

When President Bush called our nation to join the battle against terrorism in response to the terrible attacks of September 11, 2001, Captain Allen responded. As part of her 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, she volunteered for a 120-day overseas deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

As the senior medical member of her three-person crew, Captain Allen served in the position of Medical Crew Director, transporting combat and non-combat casualties resulting from operations conducted in the Afghanistan battle theater. She performed her duty of diagnosing and supervising the treating of military patients with the highest level of professionalism and skill, often in challenging environments both in the air and on the ground.

Captain Allen's patients included U.S. combat troops, Special Operations Forces, coalition and friendly forces, as well as civilian casualties and enemy prisoners of war. To be sure, it was not easy work as she and her crew lived in tented facilities and were often called upon to relocate in response to hostile threat or medical necessity.

Captain Allen, whose uncommon service to her nation has resulted in her receiving both the Air Force and Army Commendation medals, the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and the Air Force Training Ribbon, has not escaped the notice of our President.

President Bush requested that Captain Allen sit with the First Lady during tonight's State of the Union Address here in this Chamber. Personally, I believe the President made a fine choice in honoring Captain Allen for her patriotism. I joined the rest of Alabama in expressing pride in her service beyond the call of duty to America.

CIBOLA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE CORRECTION ACT

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation on behalf of my friend, Mr. Frank Dokter, to right a past error by the Department of Interior in designating the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge. In the last Congress, similar legislation that would have adjusted the Refuge boundaries to allow a family business to continue, was passed by the House, but unfortunately did not see similar outcome in the Senate.

Mr. Dokter and his family operate Walter's Camp, a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) concession on land near the lower Colorado River in Imperial County, California, near and within the Cibola Refuge. The facility provides visitors with a family-friendly outdoors experience, which includes camping, hiking, canoeing, fishing, birdwatching and rock-hounding. In an increasingly crowded Southern California, Mr. Dokter and his family have provided a welcome diversion from city life to many of the region's outdoors enthusiasts.

Walter's Camp was first authorized in 1962, and in August 1964, Public Land Order 3442 withdrew 16,627 acres along the Colorado River to create the Refuge. The withdrawal er-

roneously included the 140.32 acre Walter's Camp, but neither the BLM nor the Fish and Wildlife Service immediately recognized the mistake. The BLM continued to renew the original permit, allowing the recreational concession use to continue unbroken until the present time. However, given the discovery of the past mistake, the BLM does not have the authority to continue issuing the concession contracts to Walter's Camp.

The Fish and Wildlife Service and the BLM agree that the land has "insignificant, if any, existing . . . or potential . . . wildlife habitat value," as stated in a Department of Interior memo. Therefore, I have introduced this legislation to correct this mistake and allow the BLM to continue to issue contracts to Walter's Camp.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I offer my sincere recommendation that this land be taken out of the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, and that Mr. Dokter's family be allowed to continue their valuable and productive service to our region.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN CIVIL RIGHTS RESTORATION ACT OF 2003

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud and honored today to be joined by Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. MALONEY and 80 other co-sponsors to introduce the "Violence Against Women Civil Rights Restoration Act of 2003." The Violence Against Women Act of 1994 ("VAWA") was historic legislation that contained a broad array of laws and programs to address domestic violence and sexual assault in our country.

In addition to funding numerous programs such as law enforcement and prosecution grants to combat violence against women, a National Domestic Violence Hotline, and battered women's shelters and services, VAWA created both civil and criminal causes of action to target domestic violence and sexual assault.

In 2000, the Supreme Court struck down a provision of VAWA, which allowed victims of gender-motivated violence to sue their attackers in Federal court. Importantly, that case, *United States v. Morrison*, 529 U.S. 598 (2000) did not affect the validity of the rest of VAWA, which is clearly constitutional. But, *Morrison* is just the latest in a series of cases in which the Supreme Court has, in my view, improperly narrowed Congress' authority to legislate under the Commerce Clause.

The Court's 5-4 majority disregarded the mountain of evidence that Congress had amassed through four years of hearings, documenting the effects of violence against women on interstate commerce. The Court's majority substituted its own judgment for that of Congress—and this from supposedly "conservative" Justices who purport to defer to Congressional findings.

In response to the *Morrison* decision, I am introducing the "Violence Against Women Civil Rights Restoration Act of 2003." This legislation will restore the ability of victims of gender-motivated violence to seek justice in Federal court, where there is a connection to interstate commerce.

For example, a rape victim could bring a civil suit against her attacker in Federal court where the attacker crosses a state line; if he uses a facility or instrumentality of interstate commerce—such as the roads, the telephone, or the Internet; or if he uses a gun, weapon, or drug that has traveled in interstate commerce. In addition, she could bring a case where the intent of the offense is to interfere with her participation in commercial or economic activity.

The bill also authorizes the Attorney General to prevent discrimination in the investigation and prosecution of gender-based crimes. This bill will ensure that all victims have fair and equal access to the courts.

I want to thank the domestic violence and sexual assault communities for their support of this legislation, especially NOW Legal Defense and Education fund, who defended Christy Brzonkala before the Supreme Court, and who has been instrumental in drafting this bill.

I look forward to working with the Majority, the Senate, and the White House to help pass this bill into law and restore the civil remedy for victims of gender-based violence.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO CAROLINE GRETICK, 2003 RECIPIENT OF THE ATHENA AWARD

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding woman from the Fifth Congressional District in Ohio. Caroline Gretick, of Bryan, Ohio, is a Consumer Advocate at the Four County Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services Board (ADAMHs). She is being awarded the Bryan Chamber of Commerce and Stan Pepple Motors ATHENA Award. This is the twelfth presentation of the award presented annually by local Chambers of Commerce throughout the United States as well as several other countries. The award is given to individuals who exemplify excellence in their business or profession, who serve the community in a meaningful way and who assist women in developing their leadership potential.

Mr. Speaker, Caroline was the Co-Founder of the Bryan Montessori Pre-School, 1967-69. She was the Co-Director and a Teacher for the Williams County Head Start Program, 1966-71.

From 1981-91 she served at the Bryan Community Hospital. There she conducted interviews and developed statistical information for Certificates of Need for CAT-scan procedures. During her time there, Bryan Community was the smallest hospital to receive such approval. In addition to this duty, Ms. Gretick vetted applicants seeking hospital privileges. She was also the First Administrative Assistant at the Bryan Area Health Education Center.

Since 1993 Caroline has been a Consumer Advocate at the Four-County ADAMHs. There she has formalized existing depression support groups. She has also established and developed an extensive lending/research library at the ADAMHs Board offices. The library includes materials relating to brain disorders, to

include depression, bi-polar disorder, anxiety disorders and schizophrenia.

Ms. Gretick has attended and reported on annual conferences of the Depression, Bi-Polar Support Alliance (DBSA) and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI). She has served as a liaison with national and state mental health organizations such as NAMI and DBSA and also the Ohio Depression Awareness, Recognition and Treatment (DART) organization. She has been instrumental in providing regular educational programming on depression at the Correction Center of Northwest Ohio (CCNO) and the Juvenile Detention and Rehabilitation Center.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Caroline Gretick. Our communities are served well by having such honorable and giving citizens, like Caroline, who care about their well being and stability. We wish Caroline and her family all the best as we proudly pay tribute to her accomplishments.

LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE REPAIR OF HOMES DAMAGED BY HURRICANES

HON. FRANK W. BALLANCE, JR.

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. BALLANCE. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by my colleagues Representatives WALTER JONES, MIKE MCINTYRE, and BOB ETHERIDGE, in introducing legislation to provide elderly residents of North Carolina affected by floods with resources to repair their homes. Despite the fact that several years have passed, the effects of the catastrophic flooding from a succession of hurricanes in the late 1990s continue to be felt in North Carolina even today.

Thousands of North Carolinians suffered major damage to their homes and have yet to make the necessary repairs. As is often the case in situations like this, it is those who are already vulnerable who are affected most. In this case, the elderly have suffered disproportionately. Because many of the elderly are on fixed incomes, their ability to pay for home repairs is often limited.

The late 1990s were an incredibly challenging time for Eastern North Carolina. For several years in a row, hurricanes struck our communities with torrential winds and tremendous rains. Hurricane Floyd alone was responsible for 51 storm-related deaths in North Carolina, the destruction of over 7,000 homes, and made 17,000 additional homes uninhabitable. Overall damage to the state of North Carolina was estimated at over \$6 billion dollars, making it the most costly natural disaster in the history of North Carolina. The hurricane flooded a combined area of 18,000 square miles, an area roughly twice the size of Vermont.

This legislation gives to the North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture the authority to provide funds to low-income seniors in Eastern North Carolina for the purpose of home repair. The need is considerable. In fact, rural development officials in Raleigh tell me that they have over \$1 million in pending applications from the elderly seeking to repair their homes but zero resources with which to ad-

dress this matter. This legislation gives to the state of North Carolina the ability to respond to this need.

Though Hurricane Floyd may be just a memory to many, the residents of Eastern North Carolina continue to confront the challenge of rebuilding our communities on a daily basis. This legislation is a modest but important step that will enable our senior citizens to remain in their homes and to make the improvements necessary to render them habitable once again.

I am happy to say that this bipartisan legislation is founded on the shared recognition of both Republicans and Democrats that much work remains to be done to recover from the flooding that devastated our communities and I thank my colleagues for joining me in this effort. Our junior Senator, Mr. EDWARDS, is also a part of this effort and was recently successful in including language that is identical to this bill in an appropriations bill that is expected to be completed within several weeks. The bipartisan support for this bill is proof that the Edwards language should remain in the bill that the President will eventually sign.

TRIBUTE TO ANN S. MILLER AND TED MALIARIS

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Ted Maliaris and his mother, Ann S. Miller, for their patriotic effort in promoting their "A Tribute to America Tour."

Following the events of September 11, mother and son team Ann Miller and Ted Maliaris wrote and produced the song "A Tribute to America—A 21st Century Anthem" in hopes of lifting the spirits of the American public and members of our armed forces. These lyrics stand as a monument to the pride of the American people:

Our tears may fall and our hearts may be shattered, but deep down in our souls we are

Strong, we are proud, we are bold.

We have freedom in our land, we will fight for our rights, we will stand up for the brotherhood of man.

America America America
America you're Grand

We have the strength, we have the power, no terrorist could ever withstand.

We will not hide, we will not cower, we will stand up for the rights of our land.

We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave, Bold
We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave, Bold
America red, white and blue
America, this song we sing for you

In times of need, compassion fills our hearts, in times of dismay we are strong. We're a land of freedom, a land of peace, and no one can take this away.

We're America, America, America
America you're Grand

No one can destroy us through thick or thin we're a nation that was built to survive No terrorist plight can destroy our sight or the strength of this motherland.

We're America, America, America
America you're Grand

God extended his hand and has given us faith, for we will stand tall and proud. We're a land of freedom, a land of peace, a land like no other land.

We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave, Bold
We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave, Bold
America, America you're Grand America,
America you're Grand

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully urge the House to join me in paying tribute to these two fine Americans: Ann S. Miller and Ted Maliaris.

TRIBUTE TO CULVER-STOCKTON COLLEGE

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th anniversary of Culver-Stockton College, which is located in Canton, Missouri.

Culver-Stockton College was founded as Christian University by early leaders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Canton, Missouri was chosen as the school's location based on the close proximity to the Mississippi River and the enthusiasm for higher education shared by the Lewis County Disciples. The State of Missouri issued the college's charter on January 28, 1853. In 1917, Christian University was renamed Culver-Stockton College to honor benefactors Mary Culver and Robert Stockton.

Culver-Stockton's visionary founders were clearly ahead of their time. The school was the first college chartered west of the Mississippi River to educate both men and women. As both Christian University and Culver-Stockton College, the school has compiled a proud record of accomplishment and has made a meaningful contribution to the community throughout its history.

The forward-thinking ideas that are the foundation for Culver-Stockton College still influence the school today. Culver-Stockton is a 4-year residential, coeducational college that asks its students to realize their full potential. The college's alumni are living proof of the professional, personal and social service development that is cultivated on Culver-Stockton's campus. The college's administration, faculty and staff are committed to educational excellence, character development, and the integration of liberal arts.

In recent years, Culver-Stockton has achieved distinctions that include being named one of America's Best Christian Colleges, inclusion in the Templeton Foundation's "Colleges that Encourage Character Development" and membership in the Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts.

With its Sesquicentennial Gala Week, Culver-Stockton College launches a year-long celebration of its 150-year history. This provides the opportunity to not only reflect on the school's past contributions, but to appreciate the important role the college continues to play in educating our future leaders. I congratulate both Culver-Stockton's administration and student body on achieving this milestone in education history.