

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Alex Q. Newmaster for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO THE LAFAYETTE LITTLE LEAGUE TEAM

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of the Lafayette Little League team. This group of young men embarked on a journey at the beginning of this summer that took them over 2,000 miles and ended at the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

This team won the Louisiana State championship in August. They then won the Southwest Regional title in Waco, Texas. And then they inspired millions of Americans with two heart-stopping come-from-behind wins en route to the semifinals of the U.S. bracket of the Little League World Series.

Their success on the field earned these "Comeback Cajuns" a finish in this country's top four and the world's top eight teams. When they were eliminated from competition by Ewa Beach, Hawaii—which eventually claimed the world championship—the squad was one of only five teams still alive out of over 70,000 that began Little League postseason play.

These twelve young men exemplify the ideals of Little League Baseball—character, courage, and loyalty. I honor them today for their superb play on the field and their magnificent sportsmanship.

Andrew Stevenson, Connor Toups, Andreas Duplantis, Sam Scofield, Patrick Foreman, Ryan Bergeron, Jace Conrad, Brenn Conrad, Tyler Douglas, Jordan Romero, Alex Stringer, and Alex Miller.

And their coaches, Mike Conrad, Mark Toups, and Ken Douglas.

I am proud of the way they represented our State, our hometown, and themselves.

THE PASSING OF ERIKA HILLS

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it is with great personal sorrow that I come to the floor of the House to remember my friend Erika Hills, who died tragically in an automobile accident in Napa Valley on August 17th. Today, her family and friends are gathering in Grace Cathedral in San Francisco to mourn her passing. I extend my deepest sympathy to her husband Austin, her sons Austin and Justin, her father Dr. Max Brunar, and her siblings Dieter Mascen and Eva Pongraz of Graz, Austria.

Her death leaves a void in our lives but her bright light will remain in our hearts forever.

A home design expert, she had owned an antique shop in St. Helena, California. Her husband Austin Hills is a founder and partner in Napa Valley's Grgich Hills Cellar in Rutherford, California, and a descendant of the Hills Bros. Coffee family.

Erika's exuberance was contagious and elevated all the causes she championed. She and her husband were active supporters of the arts; the San Francisco Symphony, the San Francisco Opera and the Museum of Modern Art. She was generous with her time and her resources and dedicated herself to helping people less fortunate than she.

Erika served on numerous boards and volunteered in many charitable organizations. Her support extended from the cultural life of the San Francisco Bay Area to Roots of Peace, an international humanitarian organization that works to eradicate land mines, returning the land to agricultural use.

Most recently she served on the advisory council of the Land Trust of Napa County, Cal Performances in Berkeley, and the Seven Tepees Youth Program that helps underprivileged children with their education. She and her husband were founding members of the Copia center for wine and food in Napa.

Erika will be missed by all of us fortunate enough to have been touched by her life. Her joy, her generosity, as well as her concern for children around the world, will long be remembered by all who knew her.

I know I speak for all my constituents when I extend condolences to Austin, Austin Jr. and Justin for their heartbreak loss. My thoughts and prayers and those of my husband Paul and the entire Pelosi family are with her loved ones at this sad time.

JEWISH COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S DISENGAGEMENT

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, just before we adjourned, the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston issued a very thoughtful statement in support of the disengagement by Israel from the Gaza Strip, and the dismantling by the Israeli government of Israeli settlements in that area.

Mr. Speaker, this was a very wrenching process for many in Israel, and the willingness of the government of Israel—supported by a majority of the people of Israel—to engage in this withdrawal with all of its difficult emotional strains speaks highly of that country's willingness to take steps for peace. The withdrawal from Gaza should not be the last action taken in this process, but it is unreasonable to expect that they will be able to take further actions in the absence of a showing by the Palestinian Authority of its willingness and ability to respond in kind to this disengagement.

The statement of the JCRC is a first-rate statement of what should be done going forward, and it is an appropriate expression of support of a majority of the Jewish Community of Greater Boston for a peace process that is thoughtful, balanced and prudent. I ask that this important statement be printed here.

JEWISH COMMUNITY EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S DISENGAGEMENT PLAN

July 19, 2005.

Nancy K. Kaufman, Executive Director and Susan A. Calechman, President of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston issued the following statement today regarding Israel's plans to disengage from the Gaza Strip and communities in northern Samaria.

"The JCRC fully supports Prime Minister Sharon and the government of Israel as they begin implementation of the Gaza disengagement plan. Israel's vigorous democracy is taking bold and courageous risks in an effort to protect her security and to renew the process of resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We also support the Israeli government's effort to resolve the conflict through a negotiated two-state solution as expressed in the Road Map. Final borders and other final status issues must be left to the parties themselves to negotiate in a peace process free from violence and the threat of violence.

Disengagement will only lead to a peaceful outcome if there is a commitment on the part of the Palestinian leadership to put an end to terrorism. We call upon the Palestinian Authority (PA) to disarm the terrorist groups and their infrastructure. This includes removal of existing stockpiles of weapons and preventing such stockpiles from being rebuilt; preventing the smuggling of weapons; closing of clandestine weapons manufacturing and preventing attacks, especially during the engagement process. The future of peace, and the stability of the PA itself, is fully dependent on it taking this action.

We recognize the profound sacrifices being made by the families who are being relocated, some after living in their homes for nearly 30 years. The loss of their homes, synagogues, farms, businesses and schools is an immense sacrifice which should be recognized with efforts made to bridge any gaps that develop among Israelis as a result of this effort.

We condemn the rhetoric of a tiny extremist fringe that promotes violence as a response to policies undertaken by the democratically elected Israeli government. At the same time, the rights of free speech and lawful dissent which are basic and indispensable in a democratic society must be protected. It is critically important that those with differing views of the peace process condemn explicit hate speech, venomous language, and threatening words. It is also important that discussion among all the conflicting viewpoints be created to promote an atmosphere in which differences can be expressed with civility and respect.

We call the U.S. Government to continue its work with Israeli and Palestinian leaders to ensure that all commitments are met and that a resolution to this conflict leads to a secure peace for both sides.

HONORING U.S. ARMY SPC. ALVIN K. BEAN UPON HIS RECEIPT OF THE ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary community service of Alvin K. Bean, a resident of Chautauqua County, Town of Panama, upon receiving the Army Commendation Medal with valor device

for a January 6 rescue mission as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The award was given on March 15, 2005. Spc. Bean was honored for his gallant actions during the rescue mission of an M2 Bradley that had received a devastating hit by an explosive device. The United States Army praised Bean saying he showed no regard for his own safety and placed the recovery of the M2 Bradley fighting vehicle before himself.

Mr. Bean has donated countless hours towards improving his community. He is hard working and dedicated. His leadership and generosity sets an example for us all. That is why, Mr. Speaker, I honor him today.

CONGRATULATING THE PRESIDENTIAL FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT ASHLEY K. THARAYIL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the superior academic performance of Ashley K. Tharayil, a recipient of this year's Presidential Freedom Scholarship. Thirteen students in the 26th Congressional District are receiving this special recognition.

This award recognizes outstanding service and citizenship initiatives by the students, who were nominated, and provides an opportunity to acknowledge their leadership. Administered by Learn and Serve America, the scholarship provides \$500 in Federal funds, matched with \$500 from a community organization or business obtained for the student by their high school or Boys and Girls Club. Winners must have completed at least 100 hours of community service, either through a school-based service-learning program or independently through service at a nonprofit or faith-based organization.

Ashley is currently a junior at North Hills School and the organization matching her \$500 in Federal funds is the North Hills School—Volunteers in Partnership.

Over 38,000 students to date have received this award and I extend my sincere congratulations to Ashley K. Tharayil for being one of them. This student's contribution and services should serve as inspiration to those who wish to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

RECOGNIZING JOHN ROBERT MOHR FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize John Robert Mohr, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 214, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

John has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the

many years John has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

For his Eagle Project, John designed and built a wheeled oak cabinet for storing toys and a matching oak table custom built for small children for the daycare center at his local church, Saint James Catholic Church.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding John Robert Mohr for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING LAWRENCE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Lawrence County Economic Development Corporation (LCEDC), on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the corporation.

Over the past 50 years the LCEDC has worked diligently to promote business growth and help foster ideal climates for commerce development. The corporation has also worked tirelessly with local business leaders and government officials throughout the community, to create jobs for the citizens of the greater Lawrence county region. I recognize the LCEDC for all of their hard work and dedication to cultivating small businesses which serve as the backbone of the American economy.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the 50th anniversary of the LCEDC. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such a principled organization as the Lawrence County Economic Development Corporation.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARISING FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF HURRICANE KATRINA, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 2, 2005

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to express my support for this critical funding to address the enormous needs that exist along the Gulf Coast following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. I also want to express my heartfelt condolences to the victims, both living and dead, of this storm. While this country has encountered many natural disasters, few in memory have produced the scenes of destruction and human need that we are seeing daily from the region. This \$10 billion we are approving today is what I expect to be a very small portion of the actual cost of the rescue and evacuation efforts in

New Orleans and the gulf area, and is a first step in a process that could take years to complete. I commend Speaker HASTERT and Leader PELOSI for acting quickly to pass this legislation.

As we always do, the people of the United States are rallying to support their fellow citizens during this time of crisis. I want to thank all of the volunteers that are heading to the region and all of the people around the country that have reached into their pocketbooks or in some other way are sending aid. This help is essential and greatly appreciated.

While there are questions being asked about why it has taken so long to get food and water to those who are stranded, now is not the time to point fingers or assign blame. There will be plenty of time to assess the government's response after the rescue and evacuation process has been completed. Let's get the job done and then make the necessary assessment.

Another painful effect of the storm is the steep rise in gasoline prices. Increased prices are hammering working families with little to no relief in sight. The Federal Government can do very little other than releasing the oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and prosecuting price gouging. It comes down to supply and demand. Demand remains high and the supply has been significantly reduced by Hurricane Katrina. We must continue to work diligently to repair the oil platforms and refineries that have been damaged, and Congress will—with the state attorneys general—keep a close eye on any potential price gouging.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to thank the leadership of the House for considering this legislation during this special session today. I know that we will continue to work on a bipartisan basis to fully address the needs of the communities that have been so horribly afflicted by Hurricane Katrina.

UNITED STATES TRADE RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to address some of the comments made during the colloquy between the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. ENGLISH, and the gentlemen from Utah, Mr. BISHOP, regarding H.R. 3283. In particular, I would like to respond to my colleagues' assertions concerning the application of section 3(b)(2) of the Act, which states that when applying the U.S. countervailing duty law to nonmarket economies, the Department of Commerce "shall ensure that . . . the application [of the law] is consistent with the international obligations of the United States." Mr. Speaker, despite my colleagues' efforts to provide reassurance about this provision, I remain deeply concerned following their exchange—and in some ways, even more so.

First, the exchange between Mr. BISHOP and Mr. ENGLISH provides no comfort to those like me that have raised concerns that section 3(b)(2) of the Act will have a chilling effect on the application of U.S. countervailing duty law. The provision clearly creates a special burden on the U.S. Department of Commerce in