

In addition to allowing the federal courts to better plan and control their budget, which will improve the delivery of judicial services to the public, this Act will improve the transparency associated with how the judiciary's funds are spent.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, which I am introducing in direct response to the plea of the Chief Justice that this issue "now warrant[s] immediate attention and action." I and the Judiciary Conference of the U.S. look forward to the House passing this legislation without delay.

TRIBUTE TO THE VOLUNTEERS OF THE McCANDLESS ROTARY CLUB

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the volunteers of the McCandless Rotary Club.

The Rotary Club of McCandless was founded in 1988, and will be holding its 10th annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner, Thursday, February 9, 2006. For the past 10 years this dinner has honored individuals who have given their time, talent and finances in support of churches and synagogues, human service agencies, fire and police departments and Ivan flood recovery. This year, however, will be the first year that blood and organ donors will be honored. The club also gives \$10,000 to various community agencies in the area and hosts a monthly bingo game for the residents of the Regency Nursing Home.

The dinner honors the commitment of McCandless residents, including: Frank and Judy Holby, organ donors; Rev. Jean Henderson, platelet donor; Marlynn Baldo, blood and platelet donor; Patricia DiClemente, organ, platelet and blood donor; John Dauer, whole blood donor; and Edmond Olszewski, bone marrow donor. The club has recently completed a shipment of computers and pharmaceuticals to Benin. Two club members, Denny and Kathy Crawford, have participated in two Polio National Immunization Days in Africa.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring Pennsylvania American Water on receiving the Directors Award. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute a dedicated club such as the Rotary Club of McCandless.

COMMEMORATING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY AND COMPLETION OF THE MODERNIZATION PROJECT AT HILLSDALE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to announce to my colleagues that on February 24, 2006, Hillsdale High School, in San Mateo California, which is in my Congressional District, will be commemorating its fif-

tieth anniversary and will be celebrating the completion of a modernization project that will ensure that Hillsdale's doors are open for students for another 50 years or more.

The San Mateo Union High School district has six outstanding high schools. Nearly 6 years the citizens of San Mateo voted for a \$137.5 million bond measure to modernize these wonderful schools. Hillsdale High School determined to construct a new Student Services building as well as substantive remodeling of the library, science building, general education classrooms, the cafeteria, the theater, the auditorium, a music building, and the gym's and locker rooms. As a result of these renovations Hillsdale High School will continue to play a leading educational role in the San Mateo Union High School district.

Mr. Speaker, Hillsdale High School is truly an extraordinary learning institution. The award winning design of the school, profiled in Life Magazine when the school opened its doors 50 years ago, continues to receive praise and distinctions. Of special note is the fact that Hillsdale High School was recently recognized by the United States Department of Education as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. This remarkable recognition was bestowed on only 260 schools in the United States. In addition to Hillsdale's achievements in the classroom, the school's rich athletic tradition displayed in league championships and distinguished alumni playing at the collegiate and professional levels.

Mr. Speaker, the modernization and new construction at Hillsdale High School was made possible because of the amazing dedication and work demonstrated by the Board of Trustees, community leaders, parents, school staff, the public at-large, and the now-retired Superintendent Thomas C. Mohr. Without their spectacular efforts, the modernization project would not have succeeded. I urge all my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Hillsdale High School community on the successful modernization of its facility and on its 50th anniversary.

NATIONAL SALUTE TO HOSPITALIZED VETERANS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week was established in 1978. It takes place every year during the week of February 14 and it is an opportunity to salute America's veterans and ensure to them that their sacrifices for their country are not forgotten. Next week, members of my district staff will visit the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center in Houston.

They will pay tribute and honor to the brave soldiers there who were wounded in their valiant service to our country. They have made an enormous sacrifice to ensure that we all are able to live in freedom and we are indebted to them. This is the American people's chance to say thank you for that sacrifice. It is vitally important that we do not forget these defenders of freedom and do all that we can to help them along in their recovery.

I am proud to say that my staff will be bringing get well cards, and other tokens of appre-

ciation, from the students of Deerwood Elementary School in Kingwood, Texas. It is a fitting tribute, from the young children to the soldiers, who have fought to guarantee the America they inherit is as free as it is today.

The entire 2nd Congressional District of Texas says thank you to these brave men and women for their service and their sacrifice. We wish them all a full and speedy recovery.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID H. SMITH

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate David H. Smith of Rio Blanco County, as the honored recipient of the Wayne N. Aspinall Water Leader of the Year Award from the Colorado Water Congress.

The career of David H. Smith reflects his extraordinary dedication to the protection of water rights in the State of Colorado. His inspiring leadership on these very important issues is greatly appreciated by all citizens of Colorado.

Mr. Smith's passion for conservation and leadership in water issues lead to a 20-year tenure on the Colorado Water Conservation Board as well as 12 years of service as Rio Blanco County's director on the Colorado River Water Conservation Board. Mr. Smith's commitment to his community extends beyond water issues to service on the county planning commission and the local school board. Mr. Smith himself is a rancher in the region and has devoted his life to the protection and maintenance of this lifestyle.

Family and friends have been quick to praise Mr. Smith as someone who has exemplified genuine concern for the water rights of the citizens of Colorado. Mr. Smith displayed his resolve during the oil-shale boom in the 1970s and 1980s when he guaranteed the preservation of property and water rights in Western Colorado. Later, during the 2002 drought, Mr. Smith was instrumental in negotiating a water-sharing plan for White River Valley ranchers and farmers.

Even with all his public service, Mr. Smith maintains a strong family life, having been married to his wife Sue Ann for 53 years with two sons and a daughter.

Mr. Smith's story is one of compassion and commitment, not only for the protection of the rights of the ranchers and farmers in his region but also for the maintenance of a lifestyle learned from his great-grandfather, an immigrant from Scotland who introduced Mr. Smith to the ideas of irrigation. A life of service and leadership, of achievement and ambition, Mr. Smith's accomplishment is one that deserves recognition and respect by all citizens of Colorado who have benefited from his devotion.

It is a tremendous honor to stand today and publicly recognize Mr. David H. Smith for his many contributions to the community. It is my privilege to extend congratulations to Mr. Smith for the receipt of the Wayne N. Aspinall Water Leader of the Year Award.

A SALUTE TO HAM RADIO
OPERATORS**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of American citizens who are members of the Amateur Radio Relay League, known as HAM radio operators. Citizens throughout America dedicated to this hobby—a hobby that some people consider old fashioned or obsolete—were true heroes in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina as they were often the only line of communication available into the storm ravaged areas.

Amateur radio operators are often overlooked in favor of flashier means of communication. As communities across the gulf coast and America learned this year, technology can be highly vulnerable. HAM radios, entirely self-contained transmitters, require no cell towers or satellites, simply a battery and a strip of wire as an antenna.

Just as after major earthquakes, tornadoes, and the terrorist attacks of 9/11, HAM operators around the country received an alert to stand by their radios to listen for calls for assistance. Following Hurricane Katrina, when cell phones and e-mail were useless, a HAM operator located in Connecticut alerted authorities about a woman trapped for 4 days without food or water and a Coast Guard Auxiliary in Cleveland arranged for a medevac for a woman in labor in New Orleans. These are just a few examples of the many lives that were saved with the critical intervention of HAM operators throughout the country.

Now more than ever, I am proud to be a licensed amateur radio operator. It is important to realize that every HAM radio operator in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service is a volunteer. This year, when disaster struck, hundreds of HAMS moved to the gulf coast to help in every way they could. Every one of which did so on a volunteer basis and their only goal was to assist in what became one of the worst natural disasters in America.

The dedication displayed by HAM radio operators in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina sets a tremendous example for us all. The people whose lives were rescued as a result of the tireless dedication of HAM radio operators will forever be grateful to these selfless public servants.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Coretta Scott King, who, sadly, passed away last week at the age of 78.

Mrs. King will be greatly missed and fondly remembered as a remarkable woman who passionately worked with her husband, Martin Luther King, Jr., in America's nonviolent struggle for equal rights and who pursued the vi-

sion of equality and justice long after his tragic death in 1968. While I and constituents throughout my district, including those in Richmond, California, mourn her loss we remember her achievements, her courage, and what she symbolized to people across the country and throughout the world.

While she was Dr. King's partner in the struggle for equal rights, Coretta Scott King was also a civil rights activist in her own right. Dr. King once said, "I wish I could say . . . that I led her down this path. But I must say we went down it together, because she was as actively involved and concerned when we met as she is now."

An inspirational woman to so many already, Mrs. King will remain a role model for generations to come.

When her husband's fight for equality was cut short by the brutal shot of bigotry and hatred, Mrs. King's fight had only just begun. And now with her death, we face the same question she faced so many years ago. President Clinton eloquently spoke about this question yesterday at Mrs. King's funeral service in Atlanta when he said,

. . . the most important day in her life for everyone of us here at this moment in this church, except when she embraced her faith, the next most important day was April 5, 1968, the day after her husband was killed. She had to decide, "What am I going to do with the rest of my life?" We would have all forgiven her, even honored her if she said, "I have stumbled on enough stony roads. I have been beaten by enough bitter rods. I have endured enough dangers, toils and snares. I'm going home and raising my kids. I wish you all well." None of us, nobody could have condemned that decision. But instead, she went to Memphis—the scene of the worst nightmare of her life—and led that march for those poor hard-working garbage workers that her husband [advocated for]. Now, that's the most important thing for us. Because what really matters if you believe all this stuff we've been saying is, "What are we going to do with the rest of our lives?"

Indeed, she went on to work so hard for all of us. In addition to her efforts to build the Martin Luther King memorial in Atlanta to establishing a national holiday in her husband's memory, Coretta Scott King worked tirelessly so that her husband's struggle, and the struggle of the millions of Americans who worked with him and shared his vision to bring equality to all people, was never forgotten.

She took upon herself the responsibility of keeping alive Dr. King's civil rights legacy but also found her own causes. She advocated equality for all. She became active with the National Organization for Women and said, "Women, if the soul of the Nation is to be saved, I believe that you must become its soul." In 2000 she spoke at a fundraiser sponsored by the Metropolitan Community Church, a predominantly gay denomination in San Francisco, where she gave a powerful speech expressing that "until everybody has equality; no one has equality. We can't just be for civil rights of one group."

The King family has a strong history with the community in Richmond, CA.

Mrs. King's speech in San Francisco inspired Jerrold Hatchett of Richmond to form the National Brotherhood Alliance, a non-profit organization that serves as a collaborative of business, community, religious, and grassroots organizations to mentor youth and address community issues.

Richmond Mayor Irma Anderson remembers attending Union Methodist Church in Boston with the Kings. Her husband, Rev. Booker T. Anderson, who went on to become a Richmond city councilman, attended Boston University School of Theology with Dr. King. Their relationship was one of the reasons Dr. King stopped in Richmond to meet with local leaders when he visited northern California in 1961. Mayor Anderson remembers Mrs. King as being loyal to her husband and family and supportive of the civil rights movement, and she had a beautiful singing voice.

Mayor Anderson said that, "Mrs. King's singing voice changed after her husband was murdered." It, however, did not alter her passion for justice and she continued her struggle against injustice.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents, I rise to acknowledge the loss of a great woman, a mother, a friend to all and a hero. I extend my heartfelt condolences to the King family and their friends in this difficult time.

America owes the entire King family an enormous debt of gratitude for teaching all Americans the meaning of dignity, patriotism and justice. This Congress, and this nation, must not let down Dr. King down. We must not let Mrs. King down. We must pursue their vision of justice and freedom as vigilantly today as ever before and preserve the greatness of America for our children and our children's children.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 655, honoring the life and accomplishments of Mrs. Coretta Scott King. It is with great respect and a heavy heart that I pay tribute to the life of a woman admired by so many Americans.

On January 31, 2006, God summoned home one of His most dedicated activists in the fight for equal rights and social justice. It seems like only yesterday that Mrs. King joined her husband, the late Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., to fight for equality for all Americans.

While the country mourned the loss of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Mrs. King picked up the torch and continued the fight for social justice, at the same time caring for their four children: Yolanda Denise, Martin Luther III, Dexter Scott, and Bernie Albertine. In doing so, she worked tirelessly on multi-national disarmament treaties, anti-poverty efforts in the U.S., and opposition to apartheid in South Africa. Later, in 1985, she initiated the creation of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute to ensure that future generations of leaders carry on Rev. King's dream of peace and social justice. It is fitting that we honor her today not far from where she led several hundred-thousand people to commemorate her husband's historic march on our Nation's Capital.

Because of the Reverend and Mrs. King's hard work and many sacrifices throughout the