

support Smith. The next Town Council immediately reinstated the popular Smith.

During his tenure with the Department, Chief Smith has demonstrated a sincere love for the community in which he lives. While on the force, Smith was presented with the American Legion Life Saving Award for saving two men from drowning. While Chief Smith has dedicated considerable time and energy to his work with the Porter Police Department and protecting the lives of others, he has never limited the time he gives to his most important interest, his family. He and his wife Diana have two children, Todd and Molly.

On this special day, I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Chief Smith. His large circle of family and friends can be proud of the contributions this prominent individual has made to the law enforcement community and the First Congressional District. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Chief Smith for his lifetime of service and dedication to the people of Northwest Indiana and the citizens of the United States. He worked hard to make the Town of Porter a safer place in which to live and work. I sincerely wish him a long, happy, healthy, and productive retirement.

TRIBUTE TO CAS CARES, INC.

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a company headquartered in my hometown of Huntsville, Alabama which is presenting a \$20,000 check to Huntsville's Community Free Clinic to help the Clinic sustain its free prescription drug program. This donation is not only significant because of the help it will provide Huntsville residents who cannot afford prescription drugs, but it also marks the \$1 million milestone for the company's charitable grants.

The employees of CAS and its leaders, Bill Stender and Fred Clark, are to be commended, Mr. Speaker, for this great accomplishment. In 1991, the CAS employees and management organized a non-profit entity called CAS Cares, Inc. in order to promote volunteer activities and provide funding to local charities in our North Alabama community as well as the Texas and Virginia communities that are home to CAS branch offices.

In the Huntsville community alone, CAS Cares has given grants to over 60 charitable agencies in the past twelve years. Over 85% of all CAS, Inc. employees donate to the CAS Cares program. In February, a committee of CAS employees reviewed the grant applications for 2003, which will result in over \$130,000 in assistance for charities this year alone.

Mr. Speaker, I believe CAS, Inc. serves as an example to businesses across the nation, and I am pleased that Huntsville is home to such an outstanding corporate citizen. I send my sincere congratulations to the management team and employees at CAS, Inc. for their \$1 million milestone today that continues to make a difference in the lives of many North Alabama residents.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN ANDREW D. LA MONT, USMC, WHO WAS KILLED IN ACTION IN IRAQ 19 MAY 2003

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to Captain Andrew D. La Mont, USMC, who was killed in action in Iraq, 19 May 2003. Captain La Mont, a 32-year-old resident of Humboldt County, California, answered his country's call and paid the ultimate price.

Captain La Mont served as a pilot with the Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 364, Marine Air Group 39, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. His CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter was on a resupply mission in central Iraq when it crashed into the Shatt Al Hallah River. All four crewmembers perished, as well as a Marine Sgt. who drowned trying to rescue the crewmembers.

Captain La Mont was born at Andrews Air Force Base in Washington, DC, and moved to Humboldt County when he was 2 years old. He loved his country and chose to serve in the Marines Corps. He entered the Marines as an officer following graduation from San Diego State University, ROTC program. He served in Desert Storm and is a hero to his family and to the nation. He had a special influence on the life of his nephew, Sgt. Christopher La Mont, who is also serving in Iraq.

Captain La Mont is one of nine children born to Lt. Col. (Ret.) James and Mrs. Vivian La Mont. Lt. Col. James La Mont was a career officer in the United States Air Force.

Captain Andrew D. La Mont's tragic death reminds us that however just the cause, war brings tragedy to many families and that any casualty is one too many. He died serving the country he loved, with comrades he loved and with the love of his family in his heart. Our nation is humbled and grateful for his sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Captain Andrew D. La Mont, USMC, who gave his life in service to his country.

HART-DOLE-INOUE FEDERAL CENTER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, the newly renamed Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center has long been a Battle Creek landmark. Under many names, from the Sanitarium to Percy Jones, to the Federal Center to the Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center, it will continue as a historic site serving the community and the nation.

Ever since its opening as a nationally renowned health center started by John Harvey Kellogg, brother of cereal pioneer W.K. Kellogg, the Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center has proudly served the State of Michigan and the United States. Purchased by the U.S. Army in 1942 the Sanitarium became the Percy Jones Army Hospital. The hospital, specializing in

neurosurgery and the fitting of artificial limbs, treated over 100,000 WWII and Korean war veterans. The many veterans served here include the late Senator Hart, Senator Bob Dole, and Senator INOUE.

Today, the Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center provides vital support to our nation's war fighters as part of the Department of Defense. The Center serves as the premier facility for the cataloging of 6.5 million supply items needed by the U.S. military as well as the re-utilization and disposition of those items upon their federal obsolescence.

As a nation we can be rightly proud of the work done here by the highly trained and award-winning workforce who serve within these historic walls. I am honored to have such a facility in my district and look forward to another 100 years of history being made.

“CODE ADAM” CHILD SAFETY PROGRAM

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, as the father of three young children, I know the feeling of horror that a parent can face when you are out shopping with your kids and you turn around, only to realize your child has disappeared. In most cases, you find them in a matter of moments. They could have been distracted and wandered off or even may have been hiding in the racks of clothing.

However, what if the unthinkable happens? What if they can't find them? What option does a parent have?

Code Adam is a special alert issued through a store's public address system when a customer reports a missing child. Code Adam, which was created by Wal-Mart, is a special alert issued through a store's public address system when a customer reports a missing child. A brief description of the child is obtained and provided to all designated employees who immediately stop their normal work to search for the child, and monitor all exits to help prevent the child from leaving the store. If the child is not found within 10 minutes of initiating a storewide search, or if the child is seen accompanied by someone other than a parent or guardian, store personnel contact the local police department and request assistance.

The Code Adam measure was established by Wal-Mart and Sam's Clubs and named in memory of six-year-old Adam Walsh, whose abduction from a Hollywood, Florida shopping mall and murder in 1981 brought the horror of child abduction to national attention. Since the program went nationwide in 1994, it has been a powerful preventative tool against child abductions and lost children in more than 40,000 stores and public buildings making it the largest child safety program in the nation.

Over the past year, child abduction has once again been brought to the forefront of public attention. It is critical that retailers and parents alike remain engaged and committed to protecting our children.

I am encouraged by new survey results released this week by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) and ADVO, Inc., which showed more parents are

reviewing safety precautions with their children and have developed a plan of action with their children should they be abducted.

Parents are responding proactively to the increased media attention and are taking the necessary steps to help keep their children safe. It is my hope that the Code Adam resolution will encourage our nation's retailers to follow suit. There is no reason why every large retail store should not be implementing this program.

That is why today I am introducing a resolution that commends those retail and public establishments that have instituted the Code Adam program and encourages all retailers across the nation to do the same. Companies like Wal-Mart, KMART, Gap and Marshall's should be commended for implementing the program and training employees to follow the proven Code Adam formula.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join with me and cosponsor this resolution. I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize the original cosponsors: Representatives LAMPSON, FOLEY, KAPTUR, MILLENDER-MCDONALD, BROWN of Florida, ACEVEDO-VILÁ, FROST, PAYNE, ROTHMAN, SCHIFF, WILSON of South Carolina, and WEXLER.

One of society's greatest responsibilities is to protect our children. We owe it to our kids to do everything we can to ensure their safety.

HEALTHY FORESTS RESTORATION ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2003

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to state my support for H.R. 1904 The Healthy Forests Restoration Act. Unfortunately, due to matters in my district I was not able to participate in this vote.

As a co-sponsor of H.R. 1904 I support this legislation because of the relief it provides to combat the challenges facing our forest system today. From hazardous fuel reduction to insect and disease infestation research, this bill gives our forest managers and our private citizens the money and technical assistance they need to help bring our forests back to health.

I believe H.R. 1904 will work to help alleviate the fire hazards that currently plague our forests. Our nation's forest system is overwhelmed with excess brush and foliage which create dangerous conditions with the dry summer season just around the corner. This bill provides thinning programs for up to 20 million acres of at-risk federal lands near communities and their water supplies.

H.R. 1904 also provides money and technical assistance to stop the growing problem of insect and disease infestation. In South-eastern Michigan for example, Forest Service managers are battling the Emerald Ash Borer. This insect has decimated the population of ash trees located in a six county area. Luckily officials have responded quickly and we are in the process of containing that threat. H.R. 1904 will assist in our fight against invasive species like the Emerald Ash Borer and others around our country.

I am hopeful that the Senate will act quickly on this important legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Ms. LINDA SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, yesterday afternoon, May 21, 2003, I was not able to cast my vote on Roll Call Vote 204. That vote was on a motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1911, to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance cooperation and the sharing of resources between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted Aye.

VETERANS' MEMORIAL PRESERVA- TION AND RECOGNITION ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2003

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 330, the Veterans' Memorial Preservation and Recognition Act of 2003. This bill incorporates many provisions of the Veterans' Memorials Protection Act, which I first introduced in the 104th Congress, and have fought to pass ever since.

Recently a memorial dedicated to the memory of soldiers killed in World War I was desecrated in Rockland County, New York, an area which I am proud to represent. Soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice have no ability to defend their honor against senseless desecration, so we must do it for them. That is why I am so pleased that this measure is before the House today for our consideration.

Recognition of our veterans is an integral part of our national heritage. While veterans may not have created our democracy, they have continuously defended it and renewed America's promise through their efforts. While our memorials and monuments to veterans may not be as imposing as the Lincoln Memorial or the Washington Monument, the dedication and protection we provide them should be no less zealous.

We live in a greater and safer nation because of the dedication and bravery of our veterans. We are indebted to our veterans, because we know that freedom is not free, and it is our veterans who have paid a severe price for the freedom we enjoy. The memorials created in this honor deserve the greatest protection we can afford them.

Protecting the memory of their sacrifice is one manner in which we can repay our veterans. It is both fitting and proper that we should pass this legislation before the Congress recesses for Memorial Day. As a new generation of veterans return from the Persian Gulf, I am hopeful that this is a first step in Congress toward fulfilling our promises and obligations to these heroes. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that these protections will soon be passed by the House, so that this grateful nation can further preserve the memory of those who preserved our nation.

PUBLIC EMPLOYER'S RESTITUTION ACT

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, as Representatives in the United States Congress, we are tasked with finding solutions to problems that face our constituents. Sometimes these problems take a series of phone calls to the appropriate agencies for action; sometimes the solution is more complicated and requires legislative action. This is one such problem.

Earlier this year, I learned that the town of Clermont, Indiana had been a victim of embezzlement. The former treasurer of the town embezzled over seventy thousand dollars. A small amount when this body deals in billions of dollars, but I assure you Mr. Speaker it is a significant sum of money to Clermont.

The town's treasurer was subsequently prosecuted, found guilty and charged with financial restitution to the Town in the amount of over fifty-one thousand dollars. As of the end of 2002, the Town received only five hundred and ten dollars in restitution.

The former employee has a private pension as his only source of income. He has no incentive to find work, as any wages would be garnished. Under ERISA, civil judgment for restitution cannot be attached to the pension. So, Clermont loses out on fifty thousand dollars and the guilty avoids complying with the judgment.

The legislation I am offering, the "Public Employer's Restitution Act of 2003" is a narrowly tailored bill that would allow States and local governments to obtain restitution for the embezzlement of State and local funds.

Mr. Speaker, while we cannot make Clermont whole again, this legislation will prevent other small towns and communities across the country from being a victim of a circumvention of the law.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES R. BRANSON, RECIPIENT OF THE SHEPHERD COLLEGE PRESI- DENT'S AWARD FOR A LIFETIME OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Charles R. Branson, who on May 6th was the recipient of the 2003 Shepherd College President's Award for a Lifetime of Community Service.

Mr. Branson attended Shadyside Elementary School in Shepherdstown's West End. In 1937, he took the state proficiency exam for 8th graders (he was in the 7th grade at the time), passed with the highest score and was named the valedictorian of his class despite having started elementary school two years later than his peers because of an injury to his legs.

The only black high school in Jefferson County was at Storer College in Harpers Ferry, W.Va. Mr. Branson enrolled at Storer, and his family struggled to pay the \$16 a