

perspective. This is an institutional responsibility for the House of Representatives. But it is also a personal responsibility for each of us as representatives of our constituents. The sacrifices made by our military and civilian personnel serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, those made by Coalition personnel, and those made by Iraqis themselves only further reinforce the need to elevate our discussion on the merits of and challenges associated with what remains of the mission in Iraq.

I believe an honest and open exchange of views on the substance of what our country and our allies seek to achieve in Iraq is needed. This legislation would provide us the information we need to make better informed decisions on policy with regard to Iraq.

**CELEBRATING THE 50TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY OF CHESTER AND
IRENE BROZEK**

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to pay tribute to Chester and Irene Brozek of Three Rivers, Massachusetts, upon the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

It was June 16, 1956, that Chester and Irene wed at Saints Peter and Paul Church in Three Rivers, Massachusetts. They have lived their lives together in that small town, attended the same schools—in the same class—and raised four sons and a daughter; Steven, Jim, David, Carolyn and Michael.

Chester, or Zab, worked at the Monsanto Company in Indian Orchard for more than 30 years. Irene worked for the Town of Palmer in the Tax Collector's Office, becoming the tax collector and retiring from that position.

On Saturday, June 24th Chester and Irene will return to Saints Peter and Paul Church to celebrate with their children, their 12 grandchildren, relatives and friends this momentous occasion. I congratulate them and wish them health, best wishes and happiness in their years to come.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO GIBRAN
BAYDOUN**

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gibran Baydoun for winning the 2006 National Endowment for the Arts Nevada Poetry Out Loud State Championship.

Gibran Baydoun attends Green Valley High School in Henderson, Nevada and recently won the Nevada State Finals for the National Endowment for the Arts Poetry Out Loud Contest held in Carson City. Created by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, this program encourages high school students to memorize and perform great poems. Poetry Out Loud invites the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word, and theater into the English class. This exciting new program helps students master public

speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage.

Mr. Speaker, having met and listened to Gibran Baydoun, I am proud to honor him for his success at the Nevada Poetry Out Loud State Championship. Gibran's successful memorization and performance of great poems at the Nevada State Finals is a note worthy achievement.

ANSWERED PRAYERS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, the costs of Hurricane Katrina and Rita are far more than dollar amounts. For days, thousands of people fought for survival among the rising flood waters, lack of food and water, and outlaws victimizing the weak and helpless. In an attempt to lead the smallest victims of the hurricanes to safety, desperate, yet well-meaning parents sent their children with family and evacuation workers fleeing for safety. Their hope was to reunite after the storm; however, full panic soon engulfed Louisiana and Texas. Many parents found it impossible to locate these children once the storms had passed. Terrified parents made heart wrenching pleas to anyone who would listen. They spent countless hours praying for news of their kids.

Mr. Speaker, one organization heard their prayers and responded with the will and manpower to find these children. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children would undertake the tremendous task of locating 5,172 missing children. Mr. Speaker, after the winds stopped and the flood waters receded, all 5,172 children were found. It was only through the unwavering and relentless dedication that these children were found, and returned to the safe arms of their parents. I now pay tribute to those tireless children crusaders.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, NCMEC, was established in 1984 by John and Reve Walsh in response to the kidnapping and disappearance of their son, Adam, in 1981. The center makes it their mission to locate, and successfully bring home, missing children across the United States. When Hurricanes Katrina and Rita hit Louisiana and Texas, the U.S. Department of Justice requested NCMEC's help in locating the displaced children of the hurricanes' victims. NCMEC responded with lightning speed, establishing a Katrina Missing Persons Hotline, with 30 telephones and 160 highly trained Project ALERT and Project ADAM volunteers to man the hotlines. Over the next few days, they would report thousands of missing child sightings.

These child crusaders spent long days and nights looking throughout America for these missing children. Photographs were used to help identify these children. The center tracked down leads, handled phone calls, and in the end, reunited families. They did not perform these tasks all on their own, however. The U.S. Postal Inspection Service, USPIS, American Airlines, and thousands of nameless, silent volunteers aided the NCMEC in the successful recovery of all 5,172 missing children.

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service responded to the prayers for help much like the NCMEC. These highly dedicated lawmen and women used the U.S. Postal Service's change of address information system to reunite these families. Safety precautions were taken by the USPIS to ensure no misuse of the information system occurred. Members of the highly trained Project ALERT and Project ADAM teams, as well as the NCMEC case analysts, worked in cooperation with the special Hurricanes Katrina and Rita change of address operation in Tennessee, reunited children with parents. American Airlines became the angels in the sky for the NCMEC, donating numerous airline tickets, which successfully led to 89 children being brought home safe.

I was present when First Lady Laura Bush held a reception on Monday, June 12, at the White House to show appreciation to all those wonderful people. She invited these heroes to join her, along with six Members of Congress, and several of the reunited families. Everyone extended heart-felt gratitude for the tireless efforts achieved by these individuals. Rebecca Gonzales, wife of Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and John and Reve Walsh were present as well. The First Lady praised the collaborative efforts of these organizations and individuals, expressing her gratitude for the heroes who relentlessly crusaded for the most helpless victims of the hurricanes—the children.

It is my honor to pay tribute to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, as well as the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, American Airlines, and thousands of volunteers for answering the prayers of the despondent hurricane parents. Today, 5,172 children have been led back to their families, another example of Americans helping Americans when the tidewaters of trouble have risen.

**WE THE PEOPLE ALABAMA CLASS
PLACES FOURTH AT NATIONAL
COMPETITION ON THE CONSTITUTION**

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, from April 29–May 1, 2006, approximately 1,200 students from across the country participated in the national finals competition of We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution, the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. I am pleased to announce that Vestavia Hills High School from Birmingham, Alabama placed fourth in the competition. The We the People program is administered by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the U.S. Department of Education by act of Congress.

The We the People national finals is a three-day academic competition that simulates a congressional hearing in which the students "testify" before a panel of judges on constitutional topics. Students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principles as they evaluate, take, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues. Among the questions students

responded to in the competition includes, "Is judicial review essential for the functioning of our American constitutional democracy? Explain and justify your position."

Mr. Speaker, the names of these outstanding students from Vestavia Hills High School are as follows:

Grace Anthony, George Bolshinskiy, Barrett Bowdre, Courtney Bragg, Jeannette Dooley, Daniel Driscoll, Claire Foster, Sarah Graffeo, Lauren Howard, Sarah McKibben, Patrick Mulligan, John Nicholson, Tiffany Parrish, Hanna Perry, Julie Phillips, Joseph Siegelman, Kendal Spires, Wes Stevenson, Emily Unnasch, Amy Watson, Ryan Woodford, and Ansley Zarra.

I also wish to commend the teacher of the class, Amy Maddox, who was responsible for preparing the student class for the national finals competition. Also worthy of special recognition are Janice Cowin and Kerri Williamson, the state coordinators and Jeff Northrup, the district coordinator, who are among those responsible for implementing the We the People program in my district.

Mr. Speaker and my colleagues in the House, please join me in congratulating these young constitutional experts for their outstanding achievement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRANCES WILSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Frances Wilson, a wonderful woman whom I have known and admired all of my life. My Aunt Frances will be celebrating her 80th birthday on June 17th in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Born on July 1st, 1926, Frances was the youngest of four, with three older brothers: Don, Russ, and my Dad Ron. She spent her childhood years in Humboldt, Iowa. On January 19, 1947 Frances married the late Daryl "Buck" Wilson and had two children, Sandra and Brian. She also has two grandchildren: Joshua, who married Renee, and Jacob. She also has two great-grandchildren, Sidney and Sawyer.

In 1955 she began work as a telephone operator and was one of the first working mothers in her family. As a very hard-working independent woman, Aunt Frances finished a long employment career in the gift shop of the Gold Strike Hotel and Casino in Boulder City, Nevada, which is now known as the Hacienda Hotel and Casino, retiring at age 77. She currently resides in Denver, Colorado where she is close to her daughter and often visits her son and his wife Carleen in Minnesota.

She is proud of her family and has openly admitted that her greatest joy comes from spending time with her great-grandchildren, who adore their great-grandmother tremendously.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize my aunt, Frances Wilson on the floor of the House. I commend her for her contributions to me, the rest of my family, and for her commitment to the community.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING OUR NATION'S SENIOR CITIZENS

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a House resolution recognizing and honoring America's senior citizens. Such a resolution is important because our seniors have made countless sacrifices and contributions that have helped make this country great. This resolution is an opportunity for Congress to officially recognize the impact of this influential segment of our society.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleague, Representative WALTER JONES, for his fervent support of this resolution. His efforts reflect his value for senior citizens and the role they play in our society and our national conscience.

Undoubtedly, senior citizens have played an important role in the development of this nation. They have fought in significant military conflicts such as World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. I have full confidence that Americans throughout the ages will remember and honor such monumental sacrifices.

During their lifetimes, senior citizens have also experienced a myriad of profound social and cultural changes that have made this country what it is today. I believe that nothing is more important to our ability to effectively address our present than understanding the lessons learned from those who have come before us. This resolution encourages children and students to take the time to learn from senior citizens. The knowledge and experience that older Americans have acquired over their lifetimes serve as a window to our collective past. It is imperative that we as a society facilitate the sharing of this information between generations.

As we recognize the contributions of seniors, it is important that we understand their needs. So much of what we do in Congress directly impacts the lives of elderly men and women. The decisions that we make on Capitol Hill have tangible effects on the health, pocketbooks, and livelihood of each and every senior citizen. It is essential that we remember the individuals that our actions will impact as we consider issues such as Medicare, Social Security, veterans' benefits, housing, and healthcare.

After a lifetime of working, raising families, and contributing to the success of this nation in countless other ways, senior citizens deserve to retire with dignity. This resolution is a step in honoring the service of our seniors. However, I encourage all Americans to express their appreciation for and respect toward senior citizens in their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge the House to pass this resolution in the coming weeks. My esteemed colleagues in Congress should give deserved recognition to America's senior citizens for the contributions they have made, and continue to make, to this great nation.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER MEYERHOF, PH.D.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Walter Meyerhof who died on May 27, 2006, at the age of 84 of complications from Parkinson's disease.

Walter E. Meyerhof was Professor Emeritus of Physics at Stanford University. He was born in Kiel, Germany, in 1922, the same year that his father, Otto Meyerhof, won a Nobel Prize in Medicine. His mother, Hedwig Schallenberg, was a painter.

Dr. Meyerhof's parents were Jewish but raised their three children as Lutherans in an attempt to protect them from burgeoning Nazism. Despite this ruse, the family suffered from anti-Semitism and was ultimately helped to flee Vichy France by "the American Schindler", Varian Fry. Fry, a non-Jew who went to France to operate a rescue network, saved at least 2,000 people. In 1992, Meyerhof established and directed a foundation to honor the memory of Varian Fry. His film about Fry was narrated by Meryl Streep and distributed to more than 35,000 schools.

Dr. Meyerhof earned his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. At age 24 he married Miriam Rubin, who had worked at a child-care center directed by Anna Freud. In 1949 he began his distinguished 43-year career as a Professor of Physics at Stanford University.

Dr. Meyerhof was instrumental in the construction of the Stanford Linear Accelerator. He was awarded the Lloyd Dinkelspiel Teaching Award, the Tenured Faculty Development Award and was given an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Frankfurt in 1980. He was named U.S. Senior Scientist by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in 1980-1981.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our sympathy to Mrs. Meyerhof and the entire Meyerhof family. Dr. Walter Meyerhof was a national treasure, who loved his community and his country and served them exceedingly well. He will always be missed and never forgotten.

INTRODUCTION OF FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Family and Medical Leave Enhancement Act. This legislation is identical to legislation introduced by Senator DODD of Connecticut.

Mr. Speaker, since enactment in 1993, more than 50 million employees have taken leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act. The Act guarantees eligible employees working for covered employers access to up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave within any 12-month period to care for their health or the health of their families without putting their jobs or health insurance at risk. About 11 percent of private sector businesses are covered