

never-ending spiral of the rich remaining rich and the poor remaining poor.

ON BEHALF OF RUTH BLAKE
REGARDING STRAIGHT TALK VERMONT
(April 8, 2002)

RUTH BLAKE: Straight Talk Vermont is one of the programs run out of the Community Justice Center, and some of the things they are involved in is Arts are Wonderful, a group of high school students getting together and working on art projects and learning different types of art. They have a Team Reaching In, which is like a song-poetry kind of group. They have Art from the Inside Out, which is a group of UVM art majors who are teaching majors, teaching middle schoolers and young students art. And the Teen Expressions, which is what I'm part of. It is a group of high schoolers from around the area, and they get together, and plan different events, and fun things to do, as something else to do besides drinking and drugs and that kind of stuff.

Straight Talk Vermont is the overall thing. They help people at high risk, and it—they just help build and become better. What I'm involved in is the Teen Expressions Dance Company, and they're putting on a dance performance. It is a group of young amateur performers. We are just getting together and choreographing and dancing, performing.

GRIMES TO BE HONORED BY
GREATER PITTSSTON CHAMBER

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2002

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the well-deserved recognition that the Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce will provide to Mr. John F. Grimes, a good friend of mine, at its 80th annual dinner meeting on May 1.

It is with good reason that the Chamber refers to Jack as its "secret weapon" for attracting quality businesses to sites in the Pittston area. He was instrumental in the recently announced agreement to bring 1,200 jobs to the area at the new TJ Maxx distribution center to be located in the Vogelbacher Industrial Park. In all, the Chamber credits Jack as being responsible for bringing 4,500 jobs to the Greater Pittston Area since his involvement began with the Chamber.

Jack has deep roots in the community—he was born in Pittston and has lived there all of his life. In 1942, after graduating from St. John the Evangelist High School, Jack began a 21-year career with the Lehigh Valley Railroad. Within just a few years of beginning his career with the railroad, Jack was appointed assistant division engineer and became the youngest person ever to be assigned to that position of responsibility. During his career, Jack earned two professional licenses: surveyor and civil engineer.

Although Jack remained very committed to his job, he has also made community service a major part of his life. He served as the president of the Lions Club of Pittston, and has been a lector and usher at St. Mary's Church. He has also contributed to the city of Pittston by serving as a member, secretary and president of the planning commission over a period of more than 30 years.

Knowing of Jack's commitment to his community, his colleagues called on him to be the executive director of the Pittston Chamber of Commerce. During his tenure, Jack reactivated the Pittston Area Industrial Development Authority as a subsidiary function of the chamber. He has aggressively campaigned to bring new industry to the region, and he has helped publicize Pittston's strongest assets to companies seeking to relocate in the city. Jack Grimes has become a valuable partner with local, county, and State officials who diligently work to revitalize the Greater Pittston area. For all of these reasons, the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick rightly honored Jack as their Man of the Year in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the Greater Pittston area, I extend my deepest appreciation to Jack Grimes for his lifetime of commitment to promoting industrial and business development throughout his community. I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives his service to the community and the well-deserved tribute he will receive on May 1, and I wish him all the best.

THE MARTIN'S COVE LAND TRANSFER ACT (H.R. 4103) SHOULD BE ADOPTED BY THE CONGRESS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 4103, the Martin's Cove Land Transfer Act, introduced in this House by our distinguished colleague from Utah, Mr. HANSEN, the Chair of the Committee on Resources. The legislation directs the Secretary of the Interior to offer to convey to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints federal lands in the state of Wyoming known as Martin's Cove. The Church would be required to pay the fair market value for acquisition of the land and any improvements.

Generally speaking, Mr. Speaker, I have strongly supported the acquisition of lands by the federal government. During the time I have served in this body, I have introduced and supported a number of bills which have provided for the addition of new lands to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in California and the acquisition of other lands for preservation and protection by the federal government.

It may appear to be an unusual step that I support this legislation which would provide for the sale of federal lands. The land at Martin's Cove, however, is unique. Clearly the transfer of this parcel of land from the federal government to the Mormon Church makes good sense for all concerned.

Mr. Speaker, this site is a particularly important historical site for Latter-day Saints. At or near Martin's Cove in 1856 some 150 emigrants of the Willies and Martin handcart companies lost their lives in an early fall snowstorm. Those who perished were buried where they died, and many were placed in common graves because of the difficult and trying conditions.

Many members of these two groups had begun their trek to Salt Lake City in Europe, and others joined the group in the eastern

United States. They sought a new life in the American West and the freedom to practice their religion. This loss of life was one of the most tragic events in the entire westward migration on the Oregon and Mormon trails in mid-nineteenth century America.

It is obvious that this site holds a special significance for the many descendants of those who survived this ordeal, many of whom are Latter-day Saints. But it is also a holy place as well for other members of the church who give special honor to their pioneer heritage.

Mr. Speaker, the church's interest in acquiring this site is consistent with the federal government's interest in public access and preservation of this location. The church has an interest in preserving this place as an authentic historic site. It has an interest in maintaining relics and evidences of the Mormon, Oregon and Pony Express trails that pass through the area. The church also has an interest in making the area accessible to visitors in a way that will preserve the historic significance of the place. Furthermore, I believe that the church's commitment to this site in care, concern and funds is likely to be much greater than that of the federal government, and as a result the area will be better preserved under Latter-day Saint stewardship than under federal control.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I do not see this legislation for the transfer of this particular piece of land to be establishing any precedent for the sale or transfer of other federal lands. Clearly this is a unique situation. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has an interest that is very similar to the federal interest to preserve, protect and provide public access to the site. This land transfer makes eminent sense, but it clearly does not change any federal policies or practices regarding the protection and preservation of public lands.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague from Utah, Mr. HANSEN, for introducing this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

RECOGNITION OF VOLUNTEER SKY MARSHALS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2002

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, after the tragic events of September 11th, many dedicated Americans served our nation as volunteer Sky Marshals. I recently received a piece of correspondence from one of my constituents, Bob Dremann, whose son John served as a volunteer Sky Marshal after September 11th. I have included a copy of Mr. Dremann's correspondence, and agree with him that volunteers like his son John deserve Congress's recognition for their service.

Rep. MOORE: My son, John S. Dremann, just completed his detail as a volunteer Sky Marshal. He volunteered shortly after the 9/11 attacks. They were looking for persons who had federal law enforcement training and those who carried a handgun as a part of their jobs. He is now being relieved by persons who were hired and trained to be a Sky Marshal after 9/11. John is now going back to his previous job as an Aviation Specialist with the U. S. Customs Service. He flies in a

corporate jet looking for the bad guys, breaking laws off the Florida coast. Volunteers from other agencies also served as volunteer Sky Marshals. They are all returning to their old jobs, but, I feel they deserve our special thanks for the work that they did to protect us. The purpose of this note is to encourage you to create a Congressional recognition program for my son and all of the other brave persons who served as a Sky Marshal volunteer during the recent emergency. I would not rely on the FAA or Customs to do an adequate job of recognizing these persons. Besides, they protected all of us, so wouldn't it be very appropriate for the Congress to come up with a recognition program. Something he could show his grandchildren someday. Thank you for your help on this.

Sincerely,

BOB DREMANN.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. THUNE

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2002

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, on April 24, while fulfilling my responsibilities as a member of Congress and escorting President Bush to South Dakota, I was unable to vote on roll call votes 107 through 110. If I had been present I would have voted NO on roll call vote 107; NO on roll call vote 108; NO on roll call vote 109 and YEA on roll call vote 110. I ask unanimous consent that this, along with a statement, be placed at the appropriate place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

POEM FOR VIETNAM VETERANS

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2002

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I submit this poem for the RECORD.

WRITTEN AND DEDICATED TO ALL THE
VIETNAM VETERANS

(By Boatswains Mate Robert W. Perry)

We were the men sent to Nam
We were there to save the day
And for protecting these people's freedom
We were paid about four bucks a day
We walked through these smelly paddies
It was always so damn hot
My buddies just kept dying
In a land that God forgot
We trudged through the bush with our six-
teens
Eating and breathing orange dust
We worked like we were on a chain gang
And always too tired to cuss
All the time them bullets kept coming
It was more than we could stand
Hell folks we weren't convicts
We were defenders for their foreign land
So when this life is over
And there are no more worries to stand
We're gonna do our last parading in the far
away
Promised Land
Once there, St. Peter will greet us and he
will yell
"Come on in you men from Nam, you've done
your stretch in hell."

Sadly missed by the American people. We will never forget their plight.

HONORING THE GRADUATE CLUB
AS THEY CELEBRATE THE 100TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR HOME
AT 155 ELM STREET

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2002

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to New Haven, Connecticut's Graduate Club as they celebrate their 100th anniversary at 155 Elm Street. Throughout its history, the Graduate Club has been a social institution in our community—bringing town and gown together for nearly 200 years.

Established in 1892, the Graduate Club was founded to provide a place where faculty and graduates could socialize and work. While there were many clubs, organizations, and public resorts, they were generally dominated by undergraduates. Their first president, Arthur W. Colton, Yale 1890, with a number of other men, held the first meeting in November of 1892 and adopted the name Graduate Club, only because the more common University Club was already being used by undergraduates.

The Graduate Club found its first home at the Ankell House where it remained until the Spring of 1894 when it was forced to seek other quarters due to the expansion of Yale University. It was in their second home on Chapel Street that members signed the Articles of Association. Blending academic and civic interests, membership grew and steadily strengthened the young organization. With the turn of the century membership continued to increase and a mounting waiting list continued to expand. It was evident that the Club had to seek a larger venue.

Closely following the bicentennial celebration of Yale University, the Graduate Club acquired the historic home of Eli W. Blake at 155 Elm Street. Though there was a need for alteration and enlargement of the property, a date was set for the formal laying of the cornerstone: April 26, 1902. The celebration of a centennial anniversary is always a special occasion. It is especially so for the Graduate Club because they are recognizing the anniversary of the establishment of their home. Being able to remain in the same building, particularly during the many phases of revitalization, is a great accomplishment.

What began as a means to distinguish a collegiate generation gap has grown into a popular and respected gathering place. You can often find New Haveners dining in the Club and it is sought out for meetings or social gatherings. It has become a true New Haven landmark. I am honored to rise today to join the New Haven community in congratulating the past and present membership on this wonderful occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF METHODIST
HOSPITAL'S NEW STROKE CENTER

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2002

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Texas Medical Center's Methodist Hospital as it dedicates its new Stroke Center on May 1, 2002, located in Houston, Texas. The dedication will provide the hospital with an opportunity to showcase the comprehensive new facility for the treatment and care of stroke patients.

Founded in 1919, Methodist Hospital, the anchor facility for the Methodist Health Care System, has earned nationwide recognition. Methodist Health Care System is a nonprofit, comprehensive medical service and health care organization. It has expanded the world-renowned clinical and service excellence of its founding entity, Methodist Hospital, through community hospitals, a health plan with multiple products and an acclaimed home health agency. Affiliated with the Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church, Methodist Health Care System strides to treat everyone it serves as a person of sacred worth and value.

As the primary, private, adult teaching hospital for Baylor College of Medicine, Methodist Hospital, directs millions of research dollars into patient care and offers the latest innovations in medical, surgical and diagnostic techniques. For the past eighty years the hospital has established a legacy of medical milestones that continues to attract patients from around the world. Its international physician referral network and affiliations with hospitals that span four continents, including information centers in Guatemala City, Istanbul, and Mexico City, have placed Methodist at the forefront of the world's medical research and education.

As you may know, much has been learned about the causes and prevention of strokes. In an effort to respond to those patients suffering from a stroke, who at one time were thought of as untreatable, Methodist Stroke Center has coordinated a multi-disciplinary rapid response system. This system consists of a highly trained team of experts ranging from neurologists, cardiologists, to rehabilitative specialist. The services provided are extensive and cover all aspects of stroke treatment. The Stroke Center is one of the many facilities within the Methodist Health Care System that has been nationally recognized by the medical community. In fact, Methodist Hospital was named among the country's top centers for urology, otolaryngology, kidney disease, ophthalmology, and neurology in U.S. News and World Report's 2001 Annual Guide to "America's Best Hospital." Additionally, the hospital is consistently ranked as most preferred in Houston's Biannual Healthpoll Survey and was recognized by Hospitals and Health Networks as one of "Health Care's 100 Most Wired" health care facilities. The medical staff includes dozens of physicians listed in The Best Doctors in America.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Texas Medical Center's Methodist Hospital for its eighty-three years of excellence and innovation in improving the quality of life and I look forward to the medical advances that will continue to emanate from its exceptional staff.