

Ritchie has played a key role in raising the university over \$350 million for renovation projects to improve the campus and provide more scholarships to students.

I am honored to acknowledge these achievements by two worthy individuals from my home state; their contributions have an enormous impact on many in Colorado.

COMMENDING THE HONORABLE  
DR. WILLIAM E. "BILL" WARD

**HON. J. RANDY FORBES**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank a true public servant, Dr. William E. "Bill" Ward who has given over 25 years of faithful service to the City of Chesapeake and her residents.

Mayor Ward and the City of Chesapeake have a long history together. Having resided in Chesapeake with his wife Rose since its incorporation in 1963, Mayor Ward has been instrumental in helping to shape and form one of our Nation's largest cities.

Mayor Ward has been serving his community in a variety of capacities for many decades. Those who know him best know that he is first and foremost an educator. Mayor Ward is Professor Emeritus and former Chair of the History Department at Norfolk State University, where he taught from 1973 to July of 2000. In addition, he serves on the Board of Visitors at his alma mater, Virginia State University in Petersburg, Virginia.

Mayor Ward's love of government and service eventually led him into public life in 1978 and he has faithfully served since that date. From 1978–1984, he served as a member of the Chesapeake City Council and served as Vice Mayor from 1984–1990. Mayor Ward is the longest serving Mayor in Chesapeake's history having served in that capacity since October 4, 1990.

During his tenure on the Chesapeake City Council, the city grew from 100,000 people to more than 210,000. Through a time of great change, Mayor Ward provided continuity of both leadership and direction.

In closing, I would be remiss if I did not recognize the Mayor's wife Rose and their children Michael and Michelle and thank them for their support and sacrifices over the years. The Ward family will continue to be among the most well-respected and much-loved members of the Chesapeake community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Mayor Ward, for his years of dedication to Chesapeake and for his selfless service to her citizens.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LANCE CORPORAL BENJAMIN RIGOBERTO GONZALEZ

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker I rise to pay tribute to Lance Corporal Benjamin Rigoberto Gonzalez, U.S. Marine Corps, a member of the E

Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, deployed from Camp Pendleton, California. Lance Corporal Gonzalez died as a result of wounds suffered while engaged in combat operations during Operation Iraqi Freedom on May 29, 2004.

Lance Corporal Gonzalez was from my hometown of El Monte. He was born on April 25, 1981, in Montebello, California. He received a public school education and attended Monterey High School, where he played football and participated in the school's drama and music programs.

For love of our country, Lance Corporal Gonzalez joined the U.S. Marine Corps at the tender age of 19 on October 10, 2000. He served the country with courage, pride and loyalty.

Lance Corporal Gonzalez' future was bright and filled with promise. Upon his return, he planned to marry Anna Isabel Martinez, his fiancée, and start a family. Lance Corporal Gonzalez was an active youth leader at the Iglesia Cristiana del Este de Los Angeles. Lance Corporal Gonzalez's life and love is treasured and fondly remembered by countless friends and loved ones.

Lance Corporal Benjamin Rigoberto Gonzalez is survived by his brothers: Samuel, Christopher, Andres, Josue, and sisters Betsy, Stephanie, Elizabeth, Juliana, Mia as well as his parents, aunts, uncles and cousins who were deeply touched by his kind heart and gentle strength.

CONGRATULATING JERRY DOUGLAS ON HIS SELECTION AS A 2004 NEA NATIONAL HERITAGE FELLOW

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, every year, the National Endowment for the Arts honors an elite group of master folk and traditional artists for their lifetime contributions to the Nation's musical and artistic heritage. The prestigious National Heritage Fellowships, awarded by the NEA, honor artists not only for their artistic excellence but for their commitment to passing on their skills and cultural traditions to a new generation.

I am especially proud that one of this year's winners hails from the Fifth District of Tennessee. Mr. Jerry Douglas, of Nashville, is a peerless player of the steel guitar, the "Dobro's® matchless contemporary master," according to the New York Times. He is a musical innovator often compared to Jimi Hendrix and Charlie Parker, having garnered eight Grammy Awards among his myriad accolades. He is in fact one of the few artists to have a special model of the Dobro® named in his honor.

Mr. Douglas learned music at an early age, first as a singer and a player of the mandolin and guitar. But he says that once he discovered the Dobro®, "I stopped singing because it was like I'd found another way to have a voice." Since finding that voice, Mr. Douglas has influenced all forms of American music, including bluegrass, country, rock, jazz, and blues. He has taken the Dobro® from its Southern rural roots into Celtic and even clas-

sical music, adapting his instrument to embrace all styles.

This prolific career has yielded Mr. Douglas more than 1,000 recordings. He has worked in the company of a diverse array of well-known artists, including Garth Brooks, Paul Simon, James Taylor, Reba McEntire, and the late Ray Charles. He is acclaimed by fellow musician Alison Krauss as "the greatest Dobro® player the world has ever known" and by Life Magazine as one of the top ten best country musicians of all time.

I am honored to recognize Mr. Douglas for his achievements and contributions to American music and congratulate him on his recognition by the NEA. It is thanks to artists such as Mr. Douglas that Nashville continues to be proudly known as Music City, USA.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I want to express the need for discussion on true immigration reform.

With over eight million illegal immigrants in the U.S., and approximately half a million more entering the U.S. annually, it is now time for Congress to be diligent in trying to truly engage in discussion on how we can effectively manage immigration here in the U.S.

I do not support illegal immigration. I also do not support amnesty for undocumented immigrants. Individuals who violate America's laws should not be rewarded for illegal behavior, and I believe amnesty perpetuates illegal immigration. The fact that there are eight million undocumented immigrants estimated to live in the U.S. illustrates alone that previous amnesty programs have not worked.

I am seeing the effects of immigration with regards to healthcare and our hospitals. This burden is not a problem because of illegal immigration alone. Legal immigrants are working citizens, but many do not have benefits such as health insurance. They are forced to ignore health problems until they're magnified and eventually forced to seek care in emergency rooms. Unfortunately, these costs often must be absorbed by hospitals, taxpayers and private insurance policy holders through higher premiums.

We are appropriating funds to deal with issues such as these in the short-term, but we also have to start having discussions on long-term solutions to legal and illegal immigration. Being uninsured is only part of the problem.

We must not lose sight of the significant role immigration has played in the development of the United States. We must be wise as we move into uncharted waters regarding new immigration policies. We must look for ways to construct positive steps that will ultimately lead to a better life for everyone.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DOUG OSE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 8 and June 9, 2004, I

missed rollcall votes 229, 230, and 231, for family reasons. Had I been here, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 229; "aye" on rollcall 230; and "aye" on rollcall 231. I request that my comments be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at the appropriate section.

#### INTRODUCING THE TAX INCENTIVES TO ENCOURAGE RECYCLING (TIER) ACT

#### HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Tax Incentives to Encourage Recycling (TIER) Act, legislation to address the problem of electronic waste in this country.

Electronic waste is a growing problem. Computer capability doubles every 18 months. This means that individual consumers and businesses must replace their computer equipment more often now than ever.

In 2000, I introduced legislation that has since become law to refurbish old computers for libraries and classrooms. However, often times the donated equipment is too outdated to be refurbished and must be thrown away. This equipment has small amounts of mercury and lead and increasing quantities of it end up in our landfills.

To address this growing problem, some states, including my home state of California, have introduced laws mandating user fees. These hidden taxes only serve to further widen the digital divide. By increasing the cost, more people will be unable to afford computers for their homes. This is unacceptable. As elected representatives, we should be working to increase access to computers and the internet, not putting them further out of reach for many Americans.

My legislation, the TIER Act, addresses the problem of e-waste by giving tax credits to computer manufacturers that implement recycling programs. The primary expense in computer recycling is the transport of the equipment from a home or business to the recycling center. This legislation will provide the incentive to facilitate the transport of the old equipment to a recycling center.

I would like to thank my colleague, Mr. CANTOR, for cosponsoring this important legislation. By providing incentives for recycling, we can keep the costs of computers reasonable and protect our environment.

#### RECOGNIZING ROB AND SHERRI VINES

#### HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Rob and Sherri Vines for their life-long contributions to the Congregation Emanu El and the Inland Empire community of Southern California.

Rob and Sherri Vines have been active and loyal members of their congregation for over 30 years. Exemplifying the best in humani-

tarian leadership, they continue to earn respect and admiration from people of all walks of life. Mrs. Vines serves the congregation in numerous capacities, including teaching at the School of Jewish Living and serving three terms as Sisterhood President in the Inland Empire. She is also a member of the congregation's executive committee of community service, having coordinated numerous events for San Bernardino County residents.

Robert Vines, a workers' compensation attorney, has been a member of the California State Bar since 1973, serving as the Deputy District Attorney for San Bernardino County from 1973-1975. In addition, he proudly serves as President of the United Jewish Welfare Fund of San Bernardino County. He is President of the Greater Inland Empire's Applicants' Attorney Association. He also serves in various offices with the Board of Governors of the California Applicants' Attorney Association. Mr. Vines has earned countywide recognition as one of the top ten attorneys in the Inland Empire.

Rob and Sherri Vines received the Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award as a testament to all the hard work, love and energy they have exemplified throughout their lives. This award memorializes Rabbi Feldheim's values of unconditional love and loyalty to one's synagogue, service to the community, and a character imbued with humility and loving kindness to others.

I salute Rob and Sherri Vines on the occasion of being awarded the Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award and wish them continued success and prosperity.

#### CONGRATULATING MISS OLIVIA EVANS UPON RECEIVING THE SPIRIT OF WOMEN FOUNDATION'S REGIONAL SPIRIT OF WOMEN AWARD

#### HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take a few moments today to recognize an extraordinary young woman from Nashville, Olivia Evans.

Olivia is 13 years old and was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes three years ago. Rather than allowing this disease to defeat her, Olivia has become a tireless advocate for diabetes research and the search for a cure. I first met Olivia in my Nashville office this spring and was impressed from the start by both her courage and charisma.

I am proud to say that her advocacy has also recently won her wider recognition. Olivia was just named the winner of the Spirit of Women Foundation's regional youth Spirit of Women Award for her work on behalf of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. This award is generally reserved for young women aged 14 and older, which makes Olivia's achievement all the more remarkable. In addition, Olivia was one of only two Tennessee delegates to the 2003 Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Children's Congress, which came to Washington to raise awareness about diabetes research among national policymakers.

Type 1 diabetes currently afflicts 1.3 million Americans, and there are 13,000 new diag-

noses of juvenile diabetes every year. Olivia is fighting hard to educate all of us on the importance of funding research and finding a cure. The sooner we find a solution, the sooner we can ensure that Olivia will grow to lead a life that is unburdened by the complications of diabetes.

I applaud the Spirit of Women Foundation for recognizing this remarkable young woman, and I congratulate Olivia on her achievement. I call on my colleagues to further honor Olivia and the thousands of American children like her who live with diabetes by supporting all efforts to find a cure now.

#### IN MEMORY OF SGT. 1ST CLASS TROY "LEON" MIRANDA

#### HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker I rise today to honor Sgt. First Class Troy "Leon" Miranda, who died on May 20, 2004, in Iraq. Leon was 44 years old and of Wickes, AR, part of my Congressional District. I wish to recognize his life and achievements.

Those who knew Leon well say he was destined to be a soldier from an early age. He signed on with the Army Reserve in 1984. In Iraq, a staff sergeant in the National Guard, he served as a commander of his unit, specializing in combat warfare, germ warfare, and chemical warfare. Leon was deployed last October in large part due to his specialized training.

The Miranda family received a Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Arkansas Distinguished Service Medal on Leon's behalf. Leon lost his life while making the ultimate sacrifice to serve our country, and I will be forever grateful to him for his courageous spirit.

Leon gave his life to serve our country and will forever be remembered as a brother, son, hero, and friend. My deepest condolences go out to his parents, Bobby and Carlos, and his brother, Phillip. I know Leon was proud of his service to the U.S. Army and to our country. He will be missed by his family, fellow soldiers, and all those who knew him well.

#### AMADOR COUNTY 150TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 14, 2004*

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the 150th birthday of Amador County. June 14, 2004 marks the Sesquicentennial Anniversary of the incorporation of a county rich in history and culture.

This land named Amador was once home to Miwuk and possibly other Native American tribes. In time, non-Indian trappers and explorers traversed this land, ushering in a new era. As early as 1843, hired hands for John Sutter worked the land then known as Pine Woods, to manufacture items needed at Sutter's Fort. Later, families of the hired hands came to settle. After gold was discovered in January 1848, the area was flooded with gold seekers.