

contributing yet again to the exploding national debt—a debt our children and grandchildren must pay. In essence, H.R. 8 is a stealth tax on future generations.

The federal estate tax should be reformed, not repealed. I support the plan offered by Mr. POMEROY of North Dakota that would have provided immediate estate tax relief in a responsible manner. I support Mr. POMEROY's attempt to exempt estates up to \$3 million (and \$6 million for couples) from all federal estate taxes. This plan would exempt 99.6 percent of all estates in the country. In fact, only 400 estates nationwide would pay the estate tax under the Pomeroy plan. Not only is this plan fairer, it would be fully paid for by eliminating unnecessary corporate tax shelters.

Although supporters of H.R. 8 use family farmers and small business owners as the rationale for the bill, this claim is just a myth. There already are special provisions in the tax code to ease the burden on small businesses and family farms. In 1998, only 1.4 percent of all returns that paid the estate tax had farm assets that were taxed. Even with the changes made to the estate tax during the 107th Congress, the Congressional Research Service has estimated that less than one percent of small businesses and farms would be forced to liquidate assets to pay the tax. Our plan would have helped these families. Sadly, H.R. 8 will not.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes on the Pomeroy substitute and no on final passage.

MEN'S GOLF CHAMPIONS

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the newly crowned NCAA Division II Men's Golf Champions, the Francis Marion University Patriots. On May 23, at the Crosswater Golf Club course in Sunriver, Oregon, the Patriots claimed victory in a four-day tournament over 18 of the best golf teams in the country. But, Mr. Speaker, they did not just win. In what can only be described as a true team effort, Francis Marion ran away with the title, ending the tournament with a 3 under par 1,149, which defeated second-place Rollins College by an amazing 14 strokes!

In golf, more so than in other sports, an outstanding team starts with outstanding individuals; and Francis Marion's squad was most definitely a collection of outstanding individuals. The team was led by coach Jonathan Burnett, a native of Florence, South Carolina who just finished his sixth season with the team. The players were anchored by Junior Fredrik Ohlsson from Goteborg, Sweden and Senior Dylan Keylock from Johannesburg, South Africa, who finished fifth and sixth respectively in the individual standings at the National Championship. Also playing key roles on the team were Senior Matt Dura from Sumter, South Carolina, Senior Juan Pablo Bossi from Alta Gracia, Argentina, and Junior Per Hallberg from Ytterby, Sweden, who finished an impressive 14th, 24th, and 44th respectively at the National Championship. Junior Luke Wilcox and Freshmen Adam Hart, Luke Hart, and Battle Hartman also contributed to the team's successes this season.

For their efforts, Ohlsson was chosen to as a first team All American, Dura and Keylock were selected as third team All Americans, and Bossi and Hallberg gained honorable mention recognition. Keylock and Ohlsson also earned Peach Belt Conference All-Conference honors for the second time, and Dura earned Peach Belt Conference All-Tournament Team honors for the second time in three years.

Though these gentlemen excelled on the links, perhaps more impressive was the fact that they simultaneously excelled in the classroom. In addition to their athletic accolades, Ohlsson, Dura, Keylock, and Bossi also earned 2003 academic All-America honors in marketing, management, finance, and business economics respectively. Only two other student athletes from Francis Marion have ever earned both athletic and academic All-America honors in the same year. I am encouraged to know that long after their collegiate golf careers are over, these young men will still be striving as economic leaders in our country. That is truly something worthy of the title "All American".

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to speak to you about these extraordinary young men and their extraordinary achievements. It is truly a privilege to represent a state that turns out such talented students.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CINCINNATI TENNIS CLUB

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Cincinnati Tennis Club, which is celebrating its 120th anniversary. The Club was founded in 1880, just 5 years after tennis was introduced in the United States. It has a rich history.

The Cincinnati Tennis Club played a central role in making the sport of tennis a success in our Nation, and has operated from its East Walnut Hills location for over 100 years. It was one of our nation's first venues for tennis, and, because of its historic impact on the game, was listed in 1983 in the National Register of Historic Places by the U.S. Department of the Interior for its leadership in the development and advancement of the sport of tennis in Cincinnati and the Ohio Valley Area.

Over the years, the Club has been the place where several nationally and internationally recognized tennis players, including legendary greats such as Tony Trabert and Bill Talbert, developed their games. The Club also has been the home club for numerous leaders of the sport and leaders of our country, including William Howard Taft, 27th President of the United States and later Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; Potter Stewart, Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; and Neil McElroy, Secretary of Defense in the Eisenhower administration.

The Club has hosted a number of tournaments and events for the Cincinnati area. For 28 years, it has served as the venue for the National Father and Son Clay Court Championships and also served as the original home of what became the ATP Masters

Tournament, one of the top professional men's tennis events in the world.

Mr. Speaker, the Cincinnati Tennis Club has had a significant, positive impact on the sport of tennis and the Cincinnati area. We are proud to have had such a distinguished club in our area for the past 120 years and look forward to many more years. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing its unique and invaluable contributions to the game and Cincinnati community.

TRIBUTE TO KATHY DENIRO

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to recognize an outstanding educator from my district. Dr. Kathy DeNiro of Pueblo, Colorado is my state's recipient of the 2003 MetLife/National Association of Secondary School Principals Middle Level Principal of the Year Award. Kathy's peers selected her for the award based on her leadership, ability to solve problems, developmental skills, and community service.

Kathy has worked as a teacher and administrator in her school district since 1975 and has served as principal of Corwin Middle School in Pueblo since 1999. In addition, Kathy doubles as Director of Middle Schools in her district. Her dedication to her profession, her students, and her community is extraordinary. A visionary leader, Kathy's innovations at Corwin Middle School include a math and reading program, an academic and recreational-based after-school program, a discipline program, and an academic center for at-risk students with reading problems.

Mr. Speaker, the students at Corwin Middle School include many impoverished, minority youth. Kathy DeNiro's innovation and hard work has greatly improved their chance of success in the classroom and in life. Kathy has made Pueblo and the state of Colorado proud, and I am truly honored to recognize her here today. Congratulations, Kathy, and good luck with your future endeavors.

COMMITMENT TO WORLD PEACE

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my commitment to world peace and to stress the importance of establishing dialogue and understanding among all people. It is in recognition of this need that on Tuesday, June 24th, at 6:30 p.m. in Rayburn room B3338-340, the American Leadership Initiative will hold a special awards ceremony to honor great Americans from all 50 states who have demonstrated a commitment to peace.

Many of my prestigious colleagues will join with me and co-chair Congressman KURT WELDON in giving tribute to some of the outstanding Americans from our districts. Members of the clergy, legislators, educators, and business and community leaders will be

among those honored with the "Ambassadors for Peace Award—Excellence in Leadership" award. These committed citizens have been working to renew and strengthen our families and marriages, restore our communities, and rebuild our nation and world. We are grateful to the founders of the Ambassadors for Peace, the Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon, for promoting the vision of world peace and we commend them for their work.

These Ambassadors for Peace have become increasingly effective and relevant in their communities since the tragedy of 9/11. They have been working together to promote understanding among all faiths, particularly with Muslim, Jewish and Christian leaders. With the realization that many of the tensions currently facing the world cannot be addressed without consideration of the religious implications involved, the Ambassadors for Peace have formed an American Interreligious Council. This council seeks to support and advise our Nation's leaders concerning the issues and challenges of seeking lasting peace. The American Interreligious Council is also a part of the effort to create an international council of religious leaders. The members of this council will support the leaders of the United Nations as they work to resolve conflicts throughout the world. This body will provide a direct link between international leaders and the various religious peoples in their constituencies. This will help to ensure that peace agreements are embraced by the diverse communities these leaders represent.

Today, though crisis is at our doorstep, we must maintain an unwavering hope for peace. It has become clear that the establishment of a lasting peace throughout the world will only come to full fruition through the ongoing dialogue and cooperation of religious and political leaders. The Ambassadors for Peace are working tirelessly to bring about international cooperation and are to be commended for their leadership in this great effort.

INTRODUCTION OF A PRIVATE BILL FOR THE RELIEF OF JUNIOR ANTHONY FRANCIS

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a private bill to make Junior Anthony Francis a permanent resident of the United States to put an end to deportation proceedings that are pending against him by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (BICE).

Junior has lived in the United States for 40 years and has six American-born children. He has been working and supporting his family and living as normal a life as anyone else. He is being considered for deportation not because of any crime that may be part of his past, but because after many years it was discovered that his immigration papers are not in order. But Junior had taken steps, in good faith, to make sure his papers were in order. He may have received bad legal advice that brought him to this point, but he certainly should not be deported because of it.

It is absolutely wrong to deport Junior and break up his family, who are the real victims

in this matter. That is why I am fighting for him. Junior's employer has recruited a new legal team with whom I have been working to keep Junior and his family together in the United States.

We should pass this bill to prevent this injustice from breaking up Junior's family. At the very least, I hope introducing this private bill will help convince federal authorities to be lenient in this case because it is the right thing to do.

TRIBUTE TO THE COUNTY OF MARQUETTE ON RECEIVING THE ALL-AMERICAN CITY AWARD

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, perhaps you know of my fondness for spending as much time as possible in my First Congressional District of Michigan, which I can, without any bias whatsoever, say is the most beautiful in the nation.

I rise today to give special recognition to one community in my district, Marquette, which lies on the southern shore of Lake Superior in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

On June 14, 2003, Marquette County was selected as one of ten communities in the United States to receive an All-America City designation from the National Civic League at a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

The National Civic League has been recognizing civic excellence for 53 years and evaluates how well a community exemplifies grass roots citizen involvement and cross-sector problem solving requiring collaboration among citizens, government, business and nonprofit organizations.

Marquette County was one of thirty candidates who sent hundreds of delegates to Washington to compete in hearings before ten All-America City judges. Forty of those delegates represented Marquette.

While Marquette County is not technically a city, its civic programs and civic efforts are not limited by city-county boundaries. The collaboration that was so important to Marquette's success in the All-America City competition is county wide.

In addition to a well organized substantive presentation, the Marquette delegation also included the Lake Superior Theatre Association which presented dramatic vignettes of cultural life in current day Marquette and Marquette history. The delegation also serenaded the judges, impressing them with enthusiasm and harmony, literally and as a demonstration of the harmonious civic cooperation that was recognized in their selection.

The judges noted that Marquette County's presentation contained more substance than hype, according to Marquette Mining Journal managing editor David Edwards. They cited programs such as the Marquette Medical Care Access Coalition and juvenile restorative justice efforts in announcing their decision.

Marquette's efforts were spear-headed by the Lake Superior Community Partnership, whose chairman, Monsignor Louis Cappel accepted the award in front of a cheering crowd.

Mr. Speaker, this award shows how strong Marquette County's civic spirit is. The true

measure of community is not necessarily coffee bars, good restaurants and well lit streets, although Marquette has all of those. Nor is it natural beauty and a close connection between people and their environment, although Marquette has that in huge measure.

Rather, the best example of true community is shown by Marquette County's programs that help people live happy, productive and engaged lives, supported by and supporting their neighbors. Marquette County's richness in these efforts made it possible for this small, thinly populated piece of God's Country to be named an All-America City in its very first attempt.

I have co-sponsored a House Concurrent Resolution congratulating Marquette County and all ten of the All-America cities for their efforts and successes. It is a small token of recognition for a very large effort. All of Marquette County should be proud.

I certainly am. I ask that my House colleagues join me in extending congratulations to Marquette County, a 2003 All-America City.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. AL BEST

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise to salute Al Best as he is being honored at the "Sixth Annual Community Tribute Banquet" on June 22, 2003. He is being recognized for his tireless activism and community service on behalf of San Diego's Gay and Lesbian community.

Al was born and raised in Colorado, was hired at the age of 18 by United Airlines, and in 1960 became United's Regional Convention Representative. During this time, he received his BS degree at the University of Colorado. In 1963, Al joined Frontier Air Lines as Southwest Regional Manager, based in Albuquerque, and two years later, he was named to the New Mexico State Aviation Board. He received his Masters' Degree from the University of New Mexico and his Ph.D from New Mexico State University.

When Al first arrived in San Diego in 1975, he immediately became active in the community by volunteering and raising money for outstanding organizations such as The Center and the Metropolitan Community Church. He was one of the founders of Stepping Stone, a non-profit alcohol and drug recovery agency. In 1979, he made history by being the first openly gay person to run for the San Diego City, Council. Even though he was largely outspent and out raised by his opponents, he finished 5th out of 11 in the campaign.

In 1985, Al became the first president of the Harvey Milk Democratic Club. In 1989, he was the first openly gay person appointed to San Diego's Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. He was also a member of Mayor Maureen O'Connor's Violent Crime Task Force. In 1990, he was the first openly gay person sworn into the San Diego Civil Service Commission and became its first openly gay president in 1992. In 1993, he was a co-chair for the Human Rights Campaign milestone March on Washington. He currently serves as Vice Chairman of Something Special Food Pantry, a volunteer organization that distributes food to men, women, children and families who have HIV/AIDS.