

The Santa Cruz Sheriff's Office has a proud history of aggressively attacking crime in a proactive and timely manner. Mark has been at the forefront of working towards unbiased policing and problem-solving techniques. In his partnerships with local organizations, he has established himself as an integral part of the Santa Cruz community. I have personally enjoyed working with Mark, and I wish to thank him for his dedicated service to our community. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mr. Tracy on his upcoming retirement as Sheriff, and wish him the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD

SPEECH OF

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 110, legislation that commemorates the upcoming 60th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge.

As we all know, our Allied forces fought against great odds, outnumbered and outgunned, to hold back German forces from December, 1944 to January, 1945. Victory over Germany was secured 4 months later.

This year has given us many opportunities to thank the members of the World War II generation for all that they have achieved. The 60th anniversary of D-Day, the opening of the long-awaited National World War II Memorial on the Mall here in Washington, and the 60th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge are reminders that these men and women fought to save the world from tyranny. The passage of time should not diminish their sacrifices.

I would like to thank the Speaker of the House, my friend and colleague from Illinois, for sponsoring this resolution. It honors the 600,000 U.S. troops who fought in this battle 60 years ago. One of those troops is another friend and former colleague, Bob Michel. The former Minority Leader of the House, Bob Michel was wounded by machine gun fire at the Battle of the Bulge, for which he earned two Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart. I know he has never forgotten that more than 81,000 of his fellow American soldiers were also injured in Belgium 60 years ago, and, through this resolution, we show these veterans that we do not forget, either.

I am proud to join my colleagues as a cosponsor of H.J. Res. 110, and urge its swift passage.

THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN OPEN ELECTIONS ACT OF 2004

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4324, the Thrift Savings Plan Open Elections Act of 2004. This simple, but important legislation will allow eligible individuals the opportunity to elect or modify contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) at any time, without penalty.

The TSP is a voluntary, tax-deferred defined contribution plan for Federal employees and members of the uniformed services, through which Federal agencies provide matching funds to an individual's own retirement contributions. However, under current law, an eligible employee has only two opportunities a year to join the TSP fund and receive matching contributions, or to adjust their individual contribution amount. The changes implemented by H.R. 4324 will allow for greater participant access to the TSP, and will simplify administration. Given the hard work that our Federal employees and uniformed servicemen and women perform day in and day out, it is commonsense that they should have this increased control over their retirement contributions.

RECOGNIZING DEREK E. WILLIAMS FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Derek E. Williams of Kearney, MO, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 397, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Derek has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the 3 years Derek has been involved with scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Chaplain Aide, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, and Senior Patrol Leader. Derek is a member of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, Order of the Arrow, and Brotherhood.

For his Eagle Scout project, Derek built a bridge at the Lions Club Park. With the addition of Derek's bridge, the park is now handicapped accessible. The project took approximately 120 hours to complete.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Derek E. Williams for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO PHYSICIANS IN MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AREAS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to make it possible for foreign doctors to provide medical services in geographic areas which have been designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services as having a shortage of health care professionals. S. 2302 is almost identical to H.R. 4453, which I cosponsored with my colleague, Mr. HOSTETTLER. H.R. 4453 passed the House on October 6 on the suspension calendar. The Senate bill has an additional

provision which ensures that specialists sponsored by Federal and State agencies are placed in areas that have a shortage in that specialty. The additional provision requires the sponsoring agency to determine criteria for demonstrating a specialist shortage and to meet that criteria in order to sponsor the specialist.

Aliens who attend medical school in the United States on J exchange program visas are required to leave the country afterwards and reside abroad for two years before they can receive a visa to work here as physicians. In 1994, Congress created a new temporary waiver of this 2-year foreign residence requirement which allowed states as well as federal agencies to sponsor the doctors. It applied to foreign doctors who would commit to practicing medicine for no less than 3 years in a geographic area designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services as 2 having a shortage of health care professionals. This program has been successful for 10 years in bringing highly qualified physicians to medically underserved areas. It sunsetted on June 1 of this year.

The first physician recommended for a waiver in Texas was Dr. Maria Camacho, a Pediatric Intensivist. Her services to the residents of Harlingen in Cameron County provide a level of health care to children that was previously unavailable in that county.

Dr. K. M. Moorthi is a Nephrologist who was recommended for a waiver to serve at a facility in Pecos, TX, in Reeves County. He works at a dialysis center. Patients requiring dialysis 3 times per week in that part of Texas used to have to travel more than 70 miles each way for the treatments. Now it is available in Pecos.

The bill will provide a 2-year extension for this waiver program. When it was marked up by the Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims, the extension was only for one year. Although I had sought a 5-year extension at that 3 markup, I subsequently accepted a compromise of 2 years. I also negotiated a flexibility provision which will allow a State agency to place a doctor at a location that has not been designated as underserved if the doctor will nevertheless serve patients from an underserved area. The exception is limited to five doctors in each state. It targets rural underserved areas that typically get specialty medical care from a major medical facility that is not itself located within an underserved area. The bill also provides that the doctors who receive a waiver to come here with H-1B visas will not count towards the annual H-1B cap.

I urge you to vote for S. 2302.

BE PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN AN ESSAY BY HELEN LU

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an essay composed by Helen Lu, a 16-year-old junior at Washington High School in Fremont, CA. Miss Lu delivered her essay at the Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission's Veterans Day commemoration on November 11, 2004.

BE PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN

Be proud to be an American. Be proud that you are part of this great democratic society, founded on the ideals of liberty and freedom that our forefathers have fought for in the American Revolution.

Be proud to be an American. Remember our role in the destruction of that Fascist dictatorship in the Second World War.

Be proud to be an American, that you live in the most democratic nation in the world and take part in the most dynamic and developed economy.

Be proud to be an American, though you may look at what is going on these days, and sigh in disappointment at our divided condition regarding a war. But we have known greater division, the American Civil War. Yet we still come together as a nation. We still have come together to build this great nation into what it is today.

Be proud to be an American, even though we are uncertain if every war has been justified. There are those who call Vietnam a mistake. There are those who call the war in Iraq an error. You can dwell on those issues the other 364 days of the year, but today just remember the millions of men and women who have so selflessly devoted their lives to their country.

Be proud to be an American, for there is one thing certain, and remember it when you feel lost amidst all the political argument: there have always been brave men and women who would lay down their lives to protect those of yours and mine. There have always been courageous men and women who would sacrifice themselves for their country. We may look back at any war and condemn it as a grave mistake. We may look back on this war in Iraq, where thousands of young men and women have died, as a grave mistake. History may show that we had mistakes, but we will always be certain of the absolute heroism of those who sacrificed for their country.

Be proud to be an American. Your country is a nation in which people may disagree over values and beliefs, yet always come together in the end to fight any battle that needs to be fought.

To all our veterans, those who are here with us and to those who gave their lives in the service of their country, you have our utmost respect.

A TRIBUTE TO NISARUL HAQUE,
M.D.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Dr. Nisarul Haque for his dedication to Interfaith Medical Center and excellence in patient care.

Legendary for his gentle and caring manner, Dr. Haque has been affiliated with Interfaith Medical Center for nearly his entire medical career, joining as a medical resident in 1966 at one of Interfaith Medical Center's predecessor hospitals, Jewish Hospital and Medical Center of Brooklyn, or "Brooklyn Jewish." He has been married to Lois Haque for 38 years and they have two sons, Kamaal and Jameel.

Dr. Haque came to the United States from Pakistan on July 4, 1964, arriving to see Independence Day fireworks from a helicopter, which was shuttling him from JFK Airport to New Jersey to start his American medical career at Perth Amboy General Hospital. After

completing his Rotating Internship at Perth Amboy, Dr. Haque went to Kingsbrook Medical Center as a first year resident in Internal Medicine.

Dr. Haque says he finally found the right place when he came to Brooklyn Jewish for his second and third year residencies in Internal Medicine from 1966 to 1968 and Chief Medical Resident from 1968 to 1969. He joined the Medical Staff in 1971, worked as a part-time attending physician in the medical clinic in 1976 and was named to his current position as the Medical Director of the Department of Psychiatry in 1985. Dr. Haque is Board-certified in both Internal Medicine and Geriatrics and is a member of the Kings County Medical Society and Medical Society of the State of New York. He graduated in 1960 from the Khyber Medical College of the University of Peshawar, Pakistan. He did his internship at Lady Reading Hospital and served as Medical Director at the Cantonment General Hospital, both in Peshawar.

For his long-time commitment to the Interfaith Medical Center and its patients, Dr. Haque has received the 2004 Spirit Award for Excellence in Patient Care from the Center.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Nisarul Haque has dedicated his professional career to serving patients in the Brooklyn community at Interfaith Medical Center. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

IN MEMORY OF LANCE CPL. SEAN
M. LANGLEY

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Lance Cpl. Sean M. Langley. On November 7, 2004, Lance Cpl. Langley made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while serving in Iraq. The work of our young men and women in the armed services is vital for the safety and security of our Nation. The death of Lance Cpl. Langley is a true loss to the United States. I salute his dedication while serving in the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. My thoughts and prayers are with his parents, Bill and Patricia Langley, and all those who loved him.

RECOGNIZING JEFFREY WILLIAM
HAYNES FOR ACHIEVING THE
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeffrey William Haynes of Kearney, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 397, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jeff has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the

nine years Jeff has been involved with scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Scribe, Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. Jeff attended H. Roe Bartle each year since becoming a member of Troop 397, and is a member of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, Order of the Arrow, and Brotherhood.

For his Eagle Scout project, Jeff disassembled and removed the old playground equipment in Lion's Park in Kearney; and then assembled and installed new playground equipment.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jeffrey William Haynes for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING LARRY
HERBSTER ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my respected colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Larry Herbster as he retires from his position as General Manager of WBRE-TV, the NBC affiliate in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Larry has worked for Nexstar Broadcasting for five years and was named Vice President and General Manager of WBRE in 2000.

Larry was born in Scranton and is a 1961 graduate of Scranton Preparatory School. He received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Scranton and his master's degree in business administration from New York University's Stern Graduate School of Business.

Larry has worked in the media since 1967, beginning with LIFE Magazine, TIME-LIFE Broadcast and Cable and TIME-LIFE Books. He also worked in various capacities with The Washington Post and The Gannett Co., Inc. Larry was President of two Gannett television stations in Oklahoma City and in Buffalo, New York before retiring in 1999. He then became Vice President and General Manager of Nexstar Broadcasting's Rochester, New York CBS affiliate before coming back home to Northeastern Pennsylvania. He and his wife Anna reside in Wilkes-Barre.

Larry has been active in community affairs throughout his entire life, serving on the boards of the United Way of Wyoming Valley, the Diamond City Partnership, the Boy Scouts of America and Scranton Tomorrow. In his spare time, Larry is an avid sailor. Larry will teach on the graduate school level now that he is retiring.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Larry Herbster upon his retirement. It is truly a privilege to represent a man who has worked diligently to dispense the news to the public and who has served his community with a variety of civic activities.