

up until the battle was done. Over 1,000 fans met the team when their bus got back to Corpus Christi. The crowd rushed to the field as the players placed their trophy on the pitcher's mound.

The Moody Magic is part inspiration, part hard work, and part spirituality that draws this team close. They pray together, win together and lose together; but they keep their faith.

Four years ago, they prayed even while their opponent was awarded gold medals for the championship; they prayed that the experience would make them better people. It did, and 2004 was their year to win the gold medals.

These young people have learned the very best lessons sports can teach. They learned that winning is great, but winners on the field are made from teamwork and faith; and winners in life are those who master the fundamentals, never lose their faith, and put their whole effort into all they do.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me today in commending this outstanding group of young champions from "Moody Magic" who have learned—and lived—the most important lessons of competition, faith and dignity. Mr. Speaker, these young people have inspired us and made us exceptionally proud.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 232–242, I was detained by a meeting with Secretary of Commerce Donald Evans and his newly appointed Manufacturers Advisory Council, at which I spoke. The delay was compounded by an airline delay which prevented me from voting on the last three rollcall votes, on all of which I would have voted "no."

Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: rollcall No. 232, "yes"; rollcall No. 233, "yes"; rollcall No. 234, "yes"; rollcall No. 235, "yes"; rollcall No. 236, "yes"; rollcall No. 237, "yes"; rollcall No. 238, "yes"; rollcall No. 239, "yes"; rollcall No. 240, "no"; rollcall No. 241, "no"; and rollcall No. 242, "no";

MODIFYING CERTAIN DEADLINES FOR MACHINE-READABLE, TAMPER-RESISTANT ENTRY AND EXIT DOCUMENTS

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFF FLAKE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, today the House approved by voice vote H.R. 4417, a bill to modify certain deadlines pertaining to machine-readable, tamper-resistant entry and exit documents. I applaud the Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Congressman SENSENBRENNER, for advancing this important legislation, which is the first step in ensuring that the United States and Visa Waiver Program countries are able to honor the obligations that were put into law in the Enhanced

Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act of 2002.

I am concerned, however, that H.R. 4417 does not grant the Administration the full two-year period that will be necessary to achieve the issuance of biometric, machine-readable, tamper-resistant passports that meet international standards. The Secretaries of State and Homeland Security have stated that not even the United States will be ready to issue such passports by October 2005. The uncertainty and confusion created by a one-year extension for both potential travelers to the U.S., as well as the industries that serve them during their stays here, must be taken into account. The Senate is considering legislation that would grant the Administration the two-year period that they seek. I believe that this approach will facilitate an efficient completion of the passport development and issuance process, while also taking into account important national security concerns.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RAY CHARLES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special homage to a legendary entertainer and an American icon, Mr. Ray Charles, who passed away on June 10, 2004 at the age of 73.

Ray Charles Robinson (who later dropped his last name to prevent confusion with boxer "Sugar" Ray Robinson) was born September 23, 1930 in Albany, Georgia. Charles was born at the beginning of The Great Depression into a rural southern community, which denied opportunity and tried to kill the dreams of African Americans.

Ray Charles was blinded by glaucoma at age 7. After being sent to the St. Augustine school for the Deaf and Blind, he learned to read and write musical compositions in Braille, and mastered playing several instruments including the piano and the saxophone. By the age of 15, Charles was orphaned, and had begun to perform in Black nightclubs. Charles would later draw from the adversity of his early life a special soulfulness, which fueled new music that America had never known: the sultry combination of human problems and transgressions with the hope and inspiration of the spirit. He drew from diverse musical roots and made the music his own.

By 1959, Charles would have his first big hit, "What'd I Say". He would in an illustrious career win 12 Grammy Awards and a plethora of other musical achievements. Later, he would be called one of the forefathers of Rock n' Roll.

The music of Ray Charles was as diverse as his audience. He was able to cross musical genres including jazz, blues, gospel, soul, country, pop and rock and roll. Charles was a musical pioneer and throughout his career gained a large fan base in various racial and ethnic groups. He broke down the rigid walls between black and white music. Charles was an inspiration for the likes of Elvis Presley and The Beatles, who sought to incorporate his soulfulness in their music.

Charles would also use his cross-cultural ability to help achieve racial equality. Charles

was a friend of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and was active in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's, performing benefit concerts and giving up his personal resources. During the height of South African apartheid, Charles refused to play for segregated audiences in firm opposition to the legal segregation that was in place in that country.

Charles had a string of stirring hits including "Georgia on my Mind", "I Can't Stop Loving You", and "America the Beautiful", which he first performed in 1972 and then later at many occasions of national celebration including the inaugural ball for the late former president, Ronald Regan in 1985. In 1986 he received Kennedy Center Honors for his amazing ability to break down social barriers through his music.

Music lovers worldwide will consequently suffer a great void that no other musician will ever be able to fill. Ray Charles was able to inspire millions through his music. Ray Charles has left us the enduring legacy of his genius, his music, and though gone from us physically the music of Ray Charles will live on forever.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend my colleagues on the passage of H.R. 4278. This bill reauthorizes and makes permanent the Assistive Technology Act, which plays an instrumental role in promoting awareness of and access to services and devices that allow individuals with disabilities to lead independent lives, to work, to participate fully in community and school, and to make informed choices in all aspects of their lives.

This legislation, which passed unanimously under suspension yesterday, is a result of a bipartisan commitment to improving the lives of people with disabilities. Members of Congress from both parties recognized the valuable role that the Tech Act plays in providing support to programs in all 50 states and worked together to ensure the continuation and vitality of the state grant programs. Most importantly, this bill will get technology into the hands of people who need it.

My own background and experience gives me a unique perspective on the value of assistive technology. Indeed, access to technology has made it possible for me to serve as a Member of the United States Congress. Through my own experience and opportunities to interact with others in the disability community, I am keenly aware that access can make the difference between a life on public assistance and a productive, fulfilling career. With the unemployment rate within the disability community at a staggering 70 percent, we must support and promote the programs that are making a difference. State assistive technology programs have proven to be instrumental in getting people back into their communities.

When it was first enacted, in 1988, the Tech Act contained sunset provisions which would

have allowed funding for state programs to expire. Since that time, it has become obvious that the world of technology is continuously changing. Policy makers have learned over the last decade that responsible technology-related legislation must be more enduring. I am so proud to have been a part of this House-passed legislation, which ends sunsets and provides a permanent funding stream for these state programs.

I look forward to our continued work together to develop new ways to break down barriers to technology for all people with disabilities.

**JAKE WILLHITE'S 10TH ANNUAL
FLAG DAY PARTY**

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 10th annual Flag Day Party hosted each year by Jake Willhite of Chesterfield, Missouri.

Jake has been celebrating and honoring Flag Day with his family and friends for most of his life now and has inspired many of us to have a greater appreciation for our flag and its meaning. It is significant to note that someone so young can teach us so much.

Jake's parents, Bill and Shannon Willhite send out an annual invitation to Jake's party. This is what this year's invitation had to say: Jake's 10th annual Flag Day Party

"When Jacob's party began in June of 1995, he carried his flag everywhere. His patriotism was alive. Carrying the flag was Jacob's own way of showing us all that June 14th was its day. Since that first party, friends and family have come through when it's time to celebrate the red, white and blue. So come join us again. The years go by fast. We're ready to celebrate with Jacob's 10th Annual blast."

According to Bill and Shannon, a great time was had by all of Jake's friends and family members including his sisters Samantha and Kennedy.

Jake, we want to thank you for reminding us how important our flag is.

**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD STATE-
MENT ON CALPINE'S 20TH ANNI-
VERSARY**

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize and congratulate one of my hometown companies for achieving a milestone this month—the celebration of their 20th Anniversary. An energy industry entrepreneur, Pete Cartwright, along with four associates, founded Calpine Corporation, headquartered in San Jose, CA, 20 years ago. They began their business of building power plants and producing electricity by buying one megawatt of power in a geothermal power plant in Northern California. Today, Calpine has 30,000 megawatts of power plants in operation and

construction (enough to power approximately 30 million homes), they operate the largest fleet of modern, environmentally sensitive gas-fired power plants in North America, and they oversee significant natural gas production, and are the world's largest producer of renewable geothermal energy.

While this is a remarkable achievement in an industry that has seen more than its share of turmoil and change over the last 20 years, Calpine has created a successful business while, at the same time, serving as the leading industry steward of the environment, acting as a good corporate citizen, and maintaining a rewarding workplace for its employees.

Let me give you some recent examples of the recognition Calpine has received for these achievements:

Fortune Magazine named Calpine "America's Most Respected Energy Company" in 2004.

The American Lung Association's of the Bay Area selected Calpine to receive its 2004 Clean Air Award for Technology Development at its Geysers geothermal operation.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy awarded Calpine a 2003 ENERGY STAR Combined Heat and Power Award recognizing its Deer Park Energy Center for "leadership in energy supply" for using 30 percent less fuel than onsite thermal generation and purchased electricity.

The California Department of Conservation recognized Calpine's Geysers geothermal operations with an award for environmental stewardship, safety, infrastructure maintenance and resource conservation for the last two years.

The New York League of Conservation Voters just presented Calpine and its Chairman, Pete Cartwright, with its Clean Air Champion's Award for their outstanding leadership on behalf of New York's environment.

The University of Colorado's Tim Wirth Chair on Environmental and Community Development selected Calpine to receive its Award for Sustainable Business for their leadership in producing electricity in an environmentally responsible manner.

Calpine Corporation has exhibited leadership in California on corporate responsibility by taking decisive action during the state's energy crisis to keep their power plants operating even in the face of financial loss due to the high cost of fuel. Despite the uncertainty about California's future design of its energy markets, Calpine has continued to invest in the state. Calpine has already invested \$5 billion and employs over 1000 workers to operate 39 power plants in California and is committed to investing another \$3 billion to meet the growing demand for power in the state.

Calpine has exhibited environmental leadership by adopting a unanimous board resolution committing the company to a low carbon future, by joining the California Climate Registry and the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group's Voluntary Global Warming Initiative, by building only low-emitting gas-fired power plants using state-of-the-art pollution control equipment, and by being the world's leading producer of renewable geothermal energy and the country's largest producer of cogenerated power.

Finally, Calpine is a leader in community service with a long history of partnering with community organizations, as well as funding community and educational programs that seek to change lives and strengthen the fabric

of our society. Calpine also supports the generous volunteerism of its employees and encourages them to take active roles in their communities making them even better places to live and work.

I want to congratulate Calpine Corporation and its Chairman, Pete Cartwright, for the wisdom of choosing California as its major place of business, for continuing to invest in California, for showing leadership in the areas of the environment, corporate responsibility, and community service and for successfully reaching this milestone anniversary.

**RECOGNIZING MAJOR GENERAL
LAWRENCE R. ADAIR, UPON HIS
RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S.
ARMY**

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great patriot, soldier and fellow New Yorker, Major General Lawrence Richard Adair. General Adair is retiring after 30 years of distinguished service in the United States Army.

After graduating from the U.S. Military Academy, the Larchmont, NY, resident entered the Army in 1974, with a commission as a second lieutenant in the Field Artillery.

He held numerous commands and staff assignments in both the Federal Republic of Germany and the continental United States, and led soldiers into combat as a Battalion Commander during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. Following successful tours as the Commander, Division Artillery, 2nd Armored Division, Fort Hood, Texas; Deputy Commanding General/Assistant Commandant, United States Army Field Artillery Center and School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma; and Commanding General, United States Total Army Personnel Command, Alexandria, Virginia, Major General Adair assumed the role of Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Army G-1. This critical part of the Army works on a wide variety of personnel issues affecting the Army's functioning.

In this capacity, his dynamic human resource vision has been absolutely critical in transforming the Army for its continuing global war on terrorism. For the past two years, he has served as the principal advisor to the Army G-1 and the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) in managing our most important resource—people. Major General Adair's influence has been far-reaching and strategic. One of the greatest challenges the Army G-1 has faced in recent memory has been to restructure the Army to better support the war on terrorism. A common sense approach to this difficult and complex human resource challenge was his hallmark. He provided leadership and guidance in efficiently activating a new system that supports commanders in the field with units rather than individual replacements. Major General Adair has also worked extensively with officials throughout the Army in order to determine the best way to take care of soldiers and their families. One example is the implementation of the Rest and Recuperation Program in support of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. Additionally, deployed soldiers have