

For 22 years, she traveled extensively in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and South America to promote IEI. During this time, the school enrolled over 40,000 students, some of whom are heads of state and leaders in worldwide businesses. In 2001, she joined her husband, Mike Hamzy, as President of Harbison International, Inc.

Currently, she serves on the Board, Executive Committee, and Air Quality Task Force of the Fresno Business Council. She is also Chair of the Fresno Revitalization Corporation and serves on the boards of FRESPEC and the CSUF Business Advisory Council. She is a member of the Fresno Rotary Club, the Forum, and the Owls Club.

She previously served as President on the boards of the Greater Area Chamber of Commerce; the Fresno Convention and Visitor's Bureau; and the CSUF Business Associates. She has served on the boards of the EDC, Fresno Art Museum, Compact, CSUF Alumni and Friends, and the New United Way. She was Vice President of the National Associate of Arab American and Co-Chair of the Commission on the Future of Education for Fresno County. I appointed Anne as a delegate to the California Republican Party, where she has served since 1995. In the same year, she was appointed as a delegate by Gov. Pete Wilson to the White House Conference on Small Business. He also appointed her to the California Council to promote Business Ownership by Women.

In 1990, IEI received the U.S. Small Business Administration's "Business of the Year in California" award. In 1991, IEI won the "Business Enterprise of the Year" award for outstanding contributions to Fresno's economy and for business excellence. In 1993, Mrs. Speake was presented the Baker, Peterson, & Franklin "Top 5 Award for Excellence." Mrs. Speake was awarded the CSUF Sid Craig School of Business "Alumni of the Year Award" for 1994. In 1998, the U.S. Small Business Administration recognized Mrs. Speake as the Central California Women in Business Advocate of the Year, and the National Honor Society made her an Honorary Beta Gamma Sigma. In February 2000, Mrs. Speake was the Leon S. Peters Award recipient for a career of outstanding business leadership in community service.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievements of Anne Speake. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable woman and the contributions she has made to small business and the city of Fresno.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES R. PARKER

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to thank James R. Parker for more than three decades of service to the Nation.

A dedicated employee of the Federal Government, James will be retiring from the Social Security Administration at the end of July. For years now, we've been able to count on James to help make government work better for all of us.

While I'm thankful for James and his service, we'll miss the knowledge, compassion and

tremendous work ethic he brought to every task.

Tennessee is proud of James, and we all wish him and his wife, Patricia, a wonderful retirement.

THE DEATH OF RYAN KOVACICEK

HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to pay tribute to Lance Corporal Ryan J. Kovacicek of Washington, Pennsylvania, part of the 18th Congressional District. Lance Corporal Kovacicek was killed July 10th from a mortar attack in the town of Hit, located in western Iraq. He died alongside Sergeant Joseph P. Goodrich, another member of his unit from Pittsburgh.

Just 22 years old, Lance Corporal Kovacicek was a member of Kilo Company, a Marine Forces Reserve unit based in Moundsville, West Virginia. Like so many other young men and women in our reserves, Kovacicek was a student. A junior at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, he was studying criminology and played on the hockey team. He also lettered in hockey all four years he attended Bishop Canevin Catholic High School.

Following in a long tradition of military service in his family, Lance Corporal Kovacicek enlisted in the reserves to help defend his country. His father, Joseph, served in Vietnam as a Marine, and his grandfather, Paul Karpan, fought with the Army in Europe during World War II. Understanding the true meaning of patriotism, Lance Corporal Kovacicek paid the ultimate sacrifice. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family. God bless them, and all the members of the armed forces fighting the war on terror, and their families.

SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH FAIRNESS ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Miller for his leadership on this bill. Mr. Speaker I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 525. Association Health Plans cherry-pick. They lower standards of care. They fail to reduce the growing ranks of the uninsured. But I would like to focus on a critical shortfall we don't often hear much about: Efficiency.

AHPs fail to address the white elephant in the living room. One of the biggest reasons that America's health care costs are so high is that we pay far more for administrative costs in privately administered health plans than other industrialized nations. The average private health plan puts 12-15 percent—sometimes as high as 30 percent—of your health care dollar to administrative costs. AHPs would not only fail to address this problem, but could make it worse.

In fact, a study by human resources consultants, William Mercer, Inc. found that "... the potential administrative cost increases typically

would exceed the potential administrative cost savings. We estimate that the additional costs for small firms who buy AHP coverage typically would range from 1.5 percent to 5 percent of premiums." That is above and beyond the average administrative costs of 12-15 percent.

Now contrast that with the overhead costs of Medicare, whose 40th birthday we celebrate this week. On average, Medicare's administrative costs are 2-3 percent. That means that Medicare is about 5 times more efficient than private health plans and could be 7 to 10 times more efficient than AHPs.

Health care costs are dragging small businesses down in their efforts to compete with their counterparts in other nations where health care is universal. It is time to stop dancing around the margins of reform by proposing more of the same inefficiencies. We already know what works. Lets expand Medicare to all.

HONORING DR. JOSE CELSO BARBOSA

HON. LUIS FORTUÑO

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. FORTUÑO. Mr. Speaker, today it is my special privilege to render tribute to a great American and a great Puerto Rican on the 148th commemoration of his birth. Dr. Jose Celso Barbosa was born in Bayamon, Puerto Rico on July 27, 1857, when Puerto Rico was still a colony of Spain. In 1876 he traveled to the United States to continue his studies, and in 1880 he graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in medicine, first in his class and valedictorian of a very distinguished medical graduating class that included the Mayo brothers of Mayo Clinic fame. Dr. Barbosa was the first Puerto Rican to graduate from the prestigious University of Michigan.

Upon returning to Puerto Rico, Dr. Barbosa dedicated himself to his private medical practice, became a professor of medicine at one of the institutions of higher learning in Puerto Rico, and made his first incursion in political issues, becoming a firm defender of negotiating increased autonomy for Puerto Rico from Spain.

With the change in sovereignty in 1898, in which Puerto Rico was ceded to the United States after the Spanish-American War, Dr. Barbosa envisioned the Federalist system of the United States as the ideal solution to the colonial problem of Puerto Rico, declaring himself an advocate of admitting the Island as a state of the Union. With that lofty purpose in mind, he formed the Republican Party of Puerto Rico on July 4, 1899.

Dr. Barbosa was the founder of the newspaper "El Tiempo", for which he wrote numerous articles in defense of his goal to have Puerto Rico become a state of the Union. When the United States allowed for the formation of a Senate at the local level in 1917, Dr. Barbosa was elected as a member of that legislative body. He was reelected in 1920. During his stint in the Senate, Dr. Barbosa introduced legislation allowing for trial by jury and introducing the writ of "Habeas Corpus" within the Judicial Penal System of Puerto Rico.

After a distinguished career as a doctor, teacher, politician, and humanitarian, Dr. Barbosa passed away on September 21, 1921, without reaching his dream of having Puerto Rico become a State of the Union, but proud to have become a citizen of the United States in 1917.

On statehood for Puerto Rico, Dr. Barbosa said: "Puerto Rico aspires to reach all the rights granted by U.S. Citizenship, in the same method, in the same manner, under the same form, and under the full integrity as the one enjoyed by the residents of any of the regions that are called States of the American Union. To that we aspire, that is what we want, that is what we shall have."

On the political relationship between Puerto Rico and the United States, Dr. Barbosa made the following statement: "We want, and we ask, for equality. Not colonialism or protection. Since the American Flag first waved over Puerto Rico, those have been the ideals that we have defended."

Dr. Barbosa's lifelong dream was to have Puerto Rico admitted as a State of the Union. I share that dream, and I find no better way of honoring him today, than to pledge to pursue his goal, to the best of my ability, of having Puerto Rico become an integral part of this great Nation.

IN HONOR OF THE MOSES AND
AARON FOUNDATION SPECIAL
FUND FOR CHILDREN

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Moses and Aaron Foundation Special Fund for Children, a truly distinguished organization that assists children with disabilities and their families.

Created in the memory of Rabbi Dr. Maurice I. Hecht and Aaron Kaploun, the foundation has kept alive Dr. Hecht and Mr. Kaploun's commitment to community service through counseling, guidance, wheelchair assistance, and financial assistance to those families with special children.

I believe that the foundation's work is a shining beacon of light for children in need. Examples of such work include providing educational scholarships, clothing and presents.

In addition, the Moses and Aaron Foundation under the direction of its President Rabbi Yaacov Kaploun, and Executive Vice President Yehuda Kaploun, in cooperation with Bally Fitness Centers, has established 27 therapy and physical fitness centers and has arranged for sound and musical equipment in other institutions.

As the foundation hosts its 9th annual Chazak Summer Concert for Special Children on August 20, 2005, we are again reminded of all that the Moses and Aaron Foundation has contributed to the greater American community. For the past 8 years, the Motzei Shabbat Nachamu Concert, at Sullivan Community College Field House in Loch Sheldrake, New York, has benefited special children and their families by offering them an enjoyable night of music, dancing and plain good fun.

The concert will honor and pay tribute to the special and outstanding children who will be

the guests of honor and will perform with the entertainers on stage. More than 40 organizations and schools serving the physically and mentally disabled children will be represented.

The Chazak Concert in connection with the many other programs operated by the Moses and Aaron Foundation, demonstrate a caring and compassionate concern for the quality and dignity of life of those in need, and therefore merits appreciation.

I would also like to applaud the Honorary Chairman and Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel, President Rabbi Yaacov Kaploun and Executive Vice President Yehuda Kaploun for their hard work and commitment to children of special needs and their families.

I pause to commemorate the recent passing of Mrs. Tzipora Kaploun of Jerusalem, Israel, wife of the late Aaron Kaploun. She instilled in her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren the importance of community service and a compassion for those individuals who require the assistance and support of those who are blessed with ability to provide and assist. She exemplified the principles upon which the Foundation is based.

I recognize Mr. Jerry Rothman, recipient of the Dr. Steven Stowe Acts of Kindness Award and remember fondly his late wife Anita Rothman, whose acts of charity impacted the lives of many in the course of their 65 years of marriage. We remember the social service and kindness of the late Issac Weinberger who recently passed, and his wife Anne Weinberger.

As the Moses and Aaron Foundation Special Fund for Children commemorates this special event, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to an organization that provides such an essential service to the community and truly exemplifies the generosity of Americans.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
TOMMY MAGGIO

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my friend Tommy Maggio, who, after 32 years of service to this institution, will be retiring at the end of the month.

Thomas P. Maggio was born April 28, 1929 and raised in Washington, DC. Tommy served our Nation in the Navy, from 1951 to 1955. Serving in Norfolk, VA and Green Coast Springs, FL, Tommy was stationed on the USS *Whitley*, and was part of a marching band. Tommy married his wife Anita in 1963; she too will be retiring, after many years of service in my colleague Congresswoman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN's office.

For many of us, Tommy provides a warm greeting in the morning, as well as wonderful conversation. Every morning when I see him, I call out to Tommy, "Bonjeourno Thomaso," to which he replies "Bonjeourno, bonjeourno." I cannot help but enjoy this warm Italian greeting. Tommy is loved by all of the members he serves. We wish Tommy well and we all deeply appreciate his dedicated and decent service. I will certainly miss him. I wish Tommy and his dear Anita many good years, filled with family, friends and good health. On behalf of my staff, myself and the lovely Deborah, and all my colleagues: Thank you, Tommy.

NASA LAUNCH

HON. TOM DELAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday at 10:39 a.m. on the east coast, five men and two women were launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, aboard the space shuttle *Discovery*, rocketing into low-earth orbit at 17,000 miles per hour. . . another small step for man, another giant leap for mankind.

Yesterday's successful launch will not simply pick up where America left off two years ago after the *Columbia* disaster.

Yesterday's launch instead opens a new era of space exploration—an era defined by President Bush's ambitious new vision and made possible by the courage and brilliance of the men and women of NASA.

Every resource of our space program will be dedicated to this new mission:

The shuttle has returned to flight and will work to complete the International Space Station now orbiting the earth 250 miles above our heads;

Scientists and astronauts aboard the station will conduct unprecedented research on the long-term exposure of human beings to microgravity and radiation, to test our endurance for prolonged space-travel;

Meanwhile, here on earth, engineers and scientists will design a new crew exploration vehicle that will eventually replace the shuttle and take mankind back to the moon, where more historic discovery and science can be pursued.

All of these endeavors will lead our space program toward our next giant leap—a manned mission to Mars.

The first step of that journey was taken yesterday morning, Mr. Speaker, and once again, NASA's army of geniuses has set us on a clear path toward our destiny.

I spoke with mission Commander Eileen Collins a few weeks back, and she said her crew was ready and eager to return the shuttle to flight.

I also spoke with NASA Administrator Mike Griffin today, to congratulate him and the entire NASA team on a successful launch, as well as to commend him on an incredible first 3-plus months on the job.

The country is lucky to have a man like him in public service heading up the finest space agency in the world.

Yesterday, Americans learned once again that we have the resources and the personnel to do the impossible, Mr. Speaker.

I commend every member of our space community for keeping the *Discovery* crew's appointment with history, and while we wait for their safe return next week, our hopes and prayers are with them all.

POSTAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND
ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under