

the City's water supply. The modeling predicts that if the City builds an ASR system with the capacity to capture up to 100 million gallons per day, that it would still capture only a fraction of the water flowing down the river, and it would not have a negative impact on the river.

The City intends to capture water from the river using two techniques, either by using "bank storage" wells or by pumping directly from the river. "Bank Storage" wells take advantage of a unique geological condition that occurs along the river. As the river rises above the base flow, water is temporarily stored in the river's banks, but as the flow in the river declines, the water in the banks discharges back into the river. The City intends to drill wells adjacent to the river that will capture "bank storage" water and induce river water to replace the water pumped.

The City recognized that some of the concepts included in the proposed ASR project have not been done before, so to prove the feasibility of those concepts the City completed a 5-year Demonstration Project. During the Demonstration Project, which was done in partnership with the Bureau of Reclamation and the US Geological Survey, the City constructed a full-scale well adjacent to the Little Arkansas River, a river intake and a water treatment plant, and a variety of recharge facilities. To prove that the recharge project was safe, over 4,000 water samples were collected and analyzed for up to 400 different potential contaminants. During the Demonstration Project over one billion gallons of water were successfully recharged into the aquifer, and the City was able to prove that excess flows in the Little Arkansas River could be captured and recharged, and that it can be done without harming the aquifer.

The full-scale ASR project, which will be constructed in phases, will capture and recharge up to 100 million gallons per day, and will cost approximately \$137 million. All of the water that will be recharged into the aquifer must meet drinking water standards, and will be monitored and regulated by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Normally, when surface water is developed for a water resource, it requires the construction of a reservoir. A reservoir that would provide the same storage as this ASR project would probably consume around 25,000 to 30,000 acres of prime farmland. It is projected that the ASR project will use less than 400 acres of farmland.

The City of Wichita and others believe that the ASR project is a Win-Win project, because it appears that all of the stakeholders receive benefits from the projects. As a result of this project:

The City develops a water supply source that will allow it to meet its water supply needs through the year 2050.

The water quality of the wellfield is protected from salt-water contamination.

There is no requirement to curtail irrigation to restore water levels and protect water quality.

Irrigators will have lower pumping costs because water levels will be higher.

Low flows in the Little Arkansas River will improve, because additional water will "leak" from the Equus Beds back into the river.

The project uses less land than any other surface water development project.

The City has already implemented some components of the Integrated Local Water Supply Plan, including implementation of a water rate structure designed to reduce water consumption, and a greater emphasis on using water from Cheney Reservoir, and a corresponding reduction in water pumped from the Equus Beds. That alteration in water use has already allowed water levels in the Equus Beds to rise over 20 feet in some areas.

Phase I of the ASR Project, which is currently being designed, will have the capacity to capture and recharge up to 10 million gallons per day of water from the Little Arkansas River by using Bank Storage wells. The location of the first recharge facilities is intended to begin the formation of a hydraulic barrier to the movement of salt-water plume from the Burrton area. It will take almost 10 years to construct the entire full-scale project.

The City believes that this project represents a new approach to developing water resources, while at the same time protecting an existing water resource from contamination. The City of Wichita therefore urges support for federal assistance for this unique project.

#### IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF CONGRESSWOMAN MARCY KAPTUR OF OHIO'S NINTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2005*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute of Congresswoman MARCY KAPTUR, for her many lifetime achievements as a Representative from Ohio's Ninth Congressional District.

KAPTUR was first elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1982. She struggled forcefully to gain a seat on the prestigious Appropriations Committee. As the senior Democratic woman on the Appropriations committee she has always been a fighter for Ohio's farmers—protecting one of the state's most important resources.

She is also the first Democratic woman to serve on the House Defense Appropriations Committee. Congresswoman KAPTUR has had the opportunity to work on many committees while in Congress, including Budget; Banking Finance and Urban Affairs; and Veterans Affairs. Her array of experience on many different committees and subcommittees has allowed her to pursue her keen interests in economic growth, seniors issues, the environment and the economy.

KAPTUR's accomplishments include introducing legislation for Washington, D.C.'s World War II Memorial. Although it was a 17-year process, her hard work finally paid off in the spring of 2004 with the opening of the new memorial. The World War II Memorial honors the more than 400,000 people who died in the war as well as the 16 million people who served in the armed forces. KAPTUR's dedication to seeing this memorial built shows her commitment to all veterans. Because of her work on the memorial, the Veterans of Foreign Wars selected her as the first woman in history to receive the organization's Americanism Award.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to serve in the House of Representatives with Congress-

woman KAPTUR. She is an inspiration to the people of Northwest Ohio who are lucky to have her as their representative for more than 20 years. Please join with me today to honor the many achievements of my friend and colleague Congresswoman MARCY KAPTUR—the longest serving Democratic woman currently in Congress—a woman with a dedicated mission to her constituents.

#### RECOGNIZING LINDA CLARK AS "ELEMENTARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR"

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and commitment of Linda Clark. Ms. Clark, Denton School District's "Elementary Teacher of the Year," has dedicated 26 years to educating and enlightening elementary school students, helping them to be successful not only in the classroom but also in the community.

Ms. Linda Clark was one of 22 teachers in the district nominated for "Teacher of the Year." She helped establish the prestigious Writing Happens program, a curriculum which educates students in the basic structures of different writing structure and techniques. Additionally, Ms. Clark enrolled her students in a program that allows them to talk to the astronauts on the International Space Station. With such innovative programs, Ms. Clark has allowed her students to establish mentorship relationships with role models and has extended the classroom experience beyond its normal boundaries. Linda Clark's distinctive teaching style allows her students to experience a unique, hands-on approach in the classroom.

It is with great honor that I stand here today to recognize a woman who has inspired and motivated so many of our youth. The contribution of Linda Clark and her unique teaching style should serve as inspiration to others in her field and those who wish to make a positive difference in the lives of young people.

#### IN HONOR OF THE CENTRAL OHIO SINGERS ASSOCIATION

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2005*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Central Ohio Singers' 36th Song Festival, to be held this year at the World View Community Church, and later at the German Central Foundation in Olmsted Township, Ohio.

Since 1803, when Ohio was officially instated into the union, groups of German singers have journeyed throughout the State, offering melodies that connect the new world with the old, and preserving culture and history of their German homeland along the way.

Organizations such as the World View Community Church and the Donauschwaben German American Cultural Center serve a vital role in promoting and preserving German traditions for each new American generation.

Americans of German heritage have been, and continue to be, a vital component of the diverse cultural fabric that adorns the entire State of Ohio. Places like the German American Cultural Center are havens of memories and tangible bridges extending to every corner of the world, and are also places of real support and services for newly settled immigrants.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and tribute of every member of the Central Ohio Singers Association, past and present. These talented and dedicated singers have culled a legacy of cultural and historical preservation through melody and song, warmly reflecting their German heritage. This music of the heart adds color and depth to the American landscape, and serves to uplift our entire community.

#### STOP THE THEFT OF OUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS ACT OF 2005

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2005*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Stop the Theft of Our Social Security Numbers Act of 2005" (H.R. 2518).

Many of my constituents have alerted me to a serious attack on our personal privacy, and an insidious practice that has become known as identity theft. Amazingly enough, this theft is facilitated by a public agency, the Department of Health and Human Services, which aids and abets this theft not through the Internet or any high-technology means but through the U.S. Postal Service. By including our Social Security numbers on Medicare related mailings, the Department of Health and Human Services places thousands of Medicare beneficiaries at risk of becoming victims of identity theft.

To combat this problem, I have introduced this bill which prohibits the Department of Health and Human Services from including our Social Security numbers on Medicare related mailings the department mails us every year.

Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes of this decade. It creates a nightmare for those who become victims. Identity thieves make off with billions of dollars each year and each day more than 1,000 people are being defrauded. In fact, the Federal Trade Commission recently listed identity theft as the top consumer complaint. With just your name and your Social Security number, a thief can open credit lines worth \$10,000, rent apartments, sign up for utilities, and even earn income. Your credit rating is ruined, you risk being rejected for everything from a college loan to a mortgage, and it is up to you to fix it all. Law enforcement will generally not pursue these identity theft cases.

Having your Social Security card number on a Medicare related mailing puts people at a higher risk for identity theft. Mail that is lost or stolen with personally identifiable information like a person's Social Security number can be used by criminals to steal someone's identity and commit fraud.

The Department of Health and Human Services has said that the health insurance claim number on Medicare related mailings is a variation of the recipient's Social Security number, not the actual number. This agency has noted

that the number may be based on the Social Security number of a spouse or parent; however, more often than not, the number the agency uses is the person's Social Security number preceded or followed by a single letter of the alphabet. The agency has said that it has no immediate plans of stopping this practice. What more can the Department of Health and Human Services do to aid the theft of your identity? Give thieves and unscrupulous people your mother's maiden name?

Not to long ago, we were experiencing the same problem with the mailing labels sent to us from the IRS. I was told that there was no way the IRS would change this practice. I found it incomprehensible that neither the agency nor its contractor would change a computer program for booklets that would be mailed out to millions of Americans all over our Nation. After I introduced a bill to require the IRS to stop putting our Social Security numbers on its mailings, the department finally found a way to stop this bad practice.

Many commercial health insurance companies have already taken steps to remove Social Security numbers from their mailings as well as all other forms of client identification. Some States prohibit companies from displaying Social Security numbers internally and assign consumers unique numbers that would appear on Medicare cards. It is time for the Federal government to do its part to stop identity theft and help protect an individual's personal privacy.

There is no excuse for leaving Medicare beneficiaries vulnerable to identity theft with a thinly disguised Social Security number on Medicare related mailings.

My bill will force the Department of Health and Human Services to make this change to protect one of the most precious keys to our personal information, our Social Security number.

#### IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF AMBASSADOR MILTON A. WOLF

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2005*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Milton Wolf, a friend and a great leader in the Greater Cleveland community and around the world. Ambassador Wolf led a multifaceted life that included time as a soldier, meteorologist, educator, real estate developer, fund-raiser, philanthropist, humanitarian, peacemaker, and family man. He grew up in Cleveland's Glenville neighborhood, the son of Cleveland policeman Sam Wolf and his wife Sylvia. His father worked for a time as a vice detective under Eliot Ness, then the Cleveland safety director.

The outbreak of World War II coincided with Milton's graduation from Glenville High School. Young Milton enlisted right away into the Army Air Corps where he served as a meteorologist. Upon his return from the war, he resumed his studies, ultimately earning his doctorate in economics from Case Western Reserve University. His early career focused on real estate development, but he also became interested in politics and raised money for political campaigns, including Jimmy Carter's successful presidential race in 1976. In 1977, President

Carter appointed him as ambassador to Austria, a post he kept until 1980. During his service there, he received Austria's Great Gold Medal of Honor with Sash for "most distinguished and successful contribution toward the enrichment of Austro-American relations." Ambassador Wolf played a key role in arranging details of the meeting in Vienna between President Carter and Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev, for the signing of the Salt II Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. Ambassador Wolf was decorated in 1997 with the Austrian Cross of Honor for Science and Art First Class in recognition of his scholarly work in economics, his strong ties to the diplomatic community and his philanthropic activities.

Ambassador Wolf was strongly committed to local and international institutions. He recently made major endowments to Cleveland Clinic's heart center and to a faculty chair at Cleveland State University. He served as chairman of the board of trustees of the Ohio State University where he oversaw the university's \$500 million investment program in the early 1990s. He served on the boards of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, Case Western Reserve University, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, and the Mount Sinai Medical Center. Ambassador Wolf also served as chairman of the Council of American Ambassadors, governor of the United Nations Association of the United States of America, and member of the board of directors of the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy at Georgetown University. He served as president of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, overseeing \$70 million in assistance for needy Jews and others in more than 50 countries. In 1994, the committee honored him with its Raoul Wallenberg International Humanitarian Award.

Ambassador Milton A. Wolf will be greatly missed in Greater Cleveland and around the world. He was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Roslyn. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring and remembering Ambassador Wolf. Please also join me as I offer my deep condolences to his son, Leslie, his daughters Caryn, Nancy, and Sherri, his brother Sanford, his five grandchildren, and his extended family and many friends.

#### RECOGNIZING TONY SWAFFORD AND BETTY TUNNICLIFF

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and commitment of Tony Swafford and Betty Tunnichliff to the education community. Mr. Swafford and Ms. Tunnichliff has dedicated 33 and 23 years of service, respectively, educating and mentoring our Nation's youth.

Serving as both administrators and teachers, Mr. Swafford and Ms. Tunnichliff retire at the end of this school year. I would like to take this occasion to thank them for their years of promoting education and the youth of Denton.

In taking time to direct the Denton Independent School District, both Tony and Betty established precedence in administrative standards that will not soon be forgotten. Their