

promises a reality for all is to open our doors to trade.

It may also be the best way to fight some of our biggest societal problems here at home.

TRIBUTE TO SAMUEL SHAPIRO & COMPANY

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to Samuel Shapiro & Company on its 90th anniversary. Based in Baltimore, Maryland, Samuel Shapiro & Company is one of the leading customs brokers in the United States.

Samuel Shapiro & Company was founded in August 1915 by Sam Shapiro—the hard-working son of Russian immigrants. In its first year of business, Samuel Shapiro & Company's books showed a net cash position of only \$46.50. Undeterred, Sam Shapiro kept on working, building up his company through two World Wars and the Great Depression.

After the end of World War II, Samuel Shapiro & Company began to expand, opening up offices in Norfolk, Dulles and Baltimore-Washington (then Friendship) Airport. The company was passed on to Sam Shapiro's son Sigmund who guided it through the many technological transformations of the second half of the 20th century.

The new millennium has brought a new generation of Shapiro family members to manage the expanding company, which now has eight offices from New York to Savannah. Sig Shapiro's son Robert is now the company's lawyer and his daughter Majorie has taken his place as President & CEO. Under Majorie Shapiro, Samuel Shapiro & Company has maintained its reputation for delivering the highest quality of personalized customer service while using the most modern techniques available to provide that service.

I hope my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in saluting this third generation family business that has provided 90 years of the highest quality service to customers while maintaining a reputation as a model corporate citizen.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
FRANCES WILKINSON

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Frances Wilkinson has been a faithful member of the Board of Trustees of Belmont Senior Services for 25 years; and

Whereas, Frances Wilkinson has lovingly guided and nurtured the Belmont County Senior Services molding it into a effective and productive agency; and

Whereas, Frances Wilkinson has established a legacy of dedication to a worthy agency that provides care for the elderly citizens of Belmont County.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the 18th Congressional District of Ohio and the

entire State in commending Frances Wilkinson for her outstanding ability to give of herself to others for the past 25 years.

HONORING WILLIAM C. POLACEK,
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD HONOREE

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with you and my Colleagues a tribute to a man who has contributed to the economic development and community development of the 12th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Mr. William C. Polacek, who has over twenty years of knowledge working in the steel fabrication industry. Mr. Polacek is not only a business man, but a civic minded individual who gives back to his community.

Born and raised in Daisytown, Pennsylvania, Mr. Polacek started out working in the family business, Johnny's Welding. In 1987, he purchased the business from his father; and through a great work ethic and superior workforce, the company has thrived and grown over the years to over seven hundred employees in two states. As well, he owns other businesses in the area. Mr. Polacek has always focused on "treating employees the way he would want to be treated."

Mr. Polacek has received numerous awards and honors for his success in business. His many awards are: 1994 Who's Who in Business; 1995 Dale Carnegie Highest Achievement; 1996 Western Pennsylvania Entrepreneur of the Year; 1997 Featured in "Follow That Dream," a Public Broadcasting Station national documentary; 1997 Cambria/Somerset County Entrepreneur of the Year; 1998 Arthur Anderson award for "Motivating and Retaining Employees in Western Pennsylvania; 2002 Chapel of the 4 Chaplains Award; 2004 "Forbes Magazine" story about his Entrepreneur character and for creating and keeping jobs in Johnstown.

Community service will be a legacy he will leave with our area for generations. Mr. Polacek and his family founded a non-profit organization, The Polacek Family Human Needs Foundation, which is devoted to assisting the community. Besides his foundation, other civic groups benefit from his involvement, such as the Junior Achievement, Mom's House, Johnstown Area Heritage Association, The Chamber of Commerce Advisory Board, Johnstown Area Regional Industries, Geistown-Richland Pee Wee Football League, and Venture Quest (a local entrepreneur group).

Currently, Mr. Polacek, his wife Sherry and their four children live in Richland Township. Johnstown Welding and Fabrication Industries was founded on a commitment to family and family values and continues to flourish in the Johnstown area. These values will be a lasting tribute to Mr. Polacek and his family.

Here in the 12th Congressional District, we are grateful to Mr. Polacek not only for his economic investment in the community, but his civic legacy to the future. I wish to congratulate Mr. William C. Polacek on receiving The Inter-Service Club Council of Greater Johnstown Achievement Award, and I wish him continued success.

CONGRATULATING PATRICIA A. TOMSHO ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FOLLOWING 37 YEARS IN THE HUMAN SERVICE FIELD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Patricia Tomsho, of Hazleton, Pennsylvania, who is retiring after 37 years in the human service field.

Since 1968, Ms. Tomsho has been affiliated with United Charities in West Hazleton. Initially, she served as director of social services which entailed coordination of services, regulation compliance, service delivery, supervision of personnel, program planning, evaluation of service delivery and client advocacy.

From 1985 to the present, Ms. Tomsho has served as executive director of United Charities and United Children's Homes. In that capacity, she has been responsible for budget development and fiscal administration, personnel recruitment and management, regulation compliance and coordination of services, program proposal and grant writing, coordination of building and grounds improvement and board preparation and management.

A graduate of Ursinus College where she earned a bachelor's degree in psychology, Ms. Tomsho also graduated from Bryn Mawr College where she earned a master's degree in social work and social service administration.

From 1974 through 1982, Ms. Tomsho worked at Northeast Counseling Services in Hazleton as a crisis interventionist, therapist and client advocate.

She is active in her church as a Sunday School teacher and member of the choir. She has served as a loaned executive for the United Way. And she has given selflessly of herself working to combat domestic violence and homelessness. She is an instructor at Marywood College and is frequently called upon to speak to various groups.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Ms. Tomsho on the completion of a remarkable career. Her devotion to the needs of others has benefited thousands over the years and has contributed to elevating the quality of life in the Hazleton area of Luzerne County.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
JILL THOMPSON

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Jill Thompson is being recognized as the Athen's County Auditor; and

Whereas, Jill Thompson is being honored as the Distinguished County Auditor; and

Whereas, Jill Thompson should be commended for her completion of 100 or more hours of continuing education during her office term.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in honoring and congratulating Jill Thompson for her outstanding accomplishment.

THE THRIVE ACT

HON. ROGER F. WICKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to direct my colleagues to the critical need for adult immunizations and ask that they join me in supporting the Total Health Requires Improved Vaccination Efforts—or THRIVE Act—which Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and I are introducing today.

Vaccines are one of our great medical achievements. Successful immunization efforts have eradicated small pox and driven rubella from the United States. Mumps, diphtheria, measles, and chicken pox are at record low levels. And thanks to immunization, we're on the brink of eradicating polio across the globe.

Unfortunately, the success of childhood vaccination efforts has largely over-shadowed the need for adult vaccinations. Vaccine-preventable diseases among adults result in 45 thousand unnecessary deaths each year.

I urge my colleagues to support the THRIVE Act which will improve adult immunization efforts and help save lives.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC-CENTRAL AMERICA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, here we go again. With the economy in shambles, we are here today discussing free trade in the form of CAFTA. My colleagues, if passed, this free trade bill would be a net loss for American workers, for the environment, and for the local workers in Central America as well. So you may ask . . . who wins if CAFTA passes? Simple enough. As has too often been the case with this administration, the folks at the country clubs would win. Yes, the same people who benefit from the Bush administration's tax cut plans for the wealthy . . . the very same people who have been benefiting since President Bush took office back in 2000, all at the expense of our Nation's working people!

CAFTA does not care whether or not you use child labor or forced labor. It does not care whether multinational companies pollute our planet's water and poison our air. This is a treaty that clearly says we do not care how safe the products are that we import, no . . . this trade agreement, just like NAFTA and free trade policies in general, serves just one purpose: To make the richer even richer, while keeping our Nation's workforce at the bottom of the barrel.

Even under the Clinton administration, we were promised more jobs, yet what happened? Millions and millions of American workers found themselves out of work! Workers' lives have been ruined, their families have been torn and uprooted, and in fact, entire agricultural industries like the tomato industry in Florida have suffered. In fact, for the past dec-

ade, Florida vegetable growers, especially tomato and bell pepper farmers, have been nearly put out of business! My State's citrus crop, which is often considered the jewel of Florida's agriculture production, is facing greater and greater pressure from Mexico every day. Indeed, if this trade agreement passes, it could easily drive this important industry right out of business!

I yield back the balance of my time and encourage everyone in this building to cast a vote against this bill, and to vote in favor of America's workers, in favor of our farmers, in favor of the environment, and in favor of what's right for our Nation!

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SUSAN COLER

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Susan Coler has been recognized with the Morgan County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities 2004 Employee of the Year Award for the enthusiasm and knowledge she brings to the job; and

Whereas, Susan Coler has displayed commitment and sincere dedication to the individuals in the Mary Hammond Programs; and

Whereas, Susan Coler should be commended for her involvement with the 4-H Riding Therapy Program and her contributions to the Morgan County Special Olympics.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in honoring and congratulating Susan Coler for her outstanding accomplishment.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC-CENTRAL AMERICA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong opposition to the Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement and intend to vote against it.

I am proud to be a pro-trade Democrat in Congress and am proud of my record—having supported every free trade agreement since I took office in 1997.

I voted in favor of granting the President Trade Promotion Authority in 2002 and voted against withdrawing from the World Trade Organization in 2000 and again earlier this year.

I am a longtime member, and the current chair of the New Democrat Coalition, a group of members who often support free trade. We see our role as a group of pro-business, pro-defense, and pro-trade leaning members who seek ways to open foreign markets to American goods and services. I also co-chair the Friends of New Zealand Caucus in the House, and hope we may soon see a free trade agreement with New Zealand.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that free trade, when organized properly, benefits our economy. It

can only help to improve our relations with the other countries involved.

In the case of CAFTA, I want to see our Nation maintain close ties with our neighbors in Central America. Our economic security and our national security depend on cooperative relationships with our friends and allies.

However, in pursuing free trade, we must also consider the impact and direct effects the agreements will have on workers—both here and abroad.

And CAFTA fails to provide adequate protection.

It simply does not do enough to invest in basic job training and education for Americans—specifically those Americans who lose their jobs due to trade.

The current budget for Trade Adjustment Assistance is insufficient: the President's 2005 request was \$300 million less than Congress authorized for FY 2004, despite the obvious needs for job training and retraining. What's worse, Mr. Speaker, is that CAFTA does not provide any TAA funds for service workers, who comprise 80 percent of today's American workforce and produce three-quarters of our products. When job training programs go under funded, American workers are at risk.

Furthermore, CAFTA is the first FTA negotiated by the United States with developing countries, some of which have weak labor laws and a history of suppressing the rights of their workers.

We need to do all in our power to ensure that this agreement helps these countries raise their working standards. Unfortunately, the labor chapter requires that each country simply enforce its existing laws. It does nothing to require the DR-CAFTA countries improve their laws to reflect fairness to working people. There are also no safeguards in the agreement to prevent countries from explicitly weakening their labor laws. This "enforce your own laws" standard is a giant step backwards. Under our current trade policy, the Caribbean Basin Initiative allows us to withdraw trade benefits from countries who violate the labor standards of the agreements they have signed. If CAFTA goes into effect, those remedies are wiped out and simply replaced with the "enforce your own laws" standard.

This labor agreement is simply unacceptable.

And finally Mr. Speaker, I feel compelled to say a word about the legislative process here in Congress. I would be remiss if I did not do so.

This Administration has made a habit of regularly excluding Democrats from the table during the negotiation and drafting of all major legislation. We saw this with the energy bill, the Medicare prescription drug bill, and again with CAFTA. We were not consulted at all on this FTA.

We all have valid ideas and concerns worthy of discussion regarding improving international market economies and they need to be fully and fairly debated. That did not happen with CAFTA. We were not engaged. I thought that at some point in the process members of the New Democrat Coalition would be consulted, as we generally support free trade. However, I was wrong. There was no outreach from House leaders or from the President to us.

One would think that after the passage of Trade Promotion Authority in 2002—by a 3 vote margin—a clear signal was sent to the