the State of Connecticut, Andersen employs more than 500 and in my District, over 300 are employed in the Hartford office. These hard-working employees are facing the possibility of layoffs and general insecurity about the future of the company to whom they have dedicated themselves.

Walking around Capitol Hill, I have witnessed the sea of yellow shirts that signify the faithful Andersen employees who are pleading their innocence. I have met face-to-face with the Andersen employees in my District and I am impressed by their loyalty and resolve. These employees have done nothing but come to work everyday and perform their duties. Despite their uncertain future, they still do. I could understand why they might feel betrayed by a select few who made poor decisions in a city two thousand miles away. However, they still serve their customers with the same professionalism as they did before Enron became a household name.

I would like to offer my praise to Hartford's Andersen office for being a solid corporate citizen in our community. Employees proudly proclaim that they donated nearly \$100,000 last year to the United Way, contributed to Hartford's "Dress for Success" program to provide professional attire to those moving from welfare to work, volunteered on two Habitat for Humanity projects, and gave \$160,000 to local civic organizations. Their thankless contributions should now be recognized.

I wish that I could offer Andersen employees my assurances that their jobs will be safe and their company will rebound. However, I

can offer my support and encouragement for work well done in good times and bad. I can offer my thanks for charitable contributions to our community. And I can ask my colleagues to join me in this endeavor and reach out to the innocent Andersen employees in their districts. Let them know that their hard work is appreciated and that their community will not abandon them during this difficult period.

HONORING BOB AND JOAN HINES

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bob and Joan Hines for receiving the 2002 Mr. and Mrs. Farmer of the Year Award from the Sanger District Chamber of Commerce.

Bob received a degree in agronomy from California State University, Fresno, and became an agronomist for J.G. Boswell Company in 1957. He left J.G. Boswell Company in 1961 and became manager of the Clovis-Sanger Cooperative (cotton) Gin. He was chosen by the Agricultural Council of California to be "Co-op" Man of the Year in 1997. Mr. Hines also served as Director of both the Federal Farm Credit System and of the Allied Grape Growers.

Joan made contributions through her church as an elder, Sunday school instructor, and Youth Club Worker. She was a 4-H leader, a member of the Parents' Club, and of the PTA. Mrs. Hines is a charter member of Los Rancheros Valley Children's Hospital Guild, Clovis Branch, and of the Fresno Kings Cattle Women Organization. Both Joan and Bob have been citrus and grape growers along the Kings River and Trimmer Springs area near Sanger. Together, they have made enormous contributions to their community.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bob and Joan Hines, for their dedication to agriculture and the community. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Bob and Joan for their tremendous community service and wishing them many more years of continued success.

PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RE- PUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this week, we welcome a distinguished visitor to our nation's capital: the Honorable Demetris Christofias, President of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus.

Mr. Christofias began his trip to the U.S. late last week with a stop in New York, where he paid tribute to those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11th. Visiting Ground Zero, where the World Trade Center had stood, Mr. Christofias condemned all terrorist attacks, and reaffirmed Cyprus' support in the fight against terrorism.

During his visit to Washington, Mr. Christofias will be meeting with Members of

Congress, top Administration officials, other key policy makers, and leaders of the Cypriot-American community. As elected representatives who serve in this great Body, it is a privilege to receive visits from our counterparts serving in the legislative bodies of other countries—particularly when the visitor represents a country with which we enjoy very friendly relations, have so much in common and in which we have so many important interests.

Mr. Speaker, Representative Demetris Christofias was elected President of the House of Representatives on June 7, 2001. Based on the 1960 Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus, the President of the House of Representatives performs the duties of the President of the Republic in the event of a temporary absence or incapacity of the President. He is also President of the Executive Committee on Selection, and President of the Executive Committees of the groups representing Cyprus in the Inter-parliamentary Union and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. He is also a member of the National Council, a supreme advisory body to the President of the Republic.

Representative Christofias was first elected as a member of the House of Representatives in 1991, and was subsequently re-elected in 1996 and 2001. He was born on August 29, 1946, in the village of Dhikomo of the district of Kyrenia, an area under military occupation by Turkey since 1974. From a very young age, he has been active in political and civic organizations in Cyprus. He now lives in Nicosia and is married to Elsie Chiratou. They have two daughters and a son.

Mr. Speaker, the Republic of Cyprus is an important friend and partner of the United States. Our countries share a commitment to democracy, human rights, free markets and the ideal and practice of equal justice under law.

The Republic of Cyprus also stands with the United States and the rest of the civilized world in the war against international terrorism. Within hours of the terrorist attacks of September 11, Cypriot leaders expressed their strong condemnation of the acts, their solidarity with the American people, and their commitment to working with the United States in the ongoing campaign against terrorism on many fronts. Since then, Cyprus has taken many substantive steps as part of the coalition against terrorism, including giving blanket clearances for U.S. military aircraft to fly over Cyprus and use its airports, sharing intelligence with and providing legal assistance to U.S. agencies, and increasing security at sea-ports, airports and the American Embassy in Cyprus's capital, Nicosia. Cyprus has also implemented UN Security Council Resolution 1373 to freeze bank accounts and other assets of terrorists and their supporters, ratified and implemented the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, and is conducting investigations to determine if individuals or organizations named in President Bush's Executive Order hold assets in Cyprus, with a goal toward freezing those assets.

Mr. Speaker, the future for the Republic of Cyprus looks extremely bright. Cyprus is currently considered a leading candidate country to join the European Union in the EU's next round of enlargement. The United States has strongly supported Cyprus's EU bid. EU membership will bring significant benefits to both