

others. It is that joy and in the words of Rabbi Martin Lawson, "Marla's legacy of caring, of Jewish learning and teaching, of smiles and optimism, of warmth and hope," that I want to share with my colleagues and the American people.

As a young girl, Marla was precocious, mature beyond her years. At age 2, she told her parents no more babies in this house anymore, and at age 3, she announced that she was going to Stamford University. By her early teens she had explored her Jewish identity and found fulfillment in Judaism's spiritual teachings and in its call to save the world through acts of kindness and generosity. As a camp counselor, school class officer and volunteer Jewish educator, Marla was known for her infectious enthusiasm, good nature and appetite for hard work.

She carried those qualities with her when she moved to Jerusalem to attend the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies at Hebrew University. In addition to her graduate work in Jewish history and culture, Marla worked to promote peace and understanding between Jewish and Arab Israelis. She felt that Israel had to do more to end the conflicts with its neighbors, and she grew impatient whenever a friend or family member seemed to give up on the peace process.

Marla knew that living in Israel was risky but for her it was exhilarating. In an article for the San Diego Jewish Press Heritage, she wrote "I am not a tourist; I deal with Israel and all its complexities, confusion, joy and pain every single day. And I love it. Life here is magical." In another article she wrote, "I have a front row seat for the history of the Jewish people. I am part of the struggle for Israel's survival."

Now Marla is a casualty in that struggle, but she is also a beacon of light for all those who dream of peace and work for the day when Israel can dwell in peace with her neighbors.

Marla Bennett was one of thousands of young American Jews who have gone to Israel and stayed on despite the horrors of war and terrorism. In an open letter to Marla's parents, another young American who chose this path wrote that "there was no question as to whether it was worth the risk." He told the Bennetts, "My heart literally breaks for your loss but not for your daughter. She lived her life as a free, independent and bold Jewish woman. May her example live on in the sons and daughters that follow her."

Amen. Marla Bennett was a beautiful, brilliant, brave, kind and caring young woman who lived life to the fullest, and though her death is a terrible blow to many of us, her life is an inspiration to us all.

CONGRATULATING HEATHER IVANYI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize tonight and congratulate a very special constituent in my congressional district, Heather Ivanyi, who is a teacher at Oliver Hoover Elementary School, and I want to thank her for her tireless efforts on behalf of our community's special children, those who have special needs, and for having been featured recently as a Super Teacher in the Miami Herald.

Heather not only teaches her students spelling and arithmetic, but more importantly, she develops their creativity and positive self-esteem. At home she focuses on her beautiful 6-year-old daughter Kayla Rae, who has Down's Syndrome.

Knowing firsthand the special needs of children like her daughter, Heather spends her free time working for groups like the Association of Retarded Citizens, the Possible Dream Foundation and the American Rehab Corporation to further assist children with Down's Syndrome, with cerebral palsy and other such disabilities.

Along with her assistant Daphne Noisette-Andre, Heather Ivanyi dedicates and cares for the special needs children of our community and we are a better community for that, and I would like to read just a few lines from the article that was written in the Miami Herald by Yohana De La Torre, and it is entitled, "A special teacher works for special children, Hoover's Heather Ivanyi is tireless." It says, "A Miami native, Ivanyi graduated from Killian High School and received her associate degree from Miami-Dade Community College."

"In 1994, she graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in varied exceptionalities while working full time.

She volunteered, became a teacher, but it says teaching did not stop there for Ivanyi. She started to build awareness within the community and made contacts with Costco, Toys R' Us and corporations like Target.

Thanks to her persistence, these corporations still donate toiletries, food, toys, books and diapers to help places like the Association for Retarded Citizens and another special needs foundations called Dr. Gerald's Possible Dreams Foundation. She says, "I never take no for an answer. I have no shame in asking. I want people to learn that children with disabilities are human, too."

Her long-time friend Frances Capo, who is also a teacher, said this about Ivanyi, I do not know how to describe her. There are no words to describe her. She is a go-getter and always has a positive outlook on everything. She not only goes in there to teach but also to believe in her students.

There are many heroes in our community, Madam Speaker, heroes like Heather who do not get the special recognition they deserve. Many of them are our teachers in our private and public schools, and to them we say thanks and muchos gracias.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. CLAYTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

MIDWEST FARMERS AND RANCHERS FACE DIRE CIRCUMSTANCES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, times are often tough in the high plains of our country, and Kansas farmers and ranchers struggle every year to make ends meet, but this year is especially difficult, and I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues here in the House tonight and the citizens of our country the difficult circumstances that those farmers and ranchers face this year because of very little snowfall, no rainfall this spring, and this being the second and third and sometimes even fourth year in a row in which moisture has been lacking for farmers to farm and ranchers to raise their cattle.

I just completed 25 town visits throughout the month of August across the First District of Kansas and saw the worry and concern upon farmers' faces. Every day our farmers look to the skies and hope and pray for rain.

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Communities gather every evening in the community band shell where they come together and as a community pray that rain will fall. The circumstances that our agriculture producers face and the communities in which they live is desperate. We have ranchers selling their cattle every week. Our herds are being culled. We had almost no wheat harvest in many places in Kansas; and in fact statewide wheat harvest was down almost half of what it was last year, and last year was a very bleak year in and of itself. The fall crops, the milo, our fall crops have failed, almost no fall crops produced in Kansas because of lack of moisture. Here in a couple of weeks our farmers will try to begin the process of planting wheat, and yet no rain comes. There is no moisture in the surface, no subsoil moisture for those seeds to germinate. In addition, our cattle are struggling because there is no water in the ponds and no grass to feed.

So I think it is important for those of us who care about the future of rural America, those of us who care about the livelihood of our farmers and ranchers, to bring to our colleagues in Congress the circumstances that we face. Almost every year that I have been in Congress, 6 now, we have had an emergency assistance package designed to help those who face natural disasters, those who struggle as a result of hurricanes and floods. I am here to tell my colleagues that the circumstances that farmers and ranchers

face in Kansas and Nebraska and Colorado and Wyoming and South Dakota and Oklahoma are no less dire than those that our citizens have faced in other places in the country due to floods and hurricanes.

I ask my colleagues to join with us to find a way to provide assistance, to pursue drought assistance and disaster relief for farmers and ranchers across the country and to look for ways that we can do so in a way that is responsible and meaningful. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the House Committee on Agriculture and my colleagues across the country and with the administration and Senate to see that those goals are accomplished. No less than the future of rural America is at stake. Many of the farmers and ranchers in Kansas are in their sixties and seventies; and absent assistance from Congress this year, they will not be farming and ranching next year. Absent them having a livelihood, the communities that dot the landscape of our rural portions of the country will cease to exist and a way of life that has honored this country, that has been a backbone of this country, will disappear.

So I ask respectfully my colleagues for their assistance as we pursue the issues of drought assistance. The gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE), and I have introduced legislation; and we will be seeking support of our colleagues to address this issue.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSIONAL STAFFER J. RUSSELL GEORGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HORN. Madam Speaker, all of us who serve in Congress depend heavily on skilled, capable and hardworking staff members to meet the demands of committee hearings, floor action and all the other activities of a national legislature. Over the past decade of my service in the House of Representatives, I have been blessed with a strong and effective group of staff members who have helped me meet the needs of both constituents and the Nation. My staff also has helped me engage in vigorous oversight of government programs as a subcommittee chairman of the House Committee on Government Reform.

J. Russell George joined my staff in 1995 shortly after Republicans won control of the House and I was appointed

to a subcommittee chairmanship. Since that time, Russell has been a key adviser to me and chief aide in directing the subcommittee through hundreds of hearings that investigated every department of the Federal Government. Russell helped me prod executive agencies into a serious and sustained effort to prevent any major breakdowns of government computer systems due to software problems related to the year 2000 changeover. Some called it Y2K.

I thank Russell for his dedication and hard work, and I wish him all the very best in what I know will continue to be a very distinguished career in public service. He was a key force in pressing for legislation to collect debts owed to the taxpayers and he has directed many other subcommittee initiatives, such as misuse of taxpayers' well-earned dollars. All of those efforts built on Russell's prior experience as a New York prosecutor.

When Russell George was a teenager, he worked in the office of Senator Dole. He knew that this young man cared about the public interest. Through Senator Dole's office, Russell secured his education at Howard University and then went on to Harvard Law School. He was a Phi Beta Kappa at Howard, majoring in political science and minoring in history. He wanted to help his community and he did it, in Queens, New York. When he was ten years of age, he was helping charities.

Senator Dole was with us today as he administered the oath of office for Mr. George's new responsibilities as the Inspector General for the Corporation for National and Community Service. We hope that he will maybe come back to the Hill sometime. He has been in the executive branch under President George H.W. Bush, the father of the current President. Both have seen faith in Russell George.

He went back to the law firm in New York and we were able to get him to come down here because we knew what he had done earlier. In those days he was also assistant general counsel in the Office of Management and Budget and associate director for the policy in the White House's Office of National Service. Interesting, because that is the responsibility he has now. After serving all of that work in New York and in Washington, we thank him for his dedication and hard work and wish him all the very best in what I know will continue to be a very distinguished career in public service. He is a wonderful person and a sterling example of the men and women who serve our Congress.

REVISIONS TO THE 302(a) ALLOCATIONS AND BUDGETARY AGGREGATES ESTABLISHED BY THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2002 AND 2003

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Iowa (Mr. NUSSLE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Section 314 of the Congressional Budget Act, Section 221 of H. Con. Res. 83, and Section 231 of H. Con. Res. 353, I submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD revisions to the 302(a) allocations and budgetary aggregates established by the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget.

The conference report on H.R. 4775, which was signed by the President on August 2 to become P.L. 107-206, contains emergency-designated appropriations. The fiscal year 2002 allocations to the Appropriations Committee were previously increased by \$29,427,000,000 in new budget authority and \$8,466,000,000 in outlays to reflect the amounts in the House-passed bill. I am adjusting the budgetary aggregates and the allocation to the House Committee on Appropriations for the difference between the House-passed and enacted measures. This adjustment equals -\$4,713,000,000 in new budget authority and -\$1,645,000,000 in outlays. Accordingly, the 302(a) allocation for fiscal year 2002 to the House Committee on Appropriations becomes \$731,414,000,000 in new budget authority and \$734,775,000,000 in outlays. The budgetary aggregates for fiscal year 2002 become \$1,704,586,000,000 in new budget authority and \$1,651,428,000,000 in outlays.

Outlays flowing from fiscal year 2002 emergency appropriations increase the 302(a) allocation for fiscal year 2003 outlays. Under the procedures set forth in section 314 of the Budget Act, adjustments may be made for emergency-designated budget authority through fiscal year 2002, and for the outlays flowing from such budget authority in all fiscal years. The fiscal year 2003 outlay allocation to the Appropriation Committee was previously increased by \$10,715,000,000 to reflect the House-passed bill. In order to account for the changes contained in the enacted measure, I am adjusting the outlay allocation by -\$2,322,000,000. Accordingly, the 302(a) allocation for fiscal year 2003 to the House Committee on Appropriations becomes \$748,096,000,000 in new budget authority and \$783,268,000,000 in outlays. The budgetary aggregates for fiscal year 2003 become \$1,784,073,000,000 in new budget authority and \$1,765,225,000,000 in outlays.

MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I wanted to take to the floor this evening to talk once again about the prescription drug issue, both the problem in terms of more and more Americans not being able to afford the price of prescription drugs and the need to provide an expansion of Medicare to cover prescription drugs under Medicare for America's seniors and disabled.

I want to start out by saying that during the August break when I had a number of town meetings and forums