

is today the largest national organization dedicated exclusively to funding exceptional research relating to the causes, treatment, and possible prevention of breast cancer. Since 1993, the Foundation has raised \$70 million for research funding that has fueled some of the most innovative work on breast cancer in the country.

In October of 2002, the Foundation awarded an outstanding \$11.7 million to 63 researchers at 41 leading institutions in the United States and abroad. Originally conferring eight research grants in its founding year, the Foundation is now able to award grants of approximately \$250,000 to each of their research institutions. The core of the Foundation's mission is to direct a minimum of 85 cents of each dollar donated to the purpose of clinical and genetic research on breast cancer.

Breast cancer is an issue that affects both men and women of all walks of life. Mrs. Lauder's inspired leadership is the driving force behind the Foundation's many gains in the treatment and prevention of this disease. Her remarkable vision led her to establish the Pink Ribbon as the now globally recognized symbol of breast health, putting breast cancer awareness at the forefront of public attention.

Mrs. Lauder has every expectation that we will achieve the goal of "prevention and a cure in our lifetime." With boundless enthusiasm and extraordinary dedication, she has made it possible for top notch research and diagnosis to be done all over the country. One prime example is located in my district, the first of its kind, the comprehensive breast and diagnostic center at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, which Mrs. Lauder was instrumental in creating. Mrs. Lauder was recently recognized by Rockefeller University with the Brooke Astor Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Advancement of Science for her incomparable role in creating the center as well as for the compassion and generosity with which she leads the Foundation in the fight against breast cancer.

In recognition of these outstanding achievements, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Evelyn H. Lauder for her indomitable spirit and tenacity in leading The Breast Cancer Research Foundation to fund the research that will conquer breast cancer.

STATEMENT ON CHILD TAX CREDIT

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my deep disappointment with the tax bill recently signed into law by the President. While providing approximately \$350 billion in tax cuts, this law neglects many of our hard-working, low-income families. At the same time that the bill provides tax cuts of \$93,500 to the 200,000 taxpayers making over \$1 million in our country, this bill leaves behind 8 million children by denying their families full access to the child tax credit.

This law fails to apply the child tax credit to some of America's neediest families—those earning between \$10,500 and \$26,625 per year. Of the 8 million children left behind in this tax law, 1 million live with parents who are

on active duty service or are veterans. The children of our working families, especially those of our armed services, deserve our greatest support.

There are approximately 16,500 military families with children at Fort Bliss in my district. Anxiously awaiting news about the status of the members of the 507th Maintenance Company in late March, these families understand, more than most, what it means to sacrifice for our nation. These are the families of the brave men and women who fight to defend our freedoms, and they certainly do not deserve to be left out of this tax cut. I urge my colleagues to pass legislation immediately to extend the child tax credit to families making between \$10,500 and \$26,625 a year. Let us send a message to our hard-working families that they count too and that we recognize their efforts.

It is my sincere hope that we can work together to provide our hard-working families with a fair and equitable child tax credit.

TRIBUTE TO RICK ORESKEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound pleasure today that I pay tribute to Commander Rick Oreskey of the Pueblo County Sheriff's Department, who has recently been honored by the Department with its Medal of Valor. In his many years of dedication to the police force and to the Pueblo community, Rick has embodied the ideals of integrity and courage that make Coloradans and all Americans proud of their police men and women. I am proud to pay tribute to Rick for his contributions to his community, his state and his country.

Rick has served with distinction for many years, having previously earned the Silver Star of the American Law Enforcement Association for saving the lives of two police detectives. This incident occurred in 1977 when a man, disregarding orders to drop his gun, instead aimed it at the two police detectives attempting to apprehend him. Rick acted swiftly and professionally to protect the lives of the two detectives.

Mr. Speaker, Commander Rick Oreskey is a law enforcement officer of exemplary courage and commitment to his community. He has made Pueblo County a happier place to live and a safer community. It is Rick's unrelenting commitment to his community as well as his spirit of courage and integrity that I wish to bring to the attention of this body of Congress. It is my privilege to extend to Rick my heartfelt congratulations on his being honored with the Medal of Valor.

RECOGNIZING GEORGINA SUAREZ GONZALEZ AND LUIS L. GONZALEZ

HON. CHRIS BELL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Georgina Suarez Gonzalez and Luis L. Gon-

zalez on the occasion of their fortieth wedding anniversary.

Both Georgina and Luis Gonzalez were born in Havana, Cuba. Mrs. Gonzalez came to the United States in 1947 to enter into religious study. She graduated from the College of New Rochelle in New York, a college rich with Ursuline heritage. After completing her education, Georgina realized she had fallen in love with her new country and decided to stay to make a life in the United States. Although she dated Luis in her youth in Cuba, her determination to live the American dream and Luis's plans to stay in Cuba made marriage an unlikely scenario.

Luis Gonzalez attended the University of Havana in 1945, the same year Fidel Castro entered the university. Like so many Cuban patriots and students during the politically turbulent and corrupt years of General Fulgencio Batista, Luis fought for a more democratic and independent nation. As is known from history, the dictatorship of Batista was followed by the dictatorship of Fidel Castro.

Facing political persecution, Luis fled Cuba in December 1960 to begin his new life in America. Finally, Georgina and Luis found themselves in the same country and in love.

Mr. and Mrs. Gonzalez married on June 10, 1963 in Westphalia, Missouri. Monsignor Kutz performed the wedding ceremony. After they married, Georgina left her job on Wall Street to join her new husband in Houston where he was employed with Dow Chemical. They settled in Houston's Sharpstown area and began a family.

In addition to raising three children, Georgina enjoyed a successful career with Prudential Insurance Company of America. She became the first woman in the nation to lead the company in insurance sales. Luis joined Georgina at Prudential in 1967 where they worked together to build a strong family insurance business.

Georgina and Luis Gonzalez are true reminders of the power and promise of the American dream. The couple immigrated to this country, raised three loving children, and built a strong, flourishing business. Together with their children, John Michael, Ana Maria and Luis Gaston and grandchildren, Carolina Andrea Wood, William Alexander Wood, and Gabriella Grace Gonzalez, I congratulate Georgina and Luis Gonzalez on their fortieth wedding anniversary.

BATTALION CHIEF HAL CHASE

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions and achievements of Battalion Chief Hal Chase on his retirement from the Santa Clara County Fire Department. Chief Chase has dedicated over thirty years to the community and fire department of Santa Clara County.

Chief Chase lives in Los Gatos, California, with his lovely wife, Karen, and three beautiful children, Brian, Christine, and Michael. He met his wife while serving as the President of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1165, during which he worked diligently to increase benefits and improve working conditions for his fellow fire fighters. Currently,

Chief Chase oversees Battalion 3 of the Santa Clara County Fire Department, consisting of seven stations and their heroic crews.

Affectionately referred to as "The Senator" by his peers, Chief Chase has served as the Program Facilitator for the Hazardous Materials Program. He is a member of the California State FIREScope Task Force. In addition, Hal manages the Department's Response Map Program, Hose Program, and Hydrant Testing Program.

With these awesome responsibilities, it is a wonder how Chief Chase can reserve time for other commitments. But his contributions to his community are just as extensive. Chief Chase is committed to the high school anti-drinking campaign, "Every 15 Minutes." Through his tireless efforts, much needed fire equipment was donated to Mexico, including coats, hats, and even fire engines. Hal is also a strong supporter of the Democratic Party.

On occasion, Chief Chase has been known to forego his fire fighting skills to purposely starting them, in the kitchen. He has applied his passion for cooking for not only the pleasure of his crew, but also for charity. Along with the raised monies, raffled dinners at the firehouse have promoted stronger relations with the community.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Battalion Chief Hal Chase for his magnanimous dedication to the community and fire department of Santa Clara County. Although we celebrate his retirement, I know Chief Chase will continue serving Santa Clara, even if only out of the kitchen.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BETTY PFISTER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute today to a pioneer in the field of aviation. Betty Pfister of Aspen, Colorado has been named by Women in Aviation International as one of the 100 Most Influential Women in aviation history. Betsy joins well-known figures Amelia Earhart and Sally Ride, on the list, and it is easy to see why—her accomplishments are truly impressive.

Sally began flying while in high school and served as a Woman's Air Service Pilot (WASP) during World War II. WASPs piloted planes around the country to help free-up men to fly combat missions in Europe and Asia. After the war, Sally worked as both a pilot and flight attendant, getting in plenty of flying on her own time as well.

In 1950 and 1952 Sally won international air races, and in 1973 and 1978 she piloted for the United States in the World Helicopter Championships. Sally also piloted balloons, founded the Pitkin County Air Rescue, and created scholarships to enable flight instruction among high school age children. One of her former planes, a World War fighter she named "Galloping Gertie," is on display at the Smithsonian's Air And Space Museum.

Mr. Speaker, Betty is more than a talented and versatile pilot. She is a leader who, through her remarkable success, helped motivate and inspire future generations of young male and female pilots alike. Betty embodies the competence and can-do spirit that helped

make America great, and I am proud to recount her impressive story here today.

HONORING MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS AS A COMMUNITY OF EXCELLENCE

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. WELLER. I rise today to congratulate McLean County, Illinois, recipient of the 2003 Communities Can! Community of Excellence Award. Communities Can! is a program initiated by the Department of Health and Human Services, coordinated by the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development.

The Community of Excellence Award is presented to only four communities each year for demonstrating their ability to efficiently collaborate and utilize resources provided by public and private programs for supporting young children and their families. McLean County has successfully tailored these complex programs to meet their specific needs.

McLean County, a community of 154,000 people located in Central Illinois, received this honor for their innovation, flexibility, and the broad range of service and support they provide. Their approach is to identify the needs of families in the community, match those needs with appropriate service, and do so in a cost effective manner, which has produced great results.

I am proud to represent McLean County, Illinois, and commend her citizens of for their hard work and the success it yielded, leading to their receiving the Community of Excellence award. I look forward to working with them as they enjoy future success, hopefully leading other communities to adopt the creative, effective service to needy families that our Nation needs to meet the challenges ahead.

INFORMING THE HOUSE OF THE DEATH OF FORMER U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TOM GETTYS

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I have the sad duty of informing the House of the death of Tom S. Gettys, who served in the House of Representatives from 1964 to 1974, representing the Fifth District of South Carolina, and served even longer as administrative assistant to Rep. James P. Richards.

On Sunday, Tom Gettys and his wife, Mary Phillips, went a last time together to the First ARP Church in Rock Hill, South Carolina. On Sunday evening, he slipped quietly away, dying in the town he loved, where he had spent his life, much of it serving the people.

The term "public servant" is often misapplied, but in the case of Tom Gettys, it is a perfect fit. He was a school principal and coach; right-hand aide to a high-ranking congressman; a naval officer who volunteered for duty and served in the Pacific; a postmaster; a night-school, self-taught lawyer; and for ten years, a Member of Congress.

As congressman, he endeared himself to the people who elected him. If folks in the Fifth District revered Dick Richards and admired Bob Hemphill, they loved Tom Gettys. They loved him because he had an easy-going affinity for all sorts of people, and because he put his constituents first and worked hard for them, and they knew it.

When he was at the top of his form, Tom Gettys retired. He had the good grace not to hang on in Washington to capitalize on his relationships, but instead came back to Rock Hill, hung out his shingle and practiced law. As a young lawyer, I used to run into him checking titles with the rest of us in the clerk of court's office. This was the self-deprecating side of the man that people appreciated. He took his work seriously, but never himself.

I saw this side of Tom Gettys when I was in Washington in the 1970s and walked with him to the House floor. Tom knew the capitol police, the elevator operators, the doorkeepers, all by first name. He told me later that having been a staffer, he knew who ran the House.

I got an even better insight when Tom visited me soon after I was elected. I begged him to sit and talk, but could tell he had something else on his mind, and soon found out what it was. He wanted to go downstairs to the Longworth Cafeteria and speak to Odessa. Odessa ran the breakfast line, and was a spirited soul, full of chatter and advice, which she dished out freely while you decided how you wanted your eggs. Tom seldom came to Capitol Hill without visiting Odessa.

Tom Gettys belonged to the old school, to the era before pollsters, spin-masters, and 30-second spots, and he often told me, it was a good thing. He enjoyed introducing me as the "second-best looking congressman to represent the 5th District." I enjoyed telling him, "Tom, if good looks had anything to do with being elected to this office, you would have lost to Bate Harvey in 1964." He was not some political artifact, crafted to win elections. He was the genuine article—of the people, by the people, for the people. When many of his conservative colleagues voted against Medicare, Tom Gettys stood with his people. He voted for it, and was proud of it.

If he were to give his own farewell, he would tell us that marrying Mary Phillips White surpassed all of his achievements, and Julia and Beth were their crowning glory. He was a doting grandparent and used to say that if he had the chance to come back after dying, he would want come back as one of his grandchildren.

Those of us who learned from Tom Gettys and looked up to him will miss him. We will miss the wisdom he shared with us, and the stories that never grew old. He exemplified what life in a democracy is about. He earned the satisfaction every public servant wants: he left his country better than he found it.

HONORING LADISLAV COLIN "POPS" BAUER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before the nation and this Congress with a heavy