

of his service, I would like to recognize his dedication and a few of his accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation.

People in Alamosa have long felt deep respect for Lynn's patience, his integrity, and his dedication. People have referred to Lynn, who served as a chaplain's assistant during the Korean War, as a source of tranquility in the face of battle. Lynn has proved this countless times during many years of public service, where he has calmly listened to others, and stood his ground resolutely on issues of principle, no matter how heated the debates before him.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Lynn's long service to Alamosa before this body of Congress and this nation. I would like to join the rest of Alamosa in expressing my gratitude to Lynn for his dedication to his community. Lynn, our thoughts and our prayers are with you.

IN TRIBUTE TO MICHELE MILLER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2003

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman who believes that public education is the foundation of a prosperous and democratic society. Michele Miller always wanted to be a teacher. As a student at Spring Valley Senior High School, Michele was a member of Future Teachers of America. Graduating from the State University of New York at Albany, she attended Hunter College for a masters degree in education with a concentration in social studies.

A lifelong New Yorker, Michele has spent her entire career teaching the students of Pearl River, New York. She has spent 33 years teaching social studies at the Pearl River School District's Middle School and High School. Michele began as a student teacher in Pearl River when Lyndon Johnson was the President of the United States in the fall of 1968. She will end her career this month, eight Presidents later and after providing thousands of her students with the knowledge and appreciation of the democratic values that underpin our great country.

Michele is the epitome of a great teacher. Although she's known throughout Pearl River as one of the toughest teachers around, she's also known for being caring, compassionate, and funny. She thrives on being in the classroom, the students have always kept her youthful in both appearance and in personality. Moreover, she constantly learns from her students and hopes that they leave the classroom every day knowing a bit more about the world.

I hope that new teachers are inspired by Michele's dedication to teaching. She will be sorely missed by the Pearl River School District.

I would like to join the Pearl River community, her family and friends in thanking Michele for her years of service and wishing her congratulations on the occasion of her retirement.

HONORING BOB SCHROEDER

HON. JEB BRADLEY

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2003

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bob Schroeder upon being named the Town of Hooksett's Citizen of the Year.

Bob was instrumental in the restoration and revitalization of a truly historic local, state and national landmark. Robie's Country Store in Hooksett has a lengthy history of acting as the town's gathering spot, a place to argue politics, play checkers and buy groceries and homemade baked goods. Robie's was also a required stop for local politicians and presidential candidates visiting the first-in-the-nation primary state for over 30 years. The store closed in 1997 after the store's owners, Lloyd and Dorothy Robie, retired. After five years of dormancy and a lack of funds and dedicated owners, Robie's Country Store reopened, continuing its 30-year political tradition and its 110-year presence in the town.

Bob saw an imperative need to preserve this cultural and political landmark and formed the Robie's Country Store Historic Preservation Association to spearhead the renovation effort. The Association has worked diligently to bring the store to life again, and on May 24, 2003, Robie's Country Store reopened to an eager and proud community. Bob and the Preservation Association were careful to maintain Robie's historical accuracy by keeping the 97-year old building's original flooring, ceiling and picture wall of political memorabilia. Always humble, Bob refuses to take the credit for the grand reopening of the store, instead pointing the spotlight on the efforts of the entire community. Under Bob's leadership, people of all ages worked together to restore Robie's through fundraising and renovation efforts. The community's hard work will undoubtedly ensure that the rich heritage and traditions of the store will remain in tact for future generations to enjoy.

Bob's tireless commitment to preserving this landmark and energizing the whole community to get involved is a wonderful example of his perseverance and dedication to improving the community and state in which he lives. I can think of no better person than Bob to receive the Hooksett Citizen of the Year Award. I am honored to represent concerned and conscientious citizens like Bob in the U.S. House of Representatives.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 2003

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 760 and for our voiceless unborn children, who were merely inches away from their first breath, when their life was brutally ended. For them, partial-birth abortion is not an option—it is a death sentence.

It is truly shameful that we cannot protect the most innocent and vulnerable in our society from this gruesome medical procedure. Delivering a child up to its head and then using a syringe to suck out the child's brain and discard this miracle of life is revolting.

Do not call that child a fetus. Do not elevate any personal freedom above that child's right to life. That fetus is a human baby—call it what it is.

I hope the mental image this conjures disturbs everyone—and that I once again receive calls from those shaken by the mere description of this barbaric act. Be thankful you're not on the business end of that syringe.

We have the responsibility to do everything in our power to put an end to this practice which has no place in a civilized society. We cannot remain silent while a procedure such as partial-birth remains an acceptable part of our society—after all, if done a short time later and a few inches further, it would be considered murder.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE VAIL HOTEL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a long-time landmark of Pueblo, Colorado, the Vail Hotel. Opened in 1911, the Vail Hotel was once known as the most luxurious hotel west of Chicago. Its many custom windows, door-knobs, and its tasteful use of wood and stone, truly make the Vail Hotel an architectural wonder. Over the years, the hotel's beauty attracted President Woodrow Wilson, Clark Gable, Tallulah Bankhead, Jack Benny and generations of Puebloans to its gracious halls.

However, without the love of the people of Pueblo, even this great treasure would not be as marvelous as it is today. I am impressed by the numerous craftsmen who labored to restore this magnificent building, from Kathleen Sheard-Hodges, who painstakingly restored many of the jeweled windows and recreated missing ones, to Bill Agnes, who salvaged tiles to restore and extend the lobby's gorgeous mosaic floor. Also among those deserving of praise is Gary Trujillo, the lead architect for the renovation, who restored the building with painstaking attention to its historic past and for its remarkable beauty.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting to mention one of this country's magnificent historic landmarks. The Vail Hotel serves as an example of the pride and hard work that the citizens of Pueblo have dedicated in making their home a more beautiful place. Built by Puebloans, restored by Puebloans, and beloved by all, it gives me great pride to recognize today this historic building, as well as the efforts made to restore it. Its beauty and history enrich the Pueblo community and will be cherished for generations to come.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
AUTHORIZING CONGRESS TO
PROHIBIT PHYSICAL DESECRATION
OF THE FLAG OF THE
UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, House Joint Resolution 4 does not outlaw flag desecration; rather, this proposal merely sets the boundaries by which Congress can enact subsequent legislation, if it so chooses, to prohibit such conduct. H.J. Res. 4 simply returns to Congress the authority that it possessed for over 200 years to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

This past week, I visited North Korea, where freedom is nowhere and democratic thought is oppressed. Our American flag is the most revered and beloved symbol of our Nation, representing all that is American and reminding the world of our love of our freedom and democracy. The flag is a bedrock of our principles and values as a country, leading our men and women into conflicts around the globe and draping the caskets of those same individuals when they return home after giving the ultimate sacrifice in defense of such values. It is the flag to which we pledge allegiance, here on the floor of the House of Representatives, in civic organizations in every town in America, and in schools throughout our country. It is this object and all that it represents that Americans hold so dear.

House Joint Resolution 4 will nullify two erroneous Supreme Court decisions, restoring the original interpretation to the First Amendment that had persisted for over two centuries since the birth of our country. When considering the powers of our respective branches of government in effecting the will of the American people, we should be reminded of the words of Abraham Lincoln in his first inaugural address in 1861, "If the policy of the government upon vital questions affecting the whole people is to be irrevocably fixed by decisions of the Supreme Court, the people will have ceased to be their own rulers."

I commend my colleagues for recognizing the wishes of the American people and restoring the original interpretation and understanding of the First Amendment and the Bill of Rights to the Constitution by supporting this resolution.

COLONEL TIMOTHY WRIGHTON

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2003

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual and patriot whose dedication and contributions to his country and the military community of March Air Reserve Base, March ARB, in Riverside, CA, are exceptional. March ARB has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Colonel Timothy Wrighton is one of these individuals. On June 6, 2003, he will be honored at a farewell celebration and dinner.

After completing his education at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO, and receiving a degree in engineering Tim completed his undergraduate pilot training in 1976 and in 1977 he became a First Lieutenant. Tim served as a C-141 pilot for the 53rd Military Airlift Squadron out of Norton Air Force Base in California from 1976 to 1982 during which time he was promoted to Captain. In 1984, he was assigned as the chief pilot for the 728th Military Airlift Squadron. Three years later he was promoted to Major and was assigned as the chief of wing standardization/evaluation for the 445th Airlift Wing at Norton and would later become assistant deputy commander for operations. Over the next 13 years he would be promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and then Colonel. Since 2002 he has been the Commander of the 452nd Air Mobility Wing at March Air Reserve Base. Col. Wrighton has logged over 7,800 flight hours in a variety of aircraft including the C-141 A/B, KC-10, and KC-135R.

Col. Wrighton has received numerous awards throughout his distinguished career including: Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters; Air Medal; Aerial Achievement Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal; Air Force Achievement Medal; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with oak leaf clusters; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Southwest Asia Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon; Air Force Training Ribbon; and the Kuwait Liberation Medal from the Saudi Arabian Government.

Col. Wrighton is also a life member and Chapter President of the Reserve Officers' Association, a Life Member of the Airlift/Tanker Association, Life Member of the AFA, a Life Member of the VFW and a Member of Daedalians.

Col. Wrighton's tireless commitment to service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the country and the community of Riverside, CA. I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his patriotic service and salute him.

HONORING MELVIN E. OLSSON

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2003

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Melvin E. Olsson of Mystic, CT, for his dedicated service to the community throughout his 43-year career at Electric Boat in Groton, CT.

Yesterday, for the first time in 13 years, Mel Olsson's name did not appear on the ballot for the Marine Draftsmen's Association, MDA, union elections at Electric Boat. Olsson is retiring from his post as president of the local 571 at Electric Boat and will return to his trade as piping designer.

Mel began as an apprentice in the shipyard in 1962 and moved to the design force just 2 years later. Elected vice president of the local in 1975, Olsson has dedicated much of his career to serving the MDA.

I commend Mel Olsson for his dedicated service to the working men and women of Electric Boat who design the best submarines in the world. He has worked to establish a re-

lationship with the company that is better than it has ever been. Mel is a true leader in his community and a role model for the future leaders of the MDA.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage the Members of the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Melvin Olsson for his 13 years of service as head of the MDA. I wish him all the best.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO POLICE
CHIEF LONNIE WESTPHAL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to stand before this body of Congress today to pay tribute to an individual who has dedicated his life to protecting the American public. Lonnie Westphal of Lakespur, Colorado first donned the badge of a Colorado State Patrolman 29 years ago. This week he will retire from the force after an impressive career in which he rose in the ranks from a state trooper to the head of the Colorado State Patrol.

Chief Westphal is one of those special people in our society who willingly put themselves in harm's way to protect the public. He knew he would never get rich in his chosen profession, but he also knew that some things, such as keeping our families out of harm's way, come with rewards not measured by monetary means. Thus, it is not surprising that Chief Westphal distinguished himself so honorably by serving on numerous boards such as the National Commission Against Drunk Driving, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the State Patrol Protective Association, and many more.

Mr. Speaker, our nation owes a great debt to Chief Westphal and all brave heroes like him who keep the peace at home. Because of his service, the state of Colorado is a better and safer place to live. I thank Chief Westphal for his service to his community, the State of Colorado, and this nation. All the best to you, Lonnie; enjoy your retirement!

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS.
DONALD WALLACE OF FLORENCE

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

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2003

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. and Mrs. Donald Wallace of Florence, AL. For 23 years, they have provided outstanding service to the American Legion—Mr. Wallace as adjutant and Mrs. Wallace as his assistant.

Mr. Wallace began serving the American Legion as an assistant to the former adjutant and will be retiring later this month. As adjutant, Mr. Wallace was charged with maintaining both the records and activities of the group of over 1,000; however, he did not limit himself to those tasks. Mr. Wallace helped rebuild