

are no longer isolated ethnic enclaves. As the APA community has spread and grown, these historic neighborhoods have become vibrant centers of cultural exchange and learning.

As a former mayor and native of San Francisco, I can safely say that my hometown would not be the wonderfully vibrant, bustling city it is without the conditions of the Asian Pacific American community.

Finally, Asian Pacific Americans played an important role as we built our country into what it is today. I am pleased to take this time today to honor the accomplishments of these remarkable Americans during this Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

PROMOTING FAIRNESS WITHIN THE FEDERAL CONTRACTING PROCESS

Mr. AKAKA. Over the past 3 days, I have discussed the need to honor public servants, especially Federal workers, during Public Service Recognition Week. I thought back to last week when I participated in the nomination hearing for David Safavian, who has been nominated to serve as the Administrator for the Office of Federal Procurement Policy. This position serves as the gatekeeper for the Government's contracts. Much of our discussion with Mr. Safavian centered on making sure that Federal employees have the right to protest competition decisions and that agencies have adequate funds to compete to retain work in-house.

Some of the concerns expressed at our hearing stemmed from what I consider to be misguided principles set forth under the President's Management Agenda, which required agencies to implement quotas that could have resulted in the contracting out of up to one-half of all Federal work. Congress, in a bipartisan manner, voiced its opposition to this government-wide approach of contracting out quotas through provisions in the Fiscal Year 2003 Transportation, Treasury, and General Government Appropriations Act. In response to this action and others, the administration dropped this approach in favor of agency-specific plans. With the recent policy reversal of the administration on contracting quotas, I had hoped that the change would have resulted in a fairer approach to the contracting out of Federal work. Therefore, I was disappointed that a February 2004 report on competitive sourcing by the General Accounting Office, GAO, Congress's independent auditor, found that agencies have focused more on following OMB guidelines on the number of positions to compete at the expense of achieving savings and improving performance.

As the ranking member of the Governmental Affairs Financial Management Subcommittee and the Armed Services Readiness Subcommittee, I understand that without adequate management structures, management

information systems, and program review structures, government contracts will not realize savings for the American people. This has been proved time and again by GAO. Contract management and acquisitions have long been identified as high-risk areas. As such, we must ensure that Government contracts are awarded only to responsible parties who generate cost-savings throughout the life of contracts. To counter cost overruns and stop erroneous and improper payments, agencies need the resources to improve the speed and accuracy of contract data collection.

The GAO report also noted that six out of the seven agency offices examined had only one or two employees overseeing outsourcing activities. More must be done to make certain that agencies have the people, skills, and technologies needed to oversee \$230 billion in contracts.

The key to achieving success requires strengthening the Federal Government's acquisition and contract management workforce. We must recognize that this corps of professionals make decisions every day affecting how hundreds of millions of Federal dollars are spent. For a number of years now, the acquisition workforce has been drastically downsized and many of those remaining are eligible to retire.

Whether we are discussing quotas or the acquisition workforce, concerns about competitive outsourcing within the Federal Government are essentially about accountability. Approximately 2 million Federal employees and another 8 million private sector employees work for the Government on grants and contracts. This situation raises concerns about who is ultimately responsible for contracted work. It also draws attention to the long-term implications of competitive outsourcing, both in terms of money spent, efficiencies gained, and the retention of institutional knowledge and experienced Federal employees.

As we near the end of Public Service Recognition Week, I want to thank our acquisition workforce for their efforts in managing Government contracts. I also urge my colleagues to support efforts to increase and train the acquisition workforce and implement the systems and structures needed to ensure that Government contracting is transparent, accountable, cost effective, and fair to Federal workers.

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICER THOMAS STEINER

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, flags were flown at half-staff recently in memory of Thomas J. Steiner, a California Highway Patrol, CHP, officer allegedly killed by a teenager who wanted to impress a gang. Officer Steiner was 35 years old and left behind a wife, Heidi, and two children, Bryan and Justin. I am honored to stand before my colleagues to memorialize this dedicated officer.

On Wednesday, April 21, 2004, shortly before 3 p.m., Officer Steiner exited the Pomona South Courthouse after testifying in traffic court. Before he could get to his patrol car, shots were fired at the officer from behind the wheel of a car. Officer Steiner died at a local hospital later that evening. An arrest was made in the case.

Thomas Steiner died because he wore a uniform. Our law enforcement officers know the dangers and demands of their profession, but despite the daily challenges they face, they commit themselves to protecting others and do so selflessly. A five-year CHP veteran, Officer Steiner clearly exemplified the very best. CHP Chief Mike Brown told a news source that Steiner "loved being a cop. He loved putting on the uniform. He wore it with pride." CHP Commissioner D.O. "Spike" Helmick called Steiner a "quiet family man always ready to help." Steiner was also known as a mentor to newcomers to the department. He will be deeply missed by all those privileged to have known him.

Officer Steiner's murder sent shockwaves through the community. Steiner was known as a solid officer and devoted family man. Whether drinking his morning Gatorade at the station or bottle-feeding his baby on the homefront, Officer Steiner's goals seemed to be simple: to do his job well and be a good husband and father.

As the community reflects on the life and memory of Officer Steiner with a very heavy heart, I salute his legacy as a dedicated officer and family man, and extend my deepest condolences to his entire family and to his friends.

THE EFFORTS TO ATTACH THE ENERGY BILL TO S. 150, THE INTERNET TAX BILL

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I would like to explain my votes on two amendments that were offered to S. 150, the Internet access tax bill that the Senate debated last week. I was pleased to support the amendment offered by the Senator from South Dakota, Mr. DASCHLE, No. 3050. I support the renewable fuels title of this amendment and the measures that increase the supply of ethanol. I also support language to consolidate the number of reformulated gasoline blends. I have worked closely with Congressman PAUL RYAN in an effort to reduce the number of Federal reformulated gasoline blends and increase gasoline supplies. In recent years, fuel supply shocks such as pipeline problems and refinery fires have contributed significantly to gasoline price spikes in southern Wisconsin. Chicago and southeast Wisconsin use a specialized blend of reformulated gasoline to meet Federal Clean Air Act requirements that is not used elsewhere in the country. When supplies of this type of gasoline run low, Wisconsin is unable to draw on supplies of gasoline from other areas.

I could not, however, support the amendment offered by the Senator

from New Mexico, Mr. DOMENICI, No. 2051. This so-called "scaled down" version of the energy bill consists of 900 pages and contains many of the worst provisions of the H.R. 6 conference report that failed to get cloture last fall. The entire Wisconsin congressional delegation voted against the bill last fall, and I cannot support the amendment either.

In addition to its fiscal implications, I am deeply concerned that the amendment repeals the Public Utility Holding Company Act. This critical act protects consumers against abuses in the utility industry. Repeal of PUHCA would leave ratepayers vulnerable and spur further consolidation in an industry that has already seen a number of mergers. Furthermore, the bill does not protect consumers from Enron-style electricity trading practices and market manipulation. The Senate recently went on record in support of an amendment by Senator CANTWELL to bar such abusive practices and I am disappointed that the Domenici amendment fails to include similar protections.

Also the amendment has serious environmental impacts. For example, the amendment undercuts the Clean Air Act by postponing ozone attainment standards across the country. This issue was never considered in the House or Senate bill, but it was inserted in the energy conference report. This rewrite of the Clean Air Act is not fair to cities like Milwaukee that have devoted significant resources to reducing ozone and cleaning up their air. And as asthma rates across the country increase, this provision could severely undercut efforts to safeguard the air quality of our citizens.

In addition to undermining air quality protection, the amendment allows for siting of transmission lines in national parks, grants exemptions from the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act for oil and gas companies, and pays oil and gas companies for their costs of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

I am also concerned that the taxpayers would pay \$2 billion in transition assistance for MTBE manufactures. MTBE is found in all 50 States, and high levels are affecting drinking water systems all over the Midwest, including 5,567 wells in 29 communities in Wisconsin, even though the State only used MTBE gasoline for the first few weeks of the phase I program that began in January 1995.

This amendment also fails to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. The Senate energy bill contained a requirement that power companies provide at least 10 percent of their power from renewable energy sources like wind and solar power. The technical term is a renewable portfolio standard. The amendment doesn't contain any renewable portfolio standard. There's no doubt that we can and should do better on renewable energy to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

For these reasons, I supported the Daschle amendment that contained the energy bill's renewable fuels title, but I opposed the Domenici amendment. I appreciate the need to develop a new energy strategy for this country, and I hope that Congress will pass the portions of the energy bill legislation that have widespread support so that we can address the pressing energy needs of our country in a sensible way.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO EDWIN COLODNY

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Edwin I. Colodny, a native son of Burlington, VT, as this year's recipient of the Burlington Business Association's Nate Harris Award. This award is conferred annually on an individual who exhibits the enthusiasm and dedication to maintain and improve the economic vitality of the Burlington region. Ed has supported the Burlington and greater Vermont community in so many ways that all Vermonters owe him a debt of gratitude.

Ed was born in 1926 in Burlington and graduated from Burlington High School in 1944. He went on to receive an A.B. degree from the University of Rochester in 1948, and an LL.B. from Harvard Law School in 1951. From 1975 to 1991, Ed was president and chief executive officer of US Airways, Inc. and was also president and chief executive officer of US Airways Group from 1978 to 1991, and chairman of the board from 1978 to 1992.

More recently, Ed served as the interim president of the University of Vermont and interim president and chief executive officer of Fletcher Allen Health Care, Vermont's premiere medical treatment facility, during critical change periods at both institutions. Ed also served as chairman of the board of Comsat Corporation, a leading provider of global satellite and digital networking services, which merged into Lockheed Martin Corporation.

I have admired the breadth and depth of Ed's business experience and his ability to collaborate with all partners involved in complex matters. His career-long dedication to fair and equitable treatment for workers and a desire to look for winning solutions to problems has set him apart from many of his peers. He understands the dynamics of a healthy business climate while maintaining a respect for the different needs and expertise of other participants.

Ed works tirelessly for the well being of Vermont and its people. He now serves as chair of a Vermont committee to clean up Lake Champlain, one of Vermont's natural jewels. He continues to sit on numerous non-profit boards such as Vermont Law School, Shelburne Museum, Vermont Symphony Orchestra, Vermont Mozart Festi-

tival and he is of counsel to the law firm of Dinse, Knapp & McAndrew in Burlington, VT.

There are a very few people in this world who have given so much and asked so little in return. I hope Ed Colodny knows that his years of service have not gone unnoticed. This award shows how much he is appreciated, even though it is impossible for us to fully recognize his many contributions.

I am so proud to stand here and tell you about such a great Vermonter. I wish him my deepest congratulations for an award he so greatly deserves.●

THE LIFE OF ELLIOTT MARANISS

• Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to pay tribute to Elliott Maraniss, a journalist whose work invariably served the cause of justice. Though he passed away on May 1, his work, and his commitment to the community he served, will leave an indelible mark on our State.

Maraniss, who rose to become editor of Madison's Capital Times newspaper, first made his mark in Wisconsin as a reporter for that paper, with award-winning investigative stories about river pollution, controversy at the UW-Medical School, and a UW-Madison boxing scandal. He went on to serve as city editor, managing editor, and finally editor, a post he held from 1978 until he retired in 1983. As an editor he was known for being a mentor, for spotting talented new reporters, and for caring deeply about his staff.

His leadership and integrity in the newsroom were legendary, and it was on those qualities, as well as his journalistic skills, that he built his outstanding career.

His commitment to justice was lifelong, and he inspired many others through his work. A World War II veteran, he saw injustice firsthand in the still-segregated Army, where he served as captain of an all-African-American unit. Later in life he entered the political realm, working for Milwaukee Mayor Henry Maier after retiring from the Capital Times.

I extend my condolences to his wife, Mary, and to his family and friends. His passing is a great loss for all those who knew him, and for everyone who understands the powerful contributions that journalists can make when they are fiercely committed to the truth, and to the cause of justice. So today I join his many family and friends in paying tribute to his memory. He will be long remembered for his outstanding service to the Capital Times and to his community, and for his many contributions to the State of Wisconsin.●

DEPUTY JOHN PAUL SANDLIN: IN MEMORIAM

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I wish to honor and share with my colleagues