

years, and then in 1970, became Executive Director of the Camp Fire USA's seven-county Tejas Council.

What followed was thirty-two years of energetic service and determined leadership in her community. Pat began by conducting a community needs survey to find ways that Camp Fire could help. She established an after-school program that continues today and is now on seven campuses of the Waco Independent School District. Camp Fire has offered parenting education, conflict resolution seminars, nutritional courses and money management classes at three of the city's public housing developments. And, in 1977, the Camp Fire Activity Center opened to provide a safe place for children to go after school.

Mr. Speaker, during her tenure, Pat McKee has established partnerships with more than forty community agencies to develop programs that help young people grow into productive, contributing members of society.

She has been recognized with national Camp Fire USA awards for such innovative programs as Kids Care, Teen Leadership Waco, Teen Volunteers Center, Life Enrichment Programs and Campus Camp. Those remarkable achievements on behalf of others have not gone unnoticed elsewhere. Former Governor Ann Richards recognized Pat with the Yellow Rose of Texas Award. She is a recipient of the Community Builder Award from the Masonic Grand Lodge, and the Pathfinders Award from YWCA.

Now, after forty-four years of service, Pat has retired to rest and travel with her husband, Goodson, although everyone who knows her is certain that she will be volunteering her time to some nonprofit organization very soon.

Mr. Speaker, Pat McKee's life has defined service to others. While the Waco community is sad to see her retire, we are, at the same time, delighted for her. And, most importantly, we are all better people for having known her.

JOHN S. LAWS INSTITUTE
GRADUATION

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I join the community of Worcester, Massachusetts in celebrating the graduation of ten young adults from the Dynamy John S. Laws Institute. I would like to recognize the graduates: Lieu Chau, Jason Dobson, Samir Gandulla, Jamie Glenn, Melisa Jaquez, Ryan Novack, Jorid Topi, William Torres, Tram Trang and Jovon Turner.

The John S. Laws Institute was created over a decade ago in 1989 to aid talented low-income and culturally diverse students in the Worcester Public School System. The John S. Laws Institute is a four-year after school program designed to give students the tools they need to complete high school and succeed in college. As part of the program students take part in internships, leadership training, community service and other skill and character building exercises. Students who graduate from the institute are eligible for full scholarships from the Colleges of the Worcester Consortium. Ninety-eight percent of graduates

from the John S. Laws Institute are accepted into college.

Mr. Speaker, I commend these young adults for taking an active role in improving their education and I wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

GEORGE NAPOLITANO NAMED
"MAN OF THE YEAR"

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to George Napolitano, who will be honored as "Man of the Year" at the Holy Name Society Immaculate Conception Parish 10th Annual Dinner Dance. Mr. Napolitano is one of the nicest people I have ever worked with. His understated manner and sincerity make him enormously well-liked in the community.

George Napolitano was born and raised in the Little Italy section of New York City. He attended St. Patrick's Old Cathedral School and All Hallows High School before attending St. John's University.

Following his study at St. John's, Mr. Napolitano began his career in the financial sector. In 1960, however, he left the career he had begun on Wall Street to serve his country in the military. Stationed in Ft. Rucker, Alabama he was placed in charge of the Officers Payroll Department. He also coached the base's Little League team to a State Championship. Mr. Napolitano was granted an honorable discharge as Sergeant and completed an additional four years reserve training.

After his service, Mr. Napolitano returned to his career in the private sector working again in the financial district before beginning a career in real estate and insurance. Shortly thereafter he also began his career in politics. He worked as a legislative aide to Assemblyman Denis J. Butler for ten years. He currently runs my Queen office, and I am proud to have George Napolitano as a member of my staff.

Mr. Napolitano has made a lifelong commitment to community service. He is a member of the Tri-State Italian American Congress, a charter member of the Sons of Italy in Manhattan and a charter member of the Knights of Columbus where he was instrumental in coordinating the Youth Program. He is Treasurer of the Powhatan Democratic Club and Chairman of the Parents' Association of St. Vincent Ferrer High School. For his work as a Lector and Eucharist Minister and his commitment to the Holy Name Society he has been honored by the Brooklyn Diocesan Union. During his tenure as President of the Holy Name Society, the organization experienced unprecedented growth. Furthermore, he has co-chaired all ten Holy Name Society dinner dances which have raised funds for grants for graduating students. His hard work and self-less dedication has made a difference in the lives of many young people and community members.

Along with his many other commitments, Mr. Napolitano also operates his own real estate and insurance business in Queens, New York, where he lives with his wife, Carol, and their two daughters, Deana and Denise. He also has another daughter, Catherine, a son, Robert, and three lovely grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, for his many accomplishments and contributions I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting George Napolitano. He exemplifies the fine American tradition of voluntarism.

HONORING THE GIRL SCOUTS OF
AMERICA ON THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY
AND PAYING TRIBUTE
TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2002
GOLD AWARDS

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the Connecticut's Girl Scouts, and troops nationwide, as they celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of America and the presentation of the Girl Scouts highest honor, the Gold Award. This tremendous organization has provided a unique and important experience to millions of young women in America and abroad.

In 1912 a group of eighteen girls assembled and, with a idea well before its socially acceptable time, Juliette Gordon Law called to order the first meeting of what has grown to become one of the most well-known and respected organizations for girls in the world. Today, the Girl Scouts can boast of a membership of just under four million young girls and adults.

The Girl Scouts organization promotes an important message for young women: that all girls should be given the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually. Girl scouting empowers our young women to realize their full potential while making a contribution to our communities. The variety of activities and programs that they participate in teach them invaluable life lessons—lessons that they will carry with them into their adult and professional lives. Reaching beyond socioeconomic and geographic barriers, the Girl Scouts of America have touched the lives of millions of young women—many some of our nation's most vulnerable citizens. The self-confidence and determination that all Girl Scouts develop is truly invaluable.

Perhaps the most important idea that these young women take away from their girl scouting experience is the value in serving their communities. Our communities would not be the same without the efforts of those who volunteer their time and energy to its enrichment. I am always amazed at the consistency of the stories I read of our local troops actively involved in reshaping the many towns and cities of my congressional district. Whether volunteering to raise funds for a new playground or becoming mentors for other young girls, they have a direct and positive impact on our community—one of which they should all be very proud.

The Gold Award is the highest distinction earned by a Girl Scout and each of those honored today should be proud of their accomplishments. These young women have demonstrated a strong commitment to their communities through the service programs in which they have participated. This recognition reflects their hard work and dedication to the Girl Scouts and to improving the lives of their friends and neighbors.

The Girl Scouts of America have left an indelible mark on our nation as well as across

the globe. For 90 years, the Girl Scouts have given our communities an invaluable resource for young girls. I am proud to join today in expressing my sincere congratulations to them on this incredible milestone as well as to all of those who will be honored with the Gold Award.

HONORING SEVEN ACRES JEWISH SENIOR CARE SERVICES

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Seven Acres Jewish Senior Care Services, which celebrated the Sara Feldt Memorial Annual Older American's Day on May 12, 2002, in recognition of Older American's Month. This event pays tribute to those in our aging population that play a vital role in our communities. Many expend countless hours on behalf of hospitals, schools and philanthropic organizations.

Seven Acres began in 1943, when a small, determined group of men and women of the Jewish faith purchased a frame house on Branard Street in Houston. Their vision was to create a warm, friendly Jewish environment for fourteen elderly citizens. As the concept and the need grew, there were milestone expansions. In 1954, a new facility, with broader capabilities, was built on Chimney Rock Road, initially serving 31 and eventually accommodating 98 residents. During the 1970s, planning began for a new and innovative facility. In 1998, a major renovation created today's modern campus and was dedicated to the mission of "Honoring thy Father and thy Mother." Throughout its history, Seven Acres has promoted a sense of satisfaction with life, so that the humanity, dignity, independence, and strengths of each resident are realized to the fullest.

Older Americans Month presents us with the opportunity to draw attention to the remarkable longevity of our population and to the challenges and opportunities which will accompany population aging in the next millennium. This month highlights the fact that many of us are living longer, fuller, more satisfying lives and that we are growing stronger in the process. Seven Acres prides itself on recognizing that aging can and should be a positive experience, and that we can take charge as we prepare for our own longevity, regardless of our age today.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when America is aging and our parents are growing older, it is imperative that facilities like Seven Acres continue to provide the highest quality of care for our aging community. Our elderly are our foundation and a great source of talent and inspiration. I commend them for their good works and Seven Acres for its great contributions to the Houston community.

BOB STUMP NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4546) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense, and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes:

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to speak on the Edwards amendment to the DOD Authorization bill, restoring \$30 million to a nonproliferation program included in the President's Budget and designed to provide an alternative to Russian reactors that generate weapons-grade nuclear materials. This amendment was unfortunately ruled not to be in order.

The Defense Authorization Act, as currently proposed, cuts by \$30 million this critical national security work. If this \$30 million is not restored in full, it would mean at least a one year delay in shutting down these plutonium production reactors, which translates into 1.5 additional tons of weapons grade plutonium that will be produced by Russia, which is equivalent to nearly 200 nuclear weapons.

Mr. Chairman, the demise of the Soviet empire ushered in a new post-Cold War period with unclear and unidentifiable threats and a new and very real sense of urgency, instability and insecurity.

During the Cold War, the enemy was clear and identifiable. Regrettably, that is not the case today. In addition to the traditional nuclear weapons proliferators such as North Korea, Pakistan, and China, countries such as Libya, Iran, Iraq, and stateless terrorist organizations such as Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda, are out there and are actively in search of their next deal on nuclear weapons technology and components. It is this latter type of threat—the unclear, mobile, and not easily identifiable source of threat—that compels us to continue and increase our efforts to secure Russia's nuclear weapons and materials.

In the past 11 years, while much as been done to dismantle Russia's and the former Soviet Republics' nuclear weapons, the dangers persist, and in some cases have increased. In a January 2001 report to the DOE, former Senator Howard Baker and Lloyd Cutler called the proliferation risks created by nuclear materials in the former Soviet Union the "greatest unmet national security need" for the United States."

In a speech at the National Press Club on March 29, 2001, former Senator Sam Nunn addressed the need to continue to build upon existing programs such as the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction program, when he said, "As we enter the second decade of the post-Cold War world. . . the most significant, clear and present danger to the national security of the United States is the threat posed by nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. Nothing else comes close. The public perception of the threat is low; the reality of the threat is high. There is a dan-

gerous gap between the threat and our response. To close this gap, we must make a fundamental shift in the way we think about nuclear weapons, the spread of weapons of mass destruction, and our national security.

The world has changed, and with it so too have the threats. We cannot afford to cut back on such worthwhile programs. We cannot ignore or minimize these very real threats.

Significant progress has been made thus far through the Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction program and various State Department and DOE programs. There is still much work to be done. Efforts to defund or reduce these vital programs are detrimental to our ability to protect Americans against the very real threat from weapons of mass destruction. The President's request and Congressman EDWARD's amendment to fund a critical program in Russia was a step in the right direction.

SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 392, expressing solidarity with Israel in its fight against terrorism.

The United States Congress must stand in solidarity with Israel, a front-line state in the war against terrorism, as it takes necessary steps to provide security to its people. The United States and Israel are engaged in a common battle against terrorist groups who threaten our countries. Israel must fight against terror just as the United States must fight and destroy al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups.

At a time when much of the world turns its back on Palestinian terrorism and condemns Israel for exercising its right of self defense, the U.S. Congress must stand in solidarity with Israel. The ongoing wave of terror threatens the survival of Israel as a free, democratic and civilized society, and risks engulfing the entire Middle East in chaos and war. Israel also needs additional resources to meet these new threats, it must be able to protect its people from the threat of weapons of mass destruction.

H. Res. 392 reaffirms our support for Israel's right to defend itself; supports additional U.S. assistance to help Israel defend itself; acknowledges Israel's role as a front-line state in the war against terrorism; condemns the campaign of suicide bombings and terror coordinated by Arafat and other Palestinian leaders, and demands that they fulfill their commitments by once and for all dismantling the terrorist infrastructure.

I urge all parties in the region to pursue vigorous efforts to establish a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.