

Ed is a man of extraordinary character. He has worked by the sweat of his brow, and he has worked by the labor of his mind. He has taken care of his own, and he has fought for what was right. Ed has a spirit of adventure and courage. On an impulse, he played hooky from Princeton for a full year while he joined his father on a round-the-world tour in 1936. Ed was in the Navy in World War II, and he took care of his men. When the ship's refrigerator broke down during a long stay in a foreign port, and the crew had no fresh food for a week, he disappeared for half the day, only to return with a barrow full of fresh fish that he himself had caught. The whole ship feasted and the next day the coast where he had fished was full of American sailors trying their luck.

Ed married his sweetheart Lucia in 1941, and built his family with love and care. Today, his five children have fond memories of their parents standing beside their beds, singing duets as they tucked them in. Every morning, Ed drove the children to school, and along the way he would sing to them. As the children got older, Ed would take turns reading books aloud in the evenings, and around the dinner table he would talk politics. They could see his concern, and they came to share it. In 1956, he paid his kids a penny an envelope to address, stamp and seal letters of concern that were sent to every Member of Congress with regard to the heroes of the Hungarian Uprising. Today, their five children and ten grandchildren are productive, patriotic citizens scattered around the country—but, I am happy to say, two of his sons are still living in Illinois.

Ed has made significant financial contributions to individuals, to the arts, and to charities both large and small, many of which are marked "anonymous". I once asked his family for a photograph of him and they did not have one. Ed isn't the kind of man who would sit for a portrait photo. That modesty is another facet of his distinction as an individual.

Ed, you're a great American. I am honored to call you friend.

RECOGNIZING THE CHARITABLE GOOD WORKS OF THE OCEAN- SIDE ELKS LODGE #1561

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75 years of good works and charity of the Oceanside Elks Lodge #1561. On May 31, 1929, the Oceanside Elks Lodge became a reality in the Palomar Theater building in Oceanside, California, with 129 charter members.

The first business meeting took place on June 28, 1929. Since that time, the Lodge has held meetings in three different locations ending in their current facility at 444 Country Club Lane in downtown Oceanside.

The motto, "Elks Care and Elks Share," is well established in the order of Elks, and the Oceanside Lodge has been one of the leaders in monies donated to worthy causes since its beginning. Over the last 15 years, the Oceanside Lodge has donated over \$482,624 to charitable causes, such as direct student scholarships, VA Hospitals, the American

Heart Association, youth groups and a host of other local charities.

The Elks National Order has donated in excess of \$3 billion to charity during its 137 years, second only to the United States Government in total donations.

When founded in 1868, the Elks Lodge was a fraternal organization. However, the Oceanside Lodge is proud to recognize Donna Stewart as their first female Elk and Claudia Dineen as their first female Exalted Ruler.

Their Current Exalted Ruler, Robert F. Neal, is a long-time, respected member of the community and is working to increase the charitable contributions to even greater heights.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is vital that we in Congress recognize the 187 years of service and charitable good works of the Elks Lodge and the 75 years of generosity of the Oceanside Elks Lodge #1561 to their local community.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. HAROLD KATNER

HON. JIM MARSHALL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who has selflessly served his community for many years. Since the very beginning of the HIV/AIDS epidemic—more than 20 years ago—Dr. Harold Katner has been a leader in Middle Georgia's fight against AIDS. Through education, research, and treatment, Dr. Katner has spent the bulk of his career working to help the victims of this disease.

When HIV/AIDS was first discovered, public fear of the disease was intense and its victims were often loathed and shunned. Recognizing the need to quell the public's fears, Dr. Katner realized that educating a skeptical public would be crucial in the fight against AIDS. He resolved to educate Middle Georgians whenever and wherever he could. Still today, Dr. Katner educates students of all levels—middle school, medical school, high school, college, as well as medical professionals. And his teaching efforts have not been limited to Mercer University or even to Georgia. Dr. Katner has given international presentations and has been recognized by various national organizations and international entities. One of his colleagues put it best: "He gives AIDS presentations everywhere and anywhere, speaking to any group that invites him to talk" about this devastating medical and social issue.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to his efforts to educate the public, Dr. Katner has also treated AIDS patients from the beginning. As a pioneer in the early 1980's, he was the only physician in the City of Macon who would treat AIDS patients. Treating a disease that disproportionately affects those in poverty is a special challenge because many of its victims cannot afford treatment, and understanding the financial difficulties facing many patients, Dr. Katner offered medical care without concern for remuneration. To this day, much of the treatment and education he offers is to those in poverty, particularly to the younger, more vulnerable members of society. For his work with patients, Dr. Katner has been recognized by the American Medical Association

and Mercer University named him Attendant of the Year five times in 10 years.

Dr. Katner's research efforts have been prolific, as well. He has published his research extensively and has presented his work to help educate his peers, as well as the general public. His credentials are considerable, and yet he is remains a caring, humble physician, dedicated to his patients in true homage to the Hippocratic Oath.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Katner's efforts in fighting against the AIDS epidemic—through research, treatment, education—have truly been those of a hero. Today, I hope that Middle Georgia and the country will join me in thanking this public servant, in the truest sense, for his tremendous efforts to help both the victims of AIDS and stop the spread of this epidemic.

PROTECTS ACT OF 2004

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join Rep. JAMES OBERSTAR (Minn) in introducing the Protecting Railroad Operators, Travelers, Employees, and Communities with Transportation Security Act of 2004 (PROTECTS Act). The bill authorizes nearly \$1.3 billion to provide better railroad security and response to terrorist attacks.

The federal government is spending \$4.4 billion this year on aviation security, but it's spending only \$65 million on rail security, even though five times as many people take trains as planes every day.

The bill authorizes \$500 million to be appropriated for freight and passenger rail security improvements, a total of \$597 million for Amtrak's fire and life-safety improvements, \$65 million for system-wide Amtrak security upgrades, and a total of \$100 million for rail research and development. It also provides for improved training and equipment for railroad employees and local emergency personnel to better respond to terrorist incidents.

Increased funding for rail security is something this country desperately needs, particularly in light of the terrible metro rail tragedy in Madrid. The nation's rail infrastructure has been treated like the stepchild of the overall transportation system. It is finally time we dedicate our resources to providing rail security for our nation's citizens.

After September 11th we started spending money like crazy on security, but I'm not sure we are getting our money's worth out of many of the programs we developed. That's why it is so important that we tailor a security program that truly meets the needs of our rail lines and passengers. The security measures we put in place for Aviation will not work for Rail. We need to learn from the mistakes that were made in developing aviation security, and apply what we learned in developing a rail security program.

But we can't keep treating our rail infrastructure as a second class citizen. We have dedicated billions of dollars to the airline industry, and created a grant program for the nation's ports, but have done little to invest in the security upgrades our rail infrastructure needs.

We have a lot of work ahead of us, but I know that everyone in Washington is dedicated to protecting our railways from attack.

No security is fail-proof, but working together we can create a rail security program that protects passengers and keeps the trains running on time.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast votes on Monday, July 19, 2004 due to official business. If I was present for rollcall votes for the following bills: 391 on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 1587—To promote freedom and democracy in Viet Nam; 392 on motion to suspend the rules and agree, S. Con. Res. 114—"Concerning the importance of the distribution of food in schools to hungry or malnourished children around the world"; 393 on motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 2264—The Northern Uganda Crisis Response Act, I would have voted "yea" to all of these bills.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BRUCE MIMS UPON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 38 YEARS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to express and convey congratulations to Mr. Bruce Mims, my longtime friend and professional associate on the occasion of his retirement from the Illinois Department of Public Health. Mr. Mims started work in Public Health at a time when very few African Americans were engaged in this profession. It was also a very exciting time in that the Voting Rights Act had been passed, the war on poverty program was being implemented, health problems, needs and issues were being identified in a big way and Bruce was a young, energetic and willing participant.

I first knew Bruce as Executive Director of the Mid-South Health Planning Organization, a Sub-B Agency of the comprehensive Health Planning Agency. The Agency was a sister to the Westside Health Planning Organization, an agency that I ran. When the law for our agencies sunset, Bruce went to work for the Illinois Department of Public Health, where he became one of the foremost Public Health experts in the country and remained there until his retirement.

It has been a pleasure knowing and working with Bruce for all of these years. I congratulate him on his outstanding contributions and wish him well in all of his future endeavors.

RECALLING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC AND INFAMOUS INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recall a tragic and in-

famous event, the 30th anniversary of the invasion of Cyprus by Turkey.

On July 20, 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus. As part of a two stage offensive, Turkish troops forcefully seized approximately one-third of the island nation of Cyprus. This abominable act of violence against the people of Cyprus has never been undone. To this day, Turkish troops occupy Cyprus, splitting the nation into two areas.

Since 1974, the nation has been divided, but progress is being made toward the reunification of Cyprus. In late April, the people of Cyprus went to the polls to vote on a plan of reunification. Unfortunately, this reunification proposal was rushed to coincide with the ascension of Cyprus into the European Union. Citing many issues of concern, including security, approximately 75 percent of Greek Cypriots opposed the plan.

In the end, it was too much to ask that concerns that have been unresolved for 30 years be effectively settled in a process that lasted less than 3 months. However, one failure must not be the end of attempts to reunify the island. A lasting and equitable solution for the people of Cyprus, and the goal of a united Cyprus, is too important to abandon, now or ever. The goal of the process must be to attain a just and lasting solution, not a rushed solution. I remain committed to achieving a solution to this problem so that we never have to gather again to commemorate an anniversary of this hostile and unjustifiable invasion.

The people of Cyprus have suffered from the division of their nation for 30 years. Mr. Speaker, I pray that this will be the last year of a divided Cyprus. I sincerely hope that 30 years after the nation of Cyprus was torn asunder, all Cypriots can be reunited, living in peace and freedom forever.

EXPAND ACCESS TO MEDICINE FROM ABROAD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, although the pharmaceutical industry and the supporters of the Republican prescription drug plan may disagree, Americans have a right to affordable medicine! That is why so many continue to ask Congress to take action, such as allowing the importation of safe prescription drugs from abroad.

The residents of Calexico, El Centro, San Ysidro, Chula Vista and other border communities join in that call, but in the meantime many are already going to Mexico to buy up to a 90-day supply of prescription drugs for personal use.

They purchase medicines in Mexico because the pharmaceutical companies continue to gouge them at home.

Yet the Senate's Pharmaceutical Market Access and Drug Safety Act, which takes the important step of permitting importation from Canada and Europe, would reduce the 90-day cap on personal use medicine from Mexico to a 14-day supply.

It is inconsistent to increase access to Canadian and European prescription drugs while decreasing access to safe medicine from Mexico. It is unfair to low-income seniors who rely

on these life-enhancing—and often life-saving—medications.

The supporters of the bill may have reservations about the safety of medicine from Mexico. This is a valid issue to raise. Yet the FDA has not provided convincing evidence that the importation of inexpensive drugs from Mexico has resulted in health problems. If the authors of the bill were convinced that medicines from Mexico were in fact dangerous, why would they allow even a 14-day supply?

The fact is seniors in my district have found these medicines to be a safe, affordable and accessible alternative to their local pharmacies. That is why I call on my colleagues in the Senate to oppose this legislation as it is currently written and ensure that communities on the U.S.-Mexico border have access to affordable drugs.

The availability of inexpensive medicine is such an important issue at the border because many senior citizens and other residents of these communities have low-incomes and no insurance.

The U.S.-Mexico Border Commission reports that if the border region were the Nation's 51st state, it would rank: Last in the percentage of insured residents, last in per capita income, last in access to care, first in unemployed; and first in the number of school children living in poverty.

We must move forward in boosting the health of our border communities and increasing the availability of safe and inexpensive medicines, rather than moving backward and placing new restricts on access to prescription drugs from Mexico.

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

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the thirtieth anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus. This anniversary serves as a reminder of three decades of illegal occupation by Turkish military forces of over one-third of Cyprus's territory.

On July 20, 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus, forcing nearly 200,000 Greek Cypriots from their homes. To this day, in defiance of United Nations General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, Turkey maintains more than 30,000 troops in the occupied territory.

The division of Cyprus has gone on for too long. The past year has seen great efforts by the Cypriots, the United States, and the U.N. to develop a plan for reunification. Unfortunately, the U.N. sponsored April 2004 vote on reunification failed to pass.

Cyprus's recent accession to the European Union presents great opportunities to join its European counterparts in strongly supporting human rights and fundamental freedoms. These values should lay the foundation for a final settlement. On this anniversary, I join my colleagues in looking forward to a future where Greek and Turkish Cypriots can once again live in peace on one unified island.