

new, start-up companies. Requiring companies to expense their stock options would compel many small firms to stop offering the options altogether, forcing some to give up the primary tool used to attract the best employees. Start-up firms would be especially hard hit because it would be increasingly difficult for them to raise capital.

At a time when U.S. industries are losing jobs overseas, mandatory stock option expensing would put small American companies at an even greater disadvantage. Many foreign competitors offer stock options to create talented work pools. By passing this legislation today, we will ensure that U.S. businesses remain competitive and avoid additional incentives for U.S. firms to move jobs overseas.

We need to maintain a balance between increasing transparency to outside investors while not burdening technology firms with onerous reporting requirements. The Stock Option Accounting Reform Act will achieve and maintain that balance. For instance, this legislation requires increased disclosure by companies about stock option plans, stock purchase plans and similar incentive plans.

In addition, although the bill keeps the expensing of stock options as voluntary, in general, larger companies are required to expense the fair value of the stock options issued to their top five corporate officers. This proposal will allow each business to make its own decision on how to handle stock options issued to medium and low-level employees, while achieving a certain degree of transparency for investors.

H.R. 3574 bridges two potentially conflicting goals—rewarding hard work and ensuring transparency of corporate actions in the capital markets. Enjoying the fruits of one's own labor is a key component of the American Dream. For innovative and highly creative ventures like high tech, the rewards may be slow to realize—thus inviting the issuance of stock options, which will capture a company's future value.

I support the passage of the Stock Option Accounting Reform Act and urge my colleagues to do the same.

CELEBRATING COTTAGE GROVE'S SECOND ALL AMERICAN CITY AWARD

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the City of Cottage Grove, Oregon. Located in my congressional district at the southern end of the beautiful Willamette Valley, Cottage Grove recently won its second All-American City award.

The Kalapuya Indians first enjoyed the riches of the southern valley, and the Oregon Trail opened the territory to other settlers in 1848. In 1863, gold was discovered in the mountains south of Cottage Grove, and mining activities continued into the 1920s, when the lumber industry became the economic engine. The City celebrates its exciting history every summer during Bohemia Mining Days. Today, this community of not quite 9,000 is blessed with a wealth of community spirit and "can do" attitude.

Cottage Grove is a vital community dedicated to possibilities. This town is not afraid to take and share responsibility for creating a better future. In fact, in Cottage Grove there is a strong sense of obligation to making dreams come true. The 1968 and 2004 All-American City Awards honor the community's commitment to excellence, cooperation, and creativity.

Only ten communities earn All-American City status each year nationwide. Cottage Grove is being saluted for a variety of accomplishments and three major projects—the new Cottage Grove Community Hospital, the formation of the Economic & Business Improvement District, and the recently completed Cottage Grove High School facility.

American anthropologist Margaret Mead once said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Cottage Grove embodies this great notion, with friends, neighbors, government, businesses, and service agencies working together to get things done, and done well.

I am proud to represent Cottage Grove, and thank you for the opportunity to highlight "the little city that could."

HONORING RICHARD A. BLOCH, BUSINESS PIONEER AND PHILANTHROPIST

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, Missouri citizens and all Americans mourn yesterday's passing of a great American, Richard A. Bloch—the "R" in H&R Bloch. Richard Bloch was an entrepreneur, philanthropist, beloved husband, devoted father of three and grandfather of 10, who exemplified personal and professional integrity. He was 78 years old.

Honored for his philanthropy and his second career as a crusader for cancer patients, as well as his success in creating one of America's most famous brands, Richard Bloch was born in Kansas City in 1926.

By age 12, he had founded his own small business providing printing services to Kansas City high schools. At 16, he entered the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania, the youngest member of his class. He graduated in 1945 with a degree in economics.

After graduation, Richard returned to Kansas City, married his wife Annette, and soon joined his brothers Henry and Leon in their bookkeeping business. A simple newspaper ad in the Kansas City Star in 1954, showing a man behind an eight ball, with the headline, "Taxes, \$5," stimulated a long line of customers that turned a sidelight of tax return preparation into a spectacular national success that made business history.

Today those first customers translate into one out of every seven individual income tax filers in America, served by over 125,000 employees at nearly 10,000 U.S. offices, and international clients in 11 countries. Tax planning and preparation have expanded to include financial, mortgage, accounting, and consulting services.

Over the last 50 years, well over a hundred million Americans have had their anxieties allayed by a Bloch-prepared tax return. Both Federal and State governments also benefit from accurate tax returns reflecting sound advice and professional preparation.

In 1978, Richard was diagnosed with lung cancer and told he had three months to live. Refusing to accept this prognosis, he sought treatment at the M.D. Anderson Center in Houston. Richard promised himself that if he survived, he would devote his life to helping others fight cancer. Cured after two years of aggressive therapy, he kept that promise, selling his interest in H&R Bloch to devote full time to cancer work.

Richard and Annette founded the R. A. Bloch Cancer Management Center and the R. A. Bloch Cancer Support Center at the University of Missouri in Kansas City. From 1980 to 1995, the Management Center offered Kansas City area patients a free multidisciplinary second opinion panel. The panel, including more than 100 physicians, helped patients identify the best cancer treatment available. The Management Center has served as a model for more than 125 centers nationwide.

Richard and Annette also founded the Cancer Hotline in 1980 and authored three books. Supported by volunteers who have had or are battling cancer, the hotline educates thousands of newly diagnosed cancer patients and their family and friends about available treatments. A Website, www.blochcancer.org, now assists. So do annual Fighting Cancer Rallies in more than 700 communities that raise awareness that cancer and death are not synonymous and that give victims faith that there can be life after a cancer diagnosis.

In my district and across America, Richard & Annette Bloch Parks for Cancer Survivors provide an oasis of peace for contemplation and inspiration, dedicated to Americans who have been diagnosed with cancer, each a tribute to life.

Richard Bloch's vision of a national network of cancer information led to the National Cancer Institute's Physician's Data Query. This Website provides information about state of the art treatment for every type and stage of cancer and all the current experimental therapies. To honor Richard's efforts, our government named a building at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, the R. A. Bloch International Cancer Information Center. Most government cancer information is disseminated from the Bloch Center.

In 1982, Richard was appointed by President Reagan to a six year term on the National Cancer Advisory Board. He was a member of the President's Circle of the National Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Medicine, and a former board member of the National Institute of Health's Office of Alternative Medicine. He also received the American Society of Clinical Oncology's 1994 Public Service Award and the 1995 Layman's Award from the Society of Surgical Oncology.

Richard would ask anyone who wanted to open an H&R Bloch office, "Tell me what you want out of life." He encouraged people to go where their hearts led them and to follow their passion. Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending heartfelt sympathy to the entire Bloch family—Annette; his three daughters, Linda Lyon, Barbara Stanny, and Nancy Linsley; his 10 grandchildren; brothers Leon Jr. and Henry and Henry's wife, Marion—as we honor the

memory of an American whose life is a testimonial to the values our Nation celebrates.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURKEY'S INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, as a proud member of the Hellenic Caucus, I rise today to recognize the 30th anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus. On this occasion, we mourn those who lost their lives and remember the barrier created in 1974. Sadly, that barrier still exists today, and despite attempts by the United Nations for a reunification settlement, the island remains divided between the Turkish Cypriots and the Greek Cypriots. I thank Mrs. MALONEY and Mr. BILIRAKIS for their ongoing leadership in the Hellenic Caucus and for bringing much-needed attention to issues of importance to the Hellenic community.

On the occasion of this anniversary, in addition to mourning and remembering, let us also look forward. The events of this past spring represent great triumphs for the Cyprus state and reaffirm Cyprus's willingness and determination to become an integral part of both the European community as well as the greater global community. Just this past May, Cyprus joined the European Union and will enjoy all of the privileges and opportunities of full membership. Inherent in that membership is a commitment to the human rights and fundamental freedoms that underscore that partnership. Despite this step forward, the nation remains divided. As the Greek Cypriots steer their nation toward greater prosperity and legitimacy, the Turkish Cypriots continue to pursue division and isolation.

The government of Cyprus remains committed to reunification, as a bizonal, bicomunal federation with democratic and human rights for all Cypriots. In April, the people of Cyprus held a democratic vote on a reunification plan put forward by the UN. An astonishing 90 percent of the Greek Cypriot community turned out for this important vote. Yet, with 76 percent of Greek Cypriot voters opposing the plan, many in the international community were disappointed with the final outcome. What we must recognize is that any disappointment and criticism should be directed at the inadequacies of the reunification plan, rather than the free, democratic choice of the Greek Cypriots not to accept such a plan. Not only was the rejection of that plan an exercise of the democratic rights of the Greek Cypriots, but it further demonstrates their commitment to finding a viable and workable settlement.

In reflecting on this historic vote, we should heed the words of the Greek Cypriot President Tassos Papadopoulos: "We are determined to try, until the end, in a peaceful manner and through negotiations, to end the invasion and occupation. The people should be brave, patient, and work hard." Patience in particular is tantamount to this endeavor. A lasting solution is not one that will be attained with the implementation of a rushed plan.

Both the recent accession to the EU as well as this recent democratic vote should give us

renewed determination to seek a full and peaceful reunification. Along with my colleagues, I will continue to put pressure on the Bush Administration and the international community to help Cyprus work toward a peaceful solution. Now more than ever, the U.S. must continue its role in supporting negotiations. It has been a long, hard road, but with support from the United States, the European Union, and the United Nations, a reunification of Cyprus is still within reach. Such a reunification would benefit us all. It would bring long-awaited peace and stability to the people of Cyprus, to the region, and to the larger international community.

Again, I thank my colleagues on the Hellenic Caucus for their recognition of this important event.

HONORING THE GOOD SAMARITAN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Good Samaritan Christian Fellowship Church of Oakland, California for 50 years of ministry and invaluable service to the community.

The Good Samaritan Christian Fellowship Church was founded in 1954 as the Good Samaritan Baptist Church by the late Dr. & Mrs. R.D. Garrison, Sr., who led the ministry for over 30 years. In 1982, Dr. Garrison, Sr. placed his son Apostle and Mrs. R.D. Garrison, Jr. at the head of the church, and the ministry was subsequently established as the Good Samaritan Christian Fellowship Church.

Since that time, the Good Samaritan Christian Fellowship Church has played an active role in initiating and expanding a wide range of charitable and community building activities. In addition to ministering and counseling countless members of the community, the church has played a vital role in local youth mentoring and development. The church is responsible not only for organizing local Boy Scout and Girl Scout programs, but also for the creation of initiatives such as the After School Tutoring Program, which focuses on reading, writing, and math for children of all ages. Furthermore, the church has made extensive efforts in the areas of emergency meals and housing by working to provide food for the homeless, as well as shelter for countless families in distress.

From August 8th–15th, 2004, the Good Samaritan Christian Fellowship Church will be celebrating its 50-year anniversary in Oakland, California. I would like to mark this occasion by commending the church for the exceptional service it has provided to the community, not only in its capacity as an institution of faith and worship, but also as a leader in working to provide invaluable social and charitable services to the people of Oakland. By remaining committed to the areas of leadership and service throughout its fifty years of ministry, the Good Samaritan Christian Fellowship Church has contributed enormously not only to the Oakland community, but also to our shared goal of world peace.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOAL E. WOLF

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Army Reserve Lieutenant Colonel Joal E. Wolf. Lieutenant Colonel Wolf distinguished himself as the Commander of the 3401st Military Intelligence Detachment and Chief of Staff of the Iraq Intelligence Task Force and Iraq Working Group of the Joint Staff at the Defense Intelligence Agency from April 2001 to May 2004. Lieutenant Colonel Wolf led daily operations in providing cutting-edge and time-critical assessments and trend analysis on military activity in and around the Iraqi theater in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Lieutenant Colonel Wolf's leadership ensured over 4,000 tasks were completed efficiently and delivered timely to senior military and civilian leaders in the Department of Defense, White House and Congress. These intelligence products contributed significantly to the shaping of our national security policy and military planning, especially in the areas of infrastructure, economics, war crimes, sensitive site exploitation, anti-Coalition militants, weapons of mass destruction, and Coalition force protection. Lieutenant Colonel Wolf led his detachment to eclipse a bold 200 percent increase in production and in creating the Iraqi "55 Most-Wanted" deck of cards. For his service, Lieutenant Colonel Wolf was awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal on May 28, 2004.

In addition to being a fine military officer, Joal is also my brother-in-law and a small business owner. Joal is the proud son of Mrs. Phyllis M. Wolf, a veteran of the United States Army, and the late Dr. Alan E. Wolf, who was also a veteran of the United States Army. My relation to Joal has allowed me to closely follow his selfless service and better understand the sacrifices that thousands of reservists and Guardsmen are making in the war against terrorism. I am personally grateful to Joal and all of the brave men and women in our military who are making tremendous sacrifices to serve our Nation during this difficult time.

COMMENDING THE RAOUL WALLENBERG LIVING MEMORIAL AT THE AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE IN MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my strong support for the American Swedish Institute's work to establish a Raoul Wallenberg Living Memorial in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The institute was founded by Swan J. Turnblad, a successful Swedish businessman in 1929. Mr. Turnblad donated his mansion to become an internationally recognized museum as well as the home to an educational center offering a variety of programs designed to celebrate the best of Swedish culture. Today the American Swedish Institute