

report, since NASA's compliance will allow both a Hubble servicing mission and a mission to the International Space Station to be carried out safely. Since NASA Administrator O'Keefe cited safety concerns as the main reason for the cancellation of the mission, it seems to me that NASA must state how and when it plans to comply with the CAIB recommendations. Once the shuttles are deemed safe enough to fly, a trip to Hubble will be as safe as a trip to the Station. Indeed, there are some who argue that the Hubble mission will be the safer of the two.

Hubble's scientific contributions continue to amaze us all, year in and year out. A few weeks ago Hubble detected oxygen and carbon in the atmosphere of a distant planet, the first time the elements have been found at a world outside our solar system. Hubble also contributed to the finding of new evidence about recently discovered "dark energy." Hubble measured properties of light from 16 exploding stars, or supernovas, to find that the dark energy that pervades the universe might be what Einstein originally called the "cosmological constant." This discovery supports the theory that instead of ripping apart, the cosmos will continue expanding very slowly for at least the next 30 billion years.

These are just recent discoveries. Hubble remains one of the most productive scientific instruments in history, and certainly NASA's most productive scientific mission, accounting for 35 percent of all its discoveries in the last 20 years. The Hubble has provided proof of black holes, insights into the birth and death of stars, spectacular views of Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9's collision with Jupiter, the age of the universe, and evidence that the expansion of the universe is accelerating.

So to me—and to so many others who have voiced their opposition to NASA's decision—it seems as though canceling the mission is premature at best.

I would rather not cynically believe, as some do, that the Hubble is being abandoned primarily to enable the president's Moon-Mars initiative to get underway. But there doesn't seem to be any other explanation that makes sense.

I have long believed that NASA needs a new vision for the future—but before this Congress and future Congresses commit to the president's expensive plan, NASA must first generate broad public support and scientific backing for it. Today, as the general public and the scientific community alike call for Hubble to be saved, NASA risks undermining its efforts to sell its Moon-Mars initiative to the public—not an auspicious beginning for a vision that will require billions and decades to complete.

I have attached a February 29 editorial from the New York Times calling for the administration to reconsider its decision. The final paragraph concludes, "The gains from extending Hubble's life are real and achievable and should not be sacrificed for a distant exploration program that for now is mostly wishful thinking and can surely be delayed a bit."

The gains from extending Hubble's life are indeed real and achievable. In addition to its past and potentially future scientific discoveries, Hubble provides information used by approximately one million teachers per year across the U.S. The demand for research time on the telescope far exceeds the time available. The scientific imagery and data Hubble

provides is integral to the work of researchers in universities across the country and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution will be welcomed by school children, scientists, and interested citizens around the world who understand that Hubble is a national treasure that we should not prematurely condemn to death. I look forward to working with Members of the House, including my colleagues on the Science Committee, to move forward with this important initiative.

[From the New York Times, Feb. 29, 2004]

PREMATURE DEATH FOR THE HUBBLE

By all accounts the Hubble Space Telescope is one of the most productive scientific instruments in history. Orbiting high above the distorting effects of Earth's atmosphere, it has peered far out into space and back toward the beginnings of time, producing images of startling clarity. It has detected extremely faint objects that can't be seen from the Earth, calibrated the age and expansion rate of the universe, detected supermassive black holes in the cores of galaxies and generally helped revolutionize our understanding of the universe. A distinguished panel of astronomers judged that Hubble "has arguably had a greater impact on astronomy than any instrument since the original astronomical telescope of Galileo."

Yet now, just as Hubble was scheduled for a major rejuvenation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has consigned it to slow death. The agency has canceled a planned servicing mission that would have upgraded Hubble's instruments and extended its life past the end of the decade, making it likely that the telescope will run out of battery power and functioning gyroscopes by about 2007. Congress needs to prevent the premature loss of this valuable instrument.

Cancellation of the servicing mission is being justified on safety grounds, but that is not the whole story. Indeed, it looks as if Hubble is being sacrificed primarily to make way for President Bush's grand new plans to send astronauts to the Moon and Mars in future years. Once the shuttles are deemed safe enough to resume flying, probably early next year, a shuttle flight to Hubble will be no more risky—and possibly even less risky—than flights to the space station. The real safety issue comes up if something goes wrong. A shuttle near the station might find safe haven and help in repairs. A shuttle near Hubble could not.

Our guess is that with NASA on high alert after the Columbia tragedy, the next shuttle flights will be the safest ever. Astronauts are paid to take risks, and there would be no shortage of volunteers for a Hubble mission that seems no more risky than other flights and a lot more important scientifically.

The Bush administration argues that Hubble has passed its prime, that its uniqueness is diminishing, that advances in ground-based telescopes enable them to do some of Hubble's work and that future breakthroughs will require telescopes able to search in other wavelengths than those used by Hubble. There is a germ of truth in all those contentions, but a parade of experts have argued that Hubble, if serviced and updated, has years of great work ahead. There seems little doubt that the science still to be done on Hubble is far more important than anything likely to be accomplished on the space station.

The chief reason for Hubble's demise is almost certainly NASA's need to use its shuttles to finish building the space station by 2010 so that the shuttles can be retired and the money used for the president's Moon-

Mars exploration initiative. The agency will be lucky to complete the station on time even with all three remaining shuttles devoted to the task. Servicing the Hubble would be a diversion.

The administration essentially argues that the scientific returns from extending Hubble's life are not worth the risk and effort of a servicing flight. Our feeling is just the opposite. The gains from extending Hubble's life are real and achievable and should not be sacrificed for a distant exploration program that for now is mostly wishful thinking and can surely be delayed a bit.

TRIBUTE TO TIMOTHY F. MALONEY

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Timothy F. Maloney who is being honored as Hibernian of the Year. Tim is a partner with the Greenbelt, MD law firm of Joseph Greenwald & Laake, P.A. and is a former member of the Maryland House of Delegates.

He served in the Maryland House of Delegates from 1979 to 1995. When I was Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, I came to know and appreciate his many talents and abilities. As a legislator, he chaired subcommittees on higher education, transportation, public safety and capital budgets.

Tim stood out as a gifted legislator who had a great sense of humor. He was known for good fun practical jokes and on more than one occasion I was tempted to call out the Maryland State Police to hunt him down (no comparison to Texas intended). In recent years, he has put these talents to work as the Master of Ceremonies of the annual Hibernian Dinner. This year it is his turn to sit quietly at the head table as his life transgressions are revealed.

Despite certain behavior lapses, he was an extremely able and effective legislator. He was instrumental in the development and funding of numerous capital projects, including the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, the Prince George's County Courthouse, the Hyattsville Justice Center and the College Park Airport Museum. His colleagues in the General Assembly voted him as one of the three "most effective" members of the General Assembly in the WJLA-TV poll, although there is some question and poll tampering by the Maloney camp.

For the past 15 years, Mr. Maloney has been heavily involved in significant litigation and administrative matters. These include complex litigation in federal and state courts in the District of Columbia and Maryland, and a significant administrative practice before federal, state and local agencies. Surprisingly, he has never been a defendant. He is a member of the District and Maryland Bar, and also is admitted to practice before the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. He serves on the Rules Committee of the Maryland Court of Appeals, and frequently lectures to state and local bar organizations.

Mr. Maloney has worked tirelessly to improve our community and its many institutions. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the University of Maryland Foundation, the Administrative Board of the Maryland Catholic

Conference, the Board of Trustees of Villa Julie College and the Board of Trustees of Archbishop Carroll High School.

I hope my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in saluting Tim Maloney as a top litigator who has dedicated much of his life to helping others and improving our community.

CELEBRATING GLOBAL BUSINESS CONTINUITY WEEK

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, Mr. MORAN and I rise today to celebrate Global Business Continuity Week, which is being held from March 7–12 this year. This international week recognizes the disaster recovery professionals, certified business continuity planners, and business executives who work closely with first responders to protect our nation's economy and the global business community from unexpected disturbances.

This is the fourth year this week has been dedicated to educating the leaders of commerce, industry, and governments on the importance of business continuity management. There will be numerous events across the globe including meetings near Wall Street on March 4–5 and a conference sponsored by the "Disaster Recovery Journal" in Orlando the following week.

Business continuity management serves to protect a wide array of organizations from all types of potential disruptions. We are proud to mention that much of the necessary training and certification which enables businesses worldwide to promptly respond in the face of disaster is provided by DRI International, located in Northern Virginia. This week is essential in raising awareness of the need for business continuity management, while it also recognizes the crucial role business continuity professionals play in our economy.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, Mr. MORAN and I are honored to congratulate all the businesses participating in this commemorative week and are proud to dedicate this acknowledgment to continuity planners worldwide. We call upon our colleagues to join us in applauding their efforts, and thanking them for their daily contributions to the global business continuity.

BEN ATCHLEY POST OFFICE BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2004

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a great Tennessee leader. State Senator Ben Atchley—better known as Gentle Ben—has served in the Tennessee General Assembly since 1972, where he began his service as Senate Republican leader in 1986.

It is appropriate that today we take time to thank Senator Atchley for his service and provide that the East Young High Pike U.S. Post

Office in Ben's hometown of Knoxville, Tennessee be named in his honor. Senator Atchley graduated from Young High School, just down the street from this post office. When Ben and his wonderful wife Sue were first married, their apartment window looked out across the street to this very post office. Later, Ben worked next door to the post office, which will now be named after him. From high school student to Senate Leader, Gentle Ben has given back so much to his community and Tennessee.

I am pleased to recognize Senator Atchley for all of his many accomplishments and his work in the Tennessee General Assembly. The Tennessee congressional delegation and the U.S. House of Representatives proudly designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 137 East Young High Pike in Knoxville, Tennessee, most suitably, as the "Ben Atchley Post Office Building".

HONORING THE TARPON SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' SOCCER TEAM

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Tarpon Springs, Florida, High School girls' soccer team, which recently won the class 4A state soccer championship.

I am especially proud of the Spongers, as they are known, because I am a resident of Tarpon Springs. I know how important athletics are to these young student-athletes and how their accomplishments reflect positively on our community. I am fortunate to have been able to attend many athletic events at Tarpon Springs High School over the years and always have been impressed with the spirit, determination, and skill of Sponger teams, both boys and girls.

I also am heartened that these fine young women recognize and acknowledge the importance of faith in their lives. Team members prayed together regularly and wrote the words "faith" and "believe" on their shin guards so that they remembered the importance of their commitment to themselves, each other, and their faith.

I want to congratulate Coach John Friermuth, and assistant coaches Jaimie Adkins and John Friermuth, Jr., on leading their charges to victory and teaching such a fine group of young women about competition, sportsmanship, and excellence.

I also want to congratulate each of the team's members on their fine season: Kara Torasso, Brandi Bianco, Whitney Gause, Rebecca Smith, Giana Kase, Valerie Viggiano, Paige Beyer, Savannah Brum, Ashley Jeffris, Jordan Beyer, Katy Conrad, Maria Tagaropoulos, Kristen Friermuth, Kaitlyn Dassat, Libby Gianeski, Jessica Miller, Jessica Lukas, Brittany Gomez, Barbara Packard, Lindsey Davis, Alexia Berg, Megan Nowikowski, and Jamie Ouverson.

Mr. Speaker, I hope our colleagues will join me in commending the Tarpon Springs High School girls' soccer team for winning the class 4A state girls' soccer championship and for the outstanding example they have set for us, their peers, and my community.

IN MEMORY OF HAROLD E. DETWILER

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harold E. Detwiler who passed away on Saturday, January 31, 2004. He was a wonderful person who contributed so much to his community.

Born on March 3, 1930, in New Enterprise, PA, Mr. Detwiler was taught at a young age the advantages of freedom and democracy that this country offers its citizens. After graduating from Replogle High School in 1948, and marrying his wife, E. Anne Baker, on November 21, 1953, Harold became the personification of patriotism. He served with the military police in the Korean War, rising to the rank of Private First Class before completing his duty. He returned to Pennsylvania to serve as a deacon of St. John's United Church of Christ in Martinsburg, where he later acted as a member for the majority of his life.

Mr. Detwiler found his business niche, however, in the Mutual Insurance Industry. Throughout his life he acted as chairman of the PA Association of Mutual Insurance Companies and the NAMIC Farm Underwriting Committee, in addition to acting as a member of the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, the MSO board of directors, the AAIS Advisory Council, the Mutual Inspection Bureau board of directors, the Sparks Club, and the Eastern Mutual Group, among others. In recognition of the time and dedication that he put in to attaining professionalism within the insurance industry, NAMIC honored him with their merit award and the National Service Award. With so much experience and education on the subject, Mr. Detwiler became the President and CEO of Everett Cash Mutual and Evergreen Insurance Companies, eventually retiring from the position in 1998.

Although he was a highly influential businessman throughout central Pennsylvania, Harold's generosity within the community in which he lived far surpassed his fiscal contributions. From 1974 until 1993, he served on the Martinsburg Borough Council, eventually rising to the position of President. As a member of the D. Merle Tipton VFW Post 43 and a leader of the Boy Scouts, he willingly passed down his knowledge to the children who would benefit the most from his teachings.

Harold Detwiler was a man who refused to settle for anything less than the best. He devoted much of his time to the improvement of society, and as a result, Martinsburg is a better place to live. He will be missed, but the legacy of his actions and the influence of his spirit will never be forgotten.

PEACE CORPS WEEK 2004

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is