

He has been a member of the Lions Club, the Governing Board of the Church of the Wayfarer, the Red Cross, and has officiated many college football games—and this is only a fraction of his achievements!

I have known Ted Fehring to always be an honest and good man. Ted's ability to balance work, community involvement and his family serves as a model to all of us in the central coast community. At 90, Ted continues to live his life to the fullest and it is truly an honor to be able to recognize him today.

PURSuing DEMOCRACY ONE VOTE  
AT A TIME

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2004*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform my colleagues on Indonesia's recent strides towards democratization. Indonesia should be hailed as the poster child for emerging democracies throughout the world. A major secular state with a Muslim majority, Indonesia is the world's third largest democracy and is gaining International recognition for its strides towards complete democratization. Indonesia's democratization matters precisely because the country is making progressive political and constitutional reforms while also demonstrating that Islam and democracy are not mutually exclusive and can successfully work in tandem for one nation.

When so many positive stories in the Muslim world are obscured by violent uprisings in areas of historic conflict, it is high time to take notice of the truly impressive strides Indonesia is making. On Monday, April 5th, nearly 148 million voters in Indonesia took to the polls in a critical test for their young democracy. Indonesians selected national, provincial, and regional Parliamentary Representatives. Unlike other international elections, campaigning there has not been marred by violence—and by most media reports—the balloting was conducted in an efficient, clean, transparent, and purely democratic manner. And on July 5th, in one of the largest electoral undertakings in the world and for the first time in Indonesia's history, the President and Vice President will be directly elected.

Indonesia's economy was battered in the financial crisis of 1997, and governing this sprawling archipelago has not been easy in the wake of the economic meltdown and dramatic political change that we have witnessed in the seven short years of post-Soeharto Reformasi. In fact, much remains to be done there, particularly in the critical areas of judicial reform, corruption, human rights, and social welfare.

With close to half of the world's shipping fleet passing through Indonesian waters, the geopolitical importance of the country cannot be overstated. In addition, the threat of terrorism in Southeast Asia is real and Indonesia has been the unfortunate victim of several major attacks in recent years. In order to quell terrorist threats, Indonesia's government is discovering new ways of working with regional law enforcement and intelligence communities in hopes of rooting out homegrown radicalism. But Indonesia should not fight this battle alone: solid U.S. support is needed in the

struggle to keep Indonesia safe against the devastation and destruction of terrorism.

With more than 300 major American firms doing business in Indonesia—and as massive decentralization takes place—near term U.S. investment in the country will exceed \$25 Billion. As a result, the United States should continue providing support to help Indonesia stabilize and consolidate these economic, political, and social gains. By combining strategic development initiatives and more effective public diplomacy, we can successfully engage Indonesia in this election year and beyond.

As a new generation of democratic participation arises out of Indonesia's turbulent past, the United States and Indonesia's neighbors can only benefit as Indonesia embraces the model of a modern democratic state. With Indonesia's current level of economic and social development, the International Community now has the unique opportunity to assist with the country's continual progress towards complete democratization. We should do all we can to help Indonesia become a positive Muslim and democratic influence in that vital region of the world community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SISTER  
MARY EILEEN WILHELM, R.S.M.,  
ON THE OCCASION OF HER RE-  
TIREMENT

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2004*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to pay tribute to Sister Mary Eileen Wilhelm, R.S.M., on the occasion of her retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of Mercy Medical in Daphne, Alabama.

For the past 36 years, Sister Mary Eileen has served the families of south Alabama with compassion, dedication, commitment and a tremendous amount of love.

As a member of the Order of the Religious Sisters of Mercy, Sister Mary Eileen has spent her career finding and implementing the most effective, up-to-date methods of meeting the healthcare requirements of some of the neediest patients in the Gulf Coast region.

She received her Nursing Diploma from the Providence Hospital School of Nursing in Mobile, her Bachelor's Degree from Mount Saint Agnes College in Baltimore, Maryland, and her Master's Degree in Health Care Administration from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. At the conclusion of her academic studies, Sister Mary Eileen served her hospital administrative residency at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

From 1959 to 1966, she served as a staff nurse, first at Saint Martin dePorres Hospital in Mobile, and then at Stella Maris Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. She then accepted a position as Director of Nursing Services at Villa Mercy in Daphne, Alabama, an organization which over the years has developed into the modern day facility known as Mercy Medical.

Along with her active involvement in the life and growth of Mercy Medical, Sister Mary Eileen has played a large role in the activities of numerous organizations in Alabama and throughout the United States. These include,

but are certainly not limited to, membership on the Catholic Health Association, the St. Joseph's Health System Board of Trustees in Atlanta, Georgia, the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas (Baltimore Regional Community), the Southwest Alabama Hospital Council of the Alabama Hospital Association, and the Mercy Medical Board of Trustees.

Additionally, Sister Mary Eileen has been named to "Who's Who of American Women," "Who's Who in Religion," and "Who's Who in Health Care." She was a 1994 graduate of "Leadership ALABAMA" and currently serves as a member of "Envision Mobile-Baldwin."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Sister Mary Eileen Wilhelm for her tremendous contributions to the citizens of the First Congressional District of Alabama. The experience and enthusiasm she has brought to her job and the concern and compassion she has displayed throughout the years to everyone with whom she has had contact are unquestioned and unparalleled.

She has indeed been a genuine asset both to her order and to the thousands of men, women and children she has assisted for over four decades. I am proud and honored to call her my friend, and I offer my heartfelt thanks and congratulations as she enters this new phase of her life.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROB  
FAIRBANK

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity and pay tribute to Rob Fairbank and thank him for his commitment to serving the people of Colorado as a three-term member of the Colorado House of Representatives. Rob will always be remembered for the leadership and guidance he has provided for his district, and as he celebrates his retirement, let it be known that he leaves behind an outstanding legacy of commitment to the people of Colorado and the Colorado General Assembly.

Rob was elected to serve the people of Jefferson County in 1998 based on his common sense approach to government and his previous political experience. From 1995 through 1997, he served as Political Director for the Colorado Republican Committee; he served as campaign manager for Bill Owens for Treasurer in 1993 and 1994; served as Program Director for the Independence Institute from 1991 to 1993; and was the Deputy Political Director of the Colorado Republican Committee from 1989 to 1991.

Rob's current service in the State House includes serving as Majority Caucus Chair and Vice Chair for the Finance Committee. He is also a member of the Appropriations Committee; Legislative Council Committee; and State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee. Some of the honors he has received for his significant accomplishments while serving in the House include the Jeffco Coalition of Chambers 1999 Champion of Enterprise award; the CACI Friend of Business award in 1999 and 2000; and the National Federation of Independent Businesses Guardian of Small Business award in 2000.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to State Representative Rob Fairbanks for his selfless efforts of public service in the Colorado General Assembly. Rob is not afraid to stand up for what he believes in, and he works tirelessly to better his Jefferson County community and the State of Colorado. I would like to extend my congratulations on Rob's retirement and wish him and his wife Mary Ann the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT  
GREGORY L. MILLER

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2004*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Gregory L. Miller of the Boyertown Police Department for being honored by the Boyertown Area Times and the Boyertown Jaycees as the Boyertown Police Department's Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Sergeant Gregory Miller began his career with the Boyertown Police Department March 3, 1982 as a part-time officer. He eventually became a full-time officer with the Department in 1984.

During Sergeant Miller's 22 years of service, he has made a great impact on the Boyertown community. In 2001, he was recognized for his involvement in the prevention of a suicide. A year later, in 2002, Sergeant Miller was named the Police Liaison Officer of the Year for his work with the Berks County Youth Aid Program. In 2003, he was recognized for his bravery in an incident involving a knife-wielding man. Sergeant Miller was also the driving force behind starting up the new bike patrol in Boyertown.

Aside from his service in the Boyertown Police Department, Sergeant Miller is also an active member of his community. He has been a member of the Friendship Hook and Ladder Fire Company since he was 16 and he volunteers with the Boyertown Lions Community Ambulance Company.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Sergeant Gregory Miller for his many years of exemplary service to the Boyertown community.

IN MEMORY OF LEE TOLER

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2004*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lee Toler, a great man who passed away on February 4th, 2004. Lee was a shining example of the power one man can have in so many peoples' lives, and without him the world is a little dimmer. I offer Velma, his wife, and the rest of Lee's family my sincerest condolences.

Lee came from humble beginnings, as all great men do, but his spirit was richer than all the wealth in the world. His life was devoted to helping kids in our community and in California avoid the dangerous and detrimental effects of drugs and crime. He worked for the

benefit of individuals and our community, and he did much of it as a volunteer.

During the 1960s Lee was a school custodian in Seaside, at Portola Junior High School, later renamed King Middle School after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. He became well known for his willingness to counsel students who came to him, and began to seek ways to help others. His ability as a counselor convinced then Governor Reagan to allow him into state prisons to work with inmates. He was also a key figure in championing the cause of drug treatment as an alternative to imprisonment.

In 1966 Lee founded Young Adults for Action to offer activities and alternatives to drugs, and in 1974 created Young Adults for Action Manufacturing Co. This organization recognized that good jobs could play a crucial role in discouraging drug use among teens, and he worked with local employers to offer jobs to youth and parolees. When these non-profits ended Lee continued his mission with Jobs Not Drugs in 1979, a successful program that continues to this day.

Lee's extraordinary work has not gone unrecognized. He's been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Governor's Award for Creative Citizenship, presented by Governor Reagan in 1968. The only other person to receive this award during Reagan's administration was Bob Hope for his work with soldiers overseas. I also had the opportunity to honor Lee twice, once in 1995 and once in 2000, with the Congressional Recognition Award.

Mr. Speaker, I rise once more to applaud Lee Toler's many accomplishments. Lee was blessed with the ability to see the goodness that existed in everyone, and his life's work was devoted to bringing that out in people. While some merely condemn, Lee sought to understand. My only regret is that Lee could not be in every school, courtroom, and prison in our country, because our society grew greater and stronger with every person he touched. He was a remarkable figure in our community, and his memory will live on in the many people whose lives he has touched. I join the communities of the Monterey Bay, and friends and family in honoring this truly admirable man and all of his lifelong achievements.

TRIBUTE TO 25TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2004*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Republic of China (ROC) on Taiwan in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act. I am proud that Taiwan and the United States have enjoyed such a strong and durable relationship over the last quarter century in part due to our shared democratic values.

The Taiwan Relations Act has been instrumental in maintaining peace, security and stability in the Taiwan Straits and the Western Pacific since its enactment in 1979. Today Taiwan is truly an economic success story and I am confident that the Bush Administration and our allies in the region will remain committed to playing an appropriate supporting

role in reducing tensions across the straits. I am also hopeful that expanded confidence-building exchanges between Beijing and Taipei will lessen the likelihood of any potential conflict in the region.

Under the framework of the Taiwan Relations Act, the Republic of China has become a shining example of economic prosperity. Taiwan has become the eighth largest U.S. trading partner with total Taiwanese exports of US\$ 32.2 Billion and imports of US\$ 18.4 Billion. Taiwan is currently the world's twentieth largest economy with a GDP of US\$ 219 Billion. I believe the United States should continue to expand trade opportunities with Taiwan like the recently signed letters of intent for Taiwan to increase purchases of Indiana's agricultural products.

I stand today in strong support of Taiwan's membership in international organizations such as the World Health Organization and the United Nations. Taiwan is deserving because of its commitment to our shared values of freedom, democracy, human rights, peace and prosperity.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, on the historically significant occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, I rise to pay tribute to America's relationship with Taiwan, and I call upon this body to recommit ourselves to the prospect of peace, freedom and democracy in Taiwan for the next twenty-five years and beyond.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE  
HON. MARY FRANCES STEWART

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 20, 2004*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, Baldwin County and indeed the entire First Congressional District of Alabama will say goodbye tomorrow to a dear friend, a wonderful lady and a truly outstanding public servant. Today, however, I rise with a heavy heart to honor the life—and mourn the death—of that special friend, Baldwin County Commissioner Mary Frances Stewart, who was killed in a tragic car wreck early Saturday morning.

Without a doubt, Commissioner Stewart was the epitome of a true Southern lady. Both gentle and genteel, Mary Frances somehow found a way in almost everything she did to make people feel good about themselves and good about their government.

Moreover, she had that rare knack for being equally devoted to her family and her constituency in Baldwin County. It goes without saying but her death leaves a void both in the life of the county she so dearly loved and in the wide circle of her family and many friends—a void that quite frankly will be nearly impossible to fill.

A native of rural Georgiana, in Butler County, Mary Frances was a graduate of Georgiana High School and received both her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Education from the University of South Alabama.

She began what would become a distinguished 23-year career in teaching in the Alabama public school system, spending 13 years with the Mobile County school system. Commissioner Stewart spent the last ten years of her teaching career at Foley High School in