

been the establishment of the Older Americans' Mental Health Week, which occurs during the last full week of May each year. This yearly public awareness campaign is designed to highlight the many misperceptions associated with mental illness and aging. To bring national attention to mental health, OWL partners with several mental health and senior citizen organizations, including the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry, American Society on Aging, AARP, American Association of People with Disabilities, Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance and Families for Depression Awareness.

Finally, it has been an honor to have a local advocate for OWL at our side, Betty Perry. Betty Perry has been instrumental at the Sacramento OWL chapter and OWL of California in providing a powerful voice for older women in regards to prescription drug benefits, equal pensions for older women and fighting against Social Security privatization.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the Older Women's League's 25 years of advocacy and empowerment of women. I am confident that this organization will continue to play a crucial role in bringing national attention to issues affecting midlife and older women. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing the Older Women's League continued success in all its future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO ADDOLORATA
IMMACOLATA GILI—DEDICATION
OF MAMA GILI'S PLACE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great enthusiasm that I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to honor the memory of a very special person, the late Addolorata (Dolores) Immacolata Gili, and to offer my congratulations to her family and friends, and to the people whose lives she touched in my Congressional District of Orange, New Jersey. Mama Gili, as she was affectionately known, was being honored on Saturday October 22, 2005 for her faithful devotion to God, her community and humankind. She was the proud mother of five children, Helen, Florida, Claudia, Caesar and Joseph Jr., and the "adoptive" mother to many people in the Orange community.

She emigrated from Atripalda, Italy to the United States in 1909 and initially stayed with her brother, Umberto, in Brooklyn, New York. After moving to Orange, New Jersey, to live with another brother, she met her future husband, Joseph F. Gili, whom she married in 1913.

Always a true believer in the omnipresent power and love of God, Mama Gili knew that her life would be guided by His principles of service to others. She opened her home to many Italian immigrants as they transitioned to a new life in the U.S. She also always made time to lend an ear and give devout advice to people in her community.

Even though she prematurely lost her husband and endured the hardships of the Great Depression as a single mother, her faith never wavered. In 1953, she returned, for the first time, to her hometown in Italy where she had

a providential meeting with a Franciscan priest. He showed her a picture of the Holy Face of Jesus from the Shroud of Turin. After seeing this image, Mama Gili dedicated her life, until her death in 1985, to spreading the Word about the Holy Face to those in her community.

She was honored by the Italian Tribune newspaper with the Woman of the Year award in 1965 for her work with many charities and, for helping both to establish the Capuchin Franciscan Friars and to organize the Third Order of St. Francis in Orange. This past Saturday, she was again being honored with the dedication of Minton Place between Lincoln Avenue and Scotland Road in Orange, NJ. Renamed "Mama Gili Place", this memorial will be a tribute to her steadfast dedication to her faith and community.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mama Gili's friends and family on their efforts to keep her legacy alive. I also wish them continued success on their journey towards her Beatification/Canonization to Sainthood.

PROTECTION OF LAWFUL
COMMERCE IN ARMS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of S. 397, the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act.

I am an original cosponsor of the House version of this legislation because I do not believe that licensed gun manufacturers and merchants should be held legally responsible for the unlawful use of their lawful products. Continuing to allow these frivolous lawsuits could set a dangerous precedent for future lawsuits affecting many other industries across the nation. By passing this similar Senate bill, we will prevent state courts from bankrupting the national firearms industry and undermining all citizens' constitutional right to bear arms.

Tort law rests upon a foundation of individual responsibility where a product may not be defined as defective unless there is something wrong with the product, rather than with the product's user. It is ridiculous to allow such lawsuits to clog our courtrooms and hinder those with valid claims from receiving justice.

Today, this Congress has the opportunity to address unfounded lawsuits and guard a legal and law-abiding industry. We should pass this legislation to protect the rights of citizens who own and operate firearms in a legal manner, and to free up our courtrooms for those legitimately harmed by defective products.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this sensible legislation and set a precedent of respect for an industry which has done nothing wrong. We should hold individuals responsible for their crime, not the product manufacturer.

NATIONAL GAUCHER FOUNDATION
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, last month, September, the National Gaucher Foundation devoted its efforts to publicizing what the foundation calls "the most prevalent genetic disease facing United States Jews." The National Gaucher Foundation is dedicated to combating this disease that affects significant numbers of Ashkenazi Jews. While the disease is very debilitating, it is treatable, and it is therefore particularly important that people learn a great deal about it so that those who do suffer from it or are threatened from it are aware of what can be done to treat it. I commend the work of the National Gaucher Foundation, and I encourage people, particularly Ashkenazi Jews who may well be vulnerable to it, to take advantage of the foundation's work to gain knowledge that may be of significant benefit for their health and that of their families.

FISCAL SPENDING CONSTRAINT

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, President Reagan once said, "We don't have a trillion-dollar debt because we haven't taxed enough; we have a trillion-dollar debt because we spend too much." I wish others would heed his words and begin exercising more fiscal constraint.

We should start with our own paychecks and truly lead the American people by actions and not words.

I have introduced a bill—Rescind the Congressional Pay Raise Act, which rescinds Members' salaries back to last year's pay level. We cannot, in good conscience, entitle ourselves to more money while others continue to willingly make sacrifices for the sake of our Nation's future.

Mr. Speaker, now is the critical time for Congress to step up to the plate and do what is necessary to control this spending gone awry. Let us start with ourselves.

RECOGNIZING LOCAL MARINES
FROM INDIA COMPANY FOR
THEIR SERVICE TO THIS NATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to express thanks to the Marines from India Company who have just completed a tour of duty where they fought heroically on behalf of the United States of America.

The brave soldiers from India Company were deployed to Iraq in March of this year to aid in Operation Iraqi Freedom and have just recently returned to be with their families in western New York.

In particular, I would like to recognize Sgt. Eugene O'Connor, Cpl Joshua O'Connor, PVT Matthew Shaw, Sgt Gary Spengler Jr., PVT Jarred Leavitt, Cpl William Maher, Sgt James Thompson, LCpl Chris Manns, LCpl Jason Florea and Cpl Jonathan Monaco, our local heroes who selflessly defended peaceful international relations and helped secure freedom for the Iraqi people. Each played an integral role in their company and deserve our recognition and respect.

Through their valiant efforts they assisted stabilizing the city of Hit in the province of Al Anbar, protecting Iraqis and their comrades, aiding in the arrest of 116 insurgents, and assisting in exposing over 150 weapons stores and 160 bombs.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the residents of the 27th Congressional District and all Americans I wish to extend my sincerest gratitude to these courageous and noble soldiers. Their service and sacrifices help protect the safety and freedoms that make this Nation great.

CONGRATULATING MARIELA
AGUILLON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Mariela Aguillon for receiving the PacifiCare Latino Health Scholarship.

Since 2003, PacifiCare has awarded \$356,000.00 to 155 deserving students in the Latino Health Scholars program. This program was created to educate students about career opportunities for Hispanics and Latinos in the healthcare field. In order to qualify for this \$2,000.00 scholarship, applicants are required to demonstrate a grade point average of 3.0 or better and be fluent in Spanish and English. In addition, applicants must be enrolled in an approved health care program at a university, community college or accredited technical college.

According to the Office of Minority Health, there is a nationwide shortage of bilingual and bicultural professionals in the health care field. Specifically, the shortage of Spanish speaking personnel in nursing and other allied health professions, coupled with the growth of the Latino population in the United States, requires training and recruitment of an ever-greater number of qualified professionals. Mr. Russell Bennett, Vice President of PacifiCare's Latino Health Solutions, notes that the Latino Health Scholars program has "made a positive difference in the lives of these deserving youths who are beginning their journey toward realizing their academic and professional aspirations."

I extend my sincere congratulations to Ms. Mariela Aguillon on receiving this scholarship funded by the PacifiCare Foundation. As a doctor of over 21 years, I commend Ms. Aguillon's dedication and desire to help others by pursuing a career in the health care profession.

A TRIBUTE TO THE 2005
SACRAMENTO MONARCHS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to the 2005 Sacramento Monarchs, the deserving winners of the 2005 Women's National Basketball Association championship. The 2005 Monarchs successfully beat the Connecticut Sun three games to one in a thrilling best of five games series to be crowned WNBA royalty. By winning the 2005 WNBA championship series, the Sacramento Monarchs gave Sacramento its first national title in professional basketball. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in saluting the triumphant 2005 Sacramento Monarchs.

The 2005 Sacramento Monarchs were comprised of an outstanding blend of seasoned professionals with several years of WNBA experience under their belts, as well as young, talented recent college graduates. The team was led by Yolanda Griffith, a former WNBA MVP and four-time WNBA All-Star. During the regular season, Griffith averaged nearly fourteen points and over six rebounds a game. Against the Sun, when it mattered the most, she increased her averages to eighteen points and ten rebounds a game and was named Finals MVP.

During the playoffs, point guard Ticha Penicheiro led the league in assists, and averaged five a game throughout the Monarchs' playoff run. She was recently recognized in her hometown of Figueira da Foz, Portugal, with the "Medalha de Honra ao Merito Desportivo," a medal honoring her outstanding achievement in the WNBA.

In addition, the 2005 WNBA Championship team was assisted by the contributions of many other great players including Olympia Scott-Richardson, DeMya Walker, Kara Lawson, Rebekkah Brunson, and Nicole Powell. All of these Monarchs proved themselves to be among the best in the entire league. Whether a veteran or a recent addition, every member of the championship team demonstrated excellent team work, dedication, and integrity as they fought their way to win the title. Later this month, the entire team will find themselves on supermarket shelves across the country, as they will be the first WNBA team featured on a Wheaties box.

Besides having an extremely talented roster, the Monarchs could not have gone as far as they did without the commitment of a great coaching staff and an uncompromising leadership team in the front office. On the bench, head coach John Whisenant and his able assistant coaches Tom Abatemarco, Steve Shuman, and Monique Ambers each contributed countless hours of film watching, strategizing, and coaching to transform the Monarchs into champions.

In the front office, the Monarchs are led by the ownership of the Maloof Family and the astute management of team president John Thomas. Under the Maloofs, the Sacramento Monarchs have taken great steps to gain a widespread following among area fans. Given the team's commitment to their fans, it is no wonder that Sacramento fans are so loyal to

their professional sports teams. In September, over 3,000 fans cheered the Monarchs on as they paraded through downtown Sacramento with the WNBA championship trophy.

Mr. Speaker, as the Sacramento Monarchs revel in their most successful season in their nine year history and prepare for another outstanding season, I am honored to pay tribute to the many hardworking women and men of the Monarchs' franchise. Over the past few months, they have brought so much joy and civic pride to the city of Sacramento. Their success and loyal following is truly a testament to the ever increasing importance of women's professional sports, and it is a great honor for me to have the opportunity to commend them on their accomplishments. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the Sacramento Monarchs on a memorable season and wishing them continued success in the future.

RECOGNITION OF MRS. BONNIE
MANLEY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mrs. Bonnie Marley of San Diego, California and Mr. Ron Blackman of Fort Wayne, Indiana. These special individuals dedicated their lives to educating the United States' next generation of cosmetologists. Mrs. Manley and Mr. Blackman were owners of Pivot Point International member schools, part of a global beauty education company headquartered in my district. They honorably supported the company's philanthropic commitment to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC).

Mrs. Manley was passionate about the welfare of children. Whether it was caring for her own grandchildren, or a missing child hundreds of miles away, she inspired her students to raise more than \$50,000 for NCMEC.

Ron Blackman refused to allow even a disaster to stop his commitment to the National Center. Despite severe flood damage to his school, he continued to raise money. Each year their students joined hundreds of others nationwide to raise money for NCMEC. Their contributions are now approaching the \$500,000 mark.

Tragically, both of these amazing individuals have recently passed away. To honor their commitment to children, the Pivot Point Member Schools have created the "Manley-Blackman Spirit Award." This award will be given to a Pivot Point school owner, faculty member, or staff person who demonstrates a willingness to push limits, has shown a commitment to community service, inspires others to be the best they can be, and demonstrates perseverance in the face of adversity. I hope that all my colleagues join me in recognizing the lives and achievements of Bonnie Manley and Ron Blackman.