

after the hurricane forced the campuses to close. The San José Recovery Center is providing interim shelter and services for evacuees at a former student housing complex at San José State University. So far, the Center has served sixty-six people.

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority responded as well by providing free bus passes to individuals and families, assuring mobility to access the medical services, education, and jobs.

United by the Santa Clara County CADRE (Collaborating Agencies Disaster Relief Efforts), many local community organizations have provided ongoing evacuee support. The Volunteer Center of Silicon Valley forwarded 900 housing offers while coordinating occupational opportunities for evacuees. Local businesses and individuals have also contributed generous cash, food, and supply donations to the recovery effort.

I commend the many individuals, organizations and agencies of Santa Clara County that contributed to the relief effort. I know that these donations and others from across the country have made a meaningful impact on the lives of the thousands of Gulf Coast residents still living in a state of uncertainty.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, the House has voted to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), a historic measure first passed in 1994. It marked when our country finally recognized that domestic violence is not a private family matter, but a national problem that requires a national response. Since VAWA passed, victims of domestic violence have more options to leave abusive relationships, local communities have developed critical programs to assist victims, and our criminal justice system has become better trained in prosecuting these unique crimes.

However, it is always the incident that happens in your backyard that will highlight the scope of a problem, such as domestic violence. In 2003, the state of Washington State became the focus of a national tragedy. Many have read in the papers the heartbreaking story of how, on April 26, 2003, Crystal Brame was shot in a grocery store parking lot by her husband, David Brame, chief of police for the city of Tacoma. Crystal Brame died one week later, and David Brame committed suicide at the scene.

In response to this tragedy, people in the state of Washington swiftly formed a statewide task force of domestic violence, law enforcement, and criminal justice system experts to determine the best practices for law enforcement agencies, focusing on prevention, training, enforcement, and response. Crystal's death and the state's response, illustrated that despite the progress since VAWA passed in 1994, tragedies of domestic violence live in our communities today, and that we must continue to work towards new solutions.

I think we can do a better job helping people like Crystal, whose abuser happened to be in a profession that responds to crimes of domestic violence. I have hopes that my col-

leagues will help put a stop to such tragedies and work with Mr. Norm Dicks, Mr. Adam Smith, and Mr. Dave Reichert, and me to commission a study by the Department of Justice to learn more about such incidences and the best response to officer-involved domestic violence. Ending domestic violence is an ongoing effort, and I have seen great improvements to this end. I would like to see an even stronger commitment so that other communities can prevent tragedies—like that of Crystal Brame from happening in their backyard.

HONORING THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 40th anniversary of the National Endowment for the Humanities and to offer my congratulations to its chairman, Bruce Cole.

In 1965, Congress discovered that the most successful democracies consist of the most informed, the most curious, and the most creative citizens. When the 89th Congress created the National Endowment for the Humanities, it declared that "Democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens."

For 40 years, the NEH has promoted "wisdom and vision" by advancing the study and understanding of history, literature, languages, archaeology, philosophy, and other humanities subjects, throughout the United States.

As Chairman Cole has so profoundly observed, "The humanities are the study of what makes us human: the legacy of our past, the ideas and principles that motivate us, and the eternal questions that we still ponder. The classics and archeology show us whence our civilization came. The study of literature and art shape our sense of beauty. The knowledge of philosophy and religion give meaning to our concepts of justice and goodness."

Today, the role humanities play in education is increasingly important. Of all the learning disciplines, they tap and expand the human imagination the most. In a world of exploding options for individuals and families, it is imperative that history provide reference points, and when there is no experience to serve as guide, that the imagination be stimulated, and perspectives applied and values brought to bear. Without reference to the guide posts of the humanities, society loses its soul. It becomes rudderless in the seas of societal change.

TENNESSEANS COME TOGETHER TO AID THE LOUISIANA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, Tennesseans have a long tradition of volunteerism. In times of need, the Nation is able to count on our state.

In the aftermath of a truly devastating hurricane season, we've seen our state and our

country come together to assist the gulf coast region. Tennesseans are opening their hearts and homes to evacuees and assisting with what will be a very long recovery. Our own Nashville Symphony will host a benefit concert on October 4, 2005 for the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra (LPO) as it struggles to survive. Nashville area businesses and the community have come together to reunite the LPO in our city for a benefit concert.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Executive Director Alan Valentine, his team at the Nashville Symphony, and the many local businesses and supporters who've come together to aid the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra.

TRIBUTE TO LAXMAIAH MANCHIKANTI, PH.D

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize one of my constituents, Laxmaiah Manchikanti, Ph.D of Paducah, Kentucky. Dr. Manchikanti has been practicing medicine in my Congressional District for the last 24 years. I have known Dr. Manchikanti for several years and have found him to be a man of incredible integrity who is devoted to helping others. He is an active member of the community as well as a forceful leader in the field of pain management. Dr. Manchikanti, an immigrant from India who is a naturalized citizen of the United States, exemplifies the fulfillment of the American dream.

Dr. Manchikanti is a well known physician with interests in many aspects of medicine, both in patient care, as well as academics. He specializes in anesthesiology with a sub-specialty in interventional pain management and is well known in the circles of interventional pain management. Apart from his interest in the clinical practice of anesthesiology and interventional pain management, he is also proficient in administrative medicine, patient advocacy, the economics of healthcare, medical ethics, and various other aspects of the profession.

Dr. Manchikanti is an avid clinical researcher with numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals with original contributions, along with book publications. He is also an internationally known teacher who has conducted multiple seminars. As President and founder of the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians (ASIPP), Dr. Manchikanti has participated in the development of various guidelines, published on the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) web-site. Apart from this, he also functions as a consultant to companies which assess evidence including ECRI (formerly the Emergency Care Research Institute), which is in charge of the AHRQ web-site and others. He also serves as a member on the Carrier Advisory Committee of Kentucky.

Because Dr. Manchikanti is a specialist in pain management, many of the drugs he prescribes have the potential to become addictive. During a conversation I had with Dr. Manchikanti a few years ago, we discussed Kentucky's efforts to combat prescription drug abuse through the Kentucky All Schedules

Prescription Electronic Reporting System (KASPER) which monitors Schedule II through IV controlled substances to detect and deter abuse. Dr. Manchikanti touted the benefits of KASPER which allows him to receive a report on all of the controlled substances his patients have been prescribed.

The problem that Dr. Manchikanti identified was that while KASPER was effective in Kentucky, there was no mechanism to determine if his patients had been prescribed a controlled substance in another state. In Kentucky, which is bordered by seven states (four in my District alone), it is easy for an individual to engage in the practice of "Dr. Shopping." In an effort to address the problem, Dr. Manchikanti and the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians (ASIPP) proposed legislation creating a national monitoring system based on KASPER whereby physicians in all states would have access to the controlled substance prescription information of their patients, no matter where they filled the prescription. To that end, Dr. Manchikanti and ASIPP submitted draft legislation entitled the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act (NASPER).

After reviewing the language and examining the idea, I decided to introduce NASPER with my colleague FRANK PALLONE during the 107th Congress. After three years of hard work by Dr. Manchikanti, ASIPP, and our supporters in Congress, we passed NASPER in both Houses of Congress and President Bush signed it into law on August 11th. NASPER combats prescription drug abuse through the creation of a grant program housed at the Department of Health and Human Services to help states establish and maintain state-operated prescription drug monitoring programs (PMPs). California established the first PMP in 1940. Nineteen additional states currently operate a PMP and five more are in the process of establishing them.

NASPER addresses one of the main impediments to existing PMPs—that they currently operate only on an intrastate basis while the diversion of drugs is an interstate problem. We help foster interstate communication by establishing some uniform standards on information and privacy protections that will make it easier for states to share information. Columbia University noted in a report released over the summer that between 1992 and 2003 the number of people abusing prescription drugs increased 94 percent—twice the increase in the number of people using marijuana, five times the number of people using cocaine, and 60 times the number of people using heroin. Even more disturbing, the report found a 212 percent increase in the number of children between the ages of 12 and 17 abusing prescription drugs.

NASPER, which is now Public Law 109–60, would not have been possible without the leadership provided by Dr. Manchikanti and ASIPP. I'm confident that the enactment of NASPER will give physicians and law enforcement an additional tool to help reduce the number of Americans abusing prescription drugs.

IN RECOGNITION OF BETTY GORHAM AND FIFTY YEARS AS A CHURCH ORGANIST

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Betty Gorham, who will be celebrating 50 years as a church organist on Sunday, October 2, 2005.

Betty Gorham is now the organist at First Baptist Church of Saks in Anniston, Alabama, and has been since October of 1975.

Betty Gorham began taking organ lessons at age seven in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where her family moved after her father's death in 1943. Her instruction continued until she was 16 years old, at which time she was performing at her home church, Eastdale Baptist Church. Her first full-time job as an organist was at Signal Mountain Baptist in Chattanooga in 1957, and was followed shortly by a move to Birmingham, Alabama, to play at Huffman Baptist Church. In fact, it was while playing the organ for a wedding rehearsal at this church that she met her future husband, Jim Gorham. They were married in 1958, and Betty followed her husband in several moves around the State of Alabama. They went first to Montgomery, where Betty played at Ridgecrest Baptist; then to Mobile in 1960, where she played at Westlawn Baptist; then back to Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963, where she played first at Fairfield Highlands Baptist Church and then at Center Point Baptist. Finally in 1973, the Gorhams moved to Anniston, Alabama, where she played at Parker Memorial and Heflin Baptist Church before beginning her long career at First Baptist Church of Saks.

Betty and Jim Gorham have now been married 47 years and have four grandchildren. In addition to her devotion to her family and her church and church music, Betty has found time to do charitable work in the community.

Let us all congratulate Betty Gorham on her 50 years of service as a church organist and thank her for her 30 years of service at First Baptist Church of Saks in Anniston, Alabama.

RECOGNIZING PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the citizens of Taiwan and to recognize their democratically elected President Chen Shui-bian who has made a stopover in the United States en route to Central America. I trust that President Chen has had a good visit in the U.S.

In the last five years, Taiwan has continued to impress the world as a prosperous island nation, free and democratic. Taiwan is truly committed to genuine democratization, as evidenced by the third direct presidential election of 2004.

By working together, Taiwan and China will have the potential to make significant contributions to peace, security and prosperity in the

entire Pacific Rim. I sincerely hope that a framework will soon be established for peaceful interactions between the two sides. It is everyone's dream that rapprochement between Taiwan and China be possible within the shortest period of time and to all parties' satisfaction.

The people of the U.S. appreciate Taiwan's cooperation with the U.S. government in combating global terrorism and Taiwan's monetary contributions to the Twin Towers Fund and the Pentagon Memorial Fund. The relationship between Taiwan and the United States is strong and healthy. Ambassador David Tawei Lee is an effective bridge between the government of Taiwan and the government of the U.S.

Mr. Speaker, we must always remember Taiwan's important role in maintaining peace and stability in the Pacific Rim. To have permanent peace in the region, the U.S. must do its part in urging Taiwan and China to continue peaceful dialogue and exchanges.

COMMEMORATING THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES' 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 40th anniversary of the creation of the National Endowment for the Humanities—a small, independent Federal agency that each year puts millions of Americans in contact with the ideas, ideals, and institutions of our great Nation.

As co-chairman of the newly established Congressional Humanities Caucus, I would like to congratulate the Endowment's Chairman, Dr. Bruce Cole, and his dedicated staff on the agency's anniversary.

In establishing the NEH through the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, Congress declared that "encouragement and support of national progress . . . in the humanities . . . , while primarily a matter of private and local initiative, is also an appropriate matter of concern to the Federal Government." Acknowledging the Federal Government's interest in promoting progress and scholarship in the humanities, the 89th Congress expressed this interest in a single, powerful observation: "Democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens."

For 40 years, NEH has promoted "wisdom and vision" by advancing the study and understanding of history, literature, languages, archaeology, and philosophy throughout the United States. With the relatively small amount of funding provided by Congress to the agency each year, the Endowment provides important seed money for projects and programs including scholarly editions of the papers of historical and cultural figures, preservation of historically important books and newspapers, seminars and institutes for K–12 teachers and college and university faculty, major television documentaries, and educational museum exhibitions.

Beginning in 2002, at the direction of President Bush and with the support of Congress, NEH began a historic initiative, We the People. We the People is a multi-faceted, agency-wide program focused on examining significant events and themes in our Nation's history. The initiative is designed to expand