

child" through academic basics and personal responsibility.

Led by Principal Jean Narbonne, the teachers and staff instill in each child the belief that they can be successful. They insist that every child realize his or her greatest potential. They also require parental involvement in their child's studies.

Mr. Speaker, as a father and grandfather—one of my children is now a schoolteacher—I am acutely aware that the most important tool we can give our children is a good education. As ancient philosopher Epictetus noted, "Only the educated are free." Our students are the elected officials, businessmen, artists, scientists, parents and teachers of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, as our nation works in concert to better our education system, it would serve us well to study the successes of our National Blue Ribbon schools. They are the best of the best and a key to our future. I know my colleagues will join me in applauding Principal Narbonne, her entire staff, and the parents and students of Pinecrest for raising the bar and setting a strong example for others to follow.

RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life of Mother Teresa of Calcutta who will be beatified by Pope John Paul II in Rome, on October 19 of this year. Mother Teresa was a heroic woman who was exceptional in her time on earth. We are all truly blessed in having been able to bear witness to the life and works of such an extraordinary woman. At 18 years of age Mother Teresa entered the convent, and from that point until her passing on September 5, 1997, she lived a selfless life. She is known mostly for her efforts with the destitute population of Calcutta, however, the hand of Mother Teresa extends much farther than the borders of India. Around the globe this remarkable woman served as a beacon for all that is good and pure in this world. She was the recipient of a host of awards; most notably, but not exclusive to, the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1979.

In the first week of September, six years ago, the world suffered an enormous blow. The woman who once said "there is joy in transcending self to serve others" was taken from us. In less than one month's time, this woman, who was the cornerstone for benevolence for the vast majority of the 20th century, will receive her immortality in the eyes of the Catholic Church. In light of her impending beatification for her life's work I would like to recognize and honor the memory of Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

STEVE YOUNG INDUCTED INTO THE LABOR HALL OF FAME

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to the late Steve Young, former National President of the Fraternal Order of Police. Today, Steve was posthumously inducted into the Labor Hall of Fame for his tireless, dedicated service on behalf of law enforcement officers throughout the country.

Steve's 17 months as FOP president were the culmination of a distinguished career centered on protecting the rights of police officers and introducing new and innovative methods in law enforcement. Prior to his unanimous election as National President, Steve was FOP National Vice President for 4 years, and served as Ohio FOP President from 1988 to 1999. Steve died of pancreatic cancer on January 9.

Under Steve's leadership, the FOP developed a close and beneficial working relationship with the Bush Administration, laying the foundation for the smooth transfer of various law enforcement agencies to the new Department of Homeland Security. He worked directly with Labor Secretary Elaine Chao to secure a \$2 million grant for a scholarship program for the spouses of officers killed in the line of duty. President Bush named Steve to his Homeland Security Advisory Council in 2002.

As a 26-year veteran of the Marion City Police Department in Marion, Ohio, Steve well understood the demands and responsibilities of law enforcement. He served the people of Marion with courage, honor, and distinction, earning the rank of lieutenant in 1997. He served as president of the Marion County FOP lodge in 1980 and 1981, and was honored with the title of President Emeritus in 2000.

Steve's induction into the Labor Hall of Fame today is a fitting tribute to an effective, well-respected voice in the law enforcement community. He joins a renowned group of Americans whose contributions have improved conditions for their fellow workers for generations. While nothing can take away the pain of losing a loved one, Steve's wife, Denise, and his sons, Steven and Staten, can take tremendous pride in his inclusion among this select group.

IN MEMORY OF ALTHEA GIBSON

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a national hero: a woman who broke the color lines in tennis, pioneering in a sport which had closed its doors to people of color for many years. On September 28, 2003, Althea Gibson died, at the age of 76, at East Orange General Hospital in New Jersey.

Though unknown to many Americans, Althea Gibson paved the way for Black people in the sport of tennis, allowing athletes such as Venus and Serena Williams to reach their present level of prominence.

Althea Gibson was born in Silver, South Carolina, and soon moved to New York City's Harlem where she developed her love of the game. She won a series of tournaments for Black players, including the National Negro Girl's Championships in 1944 and 1945, which earned her great recognition. This acclaim persuaded officials at the U.S. National Tennis Championships, the precursor to the U.S. Open, to allow Ms. Gibson to compete in 1950. In participating in this preeminent tournament, Ms. Gibson became the first Black woman to desegregate professional tennis. The following year, she played in the Wimbledon tournament, but lost in the quarter-finals.

In 1955, Ms. Gibson joined the Goodwill Athletic tour, sponsored by the State Department and while touring in 1956, she became the first Black player to win French Championships. In the following year she won the singles and doubles championships at Wimbledon. In 1957 and 1958, Ms. Gibson returned to the U.S. National Tennis Championships, winning in both years and being named the Associated Press female athlete of the year each year, as well—the first Black woman to receive such an honor.

Due to racism, however, Althea Gibson was not able to acquire endorsements and tennis brought very little financial security. Ms. Gibson left the sport in the late 1950's and joined the Harlem Globetrotters Basketball Team tour, where she played exhibition tennis matches. After retiring from tennis, Althea Gibson took up competitive golf and desegregated the Ladies Professional Golf Association tour in the early 1960's. She settled in New Jersey, where she had several jobs from athletic commissioner to manager of the recreation department in the city of East Orange. Ms. Gibson wrote two autobiographies, "I Always Wanted To Be Somebody" (1958) and "So Much To Live For" (1968). With the death of Althea Gibson, America has lost one of its groundbreaking sports heroes; however, her memory and accomplishments will continue to live on.

TRIBUTE TO PORTER COUNTY COMMISSIONER LARRY SHEETS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, It is with great remorse that I rise today to pay tribute to Porter County Commissioner Larry Sheets, a special friend, a mentor and a very decent man. Larry passed away late Saturday evening at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago from a pulmonary infection acquired after undergoing a stem cell replacement to prevent the return of his leukemia. I knew Larry Sheets for many years and considered him a close personal friend. He was a good man with a good heart.

Larry was a man of true and outstanding character who loved his family, was loyal to his friends and was dedicated to making the lives of people he had never met better through politics. In all my years of association with him, I never once saw him do something that was mean or petty. He was a conciliator and a man of political courage. I always saw

him place the public good before anything else when a decision had to be made. During an age of cynicism about those in public life, this alone is truly remarkable.

This has been a heartbreaking moment for all of us in Northwest Indiana, as Larry served Porter County very ably as a public official for 17 years. He was a fine public servant, a man who sincerely cared about his constituents, his fellow citizens and his civic responsibilities. Larry retired in 1999 after 34 years as a steel worker at Bethlehem Steel's Burns Harbor Plant and in 1982 won his first election as a Porter County Commissioner.

In the early 1980s, while working for the late Congressman Adam Benjamin, Jr., I had the privilege of first meeting Larry Sheets. Later, during my first bid for Congress in 1983, Larry was the first and one of only a few public officials to endorse me. At the time I was "nobody." Larry made me "somebody." Our friendship was extended to a shared passion. Along with my father, Larry, Bill Wallace and I would spend many fall Saturdays together in South Bend, Indiana, watching the Fighting Irish play football.

Although his work with the community put extraordinary demands on his time, Larry never limited the time he gave to his most important interest, his family. He and his gracious wife, Paula, have two terrific children: Amber and Larry Jr.

Mr. Speaker and my other distinguished colleagues, Larry Sheets was a wonderful man. We are going to miss him in Northwest Indiana. He represented the epitome of what a dedicated public servant should be, but seldom is, and for that he will always be remembered.

THE 43RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commemorate the 43rd anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Cyprus. On October 1, 1960, Cyprus became an independent republic after decades of British colonial rule.

Over the last decades, Cyprus and the United States have established close political, economic and social ties, developing a valued friendship. Both countries gained their independence from Great Britain, and now each country celebrates the anniversary of that independence as their national holiday. More significantly, Cyprus and the United States share a deep and abiding commitment to democracy, fundamental human rights, free markets, and the ideal and practice of equal justice under law.

The relationship between Cyprus and the United States is strong and enduring. The people of Cyprus appreciate the leadership that America has shown in trying to end the division of Cyprus and bring about reunification. At the same time, the people of Cyprus stand with the American people and share in the firm resolve to uphold the ideals of freedom, justice and democracy threatened by the forces of international terrorism.

The government of Cyprus has pledged to cooperate fully with the Bush Administration in the battle against terrorism. Cypriots do not stand indifferent and passive in responding to heinous acts that target our sense of security, our civil liberties and our faith in the democratic process. Having achieved its independence after a bitter fight to uphold freedom and democracy, Cyprus understands that great determination and unity are needed in order to safeguard the treasured ideals we share.

As the Republic of Cyprus celebrates its 43rd Independence Day, I share the Cypriot's joy for having created a prosperous, open society based on solid foundations. Furthermore, I believe this is an opportunity for the United States of America and Cyprus to come closer together, as we stand united in our resolve to fight the battle on terrorism. As we move forward, I am confident that our friendship will continue well into the future.

A HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO AN- GELA MARIE DARIA CARPINELLO OF CINCINNATI

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, in honor of her 100th birthday, I would like to take a moment to recognize Angela Marie Daria Carpinello of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Angela was born in Cincinnati on September 28, 1903. She was the second of 14 children. She had nine brothers and five sisters. The family was raised in downtown Cincinnati. Angela's father was born in Letino, Italy and worked for the City of Cincinnati until he was accepted as a US Citizen at which point he began to work for the local phone company.

Angela met her husband, Nicola Carpinello in Cincinnati. Nicola worked at the Courthouse. Nick served in World War One and received a Silver Star and Purple Heart for his service to his country.

Nick and Angela purchased a home in Price Hill, a neighborhood of Cincinnati. While Nick worked at the Courthouse, Angela was busy raising her family. She loved to cook, clean, and care for her family and others around her.

Angela and "Nick" were married for 52 years. They have three children—Anthony, Malvina, and Evelyn. From these three children come the pride of Angela's life—her 24 grandchildren, 48 great-grandchildren, and seven great great grandchildren. To her family Angela is known as "Minnie". And, thankfully, Minnie is able to remember everyone's birthday, anniversary, and other special occasion. She has been truly blessed.

Angela often shares stories from her youth with her family. Her favorite stories include memories of the Great Flood of 1937, shopping at Shillito's with her oldest grandsons, going to God's Bible School with her siblings for Thanksgiving during the lean years, and her trip to Rhode Island to meet her husband's sister.

Angela had a few weaknesses in her life—stopping at bakeries, jewelry stores, and shopping at Gidding Jenny's. She was always well-dressed, treating herself to one new outfit per year. Angela made sure that she and Nick were always in style.

In Angela's 100 years, so much has happened, cars, buses, planes, mass communication, computers, the internet, fast food and she has taken advantage of them all. During the course of her life, Angela has traveled to Rhode Island and Florida.

Thank you, Angela, for your contributions over the past 100 years. From the United States House of Representatives, we would like to wish you a very happy 100th birthday and may God Bless you with many more.

ADMINISTRATION'S AMTRAK REFORM LEGISLATION

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I join Chairman YOUNG in introducing, by request, the Administration's Amtrak "reform" legislation. It is a common practice for the Chairman and Ranking Member of a Committee to jointly introduce an Administration's bill, regardless of which political party controls the White House or Congress or the specifics of proposed legislation, and I do this as a courtesy to the Administration. However, introducing a bill "by request" should not be interpreted to imply endorsement. In fact, in the current instance, I am vehemently opposed to the direction the Administration has chosen for intercity rail passenger service for our nation.

For nearly two years we have awaited the Administration's legislative proposal for the future direction of Amtrak. Time and again we have heard that the vision would be revealed "any day now." The Administration revealed the outline of its plan last year and now has given us the final product. It wasn't worth the wait.

The Administration's proposal is little more than a rehash of the widely discredited proposals of the Amtrak Reform Council (ARC): separate ownership of the Northeast Corridor infrastructure from operations; allow entities other than Amtrak to compete for franchises to operate service over potentially profitable routes; and replace the current national network with regional systems that shift the costs to the states. These are all ideas promoted by the ARC. The bill would also phase out Federal operating support for all intercity passenger trains over a four-year period. As a result, the proposal would eliminate nearly all long-distance train service by the end of the third year.

The bill places numerous restrictions on Amtrak management's discretion in running the Corporation—it even forbids Amtrak from using authorized funds for developing high-speed passenger train service. In short, Amtrak is to have no future. In addition, this bill also makes it clear that the Administration believes that labor is a large part of Amtrak's problem. The bill requires that Amtrak negotiate substantial operating cost reductions with its employees as the price of receiving its Federal operating grant.

The Administration is apparently placing its trust in the magic of privatization and decentralization to solve Amtrak's problems. These changes were at the heart of the ARC proposals. Those proposals missed the point when they were advanced more than 1½