

of service in the Air National Guard at Buckley, in Aurora, Colorado. Upon his retirement from service Jim was awarded the Legion of Merit, the highest military honor given during peacetime. I am thankful for the bravery Jim displayed in his service to our nation and the state of Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor today to speak in memory of Jim Kelley, a noble cowboy that will be forever remembered for the dedication and bravery he displayed in his defense of America's freedom. He epitomizes the best of our country by demonstrating courage, selfless service and honor in abundance. He was a man of principle and courage; every life he touched is blessed for knowing this hero.

IN PRAISE OF MOTHERS

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, there are 435 of us in the United States House of Representatives. We come from almost every imaginable race, religion, creed and family background. Our political persuasions run the gamut of the American experience, and we sometimes seem to have 435 distinctly different viewpoints on any given issue.

Yet every one of us in the House—indeed, everyone on Capitol Hill—has at least one thing in common, and we cherish it most dearly. We all are the sons and daughters of the mothers who gave us life, who did their best to nurture and teach us, protect and care for us. For each of us, no matter how close or distant it since has become, that mother-and-child bond was the first formative influence on the people we were to become.

That bond and formative influence is as strong as ever for me. I am incredibly fortunate to have the warm affection and sage advice of my Mother still in my life. I was the sixth of Regina Otter's nine children. Not a day goes by that I don't draw inspiration from her physical, mental and spiritual strength after 88 years in this world. Her example of faith, charity, hard work, selfless dedication to family and friends and individual responsibility remains the standard by which I judge myself. I will forever fall short.

Perhaps more of our public policy debates should be infused with the wisdom of our mothers. Would we behave as selfishly, as myopically, if at crucial moments we recalled what Mom would want? Would we feel so compelled to seek out the political benefit, to place the short-term advantage over the long-term good, if Mom were there to remind us—sweetly but firmly—of the simple but profound truths of right and wrong?

Those of us in public life sometimes fall into the trap of believing our own press clippings—at least the positive ones. We think ourselves grand, elected by the good people of the world's oldest democracy, entrusted with the will of the greatest nation on Earth. At such times we would do well to remember the words of George Bernard Shaw, who said, "Perhaps the greatest social service that can be rendered by anybody to the country and to mankind is to bring up a family."

Mothers do that.

Yes, fathers also are incredibly important to strong families. Despite decades of social ex-

perimentation, research and analysis, no sound substitute has been found for the values, structured growth and sense of mutual dependence one finds in a traditional family unit for those fortunate enough to have it.

But make no mistake: Mothers are the anchors holding families in place against the gales, and the engines that enable them to progress toward their goals even through stormy seas. They are the lodestar on which we all depend to find our way through life. They are the shining examples of compassion and love to which we all aspire. And they are the souls of frail humanity who evoke the best from us when times are at their worst.

So on this Mother's Day, and every day, take some time to honor the one who made you who you are. Whether they are with you still or passed to a better place, the gesture will be noticed and appreciated. And you will be a better person for it.

Thank you, Mom.

TRIBUTE TO KARL SIEGFRIED

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Karl Siegfried, a constituent of mine from New Port Richey, FL, who received a VITA Wireless Samaritan Award last month.

VITA, which is Latin for "life", is the name of the award given by the national Wireless Foundation to people who use wireless communication to contact authorities and ask for help in emergency situations.

While driving to work, Mr. Siegfried heard reports, on the radio, of a kidnapping that took place the night before. Mr. Siegfried identified the vehicle while sitting at the stoplight and then used wireless technology to identify the location of the kidnapper for emergency personnel.

His heroic efforts, which quite possibly saved the life of another individual, are certainly something to be admired and I am proud to have a person like him as a constituent of mine.

In recent years, cellular phones and wireless communication devices have become common fixtures in our society but the good-natured concern for your neighbor has waned. I am glad to see an organization like VITA honoring those who put their communication devices to work for the good of others.

I thank Mr. Siegfried for what he did, I thank VITA for honoring him, and I thank them both on behalf of the city of New Port Richey and communities all over the country.

A TRIBUTE TO MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC POWER PRODUCTS, INC., WARRENDALE, PA

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc., a leading manufacturer

of equipment to major North American electric utilities and independent power producers, as they dedicate their new headquarters building in Warrendale, Pennsylvania.

Mitsubishi Electric Power Products (MEPPI) has been a positive force for economic development in the Fourth district and has contributed over \$20 million in direct foreign investment since establishing their Warrendale campus in 1989.

As MEPPI has expanded their operations, they have included western Pennsylvania residents in their success. As the largest Japanese affiliated corporation in Allegheny County, MEPPI has grown from an organization with just a handful of employees to a company with a workforce of over 200 today. 97% of MEPPI's main product line, large power circuit breakers, is now manufactured in Warrendale. Made in Warrendale products are exported to several foreign markets including Canada, Mexico, Australia, the United Kingdom, and South America.

MEPPI technologies include Flexible AC Transmission Systems (FACTS). FACTS technologies significantly improve the capacity and reliability of the existing electrical transmission grid. Low environmental impact technologies such as FACTS do not necessitate the construction of new power transmission lines—a contentious process that often results in the takings of public and private lands.

MEPPI has also been an active participant in our community as demonstrated by their financial and organizational support for several very worthy western Pennsylvania philanthropic groups.

Please join me in congratulating Mitsubishi Electric Power Products as they expand their Warrendale campus and continue to involve Pennsylvanians in their company's success.

HONORING HENRY COVELLO

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to correct an extension of remarks I submitted May 1, 2003. I would like to apologize to Henry Covello for inadvertently saying that he would receive a Purple Heart "posthumously." I should have said "belatedly."

Mr. Covello served our country in World War Two as a young man. His honor and bravery earned him a Purple Heart for his service in the war. His lifelong dedication to the United States Army is reflected by the prestige of the Purple Heart, among the highest honors an American citizen can receive. Following his service in World War Two, Mr. Covello went off to serve in Korea where he earned his second Purple Heart. I am proud to tell my colleagues that last weekend Mr. Covello received his third Purple Heart.

Mr. Covello served in the United States Army with the 82nd Airborne Division 504th Parachute Regiment, the 5th Airborne Ranger Co. 25th Division, and D Company 19 Regiment 24th Division. He served for nearly 25 years in the Army before permanently retiring to Worcester, Massachusetts.

Mr. Covello is an example for all Americans. Devoting himself to our armed forces, Mr. Covello's awards are the sign of a grateful nation. His service in the fight against tyranny and oppression should not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere thanks to Mr. Covello, and to all of our veterans, for bravely fighting to protect our security and liberty. I am confident that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in thanking Mr. Covello for his service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of Wednesday, May 7, 2003, the House voted on two amendments by Mr. BELL of Texas to H.R. 766, the Nanotechnology Research and Development Act of 2003. On House rollcall votes No. 165 and No. 166, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN MCMORRAN OF LAKELAND, FL

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of a great American who died last month after 113 years of life.

At the time of his death John McMorran of Lakeland, FL, which lies partially in my Fifth Congressional District, was the oldest living American man and the fourth-oldest person in the world.

Born June 19, 1889, in a Michigan log cabin, John McMorran considered coffee his elixir and quit cigars at the tender age of 97. He retired at 84 after working in a munitions factory, delivering milk, and delivering mail and moved to Florida to enjoy his retirement.

More than 30 years later he was still enjoying life, friends, and his family, who all said he was a happy man who lived a great life.

Mr. McMorran had a 59-year-old grandson and a 35-year-old great-granddaughter and one great-great-grandson!

He was born the year that the Oklahoma Land Rush took place, 14 when the Wright Brothers made their historic first flight at Kitty Hawk, and too old for the draft in World War I.

Mr. McMorran was there for all the advancements and innovations of the Twentieth Century. He knew life before and after cars, before and after electricity in homes, before and after computers, cell phones, the Internet. After 113 years of life there's not much he missed out on.

I am proud to speak before the House today about John McMorran and commemorate his long, successful life.

SUSTAINING AN AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC SUCCESS

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, later this month, the U.S. will welcome President Note of the Marshall Islands as he visits our country. His visit here will coincide with the Bush Administration's transmittal to Congress of the document that governs the bilateral relationship enjoyed by our nations. This little known treaty embodies the best of U.S. diplomacy and strategic policy in recent decades. Ronald Reagan was President and the Democrats controlled both House of Congress when a bipartisan majority of both Houses approved the Compact of Free Association between the U.S. and two Pacific island micro-states.

The treaty of free association between the United States, Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia ended more than four decades of United Nations trust territory status for the islands, and these new nations, under new flags, themselves then became members of the United Nations. Not only was this a good model for decolonization of dependent territories, but the compact also preserved U.S. strategic interests in the islands. Under the treaty, an area of ocean as large as the continental United States, with strategically located islands stretching from the mid-Pacific to the Asian rim, remains foreclosed in perpetuity to the military forces of any nation other than the United States.

U.S. strategic interest in the Marshall Islands began in 1946 when the U.S. conducted its first atmospheric nuclear weapons test at Bikini. During the next decade over 67 tests were conducted, leaving a legacy of injuries to people and contamination of homelands that is still being resolved through claims settlement proceedings authorized by Congress under the compact. Amazingly, the islanders suffered greatly but consider themselves survivors rather than just victims, U.S. allies rather than just a subjugated people.

In addition nuclear test sites in the islands, Kwajalein Missile Range in the Marshall Islands was perhaps the most vital facility in the U.S. intercontinental ballistic missile development program, a centerpiece of U.S. nuclear deterrence that prevented the Cold War from turning into nuclear winter. Renamed the U.S. Army Ronald Reagan Missile Test Range, Kwajalein played an indispensable role in the Strategic Defense Initiative that helped bring about disarmament and end the Soviet empire.

To preserve the compact's success and the underlying strategic interests, Congress has to renew the economic assistance provisions of the compact that expires this year. The Bush Administration has consulted with Congress about renewal terms in a bipartisan spirit, and has addressed concerns raised by GAO about fiscal accountability for the island governments, as well tightening up controls on migration between the islands and the mainland.

Free association is based on separate sovereignty, nationality and citizenship, and is free because any party to the compact can terminate it in favor of full independence at any time. Thus, it is not some screw scheme

of co-mingled nationality or neo-colonial entanglement. Indeed, the whole point of free association is that it continues as long as it serves the mutual interest of the parties. Clearly, from a strategic point of view alone, U.S. interests preclude letting the compact lapse.

Moreover, the islands have been good allies, reliably voting with the U.S. in the U.N. on important issues. Under the compact, islanders are eligible for service in the U.S. military, and both Marshall Islanders and Micronesians have fought with the 3d Infantry in the streets of Baghdad as comrades in arms with American soldiers.

This is an alliance that represents the best of American diplomacy, and the compact also demonstrates that America deals honorably with small nations that share our values. Obviously, there are other priorities, but the Administration should send the treaty renewal agreements to Congress without further delay, and Congress should renew the Compact of Free Association before it expires, thereby sustaining a bipartisan foreign policy and national security success story.

A TRIBUTE TO LUCILLE CORRINE HAGANS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Lucille Corrine Hagans in recognition of her commitment to helping others throughout her eighty-five years.

Ms. Hagans was born to the late Samuel and Hagar Cohen. Lucille and her family left the hills of Savannah, GA, and migrated to Coatesville, PA. In 1948, she moved to Brooklyn, NY. Her home was always filled with guests and she did not mind opening up her doors to those in need.

Ms. Hagans has been a positive role model for the lives of many. There were times she traveled through the snow and the rain to make sure that everyone in her household had food to eat and a place to lay their heads. She has always been a hard and diligent worker.

A great seamstress and milliner, Ms. Hagans has sewn for many people all over New York City. She has an innate gift of teaching. God has equipped her to help educate others. Ms. Hagans is also a clothing designer in her own right.

Ms. Hagans is a woman of character and standards. She lives a holy life and is a woman of prayer and consecration. She introduced her children and grandchildren to the Lord by taking them to church and teaching them the word of God. She has taught the women in her family to strive for what they want in this life. And, she has been a role model and a woman of integrity.

Mr. Speaker, through her longstanding commitments and her dedication to teaching and spreading the Lord's word, Lucille Corrine Hagans has shown that she is clearly devoted to her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I therefore urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable woman.