

tyranny to preserve the liberties we all hold dear. We owe them a profound debt of gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have helped bring these three gentlemen to Capitol Hill today. Don, Buck and Vance, thank you so much for sharing your time, your experience and your stories with us today.

RECOGNIZING THE GEORGE MARK CHILDREN'S HOUSE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the George Mark Children's House in San Leandro, California, the first free-standing residential children's hospice and respite care facility in the United States. The House offers around the clock respite care; transitional care, end-of life and family care services to children with life-threatening or terminal illnesses.

The George Mark Children's House's focus is on keeping the family intact while in the midst of profoundly challenging circumstances. The House features private family quarters that allow parents and siblings to stay together with a child during the final stage of his or her life, when care at home or the hospital is no longer practical and/or desirable. The House helps families make the most of the precious time they have remaining together. In this unhurried, nurturing and non-institutional setting, child focused end-of life care and bereavement support is available for the entire family.

An interdisciplinary team of specialists staff the House; pediatric physicians, nurses, social workers, spiritual care counselors, therapists and intensively trained volunteers. Through the generosity and support of the community, the George Mark Children's House is accessible to medically eligible families, regardless of their ability to pay.

It is anticipated the House will serve up to 150 families per year from the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond. I am hopeful the George Mark Children's House will serve as a model to be replicated throughout the country for the establishment of other residential children's hospices for terminally ill children, and respite care for their families with a full spectrum of supportive services.

I send best wishes to the George Mark Children's House as we welcome them to our community.

CONGRATULATING KAREN KUREK OF HINSDALE, ILLINOIS

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Karen Kurek, a resident of the 13th Congressional District of Illinois, on receiving the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2005 Illinois District Office and Midwest Regional Small Business Administration Champion Award for "Women in Business Champion of the Year."

Karen Kurek began her career in Arthur Andersen's Audit practice in 1981 where she became a manager in 1985 and a partner in 1994. Soon after her elevation to partner she gave birth to twins, which made it difficult for Karen to continue with the 60-hour workweeks that are customary for partners. Facing a dilemma common to many women—how to manage a career and family—she paved a pioneering path at Arthur Andersen by proposing and negotiating a reduced work schedule on what was to be a one-year trial basis. Karen faced her fair share of skeptics, but she proved them wrong. She not only excelled at Arthur Andersen, but she committed herself to making these same benefits available for other women working for the firm.

Karen's success led to her appointment as head of Arthur Andersen's innovative Growth and Retention of Women (GROW) Initiative. Established in 1998, GROW's purpose was to significantly enhance the recruitment, retention, advancement and leadership paths of women within the firm. Under Karen's leadership, the GROW initiative led to reduced turnover among women, an increased number of women in leadership positions, greater implementation of flexible work schedules, and Arthur Andersen's repeated citation in Working Mother Magazine's annual list of "100 Best Companies for Working Mothers."

Today, Karen continues to help women excel in the workforce. As a partner at RSM McGladrey, she heads the firm's Women's Initiative—an ongoing, multi-faceted program of networking, mentoring and career-building activities designed to create a culture that encourages diversity and allows women professionals to excel.

Throughout Karen's career, she has paved the way for the women who followed her. Working tirelessly to establish a supportive environment for women in the workforce, she helped to create an atmosphere in which women looking to balance a career and family can thrive professionally. I commend her for improving the lives of women and their families and I once again congratulate her on receiving this much deserved award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, April 28, 2005 I was unable to vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 210, Supporting the goals of World Intellectual Property Day, and recognizing the importance of intellectual property in the United States and Worldwide. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call vote 150.

CELEBRATING THE CITY OF TREASURE ISLAND, FLORIDA'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask my colleagues to join me this afternoon

in celebrating the 50th anniversary of incorporation of the City of Treasure Island, which I have the great privilege to represent.

It was at 2:32 p.m. on May 3, 1955 that the Florida State Legislature by a special act incorporated the towns of Sunset Beach, Boca Ciega, Sunset Beach, and Treasure Island into the City of Treasure Island.

Throughout this past half-century, the city has grown into a favorite destination for beach goers from throughout Florida, our Nation and the world. Although the current population of Treasure Island is 7,500, in the winter months it more than doubles to accommodate the many visitors who want to experience its beautiful beaches; colorful sunsets; unique shops, restaurants and businesses. It is a great community in which to live, to work, and to play.

Many individuals, volunteer organizations, and elected officials have made significant contributions to the development of Treasure Island over the past 50 years. Eight individuals have had the honor to serve the city as Mayor and countless others have served on the city council. Together, they have worked hard to maintain the small town feel for this jewel of Florida's Gulf Coast.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, let me again congratulate the people of Treasure Island as they gather today for the reenactment of the signing of their charter of incorporation. It has been an honor to represent the city in public office for 45 of their first 50 years and to call it home for many of those years. Please join me in wishing the City of Treasure Island and its residents and visitors well as they embark on their next 50 years of living and working together.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FLAKE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position on rollcall votes 149 and 150. I was regrettably absent from the chamber today during rollcall votes 149, and 150. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 149, and "yea" on rollcall 150.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION COMMEMORATING THE WAR OF 1812 BICENTENNIAL

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing with Representative WAYNE GILCHREST two pieces of legislation that will be catalysts for the forthcoming national commemoration of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812.

The first bill, entitled the "Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail Act", will establish within the National Park Service's National Trails System a 290-mile long trail extending from Southern Maryland through the District of Columbia and Virginia and north to Baltimore, Maryland. The trail will follow and recognize

the Chesapeake Campaign of the War of 1812. That campaign culminated with the British bombardment of Ft. McHenry which inspired our National Anthem.

The second bill, entitled the "Star-Spangled Banner and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission Act", will authorize establishing a national commission to organize, facilitate and encourage observance and commemoration of America's Second Revolutionary War—the War of 1812. The Commission will also seek to protect historic and cultural resources associated with the war.

The War of 1812 tested our young nation to its roots. Shortly after conclusion of the Revolutionary War and the establishment of a federal government for our nation, the English and French entered 22 years of war. Our nation, dependent upon trade to survive, was increasingly drawn into this conflict. Though we struggled to remain neutral traders, essential tools in the English-French conflict were the naval blockade and other trade-restricting efforts. The English, with the most powerful navy, were particularly effective in enforcing blockades, often directly off our shores—frequently intercepting American trading vessels in our own territorial waters. In addition, the British aggressively impressed American sailors. England claimed the right to halt American ships and remove both suspected deserters from the Royal Navy and former subjects of His Majesty though they were American citizens.

From 1793 through 1812, our country sought to establish its neutrality and reduce growing frictions with the British on the seas through diplomacy. But anti-British feelings grew, particularly in the West and South where expansionists were strong. Growing economic pressures also led to young, aggressive Members of Congress from these regions gaining control and declaring war against the British in 1812.

Central to the War of 1812 was the Chesapeake Campaign. The British were depending largely upon their navy to vanquish the Americans and they almost immediately began a very effective blockade of the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays. In the summer of 1814 the British launched a land and naval attack upon the United States beginning in Southern Maryland. The British engaged with the American Chesapeake Flotilla on St. Leonard's Creek in Calvert County in June. In August they put troops ashore at Benedict, on the Patuxent River and began marching towards the largely undefended City of Washington. After the brief Battle of Bladensburg, the British marched into Washington and burned much of the new federal city.

The British then turned to the greater prize of the era, an attack on Baltimore. The City of Baltimore in 1814 was far larger, wealthier and more important than Washington. Three American warships were under construction in the Baltimore harbor at the time and the City's shipyards were well known for outfitting most effective privateers—the Baltimore Clippers. But Baltimore was well defended. Local leaders had organized defensive efforts, acting independently from the national government. Private donations of more than \$500,000 had been put to good use and militias from Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania gathered, joining with many local citizens to defend the city.

The British first met strong resistance at the Battle of North Point, but they prevailed

through greater numbers and then held up just outside the city limits to await the naval co-operation necessary to occupy Baltimore. Thus Ft. McHenry became the crucial battle line. The heroic defenders at Fort McHenry held off the British fleet through the ships' long bombardment, ending the English advance and preserving liberty and independence for our young nation. Our National Anthem, written that fateful night by Francis Scott Key as a poem, well recognizes the historic importance of this battle to our people and nation.

The proud history of this Second War of Independence deserves broad national commemoration upon its bicentennial. The first bill introduced today will designate the Star-Spangled Banner Trail in the States of Maryland and Virginia and the District of Columbia as a National Historic Trail. Today, the Park Service has designated 16 National Historic Trails, from the Lewis and Clark trail of exploration, to the trail from Selma to Montgomery. The Star Spangled Banner Trail will recognize the most important sites from the War of 1812's Chesapeake Campaign and the role played by the patriots of these battles in the ultimate defeat of the British by our young nation.

The second bill we are introducing today authorizes the "Star Spangled Banner and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission" to plan, coordinate and facilitate programs and other efforts to commemorate the historic events associated with the War of 1812. The Commission will be made up of citizens from 9 key states involved in the War from Alabama to New York, representatives of the cities of Baltimore, Washington and New Orleans, members of National Park Service, and appointees of the House and Senate. The Commission will have broad authority and responsibility for bicentennial events, but will also work to assure that the natural and cultural resources of the war are protected for the long term. As well, the Commission will enable improvements at sites and to facilities necessary to enhance and maximize our citizens' appreciation of this era's proud history.

Several years ago Congressman GILCHREST and I worked closely on legislation directing the Park Service to conduct the studies that have led to introduction of these bills. I am pleased that he is joining me today as the original co-sponsor on both. I would also like to recognize all the legislative work of Senator PAUL SARBANES to prepare for the commemoration of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812. He has introduced companion legislation in the Senate to the two bills we are introducing today.

Mr. Speaker, I hope all our colleagues from the regions directly impacted by the War of 1812 and others from across the nation will join us in support of both these bills.

HONORING CHANCELLOR JAMES H. MULLEN, JR. AND HIS SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE AND WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in grateful recognition of Dr. James H. Mullen,

Jr., Chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Asheville. Dr. Mullen, who has served as Chancellor since July 1999, will leave UNC Asheville in July 2005. As an incredible advocate of excellence in liberal arts education and a proponent of community partnerships, Chancellor Mullen leaves a legacy of achievement at the University of North Carolina at Asheville that will surely be missed.

Under his leadership, Chancellor Mullen has advanced UNC Asheville's national prominence in public liberal arts education. UNC Asheville is ranked fourth among the nation's 21 public liberal arts universities by U.S. News & World Report magazine, has been a "best buy" in the Fiske Guide to Colleges for 11 years, and is one of just 81 colleges included in the "America's Best College Values."

Among the notable University initiatives begun during his service the past six years are the Pisgah Astronomical Research, Science and Education Center, a collaboration that has created a national radio astronomy observatory and education center; the National Environmental Modeling and Analysis Center, which partners academia, governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and businesses in the area of prediction and analysis of air, land and water environmental data; the Craft Campus, that will provide a much-needed facility for its students, will serve as a national model for green building, and add to the region's growing craft economy; and the North Carolina Center for Health and Wellness Promotion, a unique academic and outreach program that will focus on regional problems of childhood obesity, workplace wellness and senior wellness.

During his tenure, the University has also undertaken a \$49 million, bond-funded capital construction program. The new Highsmith University Union opened in Fall 2004 and the new Carmichael Hall classroom building will open in Fall 2005. Under way are the new Zeis Science and Multimedia Arts classroom building, a facilities management complex, and renovations to the Zageir Hall classroom building. Through other funding sources, the University also completed the Governors Hall residence hall and the Reuter Center, home to the North Carolina Center for Creative Retirement.

Dr. Mullen has also overseen the development of new and innovative academic and co-curricular programs, such as Integrative Liberal Studies, which is a new and innovative approach to general education.

Perhaps Chancellor Mullen's most valued legacy is his strong personal relationship with students, in whom he vested his confidence, trust and hope for the future. Dr. Mullen has always demonstrated an intense personal interest in all students, attending organization meetings, joining students for lunch in the Dining Hall, for chats on the Quad and for an occasional tag football game.

On behalf of North Carolina's Eleventh District, I would like to thank Chancellor Mullen for his dedicated service to the students at the University of North Carolina at Asheville and wish him the best of luck and success as he becomes Chancellor at The College of Our Lady of the Elms in Massachusetts.