

Mr. Sevan first began at the United Nations in 1965 where he worked in the department of Public Information until 1996. In 1973 he joined the Secretariat of the Economic and Social Council and served as secretary of the council from 1982 until 1988.

In May of 1989 Mr. Sevan was appointed to the position of the Secretary-General's Personal Representative in Afghanistan and Pakistan. A year later he was asked to serve, concurrently, as the Secretary-General's Representative on the implementation of the Geneva Accords on Afghanistan. In 1991, Mr. Sevan took on yet another duty when he assumed responsibility for the overall direction and administration of the Office for the Coordination of the United Nations Humanitarian and Economic Assistance Programs in Afghanistan.

From August of 1992 until March of 1994 he served as Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Head of the Department of Political Affairs. In 1997 Mr. Sevan was appointed as the Executive Director of the Iraq Program. Prior to this position he served as Assistant Secretary-General for Conference and Support Services and United Nations Security Coordinator, which he carried out until 2002. Since 1992 Mr. Sevan served as the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for issues related to missing persons in the Middle East, where he engaged in preventive diplomacy and mediation in the world's trouble spots.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mr. Sevan on his Lifetime Achievement award. I would like to thank Mr. Sevan for nearly 40 years of service to the international community and I ask my colleagues to rise with me in honoring the distinguished Benon V. Sevan.

#### HONORING THE OWENS BOTTLE MACHINE COMPANY

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 30, 2003*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, one hundred years ago in Toledo, Ohio a revolution took place. In September 1903, a machine allowing the mass production of glass bottles changed the industry, and it changed the world as "the most significant advance in glass production in over 2,000 years" as noted by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. The company that grew out of this invention, Owens-Illinois, is celebrating its centennial anniversary.

At the dawn of the last century, Michael J. Owens was a young glass blower working in Toledo's Libbey Glass factory. Another inventive visionary and civic leader, Edward Drummond Libbey became Mr. Owens' primary backer as Mr. Owens developed his idea for the complete mechanization of glass bottle making. Though machines were patented in the latter half of the nineteenth century, all relied heavily on human toil. In 1903, Michael J. Owens patented a fully automated "bicycle pump" which operated in a similar fashion to this machine. The Owens Bottle Machine Company was incorporated on September 3, 1903.

In two years, the company was able to begin commercial sales with a machine that could make ten bottles per minute. It was the

first of many patented machines which developed products including glass building blocks, tumblers, plywood, paper cups, metal cans, television tubes, flat electronic display panels, corrugated boxes, lab glassware, plastic soft drink bottles, medicine vials, glass cookware, plastic and glass containers for food and beverages, and materials for range tops and telescope mirror blanks.

The company's sharp minds developed many innovations we know today and use in our everyday lives including the method for fusing graphics onto bottles, squeezable dispensers for foodstuffs, disposable and recyclable bottles, child-proof medicine bottles, tamper-resistant containers, plastic toothpaste pumps, microwavable food containers, barrier shields to prevent the release of carbonation for plastic soft drink bottles, the design of 2 liter bottles and many other types of bottles, and even the "clamshell" packages for McDonald's hamburgers.

Within twenty years of the founding of Owens Bottle Machine Company, machines manufactured 94 percent of the bottles. This innovation pleased the National Child Labor Committee, which in 1913 praised the Toledo technological advance in reducing child labor. The labor saving machines were also beneficial to the glassblowers, whose profession when practiced manually was devastating to their health.

By 1920, the Owens Bottle Company was the nation's largest bottle manufacturer, and Toledo earned its nickname as the "glass capitol of the world," a moniker still proudly borne today.

In 1930, several years after the deaths of its founders, an acquisition of the Illinois Glass Company brought William Levis on board. Mr. Levis' contributions to the success of the newly christened Owens-Illinois Company are widely held to be as significant as its founders'. During the depths of the Great Depression in 1930, Owens-Illinois made \$2.7 million. He foresaw the end to Prohibition, and was ready to capture the market on glass bottles when alcohol production resumed in 1933. William Levis invested heavily in glass fiberization technology, leading to the development of another well-known Toledo company, Owens-Corning. He also brought Toledo's Libbey Glass Company into the fold.

By 1950, Owens-Illinois was the largest glass bottle manufacturer in the world. With factories all over the world, employment worldwide reached 80,000 people including scientists, researchers, skilled labor, and management. Today its signature building, a glass skyscraper in downtown Toledo, stands as a monument to its zenith years.

Even though the company declined somewhat during the 1980s years of hostile corporate takeovers, Owens-Illinois remains a viable leader on the world market stage and one of Toledo's principal companies. One of every two bottles produced worldwide is made by Owens-Illinois or one of its subsidiaries. It is Toledo's second largest company as it begins its second century of operation. I am proud to salute its workforce past and present. America looks forward to the creative technology of its future.

A TRIBUTE TO ALAN AND KRISTINE YEADON OF JEROME, MI, FOR THEIR WORK WITH FOSTER CHILDREN

#### HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 30, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Alan and Kristine Yeadon of Jerome, MI. The Yeadons have been selected to receive the National "Angels in Adoption" Award for their tireless effort to care for the children of Michigan. On this date, September 30, 2003, the Congressional Adoption Institute will present this award at ceremonies in the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, DC.

Alan and Kristine have their home in Somerset Township, MI and are active participants at Somerset Congregational Church. Alan is a successful engineer. More importantly, however, Alan and Kristine have fostered children for the last 3 years. In that time they fostered 13 children and raised five of their own.

When Alan and Kristine Yeadon first applied for foster parenthood they asked for children younger than their own. Their oldest child at the time was 12. Their first placement turned out to be three teenage children and an infant! The Yeadons quickly found that older children were a good fit for their family. Currently, children ranging from 1-15 years old live in their home.

They began their foster parenthood after seeing firsthand the great need for parents. Kristine's parents took in foster children. Alan participated in the Kinship program. They had the time, concern, and love to share with children and their families. Today, the Yeadons are adopting a daughter to add to their ever-changing family.

They have had many successes. Some children returned to a better life with their biological parents, some were placed with relatives, and others are ready for adoption. In addition to helping these foster children, Alan and Kristine believe that this experience benefited their own children. "All of our children have made many adjustments along the way. It has not always been easy for them but the lessons they have learned and the great amount of compassion, understanding, acceptance, and flexibility they now possess will stay with them always."

On behalf of Congress, I offer our thanks and congratulations for their tireless efforts to help others. It is their kind of dedication that makes America great.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JOHN C. RAKKOU

#### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 30, 2003*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to laud the accomplishments of Mr. John C. Rakkou as a businessman and a dedicated member of his community. Mr. Rakkou is the President and CEO of the Interbank of New York and the recipient of this year's Humanitarian and Philanthropic award presented by the Cyprus Federation of America.

Mr. Rakkou was born on April 17, 1938 in the small town of Korisos in the prefecture of Kastoria, Greece. He received his first college degree in forestry in 1959 and later honored his country by serving in the Royal Army of Greece until he was honorably discharged in 1961. After marrying his wife in September of 1961, the couple immigrated to the United States in 1962. In pursuit of higher education, Mr. Rakkou enrolled at The City University of New York where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Economics. He later completed his Masters Degree in Economics from CUNY.

After graduation, and with the addition of two children to his family, Mr. Rakkou joined the Atlantic Bank of New York, initiating thereby a long and successful career in banking. While there he stood out amongst his colleagues for his dedication, extreme work ethic, and overall performance, which subsequently contributed to his professional advancement to Executive Vice President in charge of the Commercial Lending Activities Division of the bank. Mr. Rakkou's past performance, degree of expertise, and dedication to his profession were more effectively demonstrated in 1993, when he joined, as President and C.E.O., the Interbank of New York. It was at this small community bank, where Mr. Rakkou found pleasure in serving his community by creating and providing jobs for community members and contributing to the economic improvement of the area.

Mr. Rakkou furthered his genuine love for his neighbors, by joining the Community Board of St. Spyridon Church in Washington Heights, where he was elected president for 2 consecutive years. He served for several years as a member of the School Board of the Th. Tsolainos and C. Goulondris Parochial School in New York. Mr. Rakkou was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the St. Michael's Home for the Aged in Yonkers, NY, and served as treasurer for 3 years. In addition to these and many other accomplishments, in 2002 Mr. Rakkou was honored with the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, an award that pays tribute to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to America.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mr. Rakkou for his tireless dedication to his community both professionally and civically, and I ask that my colleagues rise and join me in honoring the distinguished Mr. John C. Rakkou.

HONORING DOROTHY B. BIDDLE

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 30, 2003*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, Dorothy Biddle is a very special lady in the hearts of the residents of Fulton County, Ohio and her hometown of Wauseon. Proud to call her friend myself, I am pleased to note an action recently taken by this gracious centenarian, a wonderful and lasting gift she gave to her community.

For many years, Wauseon has been working to establish a ballpark. The "Field of Dreams" has been a goal of the community and special project of the Wauseon Rotary. Mrs. Biddle's husband, Clark, was a Rotarian until his passing, and she has remained in touch with the group's activities. In her 105th

year, Dorothy Biddle decided to offer a bequest to the Wauseon Rotary in order to fulfill this 14 yearlong dream. Long a supporter of youth activities and opportunities, Mrs. Biddle is donating the astounding sum of \$1,254,000.00 for the completion of the park. This gift numbers among the largest ever received by any Rotary organization.

Now the park, which will feature baseball diamonds, soccer fields, and walking trails on 73 acres of land will bear the name of Wauseon's most treasured citizen, who though she has traveled around the world still considers her hometown to be "the best place in the world to live." Children of the future will see by her example what one person can do for her community when the Dorothy B. Biddle Park remains as a living testament to a truly remarkable lady. Thank you, Dorothy, for your beneficence and civic-minded patriotism.

IN SUPPORT OF SSG WILLIAM L.  
MURWIN AND H.R. 2998

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 30, 2003*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2998 offered by my friend and colleague, the distinguished Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Mr. YOUNG of Florida. This vital legislation will benefit thousands of our men and women in uniform, including one brave Nevadan in particular, Staff Sergeant William L. Murwin.

Staff Sergeant Murwin is a Marine Reservist from Nevada whose unit was activated for service in Operation Iraqi Freedom. While in Iraq, he was injured while patrolling with his unit. Sergeant Murwin suffered grave injuries, and was evacuated to the United States for treatment. He received care and treatment for a month at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, DC, and was then released from active duty and returned to Nevada. He was deeply shocked to receive a bill from the Federal government for more than \$200 for the food he received while being treated for his combat injuries.

Fortunately for Staff Sergeant Murwin, Mr. YOUNG and his wife Beverly visited Walter Reed and personally paid Sergeant Murwin's bill. Then, motivated by his desire to make sure this did not happen to any service member ever again, BILL YOUNG introduced H.R. 2998 to ban this practice forever. I am proud to be a co-sponsor of this legislation, and urge every Member of the House to become a co-sponsor of this vital, non-partisan legislation.

On behalf of the people of Nevada, I want to thank Chairman and Mrs. Young for the service and compassion they have shown Sergeant Murwin and all of our men and women in uniform. I am proud to serve in the House with Chairman YOUNG and hope that he continues his career of public service here for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO ADMIRAL ROBERT J. NATTER, U.S. NAVY, COMMANDER, U.S. FLEET FORCES COMMAND, COMMANDER, U.S. ATLANTIC FLEET

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 30, 2003*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication, public service and patriotism that personified the Naval career of Admiral Robert J. Natter, United States Navy. Admiral Natter is currently serving as the Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command and Commander, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, and he will soon retire from the Navy after more than 37 years of distinguished service wearing the uniform of our Nation.

I have had the pleasure to know the Natter family for nearly 16 years and have personally worked with the Admiral on a variety of important issues affecting the Navy and the U.S. military, so it is with great pride and admiration that I honor a dear friend as he begins the next chapter of his life.

I first met Bob in 1981 when he was a commander. I hired him as a military fellow on my staff and assigned him to work all of my legislative issues on the Armed Services Committee. I was impressed with how quickly Bob became an expert at the complicated legislative and budget processes. In hindsight, it is clear to me that the Navy afforded Commander Natter this position because they knew he was flag officer material, and this professional development opportunity would serve Bob and the Navy well. It did.

During the years following the 1991 Tailhook Convention, the Navy was struggling to repair its reputation. At this critical time Rear Admiral Natter was assigned as Chief of Legislative Affairs. His wartime and operational experience gave him instant credibility. But it was Admiral Natter's knowledge of Washington and the Hill along with his candor, confidence and demeanor that helped navigate the Navy through those rough waters and rebuild and restore the Navy's reputation.

A native of Trussville, Alabama, Admiral Natter grew up in a family of true American patriots. One of nine children, seven boys and two girls, all seven sons joined the military as six naval officers and one Air Force officer. After enlisting in the Naval Reserve, Bob Natter chose the Naval Academy as his commissioning source graduating in 1967. After a few tours at sea, he was sent to Vietnam for duty on riverboat patrols where he learned first hand the harsh realities of war. While serving as the Officer in Charge of a Naval Special Warfare detachment, Lieutenant Natter was seriously injured when his special operations team came under attack. He then earned both the Purple Heart and Silver Star for his heroic actions. His experiences in Vietnam instilled in him the true meaning of leadership, strengthened his desire to serve, and solidified his reputation as a strong leader and most capable warrior.

Throughout his career, Admiral Natter held many positions of great responsibility including command of USS *Chandler* (DDG 996), USS *Antietam* (CG 54), and Commander of the United States Seventh Fleet. In June 2000, Admiral Natter assumed duties as Commander, U.S. Atlantic Fleet where he was