

their important contributions throughout the state; to strengthen relationships between nonprofit leaders and public officials; and to encourage individual nonprofit leaders to see themselves as part of the greater nonprofit sector.

In 2001 (the last year data was analyzed) nonprofit expenditures totaled more than \$9 billion in Colorado for the 5,400 largest nonprofits and \$822 billion in the United States for the nearly 267,000 largest nonprofits.

The Colorado Association of Nonprofit Organizations represents organizations across the state that provide hope for thousands of Coloradans. They educate youth, help the disabled, protect children, provide needed services to adults and promote culture and the arts. From bettering the lives of individuals to improving the overall economy of our entire state, there is almost no aspect of society that nonprofits do not touch. One thing is for sure; our state would not be the incredible place it is today if these crucial organizations did not exist.

Mr. Speaker, nonprofits in Colorado and across the country are an essential piece of the fabric of this country. I am pleased and proud to have this opportunity to salute them today.

EXTENSION OF NATIONAL COMMISSION ON TERRORIST ATTACKS UPON THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I come before you in opposition to the extension of the 9/11 Commission. From the outset, I've been opposed to the creation of this blue ribbon panel. A year and a half ago I voted against the Roemer Amendment which created this panel because I felt the panels work would be duplicative to an already established blue ribbon panel, the Select Committee on Intelligence.

Aside from its duplicative nature I was also concerned over the political intent behind the creation of the blue ribbon commission. I feel that if the panel generates any type of report that focuses on the Bush Administration ignoring key pieces of intelligence it can only be construed as being political. Given the fact that there were tens of thousands of intelligence memos regarding terrorist threats, if this panel criticizes a particular Administration for failing to react to one briefing memo then their report can only be seen as seen as politically driven.

The panel's recent request for an extension to its pre-established May 27th deadline only reinforces my pre-held belief that the panel is going to be used as a political vehicle and not serve its original intent which was to provide recommendations for guarding against future attacks. In my opinion, the panel should have either produced a report within the original time constraints or extend the deadline till after the November elections so that the findings don't get bogged down in election year politics.

The way in which the House passed the extension yesterday on voice vote with no ad-

vance notice is also troubling to me. Had the House conducted a recorded vote on the extension, I would have voted "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, March 2, 2004, I missed rollcall votes 32, 33. Had I been here, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 32; and "aye" on rollcall 33. I request that my comments be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at the appropriate section.

TRIBUTE TO KURT DOUGLAS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to a talented and dedicated athletics coach from Rangely, Colorado who is retiring after many years of service. Kurt Douglas uses his creative guidance to inspire people to achieve their best and make the most of their talents and abilities. His enthusiasm spirals through the community as he passes his love for sports on to his student-athletes. I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing Kurt's tremendous service to the Rangely community.

Kurt Douglas has been coaching for over twenty-seven years. He started his coaching career in Crowley County in 1975, where he served as an assistant baseball coach for six years and assisted with the boy's basketball team for two more years before becoming head coach. After Crowley County, Kurt went on to coach at Rocky Ford, working with the Meloneer's baseball team for 13 seasons, which included two trips to the state finals. He also coached the girl's basketball program and assisted the football team for a combined 12 years.

Kurt has led three basketball teams to the state tournament and participated in four all-state games, two in basketball and two in baseball. His favorite aspect of coaching has been the opportunity to guide his three daughters through their own basketball careers. In the midst of all this, Kurt has found the time to work as a full time teacher, while serving as the activities director for the high school.

Mr. Speaker, Kurt Douglas is a truly dedicated individual who uses his talents to enrich the lives of the students in his Rangely community. Kurt has demonstrated a love for sports that resonates in his compassionate and selfless service to many athletic programs and the student-athletes who participate. He has given up countless hours of his free time in order to give kids a chance to pursue their dreams, and I commend him for his service to our youth. Thanks for all your hard work Kurt, and I wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavors.

COMMEMORATION OF THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGACY FOUNDATION

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate an organization that has dedicated its efforts to the education and prevention of tobacco use among our Nation's young people. Founded on March 4, 1999, as a result of the historic Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement (MSA), the American Legacy Foundation celebrates its 5th anniversary this week.

Over the past 5 years, the American Legacy Foundation has made great strides in improving health for all Americans by creating an environment which allows young people to reject tobacco products and assists others to quit.

The American Legacy Council is best known for their award-winning truth youth counter market campaign. Truth advertisements provide a blunt and frank approach to the negatives of smoking and tobacco usage. These advertisements are credited as one of the reasons for the recent declines in youth tobacco usage. Additionally, the foundation's programs extend well beyond targeting youth. Through their cessation programs, the Circle of Friends creates circles of support around women who wish to quit, the Great Start Program helps to provide counseling for pregnant women regarding the risks of tobacco usage during pregnancy, and the Priority Populations Program focuses on those groups disproportionately harmed by tobacco use.

In addition to celebrating the American Legacy's Foundation wonderful achievements, I wish to take this opportunity to share with my colleagues the very real threat to the financial existence of programs such as truth, and the existence of the Foundation itself. This year the American Legacy Foundation has received its last payment from the MSA. Because of the dramatic reduction in resources, all of the successes that the Foundation has achieved are in jeopardy. Already, the Foundation is cutting programs. It is imperative that members of Congress join together to not only congratulate the American Legacy Foundation on their great success over the past 5 years, but also join together to ensure that the American Legacy Foundation will be able to continue on their path for years to come.

TRIBUTE TO JEANNE YOSHIDA HONDA

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to place into our Nation's RECORD the tribute which was given by Art Honda at the memorial service for his sister-in-law, Jeanne Yoshida Honda, beloved wife of Congressman MIKE HONDA, on February 21, 2004.

"Jeanne would really be blown away with all of you being here (especially in this weather). She would also be a little embarrassed but pleased all the same. Thank you for being

here to share this time with MIKE and the family.

I have strict instructions from MIKE to keep this brief since he wants to reserve as much time as possible in order to share a moment or two with each of you personally. That might be difficult, but MIKE always thinks big.

In remembering Jeanne I'm sure my thoughts will mirror many of yours since Jeanne was pretty much the same person no matter who she was with. She was comfortable in her own skin, so to speak, and never tried to be anyone but herself . . . and although MIKE casts a big shadow, both literally and figuratively, Jeanne was never overshadowed. She had her own life plan, developed her own career and went about it in her own unassuming but resolute manner.

I remember Jeanne as one of those rare individuals who knew early on what she wanted in life and set about achieving them in her own quiet and measured way . . . I think that all she really wanted was to marry MIKE, teach little kids and have a comfortable home where she could raise a family. She achieved all that, and I don't think she ever needed nor wanted anything more.

I first got to know Jeanne when she began dating MIKE over 40 years ago. We were all young then if that could be imagined. She was a 19-year-old freshman at SJS majoring in teaching.

She adored MIKE. As a brother, I couldn't see it, but, eventually, even I had to admit that Jeanne was a good judge of character. They were well suited to each other. They had a loving and playful relationship, they filled each other's voids, and their separate strengths—she being introverted, disciplined and structured and MIKE being extroverted, spontaneous and hardly a slave to the clock—rather than being incompatible, they dovetailed perfectly and like fine joinery their union was strong and enduring.

Now I have to say here that I'm younger than MIKE—I try to point this out every chance I get—being the more youthful is one of the few things I have over him. He's got me in most every other area—especially in that full head of hair. Anyway, I got married first—I don't know if that had anything to do with it, but one evening shortly after I got married, Jeanne visited Yoshiko and me at our little duplex apartment, and being MIKE's brother, she wondered if I had any insights into his intentions as far as their future was concerned. Well, hoping to reassure her but not wanting to commit MIKE to anything that he wasn't ready for, I told Jeanne that when MIKE was ready to settle down, it wouldn't be with anyone but her. I told her that I thought it might be soon. She seemed OK with this, but a couple of months later there goes MIKE, along with my credibility, joining the Peace Corps, and off to the jungles of El Salvador he went for the next 2 years.

So things didn't always come easy for Jeanne, but resolute as always, she simply turned her full attention to her studies, finished school and got a job teaching kindergarten in the little town of Agnew and waited for MIKE to come home. Two years passed and MIKE, or someone that looked vaguely like MIKE, finally came home—all 130 pounds of him—imagine a dark-skinned pumpkin-on-a-stick and you'll get the picture. He also morphed into an Asian Desi Arnaz speaking fluent Spanish and singing Latin love songs to his fiancée. But of

course to Jeanne he was the same MIKE and they married that following June of 1967; and with her home cooking and TLC, Jeanne got MIKE back up to his fighting weight and then some. I think, though, that she deferred to MIKE when it came to making the menudo. I'll let MIKE tell you about their belated honeymoon when he took Jeanne to visit El Salvador, deep in the heart of Central America—by the way, they didn't fly . . . they drove round-trip . . . in his Volkswagen beetle. Talk about a tough lady.

So just a month shy of turning 25, Jeanne had her man and she had her career. In a few short years she and MIKE moved into their first and only home where she raised two kids and a German shepherd named Orejas. Jeanne was a full-time Mom by then and under her ever present guidance, Mark and Michelle grew into adulthood, graduated from college, married and embarked on successful careers of their own—and to Jeanne's delight—one grandchild on its way. Once the heavy-lifting part of motherhood was completed, Jeanne returned to her other kids, this time at Baldwin School in the Oakgrove School District. I think she achingly missed her school kids as well as her colleagues this past year—the obvious became clear to me that school was a very big part of Jeanne's life.

Just a brief mention about Jeanne's values . . . Anyone who knows her would agree that she had solid June Cleaver values and a kind of childlike innocence, but she also possessed common sense wisdom and carried a kind of moral authority about her that was both subtle and understated—and not at all preachy or controlling. It was evident in her conduct and sometimes, as I've experienced on occasion, in just a look or a well-timed comment or two.

I think MIKE would be the first to agree that he owes much of his success to Jeanne. The constancy and stability she provided helped him stay the course in a hectic public life that often overlapped into their private lives, something that Jeanne had long ago adapted to and accommodated with grace. But the title of Honorable didn't exist at home. Over the years, Jeanne kept MIKE grounded in her gently assertive way. Her moral compass always pointed north and whenever MIKE needed to check his bearings he never needed to look any further than his partner. Jeanne will always remain in his thoughts—one could be certain of that.

Although Jeanne was very much a part of our family for all these years, she never stopped being a Yoshida. She continued to be a source of strength and a source of support to her mother, Rose Yoshida, who had been so extremely proud of her eldest and only daughter . . . and she never stopped being a big sister to her brothers, Stanley and Dick, whom she remained devoted to.

Brother Dick and daughter Michelle were Jeanne's primary care givers over this past year—joined of course by MIKE, who rushed home when she took a turn for the worse, and son Mark and his bride Mekar who both made repeated trips from LA, and not least of all Jeanne's son-in-law, Travis Phillips, who shuttled back and forth from Seattle.

In the end Jeanne was surrounded by her family and by an abiding love that had its genesis in that 19 year-old freshman who began dating MIKE over 42 years ago. In a very real sense Jeanne's life had come full circle. She wanted to go on of course and she fought the

good fight, devoid of self-pity and with extraordinary courage and a stubborn optimism. But Jeanne prevailed long before the events of the past year, because she had attained the only things that were important to her. Those life accomplishments, and the values that she instilled, will live on.

You did good, Jeanne. I know I speak for everyone here, family and friends, when I say thank you, Jeanne. Thank you for being part of our lives. We're all the better for it."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the extraordinary life of Jeanne Yoshida Honda and in extending our deepest sympathies to her beloved husband, our colleague, Congressman MIKE HONDA, their children and their entire family.

TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICAN LEGACY FOUNDATION

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the American Legacy Foundation as they celebrate their 5th Anniversary. Founded on March 4, 1999 as a result of the historic Master Settlement Agreement between the attorneys general of 40 states and the tobacco industry, the foundation is committed to building a world where young people reject tobacco and anyone can quit.

Thanks to the American Legacy Foundation and other life-saving organizations that work every day to prevent our young people from starting to smoke and help those already addicted to successfully quit, youth smoking prevalence in the U.S. has hit its lowest level in nearly three decades.

The American Legacy Foundation is best known for its award winning truth® youth counter marketing campaign. With its blunt messaging and frank approach, truth® has been cited as one of the reasons behind sharp declines in youth tobacco use. The foundation's programs also extend beyond youth. Circle of Friends creates circles of support around women who want to quit; Great Start helps provide information and counseling to pregnant women about the risks of tobacco use during pregnancy and the earliest days of a baby's life; and the foundation's Priority Populations Program focuses on minorities and other groups that are disproportionately harmed by tobacco use.

I urge my colleagues to join me today in celebrating five years of accomplishment by the American Legacy Foundation and hope that you will work with me to ensure that organizations like the Legacy Foundation are able to continue their critical work to protect our nation from tobacco's deadly toll.

TRIBUTE TO GLORIA AND BAUDELIO FLORES

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure to rise and pay tribute to Baudelio