

became secretary to the Assistant Director of District 31 and became the Executive Secretary to the former District Director Jack Parton from 1986 to 1989. Pauline ended her career working out of the Gary, Indiana District 7 office from 1998 until the present. She ends her career with over 40 years of service to the USWA membership.

Outside of her duties at work, Pauline remains committed to improving her community through service. She serves the Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church as a greeter and anniversary chairperson, is a member of USWA Local 3657; the Steelworkers of Active Retirees, the Foundation of East Chicago Board and the Twin City Education Foundation Parental subcommittee. She has also served as a public relations representative for the East Chicago National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the United Citizens Organization.

Ventress Dates, who is retiring from the District 7 office after over 31 years of service began her career on June 16, 1972, in the former District 31 office in Harvey, Illinois. From there she worked in the Sub District 3 office in Chicago, Illinois for several years before transferring to the former District 31 office in East Chicago, Indiana. The office later relocated to its present location in Gary, Indiana. Ventress also held the position as the Executive Secretary to the former District 7 Director Jack Parton.

Ventress is affiliated with the Bethlehem Temple Missionary Baptist Church in Harvey, Illinois. She currently serves in the capacity of choir director, member and vocal instructor, a praise and worship team leader and an adult Sunday school instructor. She is a soloist, an evangelist, seminar, and workshop facilitator. Ventress is experienced in nursing home and youth ministry and belongs to the Wayman AME church ministry in Chicago, Illinois. She is affiliated with various women's groups, as well as her local Poet's Society. She is also an author and songwriter.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Pauline Morgan and Ventress Dates for their combined seven decades of service to the USWA. Their commitment to the hard-working men and women of Northwest Indiana helped the steel industry form the backbone of our economy for many years. Their efforts will surely be missed, and I am proud to represent them in Congress.

CONGRATULATING THE BOROUGH OF HUGHESTOWN ON ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and ask you to join me in congratulating the Borough of Hughestown in Luzerne County, PA on its 125th anniversary. The community will celebrate on Saturday evening with an anniversary celebration at Convention Hall in Pittston Township.

Hughestown was organized as a Borough on April 8, 1879. The Borough became well-known throughout the Commonwealth as part of the Pennsylvania Coal Company's famous

#9 Mines and Breaker, which employed most of the Borough's residents.

Hughestown residents suffered several major tragedies in and around the mines. The Borough also lost its firehouse, elementary school and high school to fire.

Despite the adversity, the Borough flourished. The past 125 years have brought many changes to the Borough community, and today Hughestown is home to about 30 small businesses and is looking forward to the development of new townhouses.

In addition, Hughestown is proud to have its native son State Rep. Thomas N. Tighe residing in the Borough.

Avoca, Dupont, Duryea, Pittston and Pittston Township border Hughestown. The Borough's geographic size—four square miles—makes it one of the smallest municipalities in the county. The population of the Borough is now 1,560. The Borough definitely represents the old adage that "Good things come in small packages."

I would like to congratulate the leadership of the Borough, including Mayor Paul Hindmarsh and Council Members Jerry Chilipko, Barbara Gatto, Vince Mammarella, Paul Murphy, Wayne Quick Jr., Sam Sanguedolce and Ed Strubeck. I would also like to recognize Police Chief Steve Golya, Fire Chief Jamie Merlino and Leonard Copp and Chris Ribaudo of the Street Department.

I would also take this opportunity to pay tribute to the leadership of the very first Borough Officers: Jacob B. Shmaltz, Charles Matthewson, John W. Williams, John B. Clark, George Gill, Cuthbert Snowden, Thomas Snowden, D.D. Moser, John Tishler, Aaron Oliver, John M. Mosier, Ernest Shmaltz and James Delaney.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask you and my esteemed colleagues to please join me in congratulating the Borough on their very special anniversary.

WELCOMING THE ACCESSION OF BULGARIA, ESTONIA, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, ROMANIA, SLO- VAKIA, AND SLOVENIA TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY OR- GANIZATION

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to welcome the accession of Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. This is a truly historic occasion which transforms the strategic map of Europe, and strengthens the Atlantic Alliance.

In my first term in Congress, I cosponsored H. R. 4210, the NATO Participation Act of 1994. I believed then, as I continue to believe now, that NATO should be inclusive to all European nations that share our belief in democracy and the rule of law. Therefore, I am delighted to welcome the new member states to NATO.

NATO was established in 1949 for the purpose of countering the threat of Communist expansion. While that threat is now securely in the history books, the world has been forced

to face new, and different dangers. Throughout the myriad of changes in international relations since NATO was first founded, the salience of a strong alliance among friendly nations remains.

As is necessary with all longstanding organizations, NATO is changing with the times. It remains the world's most powerful regional defense alliance precisely because of its ability to adapt to new conditions. NATO continues to safeguard its member states through political and military means. However, over the past 15 years, the Organization has come to play a growing role in peacekeeping and crisis management.

Originally, NATO consisted of 12 member countries. Over the years the Organization has expanded twice. Once in 1952, to include Greece and Turkey, and a second time in 1955 to include West Germany. The simultaneous accession of seven states is the largest expansion in the history of the Organization. I, for one, hope that it will not take another 50 years before we see another round of NATO expansion.

The accession of Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia to NATO cements the increasingly strong relationship between the United States and those countries. The strengthening of the Atlantic Alliance is of benefit to all parties. Moreover, Congress looks forward to the opportunity to work closely together with the new countries for shared goals.

As the Vice-President of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Parliamentary Assembly, I have followed closely the progress of the new NATO member states. In the past, I have had the pleasure of visiting Romania and Slovakia. Later this month, I plan to visit the Baltic region and learn more about our newest alliance partners.

In conclusion, let me again state my wholehearted support for H. Res. 558, welcoming the accession of Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. I reiterate my hope that we will soon have occasion to celebrate the accession of more states into the Atlantic Alliance.

REGARDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN COMMEMORATION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY MARCH 15, 2004

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, as we commemorate Women's History Month, it is of critical importance to note that the incidence of violence against women is still too high around the globe. Many women in the United States and in other nations live in terror, are afraid to speak up to protect their health and wellbeing, and are unable to shield their children from the effects of domestic violence.

The impact of violence against women of all social and economic classes worldwide is chilling. According to Amnesty International, 120 million women and girls are subjected to female circumcision annually, and over 700,000 women in the United States are

raped each year. Further, the World Bank reports that at least one in five women and girls have been sexually violated or beaten at some point in their lives. Violence against women is one of the world's most pervasive and yet least addressed human rights abuse issues. Women worldwide expend their energy, compromise their health and sacrifice their self-esteem due to the impact of domestic violence on their lives.

In 1993, the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Article 1 defined violence against women as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivations of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life." Given this definition, and the evidence that women are more likely than men to be attacked by an intimate partner or family member to whom they are emotionally tied and economically dependent upon, it is incumbent upon those of us who are elected leaders to ensure the physical, emotional and financial stability of women everywhere.

The threat of violence extends to pregnant women, and is compounded in the treatment of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. As reported by the Center for Health and Gender Equity, a study of pregnant women in six African nations showed that the women's fear of rejection and domestic violence was responsible for their refusal to take AZT to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV. The women surveyed declined to inform their families and friends about their HIV status because they feared being assaulted.

Around the world, too few women fail to seek adequate medical care, nor are they willing to share pertinent information about their experiences of domestic violence with healthcare providers for fear of retaliation from male partners or family members. We must work together on behalf of women everywhere to create an atmosphere free of the threat of violence where women can seek the care they need to safeguard their health and that of their children.

COMMEMORATING THE
STEINBRENNER INSTITUTE FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
AND RESEARCH

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to take this time to commemorate the Steinbrenner Institute for Environmental Education and Research, a recently formulated institute at Carnegie Mellon University, which aims to improve the lives of Western Pennsylvanians through an ambitious long-term strategic plan to change the way society views environmental education. I am honored to extend my praise on behalf of this innovative and widely respected institute.

The Steinbrenner Institute for Environmental Education and Research initial focus will center itself around two environmental themes—the creation of energy and the preservation of the environment. Their efforts will be directed

towards improvements in electricity and energy for transportation and urban infrastructure in both developed and developing regions. The Institute will use non-traditional education and traditional research methods and results, to change the way society perceives and responds to environmental concerns.

The Steinbrenner Institute for Environmental Education and Research was made possible by a generous donation from Carnegie Mellon University Trustee, W. Lowell Steinbrenner. Mr. Steinbrenner and his wife, Jan, have pledged \$4 million last year for the creation of the Steinbrenner Institute. Along with continued support from within Carnegie Mellon University, the Steinbrenner Institute for Environmental Education and Research should prove to be one of the most valuable environmental institutions throughout all of Pennsylvania.

I ask that all of my colleagues to join me in honoring this innovative and valuable institution. Through meaningful education and research the Steinbrenner Institute for Environmental Education and Research will aid in the solution of countless environmental concerns in Western Pennsylvania for years to come.

INTRODUCING THE CLEAN CRUISE
SHIP ACT OF 2004

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, many Americans enjoy taking cruises, in large part because they get to see some of the nation's most beautiful marine ecosystems. Because I want to see these beautiful marine ecosystems protected for future generations to enjoy, I am introducing The Clean Cruise Ship Act of 2004.

The Cruise Ship Industry has experienced much success over the past few years. In fact, the industry has grown at about an average of 10 percent over the past seven years, including an almost 17 percent increase in 2000. Unfortunately, as it grows, its potential to negatively affect the marine environment grows as well. Over a week's time, a single 3,000 passenger cruise ship, according to EPA and industry data, generates a tremendous amount of waste: Over 200,000 gallons of black water (raw sewage) are created. Approximately 1 million gallons of gray water (runoff from showers, sinks and dishwashers) are produced. More than 35,000 gallons of oily bilge water (oil and chemicals from engine maintenance that collect in the bottom of ships and are toxic to marine life) are generated. Isn't it reasonable to think that these ships should be subject to the same wastewater regulations as those governing municipalities of comparable size? I think so.

While many cruise ship companies have environmental policies in place, many are voluntary with no monitoring or enforcement provisions. Unfortunately, I am all too familiar with the down-side to voluntary agreements, as a cruise ship illegally discharged—breaking its voluntary agreement—into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary in 2002. Simply put, voluntary agreements between cruise lines and states aren't enough to ensure protection of our oceans. The public deserves more than industry's claims of environmental performance. We need a federal law and we

need it now. It's time we strengthen the environmental regulations and in so doing, bring these floating cities in line with current pollution treatment standards. The Clean Cruise Ship Act of 2004 is the answer.

The legislation that I am introducing today, which has bipartisan support and is endorsed by over 30 local and national groups, plugs existing loopholes in federal laws, requires ships to treat their wastewater wherever they operate, and authorizes broadened enforcement authority. Several states including California, Alaska, Hawaii, Maine, and Washington are currently considering legislation to better regulate various cruise ship wastes—similar to the legislation I am introducing today. In fact, I am proud to report that California is leading the country in protecting its coastal waters from cruise ship pollution. Introduction of the Clean Cruise Ship Act of 2004 is one of the ways that I am working to provide all states the kinds of ocean and coastal protections that Californians benefit from. Enactment of this bill will protect California's tourism industry by making sure that the beaches and oceans, two of the attractions that make California the most visited state in our country, will be protected from cruise ship pollution. Simply put, this legislation ensures two things: (1) a sustainable future for our oceans, and (2) a sustainable future for the cruise and tourism industry.

This legislation promotes the public interest for all Americans. The public deserves clean water—both in our inland waterways and in our oceans. The Clean Cruise Ship Act of 2004, through its discharge standards, will give the public what it deserves.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this critically important legislation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ALLEN LEE
BELL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to pay tribute today to the life and memory of Allen Bell of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, who passed away recently at the age of sixty-one. A well-known radio broadcaster in Glenwood Springs, Allen touched the lives of many in his community. As his family and Glenwood Springs community mourn his passing, I believe it is appropriate to recognize the life of this colorful man, and his many contributions to his community and state.

Allen grew up in California, and served in the Air Force where he developed a love for radio and aviation. For thirty-five years Allen enjoyed a professional broadcasting career, spending twenty-six of those years in Glenwood Springs as president and general manager of KMTS/KGLN radio stations. He built and maintained the microwave station on Red Mountain, was a member of the Ham Radio Club of Glenwood Springs, and enjoyed building model planes and rockets. An active member in the community, Allen always was willing to volunteer his time to community service projects.

Mr. Speaker, we are all terribly saddened by Allen Bell's passing, but can be comforted in