

Funderburke provide consistent play in the paint. The boundless energy and exuberance of Mike Bibby, Bobby Jackson, and Hidayet Turkoglu fuels the Kings trademark high-power offense. High-flying rookie Gerald Wallace and the talented Mateen Cleaves provide an enticing glimpse into the team's future with their enormous potential. To round off the roster, solid veterans Chucky Brown and Brent Price provide steady and valuable leadership on the floor and in the locker room. This dazzling group of players, combined with a selfless commitment to team play, are major reasons why the Kings enjoyed such unparalleled success during the 2001–2002 season.

In addition to a wonderful roster, the 2001–2002 Kings also benefited greatly from the tutelage of one of the best coaching staffs and the leadership of one of the most progressive front offices in the NBA. On the bench, the 2001–2002 Kings were lead by head coach Rick Adelman and assistant coaches Pete Carril, John Wetzell and Elston Turner. These coaches were able to harness one of the greatest collections of talented players in the NBA into a balanced scoring team that is epitomized by team play and an unyielding commitment to defense. In the front office, the Kings are led by the visionary ownership of the Maloof Family and the astute personnel moves of team president Geoff Petrie. Under the ownership of the Maloof Family, the Kings have taken great steps to forge one of the most unique and strongest relationships in all of sports with their team supporters. Given the Kings' front office's commitment to the city of Sacramento, it is no wonder why Kings fans are widely regarded as the most spirited and most loyal fans in America.

Mr. Speaker, as the Sacramento Kings conclude its greatest season in franchise history and prepare to achieve greater triumphs in the future, I am honored to pay tribute to the many hard working men and women of the Kings organization who brought so much joy and pride to the people of Sacramento and Kings' fans everywhere. Their successes are considerable, and it is a great honor for me to have the opportunity to pay tribute to their accomplishments. I ask all my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the Sacramento Kings on a wonderful season and wishing them greater success in future seasons.

TRIBUTE TO HARRISON TOWNSHIP

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Harrison Township, whose outstanding dedication and commitment to the service of its community has led to a great accomplishment. On Tuesday, May 28, 2002, Harrison Township celebrated its 175th Anniversary, commemorating 175 years of civic excellence.

Every year on Memorial Day, we recognize those who fought for our nation and gave their lives in the name of democracy and freedom. It is a time for us to remember the patriotism they showed as they went into battle, the courage with which they fought, and the ultimate sacrifice they made for our country. This year, as the community of Harrison Township

gathered together to honor Memorial Day, they also had the distinct honor of celebrating the 175th Anniversary of Harrison Township.

Harrison Township today is a flourishing center of civic and social activities and resources for families of the community. With a great emphasis on community service, Harrison Township has opened its doors throughout the years to welcome community members to civic gatherings, conferences, club meetings, and events for the entire family.

Community will always serve as the cornerstone of Harrison Township. But Harrison Township is expanding, by bringing in new levels of technology and resources. The community of Harrison Township has dedicated its time and talents to bring their community into the 21st Century, and they have been successful. Because of this community's unwavering support, Harrison Township has become a community that will continue to cultivate its historic roots as well as reach out to younger generations.

Harrison Township is a true testament to the hard work and dedication of community members and their families. I applaud Harrison Township for its leadership, commitment, and service, and I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this landmark occasion.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF AMANDA SCHAECHER

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Amanda Schaecher, who deserves our thanks and recognition for her efforts to make sure our troops and veterans are not forgotten. When Amanda was crowned Miss Henry County Fair, she had no specific cause to promote or project for which she wanted to raise funds. But following the terrorist attacks of September 11, a cause found her. She has used whatever resources were at her disposal as queen to help our troops and veterans.

Last November, in honor of Veteran's Day, Amanda printed special certificates of recognition which she presented, along with an American flag, to more than 50 veterans residing in nursing homes and independent living centers in Henry County.

Just before Christmas, she launched an ongoing project to encourage contributions to the USO, so current troops overseas are not forgotten. She has recorded public service announcements for local radio stations and placed a public service ad in the Kewanee Star Courier newspaper and taped up posters at various locations around Henry County.

Earlier this year, when she heard the Kewanee National Guard unit would not be able to hold its annual fundraiser at its armory because of heightened security precautions, she arranged for it to be held at Wethersfield High School.

There are many examples of patriotism and service in the aftermath of Sept. 11. Amanda Schaecher exemplifies those values. The time, talent and energy she has given cannot be calculated—they are priceless.

Our veterans and military personnel have no better friend and supporter than Amanda. I am

proud and honored to recognize her tireless and extraordinary efforts. I join the entire community and America's veterans and military personnel in thanking and honoring Amanda.

HONORING THE WORK OF THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK OF NEW JERSEY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, today has been designated by America's Second Harvest as the First Annual Hunger Awareness Day. I would like to ask my colleagues here in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the dedicated work of the Community Food Bank of New Jersey, whose mission is to fight hunger and poverty.

Many individuals and families in need benefit from the efforts of the Community Food Bank and its associated food banks, which provide assistance to emergency feeding programs in 18 of New Jersey's 21 counties. Today, representatives from those counties will gather at the Food Bank to issue a call to action. Participants will include recipients of emergency food, who will share their stories; staff from soup kitchens and shelters; volunteers; and donors of food and funds. The goal of the Hunger Awareness Forum is to highlight what is happening in New Jersey, to reveal how many are hungry in our State, and to discuss how all of us can work together to see that no one from New Jersey is without food. The Community Food Bank is the vital link between the food industry and the charitable organizations which serve the needy in our community.

Activities are being planned throughout the nation today to raise awareness of the need to address hunger both nationally and locally. The theme of this initiative is "Nobody in America Should Go Hungry."

Mr. Speaker, as Congress addresses the issue of hunger, it is fitting that we take a moment to honor the efforts of the staff and volunteers who have made the Community Food Bank of New Jersey such a successful resource for our communities. Let us thank them for assisting countless individuals and families through this labor of love.

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRANZ B. HUMER

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to take this opportunity to recognize the work of an outstanding individual, Dr. Franz B. Humer, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Roche Holdings, Ltd, one of the world's leading healthcare companies whose United States headquarters is located in my district, in Nutley, New Jersey.

On Wednesday, May 22, Dr. Humer was honored along with Leah Tutu, the wife of Bishop Desmond Tutu, at the Phelophepa Health Care Train Gala dinner in New York

City. My obligations here in Washington caused me to miss the event, which I am told was a tremendous success.

It is only fitting that Dr. Humer be honored, in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on earth, for his steadfast leadership in providing long term support he and Hoffmann-La Roche have given to South Africa's neediest citizens.

The Phelophepa Health Care Train, a South African charity, provides remote primary health care to rural South Africa via locomotive train. Now in its 9th year of operation, the Phelophepa Train continues reaching out and striving to better the lives of thousands of rural people by bringing basic health services, outreach programs, AIDS education, and training and health information to areas where such services are not available.

Under the exceptional leadership of Dr. Humer, Hoffmann-La Roche's generous assistance has enabled the Phelophepa Train to achieve unprecedented success in its efforts to provide essential health care to the people of South Africa. Dr. Humer and Hoffmann-La Roche deserve recognition for their efforts to better the lives of desperately needy persons halfway across the globe.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Hoffman-La Roche, the people of South Africa, and me in recognizing the outstanding humanitarian efforts of Dr. Franz Humer, and congratulating him on this great honor.

TRIBUTE TO FELLOWSHIP CHAPEL

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Fellowship Chapel, which celebrated its 36th Anniversary on Sunday, June 2, 2002. Truly a milestone occasion, this celebration gives testament to the outstanding dedication and commitment of the entire church and community.

Founded in 1966, Fellowship Chapel began humbly, with worship services and holiday celebrations for its members. Decades later, Fellowship Chapel has come far, recently celebrating the ground-breaking ceremony of its beautiful, new church complex in January of 2002. Fellowship Chapel has truly led this community in spirituality and services, opening its doors to welcome members and their families for generations.

Through much prayer, sacrifice, and hard work, the congregation of Fellowship Chapel has only grown stronger and more dedicated to its mission. With a variety of ministries and departments for religious education, charitable programs, social events and activities for the entire family, Fellowship Chapel is truly advancing in its mission to reach out into the community and bring families together. With the new construction underway, religious education, church activities, and official services will only become greater and this community will continue to succeed in its crusade to improve the lives of people through faith and God.

Although history and time have changed the congregation, the spirit of the church has remained strong. I would like to personally con-

gratulate Fellowship Chapel on their 36th Anniversary, and I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing them on this landmark occasion.

WELFARE REAUTHORIZATION AND CHARITABLE CHOICE

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I believe that we have a responsibility to continue to review and revise legislation that adapts and improves upon program successes and the ever-changing needs of American citizens. That is why I support H.R. 4737, the Personal Responsibility, Work, and Family Promotion Act of 2002. This legislation reauthorizes the 1996 welfare reform program, a program that works to move welfare recipients from the dependency of these programs to self-sufficiency.

However, while I support this welfare reauthorization, I do not support a provision included in the original 1996 legislation and again included in this reauthorization. This provision is known as Charitable Choice, and in my opinion, the wrong solution to a real problem. Under current law, faith-based groups may already accept federal dollars under three conditions: they cannot be pervasively sectarian, they cannot proselytize, and they cannot discriminate on the basis of religion in their employment practices.

Charitable Choice changes those conditions. Charitable Choice makes it possible for the government to subsidize churches and other thoroughly religious entities that provide social services. This proposal will provide tax dollars to religious groups and open the door to government review of church activities.

For many years the law has permitted groups that are affiliated with religious bodies (e.g. Catholic Charities and Lutheran Social Services, Jewish Federations) to receive tax funds to provide secular social services. But Charitable Choice represents a radical and misguided revision of the law. Indeed, many ministers believe that Charitable Choice will do great harm to religion.

Because regulation always follows tax funds, Charitable Choice opens the door to invasive government monitoring, regulation and accounting of churches, clergy, and other leaders of the church. For these reasons, people like Freddy Garcia, who runs the highly successful Victory Fellowship ministry for drug addicts in San Antonio, has said, "I don't want any grants. I'm a church . . . All I want is for the government to leave me alone."

Also, because there is limited money in the public purse and thousands of religious groups in our country, Charitable Choice will force the government to pick and choose which religions it funds. Churches may have to compete for government grants before elected legislators. "The best way I know of to destroy religion is to have all the churches fighting over a big pot of money," says Rev. J. Brent Walker, general counsel of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Charitable Choice will generate serious problems that have not been seen on a large scale in this country in over 200 years—out-

right religious infighting, intolerance and discrimination.

If we allow government to fund and become involved in religion, it will harm religion, not help it. It is people of faith who must point out that church-state separation does not mean keeping people of faith from being involved in government but rather it means keeping government from being involved in religion.

I will continue to work with my colleagues to provide a welfare program that helps the needs of all American citizens, without compromising religious freedom and liberty. I would hope that we, as Members of Congress, remember our obligations to uphold the principles of the Constitution and create legislation, which represents the core and steadfast beliefs of the United States.

IN SUPPORT OF THE HDTV TRANSITION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of an exciting new technology. Local television broadcasters across the country are undertaking their biggest advancement in years: the transition to digital television. These stations aim to provide new services to their viewers, our constituents. Digital TV opens the door to new possibilities like High Definition TV, interactive television, and expanded programming options and choices.

The stations in Houston that serve my district are already transmitting digital signals. I am proud of my hometown broadcasters: the CBS affiliate KHOU, which is owned by the Texas based Belo Corporation; KPRC, owned by Post-Newsweek; KTRK, owned by ABC; KRIV and KTXH owned by FOX; KUHT; and my local PBS station. These local broadcasters are leading the charge into the future.

These TV stations are small businesses like any other. They have made substantial investments in new transmitting facilities, new production equipment, and in some cases new broadcast towers. Collectively, the broadcast industry has invested over a billion dollars in the future of free, over-the-air digital television.

The digital transition will accelerate significantly as more television sets with digital tuners are manufactured. Like any technology, digital television sets started out as expensive, but are rapidly becoming more affordable. The prices for digital television sets have dropped fifty percent in the last two years and continue dropping today. I look forward to a day when digital television tuners are so widespread that all consumers can afford to make the conversion and receive their local stations' free digital signals.

The transition to digital television will be, undoubtedly, a multi-step process. In the meantime, I am proud of my hometown stations for leading the way. Let me offer my thanks and congratulations to them for flipping the digital switch.