

On February 22, 1982, he was appointed as the United States Administrative Law Judge for the Office of Hearings and Appeals of the Social Security Administration and has served in that capacity in Birmingham, AL since 1982.

On June 3, 2002, Judge Cloe will retire after 42 years of distinguished service to the people of the United States. His commitment to protecting the Constitutional rights of the citizens of this country is exemplary and unquestioned. He is worthy of commendation for his commitment to public service.

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE FOR THE
EFFORTS TO RESTORE THE
WOLF HOUSE IN MOUNTAIN
HOME, ARKANSAS

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude for the efforts of all those involved in restoring the historic Wolf House in Mountain Home, Arkansas.

The newly restored Wolf House will have its grand reopening on May 18th. Built in 1829 by Jacob Wolf, the building served as the county courthouse for what was then Izard County, Arkansas and now provides a good glimpse into how life was in that era.

Nearly two years ago, architect Tommy Jameson led a team of craftsmen in the restoration of the 180 year-old structure. Working closely with Preservation Consultant Joan Gould, they strove to maintain historical accuracy of the project, restoring the oldest public building in Arkansas to its original form.

The restoration effort leaves the state with a building that purely interprets how structures might have appeared in the early 19th century Ozarks.

The Wolf House is now open for self-directed walking tours and I encourage my colleagues to visit this historic site if they are ever in Baxter County.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to praise the hard work of everyone involved in the restoration of the Wolf House.

IN HONOR OF THE 2002 DRAGON
BOAT FESTIVAL

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shine a spotlight on the 2002 Washington, D.C. Dragon Boat Festival, being held this upcoming Memorial Day weekend.

Beginning 2000 years ago in China, dragon boat racing continues to be popular in many parts of the world, especially in Taiwan. Dragon boat racing displays a unique aspect of Taiwanese history, culture and tradition. This colorful and exciting event showcases one aspect in the vast array of the region's cultural diversity and will attract a multitude of spectators to the Washington area.

Over forty teams will participate in the race, held on the Potomac River Saturday May 25th and Sunday May 26th, including those from

the D.C. Police Department, the Harbor Patrol Officers, and even one for Congressional Staff. Through the efforts of numerous Taiwanese organizations, eight magnificently painted 45-foot long dragon boats were donated to be used in the competition.

I send my congratulations to the distinguished members of the 2002 Washington D.C. Dragon Boat Festival Committee, especially to the three honorary chairpersons: Mayor Anthony A. Williams, Chairwoman Linda Cropp and Representative C.J. Chen of the Taipei Economic Council. Also many special thanks should be given to Mrs. Yolanda Chen and all the cosponsors under her leadership. They have spent a lot of time and effort to bring this spectacular event to the Greater Washington area.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to announce what a great source of pride this event will provide to the local Taiwanese community. They are an integral part of our society and I am pleased that the 2002 Washington, D.C. Dragon Boat Festival helps to highlight the contributions they have continuously brought to the region over the years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, on May 16, 2002, I was absent for personal reasons and missed roll call votes numbered 167, 168, 169, and 170. For the record, had I been present I would have voted yea, yea, yea, and nay, respectively.

RECOGNITION OF EILEEN
KAVANAGH

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I hereby request that these comments be placed in the appropriate part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

This past fall, the Staten Island Advance, the Staten Island Children's Campaign and my office joined together to raise money for families of victims of the World Trade Center tragedy. We established a non-profit named The Staten Island September 11th Fund and were successful in raising more than \$1.2 million for families of victims from Staten Island.

The person who made the whole program work, the one who dealt with every family and every single application received, was Eileen Kavanagh.

Without relinquishing or compromising any of her myriad daily duties serving as executive secretary to the editor of the Staten Island Advance, she took on for six months the tremendous amount of work associated with The Staten Island September 11th Fund. That work included reviewing and processing the more than 200 applications received, handling all inquiries concerning benefits and donations and serving as the liaison between the Fund and the bank handling the account. This work

included receiving and creating computerized records of thousands of donations totaling almost \$1.3 million, sending written acknowledgments to all donors, making necessary bank deposits and, in the end, writing the almost 200 checks that the fund dispensed.

Perhaps most importantly, she showed the ability to balance both the sensitivity needed to deal with families of the September 11th attacks and the objectivity needed to reflect the strict requirements established for the administration of the Fund. From trying to explain the fund to a widow who lost her firefighter husband and who is struggling to raise their children alone and at the same time consoling and empathizing with her to explaining it to a woman who lost her father and is doing everything she can to help her mother to accepting thousands of donations from

To sum it all up, Eileen Kavanagh was able to do all of this with accuracy, understanding and compassion. She made the very difficult situation for many family members seeking financial assistance a lot easier for them because of that compassion. Sometimes, a family member of a victim just wants to hear a friendly voice on the other end—to talk—to be understood and listened to—Eileen did this gracefully. She did not do it for any monetary compensation, or for public attention, but simply to help her friends, neighbors—fellow Staten Islanders who were so devastated by the tragic events of September 11th. She provides us with an excellent example of the goodness that truly does exist in people—a goodness that we should all strive to share and attain.

Staten Island suffered a great loss on September 11th. Hundreds of men and women were lost—husbands, wives, mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins, friends, neighbors and loved ones. All of our lives were forever changed—but the deeds of people like Eileen have eased the burden a bit—and have given us all a little more strength to carry on and hope for the future.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ATHELSTANE
LODGE #839 FREE AND ACCEPTED
MASON

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to call to the attention of our colleagues and the American people the achievements of the Brothers of the Athelstane Lodge #839 Free and Accepted Masons of Pearl River, New York, on their 100th anniversary of fraternity and service to their community. The Athelstane Lodge has continued the Masonic tradition of promoting "morality in which all men agree, that is, to be good men and true."

The Masons, officially titled the Free and Accepted Masons, are one of the world's oldest and largest fraternal organizations, dating back to its foundation in England in the early 1700's. Throughout history the Masons have sought to bring men together of all race, religions and political ideology under the ideas of charity, equality, morality and service to God. Today the Masons have millions of members worldwide, including more than 2.5 million in

the United States. They have earned a reputation as highly respected businessmen, ministers and politicians. Such distinguished men as American statesman Benjamin Franklin, Composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, French philosopher Voltaire and U.S. President George Washington have all been Brothers in the Masonic order.

My own association as a Brother with my fellow Masons has been a great influence on me throughout my career and in public life. Their moral values and ethical code have been an immeasurable help to guide me in making fair and just decisions in my responsibilities as a Member of this chamber.

Mr. Speaker, hopefully the Athelstane Lodge will continue its good works as a model organization and will continue to help those in need as well as continue to be an exemplary example of fraternal service to our communities for another 100 years.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN DARRYL A. KELLY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Captain Darryl A. Kelly of Society Hill, South Carolina, whose dedication to his duties as a national guardsman earned him the honor of being the first African American from South Carolina to receive the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award.

A Society Hill native, Captain Kelly received a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Coker College and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Troy State University. He joined the National Guard in 1989, after seven years active duty in the Army, and commands Company "A", 151st Signal Battalion in Laurens, South Carolina. Captain Kelly is also a South Carolina Highway Patrol sergeant with thirteen years experience.

Captain Kelly will receive the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award on May 22, 2002, a distinction bestowed upon only seven Army National Guardsmen in the nation each year. He automatically qualified last month when he won the General James C. Dozier award, which recognizes the South Carolina National Guard's most outstanding company officer for leadership and quality of service. Captain Kelly is not only the first African American from South Carolina to receive the MacArthur Leadership award, but only the second South Carolinian to have this honor bestowed upon him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring Captain Darryl A. Kelly, a dedicated guardsman whose service and leadership should be commended. I congratulate him on his receipt of the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award and wish him good luck and Godspeed in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL LAHEY

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize IRS Special Agent in Charge of Criminal Investigation, Michael Lahey, for his promotion to Director of the Review and Program Evaluation Section at IRS Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Lahey began his career with the Internal Revenue Service in 1982 as a Special Agent in Miami, Florida. Through his dedication and hard work, Mr. Lahey was selected as the Branch Chief in Boston in 1997. He held that position until his selection as Special Agent in Charge for the Boston Field office in 2000.

As Special Agent in Charge for New England, his team of 140 IRS employees followed the money trail through a wide range of financial investigations. His team has examined cases involving tax evasion, narcotics trafficking, money laundering, public corruption, as well as healthcare and insurance fraud. As a direct result of asset forfeitures from IRS drug trafficking and organized crime cases, the people of Massachusetts have benefited greatly from the substantial sums that have been reinvested in state and local police departments during his tenure in the Boston office.

Mr. Lahey, a resident of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, has been a strong supporter of sports programs for youngsters in his community. He has served as the Director of Minor League Baseball for the Little League and has coached for several years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in congratulating Michael Lahey for his outstanding service with the Internal Revenue Service. I wish him the best of luck in his new position.

BOB STUMP NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 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. DeFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to continue my remarks about H.R. 4546, the fiscal year 2003 Department of Defense authorization act. In my previous remarks, I criticized the House Rules Committee for blocking all amendments, including five I drafted, that would have allowed the House to debate the wisdom of various weapons systems. I also detailed the rationale for my amendments to eliminate the Crusader artillery system.

In my remarks today, I want to discuss another weapons system—the Army's Comanche helicopter—that is behind schedule, over

budget, and unable to meet critical performance requirements.

In at least eight reports since 1986, the GAO has raised concerns about the Army's effort to develop its next generation light helicopter, now known as the Comanche.

Further, the Army itself has recognized problems with the Comanche program, which has been restructured five times since its inception. Previous restructurings have significantly delayed the development schedule, extended the production schedule, and reduced planned quantities.

I personally have been raising red flags about the Comanche program since the late 1990s. The first GAO report I requested on the Comanche was released in August 1999. This report identified a number of cost, quality control, and performance concerns about the Comanche program.

An updated report I requested from the GAO was released in June 2001. This report concluded that the concerns raised in the August 1999 report had only gotten worse.

It is not just the GAO that has raised concerns. The Director of Operational Test and Evaluation has also been critical of the Comanche.

I was pleased to see the House Armed Services Committee imposed a few conditions on the Army's Comanche helicopter program in H.R. 4546.

One of the conditions, a requirement that the Army reassess the cost and timeline of the Comanche program, is similar to what I proposed in an amendment last year.

The other condition, an annual report by the DOD Inspector General, is a useful step in providing for constant, independent oversight of the program.

However, I am concerned that the Committee did not go quite far enough in protecting taxpayers from runaway costs for a program GAO and others have consistently identified as failing to meet testing and performance goals.

The amendment I offered would have prohibited the Pentagon from awarding contracts for low rate initial production (LRIP) until the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, certified that the testing program has been rigorous enough to determine the program performs as expected in an operational environment, in other words, not just in computer simulation or laboratory tests. The amendment also required that the Comanche achieve key performance standards before contracts for LRIP could be awarded.

According to the June 2001 GAO report, a decision on whether to move forward with low rate initial production was expected in June 2005.

It is my understanding that in the year since the GAO report, the Comanche program has fallen even further behind schedule, and a LRIP decision now may not occur until 2008.

Some might argue that my amendment, therefore, was premature. I would argue that given the repeated mismanagement of the Comanche program, Congress must send the unmistakable message that the program will not advance toward production until timing, cost, quality, and performance concerns are all addressed to our satisfaction. My amendment would have sent that message.

Defense contractors push hard to get to LRIP decisions because, once they are over