

burns you; if you let it go cold, it's tasteless."

How and where to begin?

Some participants noted the need for the U.S. to be sensitive to the fact that countries have their own timetables for reform. Americans too often look for quick-fix solutions to problems, and think only in short-term, two-year cycles, whereas reformers in the Middle East are willing to work for generational change. Yet it was also noted that external prodding can sometimes be important and even vital for bringing much needed reform. Turkey, for example, has had to accelerate the process of reform in order to meet European Union requirements. One participant remarked, "Cultural and religious sensitivities should not be an excuse for not doing what needs to be done."

But where exactly should the longer-term battle against extremism begin? Participants presented differing views. Education was acknowledged to be clearly a key factor in winning the battle of ideas, and school systems may therefore be the most sensible point to start any initiative that aims to prevent the rise of future terrorists. One diplomat said, "You must support the voices of moderation and reason . . . they must prevail. When you introduce the sensitive issue of education reform, it must be seen as a national homegrown plan and not U.S.-inspired." But this is a long-term effort which will have results only over the longer term. The need for judicial reform was also cited as important to promoting confidence in the rule of law.

Most participants advised putting economic reform slightly ahead of political reform in the Middle East. The point was made that political reform can be achieved in part by motivating people to use the political options that they already have. Creating job opportunities, however, and providing people with immediate and tangible benefits, can foster participation by providing hope that reform is a better way to move forward than revenge. As one Senior Middle East diplomat put it, "Economic reform must come first because we need to give people hope that this way is the better way."

Separately, several participants said that it is essential for the U.S. to achieve progress in key policy areas, such as stabilizing Iraq and seriously engaging in the Israeli-Arab conflict, to improve its image abroad and communicate its message effectively.

Summary

The participants in the discussion fundamentally agreed that there is a need for more effective long-term strategies to counteract the challenge of extremist ideologies in the Arab and Muslim worlds. Some caution was expressed about new U.S. initiatives, especially if unilateral. Congressman Turner's multilateral and tailored approach was applauded as a place to begin dialogue over these issues. One Middle East Ambassador summarized the situation in the following way: "We all realize we have a problem. We all realize we want to solve it. We are on the same side."

Several participants called for additional discussions such as this one, to address these and other initiatives, as well as some key existing problems. It was agreed that such discussions are vitally needed to broaden understanding, improve communication and facilitate concrete programs of cooperation among the U.S., the EU, and various Middle Eastern countries.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JON ASPER

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, to place your life in danger for the sake of others is an honorable and noble task, and that is exactly what firefighters do regularly. Chief Jon Asper of the Greater Eagle Fire Protection District is a local legend and hero whose main goal in life is to serve his community to the best of his abilities. Jon's efforts are certainly commendable and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for the important role that he has played in protecting and serving the people of Colorado.

"Jon Jon", as he is affectionately known, has volunteered his time to the Eagle Volunteer Fire Department for nearly 20 years. He has held various positions with the department, including Public Relations Officer, Fire Prevention Officer, Second Lieutenant Training Officer, and Operations Captain, before becoming chief of the department. He has also spent a career in business as the owner of Winterhawk Establishment, and as a friendly bartender and bar manager for a number of local establishments.

Going above and beyond his duty as a firefighter is par for the course when it comes to Jon. He is constantly trying to make himself a better firefighter and stronger leader of his crew, taking numerous Continuing Education classes towards a degree in Fire Science Technology. He has also been an instrumental figure in the Eagle County Firefighter Academy and in providing a Drivers Education Class. Jon and his crew's hard work and training have paid off numerous times in battling forest fires, especially during the Ute Creek Fire in the Summer of 2002. In 2002, the Department received the Daily Point of Light Award, from the Points of Light Foundation which honors individuals and volunteer groups that have made a commitment to connect Americans through service to help meet critical needs in their communities.

Mr. Speaker, Jon Asper acts with great commitment and leadership in all that he does for his community as Chief of the Greater Eagle Fire Protection District. Jon never forgot that safety and protection came first and foremost for the people he served. It is my pleasure to recognize Jon before this body of Congress and this Nation. I would like to extend my appreciation to him for everything that he has done and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING ROBERT "BOB" HOBKIRK

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of Tyler, TX, the late Bob Hobkirk, who passed away on July 29, 2004, at the age of 88.

Bob Hobkirk served in the U.S. Army for 4½ years during World War II as a drill sergeant and weapons instructor. He was employed by

Hormel Food Company for 43 years, until he retired in 1977.

Bob was one of the first presidents of Camp Fannin, a veteran's association, that was originally the site for training soldiers in World War II. Bob was a loving man who had a "heart of gold." He devoted his life to helping veterans of Camp Fannin and was commonly the "go-to" man when something needed to be resolved. His tireless spirit and heart-felt devotion were an inspiration to members of Camp Fannin and the community of Tyler.

Bob is survived by his wife of 60 years, Lois Gimble Hobkirk. Bob suffered a stroke 19 months prior to his death, and Lois never left his bedside during the duration of his illness. Their marriage was blessed with two daughters and a son. Jody Henning, Judy and her husband Olan Gotcher, and Robert "Bob" Jr. and his wife Pam survive their father. Bob is also survived by his granddaughter Tracy Henning, four sisters-in-law, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, on behalf of friends, fans, Camp Fannin, and the community of Tyler, I would like to take this opportunity in the House of Representatives to pay our last respects and honor the life of this great Texan and veteran's advocate—Bob Hobkirk.

CONGRATULATING CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Calvary United Methodist Church in Berwick as its parishioners celebrate the joyful occasion of its 100th anniversary.

Calvary United Methodist arose because Christians living in the west end of Berwick had a need for a place to worship. The increase in population left the need for a second Church. Calvary United Methodist, located on the corner of Orange and Warren Streets in Berwick, became a parish on October 6, 1904.

Parishioners have chosen the motto for the 100th anniversary fittingly from the Bible: "One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts," Psalms, 145:4.

Rev. Fred Fields is the pastor of Calvary United, and I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Reverend Fields today. The parishioners of this church should be proud of their long-standing tradition of faith.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF LARRY LEWIS WHO RETIRES AFTER 35 YEARS OF DEDICATED AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Larry Lewis of the Alhambra Police Department. Chief Lewis is a 35-year veteran of California Law Enforcement having served in five municipal police agencies. Chief Lewis began his distinguished career as a police cadet in West Covina, CA.

As the police chief for Alhambra, Larry Lewis has been an exemplary leader in working with his department to strengthen its application of the community policing philosophy as well as the department's commitment to ethical and professional behavior. He has instituted effective review procedures of police use of force and vehicle pursuits and introduced less lethal weapons and in-vehicle camera systems into department operations. In 2003, as a result of Chief Lewis' efforts, the department replaced its aging information technology system resulting in a new records management and computer aided dispatch system, mobile data computers in police vehicles, and mapping system as well as improved crime analysis abilities.

An active member of the community, Larry Lewis has served on several professional boards as well as community service associations such as Rotary International and the YMCA. He has taught and lectured on topics of police use of force, sexual harassment prevention, supervision, executive leadership and community policing. In addition, Chief Lewis served as the 2002 president of the Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association, representing 46 municipal law enforcement agencies in the county.

Chief Lewis received a bachelor of arts degree in political science and masters in public administration from California State University, Fullerton as well as a masters of science degree in management from Cal Poly University, Pomona. He is a graduate of the POST Command College, returning as a presenter during class orientations.

Known for his charisma and sense of humor, Chief Lewis is a popular master of ceremonies for various community and charity events.

Chief Lewis celebrates 32 years of marriage to his wife, Irene in 2004. They enjoy family outings with their son, Steve, and daughter-in-law, Penny.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in congratulating Alhambra Police Chief Larry Lewis on an impressive and long spanning career in law enforcement.

**HONORING ALLEN TEMPLE
BAPTIST CHURCH**

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Allen Temple Baptist Church of Oakland, Cali-

fornia for 85 years of ministry and invaluable service to the community. Since its founding, Allen Temple has been a pillar of strength and leadership, and its tireless efforts have had a dramatic impact not only on the lives of its members, but on the entire Oakland and East Bay community.

Allen Temple Baptist Church began as 85th Avenue Baptist Church in 1919. The church was organized by the Reverend J.L. Allen, and was one of the first primarily African-American congregations in East Oakland. During the first several years following its establishment, 85th Avenue Baptist Church struggled to survive. However, the congregation gradually became stronger, and after moving to its current location on 85th Avenue, was renamed in 1927 in honor of its founder. In the years that followed, Allen Temple not only expanded its membership, but also began establishing the first of the many community service programs for which it is now known.

Allen Temple's current Pastor, a great and magnificent servant of God, Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Sr., was installed as the church's leader in 1969, and brought with him the sense of energy and direction that would serve not only to rejuvenate the church's existing programs, but to initiate several new ones. The Pastoral Staff was organized, which not only increased the scope and effectiveness of the church's operations, but which today has grown to include over a dozen ministries. In the decades that followed, Allen Temple's presence within the community would become even stronger as it continued to establish initiatives such as the Allen Temple Baptist Church Federal Credit Union, the senior and disabled housing facilities at Allen Temple Arms I-III, the Radio Ministry, and the Allen Temple Hispanic Ministry. In addition, the church went on to establish the Allen Temple Community Outreach Center, the Allen Temple Family Life Center, the Leadership Institute, and Allen Temple Manor, a 24-unit building of affordable housing for persons who are disabled due to HIV/AIDS.

In recent years, Allen Temple's involvement has become increasingly vital in the support and guidance of individuals recently released from prison, and those who are HIV positive or living with AIDS. The Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Sr. Training Academy provides job training to dozens of parolees each year. The Allen Temple AIDS Ministry works to provide spiritual support and essential medical and social services to those living with HIV and AIDS, and works with the Alameda County AIDS Interface to make these services more widely available.

On October 17, 2004, Allen Temple Baptist Church will celebrate its 85-year anniversary in Oakland, California. I would like to honor this occasion by commending the church for the vital role it has played not only as a great religious institution, but for the indispensable social and human services and support it provides to the people of Oakland. By setting the standard of service and commitment for institutions of faith and community improvement throughout its 85 years of ministry, Allen Temple has contributed immeasurably to the Oakland community, our country, and the world. On behalf of the Ninth Congressional District, I salute and congratulate Allen Temple Baptist church on the occasion of its 85th anniversary.

HONORING KATHI McDONNELL-BISSELL

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2004

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, the Town of Milford, CT lost one of its strongest advocates for seniors in Kathi McDonnell-Bissell when she lost her battle with kidney disease brought on by diabetes. This month, residents and city leaders gathered to honor Kathi's memory by dedicating the newest addition to the Milford Senior Center in her honor. I am proud to stand today to join them in paying tribute to Kathi whose tireless efforts made such a difference in the lives of so many.

Senior centers play a vital role in our communities and this is especially true of the Baldwin Senior Center. All too often, what are supposed to be one's "golden years" are filled with struggles. Health concerns, increasing health care costs, the loss of independence—these are just some of the challenges our seniors face. Perhaps even more devastating is the sense of loneliness that can come as one moves through their later years. Providing invaluable programs and services, senior centers make a real difference in the lives of some of our most vulnerable citizens. That is why they are so important to our seniors and our communities. Kathi recognized this need and, under her leadership, what began as a small office in the basement the Mary Taylor United Methodist Church has grown into one of the most respected seniors centers in the State, boasting over 4,000 active members.

Kathi served as the Senior Center's Executive Director for over 30 years—even her declining health could not dissuade her from continuing efforts to improve the quality of life for Milford's seniors. I had the remarkable opportunity to work with Kathi on a variety of projects over the years and was constantly in awe of her endless energy, compassion, and drive. She was one of the most dedicated individuals I have ever had the privilege of knowing, dedicating not only her career, but much of her own time to creating a Senior Center which was a resource for area seniors as well as a source of pride for the community. While it will be the last of such examples, the completion of the new ten thousand squarefoot, two-story addition to the Senior Center is a reflection of Kathi's dedication and commitment to providing for the ever-changing needs of her community's seniors.

For her outstanding and unparalleled service, I am proud to stand today to join her husband, Robert; her children, Suzanne, Amy, and Betsy; family, friends, colleagues, and community leaders in paying tribute to Kathi McDonnell-Bissell. Her lifetime of generosity has touched the lives of thousands and left an indelible mark on the Milford community. Kathi was an extraordinary woman whom I consider myself fortunate to have called my friend. Though she will be missed by many, I believe her legacy will continue to inspire all of those who knew her—serving as an example to us all of what a community advocate should be.