

share his story with my colleagues, and pay tribute to this remarkable man. Accordingly, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the distinguished Mr. Patrick Michael McGrady, Jr., and all of his remarkable contributions.

UNDOCUMENTED ALIEN EMERGENCY MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AMENDMENTS OF 2004

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, today the House considered H.R. 3722, the Undocumented Alien Emergency Medical Assistance Amendments. As you know, I voted against this bill.

Frankly, at a time when tuberculosis is on the rise in America, when STDs and AIDS continue to plague our population, and when biological health threats are no longer strictly the realm of science fiction. I am embarrassed that we had to debate legislation to erect barriers to health care rather than debating ways to encourage early intervention whenever someone falls ill.

Communicable diseases still do exist, even in a techno-world like ours. And they are very real threats to public health and safety. Just one "Typhoid Mary" can cause health emergencies of epidemic proportions.

Intrusive identification programs like the one proposed in H.R. 3722 create a near police-state environment in the emergency room. Suddenly the fear of not having one's proper documentation becomes more important than the prospect of getting treatment. Not getting treatment leads to risks for all of us and believe me, disease does not respect green cards. This bill is mean-spirited in its targeting of hard-working, albeit undocumented persons, but it is reckless in its exposing the greater community to potential health threats.

The better answer to this problem is to enforce the current immigration laws, which do not allow for the hiring of undocumented workers, to provide the necessary resources to protect the border from illegal crossings, and above all, to work with our international neighbors to build a world economy that encourages citizens to remain in their homeland and build their lives there.

IN HONOR OF MS. DEBRA BROWN STEINBERG

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Debra Brown Steinberg on the occasion of her 50th birthday. Ms. Steinberg, a Lead Attorney for 9/11 families and victims, gave of herself for 2½ years to help those in need. She worked tirelessly to ensure that 9/11 victims and their families received good legal advice and representation, and provided compassion and human understanding.

Ms. Steinberg is a partner at the New York offices of Cadwalader, Wickersham and Taft located near the site of the World Trade Center. After the attacks, while many New Yorkers

became extensions of their television sets and wrote checks to charities, Ms. Steinberg quickly understood how she could best help those whose lives were devastated by this horrific attack. It was clear to her that there would be a need for pro bono legal assistance, especially for the survivors and families of low-income workers whose problems would include immigration, housing, finance, language, education and job training.

The challenges to these families, many of whom were neither citizens nor legal aliens, were overwhelming. Ms. Steinberg responded by organizing and training lawyers and law students, working with nonprofit organizations and unions to learn the challenges and suggest solutions, meeting with elected officials and government agencies to explore ways to overcome bureaucratic obstacles. Moreover, she shared her knowledge and motivated others to volunteer their time and expertise.

Ms. Steinberg has earned the respect, admiration and affection of colleagues, friends and those she shepherded through these most difficult times. Her efforts have inspired those around her and enabled the partners and families of those killed on September 11 to begin to plan for their futures.

All of us in New York, as well as all Americans, have a special place in our hearts for people whose selfless acts make this a better world. Debra Steinberg is one of those very special people and I am proud to know her.

For her commitment to her community, her State, and this Country, it is my privilege to wish Ms. Steinberg a very happy 50th birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on May 17, 2004, I missed rollcall vote No. 177. Rollcall vote No. 177 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 420, a resolution applauding the men and women who keep America moving and recognizing National Transportation Week.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 177.

GENOCIDE IN DARFUR, WESTERN SUDAN

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise because as we speak genocide is occurring in Darfur. The international community, particularly the United States, has yet to learn from the Rwandan tragedy; ironically, we commemorate its 10th anniversary this year.

Like Rwanda, the warning signs in Darfur were obvious but we did nothing—and now the international community is watching, once again, with indifference as millions of Black Africans are wiped out of western Sudan. The Bush administration has raised concerns, and the U.N. has denounced the "ethnic cleans-

ing" executed by the Sudanese government's militias, but this is beyond ethnic cleansing, this is systematic and calculated genocide.

Prevent Genocide International defines genocide as the "intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, and the five punishable forms of the crime of genocide include: genocide; conspiracy; incitement; attempt; and complicity. All of the five punishable forms of genocide are occurring in Darfur. Hundreds of thousands are fleeing Darfur; fearing that they will become yet another statistic in Khartoum's plan to rape, torture and ultimately wipe out all Blacks in the southwestern region of Sudan.

The number of refugees and internally displaced persons on the Chadian border continues to rise. In just the last 12 months, the National Islamic Front government of Sudan and its allied militia, the Janjaweed, displaced more than 1 million people, forced over 110,000 people into Chad, and killed more than 10,000 innocent civilians.

As in other conflicts designed deliberately to humiliate and eliminate people because of their identity, we have seen women and girls targeted for rape in Darfur. Government troops and their allied militia have raped, tortured, maimed and burned entire villages in a deliberate and systematic manner to cleanse the area of all Blacks, regardless of religion. USAID estimates that at least 3.5 million people will die if no one in the international community stops this massacre and delivers emergency humanitarian assistance before the rainy season begins in June.

As was the case in 1994 in Rwanda when our government and the international community refused to use the word genocide—we are once again witness to the same duplicity and lies about the tragedy in Darfur. The people who are speaking out loudest regarding the tragedies in Darfur are the humanitarian organizations, who to this day, are still limited by the Khartoum government in their quest to save lives. Humanitarian NGOs have complained of Khartoum's delaying tactics—stalling on visa applications, and denying travel and work permits, preventing NGOs from getting to camps for the internally displaced.

Mr. Speaker, how can we allow this travesty to continue and not be outraged? The government of Sudan is not our partner in peace. We must stop pushing a false "Sudan peace process" and really deal with this genocide.

I call on the Bush administration to call this attack on the people of Darfur what it is: genocide. I ask that the United Nations meet and commission an emergency humanitarian and peacekeeping mission for the people of Darfur. And lastly, I call on our global community—particularly the leaders of the African Union—use their regional leadership to save the lives of millions in Darfur. Without our express concern and emergency assistance the killing will continue.

In the words of Gandhi, "Destruction is not the law of humans. . . . Every murder or other injury, no matter for what cause, committed or inflicted on another is a crime against humanity." We must stop the genocide in Darfur now because every death, every rape, every displaced person reflects our disregard for their justice and their right to life.

## HONORING GERALDINE CATHERINE MURPHY

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Geraldine Catherine Murphy upon her retirement after 40 years of teaching the children of our community.

After graduating from Marygrove College in 1964, Ms. Murphy taught the students of SS. Peter and Paul School in Detroit until 1998. During this time, she served on many educational committees, including the committee which wrote the Language Arts/English curriculum for the Archdiocese of Detroit.

In 1998, Ms. Murphy came to the educational community at St. Edith in Livonia. There is no doubt, her wisdom and guidance were a great asset to our community. The impact she had upon St. Edith will be felt for many years to come, as she will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere appreciation to Geraldine Catherine Murphy, upon her retirement after 40 years of teaching, for her fine service to our community and our country.

## HONORING MARK EARL OF SPRING HILL, FLORIDA

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Mark Earl of Spring Hill, Florida.

Mr. Earl will be recognized this evening at the Hope Awards Benefit for his work on finding missing children. He will receive the Charles B. Wang International Children's Award, given annually by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

In 1994, Mark's concern and vision prompted him to establish a Missing Children's Board in the Walmart store where he worked. Two years later, Walmart expanded on his initiative and installed Missing Children's Boards nationwide. He was promoted to District Loss Prevention Supervisor, and his efforts have resulted in the recovery of over 100 children.

On behalf of these children, their families, and my entire constituency, I would like to formally praise Mark Earl on the floor of this House. His initiative and dedication to his community are to be commended. I am proud to call him my constituent and eager to honor him in person this evening.

## VILLAGE OF WESTERN SPRINGS: A TRIBUTE TO ARBOR DAY

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Village of Western Springs, a township located in the Third Congressional District of Illinois. The Village of Western

Springs officially proclaimed April 30, 2004 as Arbor Day, a special day to set aside for the planting of trees.

This year, Western Springs was recognized and awarded the prestigious title of Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation. It is certainly an occasion worthy of special recognition, as Western Springs has shown a commitment and dedication to Arbor Day by planting trees and caring for their woodlands.

Village President John Kravcik publicly declared April 30 as the official Arbor Day for the Village of Western Springs. I was privileged to take part in the Western Springs Arbor Day ceremony with the students of McClure Junior High School, Principal John Chick, Vice Principal Matt Castle and the citizens of Western Springs. We were honored with the presence of the Western Springs Garden Club, including Ann Gindorf and President Mary Kubalanza, Fred Rodriguez and Jack Lund of the Western Springs Memorial V.F.W. Post 10778, and Father Tom Bernas of St. Richard's Parish who offered the ceremony's prayer.

I would like to pay special tribute to the Arbor Day essay winners Jenni Breslin, Schuyler Hilton, and Nicky Galvez, who shared their literary works to commemorate this day. It is essential for children to learn the importance and value of trees to the environment and our community, in order to ensure future generations will enjoy greener, healthier, and more beautiful places. The students of McClure Junior High School displayed their commitment to protecting and promoting the community's natural beauty by planting a tree on school grounds during the ceremony.

In the 128 years since its founding, Arbor Day has become a holiday celebrated in cities across America and nations throughout the world. Arbor Day draws particular attention to the part trees play in our lives and in the significant ways they beautify and enrich our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the people of Western Springs are taking the time to celebrate Arbor Day. I wish them the best of success in their tree-planting efforts and I strongly hope that more Americans will follow their positive example.

## SALUTE TO JOHN RYAN, SR.

**HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate one of my constituents from Cortland County, New York, John Ryan Sr., for 51 exceptional years of service to the Homer Fire Department. Mr. Ryan joined the Homer Fire Department in 1953, upon his return from service in the Korean War. His commitment to public service for his country and his community is unmatched.

His father was a volunteer firefighter and served as fire chief in the 1940's. Mr. Ryan also served as fire chief for four years beginning in 1970. He has presided over the Cortland County Fire Chiefs Association and the County Fire Advisory Board. The love of firefighting has been passed down to his children and grandchildren, as his son, John

Ryan Jr., serves as the current fire chief and his other sons, Steve and Mike, also serve as firefighters. His granddaughter was the fourth generation Ryan to belong to the fire department before she moved from the area.

It is this kind of dedication and commitment to community that makes John Ryan Sr. such a legacy in Homer, NY. Not only has he answered the call to community service, but he has also instilled that same spirit in his children and grandchildren. I thank Mr. Ryan for his years of service, and I know the town of Homer thanks him as well.

## IN HONOR OF COACH RICK ORTEGA'S ELECTION INTO THE NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 2004*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Coach Rick Ortega of St. Mark's School of Texas. I am pleased to represent St. Mark's in Congress, and have been impressed with the quality of education produced by the school. My oldest son Bill currently attends St. Mark's, and one of the staffers in my Washington office is an alumnus of this college preparatory school.

Coach Ortega has been a valued member of the faculty since coming to St. Mark's in 1982. Now in his third decade of service to St. Mark's, Coach Ortega has been elected as a member of the Class of 2004 for the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in Stillwater, Oklahoma. I am very proud of Coach Ortega's election, and I know firsthand the quality of the wrestling program at St. Mark's. My son Bill is currently in the middle school wrestling program and the results of the wrestling program speak volumes to Coach Ortega's dedication to the young men that he educates.

Wrestling is one of the few sports that a small school such as St. Mark's can compete in against larger high schools in Texas that have thousands of students. From 1992 to 1994, St. Mark's "three-peated" as Texas High School Wrestling Champions. St. Mark's three straight championships could not have been possible without the leadership and dedication of Coach Ortega and the many wrestlers that he inspires on a daily basis.

During his time at St. Mark's and his prior stint as the Head Wrestling Coach at Burges High School in El Paso, Texas, Coach Ortega has amassed an impressive winning record. In his 32 years of coaching, he has an overall dual meet record of 532 wins compared with only 80 losses. He won seven Texas State Championships, and five Prep State Championships. This is in addition to being Texas State Runner-up six times. During his time at St. Mark's, Coach Ortega has won 18 Southwest Preparatory Championships in 22 seasons, a very impressive record in the conference. On the individual level, Rick Ortega has coached 59 state champion wrestlers, and 53 prep all-Americans.

Coach Ortega himself was a State Wrestling Champion in New Mexico in 1966. He has a natural love for wrestling and for those that pursue the sport. Coach Ortega inspires discipline on the mats, and an emphasis on nutritional wellness off of the mats. His personal