

the Year" by the Ohio Department of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and operates such programs as the Regional Food Center that serves over 5000 meals daily; and

Whereas, the Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action Agency has an established reputation as an organization that is dedicated to the betterment of the community by assisting individuals with programs, services, and resources;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in celebrating Hocking-Athens-Perry Community Action Agency's 40 years of outstanding service.

IN HONOR OF MONO SEN

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mono Sen for his years of public service and promotion of social unity. Mr. Sen was honored by the Ram Mohan Mission at the Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Raja Rammohan Ceremony on Saturday, May 22, 2004, in Kolkata, India.

Mr. Sen was awarded the Rammohan Puraskar 2004 for his outstanding work in public affairs, his promotion of social unity, and his efforts on behalf of the community as a whole in the United States of America. Mr. Sen's involvement in the community is unparalleled, dedicating his life to helping those in need, and working tirelessly without discrimination. Mr. Sen has contributed greatly to helping immigrants with the many challenges they face when settling in America, thereby enriching their American experience.

Mr. Sen has been involved in many programs that help Asian-Americans and seniors. Before moving to New Jersey, he served as management consultant at the William Hudson Center in the South Bronx and as director of the Caring Community Center in New York City. In 1980, Mono Sen founded the United Ethnic Congress in America to promote the election and appointments of Asians to the U.S. government.

For his numerous contributions to the people of New Jersey and his many years of extraordinary leadership, Mr. Sen has received countless awards and citations. Most notably, on May 10, 2000, Jersey City, New Jersey honored Mr. Sen by renaming Liberty Avenue as Mono Sen Plaza.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mono Sen for his distinguished public service, his dedication to promoting social unity, and his outstanding leadership and devotion to his community.

HONORING THE HUMBOLDT CRABS
BASEBALL TEAM

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. Speaker; I rise today in recognition of the Humboldt Crabs, the oldest continuously operating collegiate summer baseball team in our nation.

Founded in June of 1945 in Humboldt County, California by Lou Bonomini, the team is celebrating its 60th season. Made up of local players, the team played its first game on June 17, 1945. 2004 has been designated as the Year of the Alumni and several celebrations have been planned for over 900 past players.

Playing teams from all over California and Southern Oregon, the Humboldt Crabs originally played at Albee Stadium in Eureka and moved permanently to the Arcata Ballpark in the early 1960's. In 1995 the Humboldt Crabs became a registered non-profit organization managed by an all-volunteer community-based board of directors. The Crabs organization provides the community with outstanding summer baseball while also supporting local youth baseball summer camps and providing training and education for youth baseball coaches and umpires.

The Crabs recruit college baseball players from all over the western United States. Players are provided with summer jobs as well as housing and the opportunity to play in 45 to 50 baseball games during the months of June and July. Forty former Crabs players have played or are presently playing on major league teams. The Crabs have won 17 California State Championships and the team has an overall winning record of 1,924 wins and 578 losses for a winning percentage well over .700.

Founder Lou Bonomini, who managed the popular Crabs from 1945 to 1986, joined by Ned Barsuglia and Don Terbush in the early 1960's, played a major role in guiding the successful team. Jerry Nutter, who served as president of the board from 1995 to 2000, and Ken Ames who has managed the team for 13 years, have carried on the tradition of selfless commitment to the organization.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize the Humboldt Crabs baseball team on the occasion of its 60th season as a cherished summer tradition on the North Coast of California.

TRIBUTE TO GIRLS INCORPORATED OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA AND SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the efforts and the success of Girls Incorporated of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey. This non-profit agency has provided services to girls and families in high risk situations for over 40 years.

The agency was established in 1961 with the admirable cause of delinquency prevention in adolescent girls. It continued on to become a full member of the National Organization, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America Inc. in 1979, and an associate member of the national organization, Girls Inc., in 1998. With its extensive collection of programs in mentoring, community building and in-house counseling, the agency provides services to more than 1,400 girls and families each year. The presentation of the Williams Award for Excellence from the Philadelphia Foundation and the Bet-

ter Business Bureau Award for Most Dramatic Growth for a Non-profit agency exemplifies the agency's excellence in aiding adolescent girls and their families.

Girls Incorporated of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey continues to advance their cause and to strengthen their community by aspiring to open a Girl's Center for Philadelphia. Undoubtedly, an extension of this organization's current services will help to improve the overall well-being of youth in our community. I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to congratulate the organization in recognition of all its accomplishments.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COASTAL
RESTORATION ACT

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Coastal Restoration Act of 2004 for myself and Representative LAMPSON. Since 1995, we have seen several attempts to change Federal policies in an effort to cripple the Federal beach nourishment program.

The Coastal Restoration Act (CRA) restates the congressional intent regarding the importance of the Federal beach nourishment program. The CRA makes it clear that changes in administration policy will not prevent feasibility and other types of studies from being processed through the Corps of Engineers and sent to Congress. The legislation emphasizes the role of Congress in determining which beach nourishment projects should be authorized for construction. It also restates and strengthens existing law that periodic renourishment is an integral part of the ongoing construction of a beach nourishment project.

This legislation states that in deciding which projects should receive Federal assistance, Congress intends that preference shall also be given to areas: (1) where regional sediment management plans have been adopted to integrate coastal beach nourishment, navigation, and environmental projects; or (2) where the project promotes human health and safety, as well as the quality of life for individuals and families. These additions will encourage states to adopt regional sediment management plans to identify areas for the disposal of dredged spoils and the projects to that promote their beneficial reuse, as well as ensure that public safety and other quality of life issues are taken into account when recommending a project for implementation.

The Coastal Restoration Act also raises the low priority now accorded by the U.S. Army Corps to the recreational benefits of beach nourishment, giving equal consideration to all national projects. It provides a mechanism to begin the project reauthorization process and it allows the Corps to better manage their funding and schedules to work around the times when endangered species are present at the project site.

In the United States, nearly 17 million people are employed in the tourism industry. Beaches are the leading tourist destination in the Nation. Beach tourists contribute about \$260 billion to the U.S. economy overall. Each year about 180 million Americans make 2 billion visits to the ocean, the gulf, and our inland beaches. That is almost twice as many

visits as those made to State and National Parks and wilderness areas combined.

In my home State of New Jersey, tourism is a \$31 billion industry, supporting over 836,000 jobs and generating \$17.7 billion in wages. The vast majority of that revenue is generated by the millions of people who visit our 127 miles of shoreline on an annual basis. These projects provide the businesses and residents located along our shore and driving our economy an important layer of protection from ocean storms. It also lowers Federal flood insurance premiums and reduces the number of claims. Finally, these projects provide vital habitat for numerous species of plants and animals and often protect vital coastal habitats such as wetlands or fresh-water resources.

The Coastal Restoration Act is needed to maintain the Federal program so we can continue to protect and restore our beaches as the national treasures they are.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and service of Petty Officer 2nd Class Robert Boyd Jenkins, who lost his life near Al-Andar province while on active duty with the U.S. Navy in Iraq on May 2, 2004.

Jenkins honorably served his country for 15 years and was a member of 1st Marine Expeditionary Force assigned to the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 14 of the Seabees. While he was a member of the reserves he also served as a member of the Martin County Field Operations Team. It was Jenkins' intention to enter full time active duty service sometime in the future. He gave his life defending and protecting the United States from terrorism and bringing freedom and democracy to the people of Iraq who have only known tyranny.

Petty Officer Jenkins is survived by his father, David Jenkins, Rockledge, FL, his wife, Elizabeth Jenkins, and his stepmother, Linda Jenkins.

President Lincoln once wrote that as a nation we should "... have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty." Robert dared to do his duty and in so doing he gave the ultimate sacrifice for our continued freedom. We owe him a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING FRANK A. PARTLOW, JR.

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Frank A. Partlow, Jr. has shown outstanding service and contributions to the United States Government Printing Office (GPO) during his tenure beginning November 29, 2002; and

Whereas, because of his distinguished career, Frank was asked to serve as the Chief of Staff to the Public Printer of the United States, Bruce R. James; and

Whereas, Frank is a solid leader and demonstrated the ability to effectively juggle many competing priorities. In addition to advising the Public Printer on all aspects of the GPO's business, he also directed strategic planning for the GPO.

Whereas, until his retirement from the United States as an Army Brigadier General in 1990, Frank served as the Director of Estimates of the Defense Intelligence Agency, U.S. Arms Control Delegation in Geneva and saw combat with an infantry division in Vietnam. He is a graduate from the U.S. Military Academy; and

Whereas, Frank is a team player, known for his integrity, fairness, principles, dedication, and solid steady demeanor—he has made GPO a better place. He has served the GPO and our country as a true patriot, and we extend our thanks to him for his service, and wish him all the best for continued success in his retirement; and

Therefore, I join with members of Congress and their staff in recognizing Frank A. Partlow, Jr. for his exceptional work and immense contributions, and in wishing him well in all his endeavors.

IN HONOR OF JOHN "DOC" FENICK

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John "Doc" Fenick for his years of dedicated public service to his community. Dr. Fenick was honored by the City of Carteret with the naming of the city clock tower on Friday, May 28, 2004, in Carteret, New Jersey.

Dr. Fenick moved to the City of Carteret in 1958, after his service in the United States Air Force during World War II. He was honorably discharged with the rank of first lieutenant, and began his work as a family doctor in Carteret. Dedicated to helping those less fortunate and others within his community, Dr. Fenick provided free physicals for the American Legion and local youth for sports purposes as well as other programs. During his 35 years of practice, he worked closely with the First Aid Squad and Rahway Hospital, where he served as the chairman of the family practice and president of the hospital medical staff.

Dr. Fenick's passion to improve the quality of life for the people in Carteret led him to be elected Mayor. Under his leadership, he helped the City of Carteret obtain funding for the current Police and Fire Department station. He also implemented the Ethnic Day Celebration, which has become an annual event honoring the people in the county and borough.

Dr. Fenick has displayed his leadership skills, serving as the Democratic committeeman, president of the Rotary Club, president of the Honorary PBA, and vice commander of the Catholic War Veterans. He is also a lifelong member of the American Legion, Elks Club, and an honorary member of the Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Company #1.

For his outstanding work and dedication, Dr. Fenick has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Andrew J. Hila Community Service Award, the Rahway Hospital Humanitarian Award, and was honored with a Joint Legislative Resolution for his work with the American Legion, "Remembering Pearl Harbor Day."

Mr. Fenick received his bachelor's degree from Rutgers University and his degree in Medicine from George Washington University Medical School.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John "Doc" Fenick for his distinguished public service, his dedication to promoting a better quality of life for the residents of Carteret, and his outstanding leadership and devotion to his community.

INTRODUCING THE SMALL DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2004

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Small Disaster Assistance Act of 2004. This legislation is critically needed. All too often, communities are denied federal assistance from natural disasters because the number of people affected by the disaster do not meet an arbitrary threshold which fails to consider human needs.

An unofficial threshold exists under current Federal Emergency Management Agency regulations that require a minimum of 100 homes to be destroyed or receive major damage during a natural disaster for a major disaster declaration to be warranted by the president. Some may argue that, on the surface, this is a fair regulation. But in practice, it is not. In practice, thousands of Americans are forced to pick up the pieces following a natural disaster with no help from their government.

Every year, thousands of Americans have their homes damaged or destroyed by natural disasters. Yet, the Federal government fails them when it denies a state's request for federal emergency assistance regardless of the number affected.

Just last August, hundreds of my constituents in Riviera Beach and Palm Beach Gardens, Florida were left in the dark and heat—literally—when three tornadoes touched down in Palm Beach County. I, along with Florida's two Senators and Palm Beach County's Congressional delegation, worked with Florida's governor and urged the President to issue a major disaster declaration.

The economic impact of the storms, combined with continued rain, was estimated to be between \$70 million and \$80 million. To make matters worse, many of those affected by the storm were unable to depend on insurance for relief and assistance in recovering from the storm. According to the joint assessment that was done at the time by FEMA, the State of Florida, and Palm Beach County, 81 percent of the homeowners affected were uninsured. For the uninsured, federal assistance was virtually the only way for them to recover.

The effect of the storm was drastically compounded when the historical economic and social hardships of the communities most affected were included in the assessment. Although it is difficult to place a dollar amount