

also the national level. Recently, the Theodore plant won the Environmental Performance award from the Portland Cement Association. Additionally, Dow Jones Sustainability Index named Holcim as "Leader of Industry," and for four years, Holcim has been noted in the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index and the Dow Jones STOXX Sustainability Index in Europe.

Holcim (US) Inc. is one of the Nation's leading manufacturers and suppliers of cement and mineral components. With 14 manufacturing plants and over 70 distribution facilities in the United States, the Holcim Theodore plant is a shining star in Holcim's corporate constellation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the Holcim cement plant in Theodore, Alabama, for all of their great accomplishments. I know the plant manager, Joe McFalls, the employees, their friends, families, and members of the community join with me in praising Holcim for their many accomplishments, and I extend thanks for their continued service to Mobile County and the First Congressional District.

TRIBUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY
OF WISCONSIN WHITEWATER
WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL
TEAM

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Wheelchair Basketball team, who—in a stunning display of athleticism and courage, captured the 2007 National Intercollegiate Wheelchair Basketball Championship.

Led by Coach Tracy Chynoweth, the Warhawks capped an extraordinary season by defeating the Fighting Scots of Edinboro University to win their fourth national championship in 5 years. UW-Whitewater coiled a 28–2 season record, with a conference record of 18–0.

The Warhawks were led by freshman stand-out Joe Chambers, who averaged 15 points and 10 rebounds this season and registered 23 points and 12 rebounds in the championship game. His play was complemented by National Play-of-the-Year Matt Scott, who averaged 14.5 points per game, including 14 points and 9 rebounds against Edinboro. "It's an honor to be a part of this team," said Chambers. "We clicked on all cylinders and played like a band of brothers." The Warhawks are favored to return to the National Title game next year as they lose only one player from this year's championship team.

Winning the title in front of 1,750 fans, the Warhawks brought tremendous victory home to the great state of Wisconsin and established their dominance as the premiere wheelchair basketball program in the country. I sincerely congratulate the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Wheelchair Basketball team for their remarkable achievements and wish them the best of luck in their quest to repeat as National Champions.

TAXPAYER PROTECTION ACT OF
2007

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1677, the Taxpayer Protection Act of 2007.

This bill accomplishes several important objectives. It cracks down on websites that attempt to strip unwitting consumers of sensitive information by imitating the IRS website. Electronic filing is on the rise, which is good for both consumers and the IRS, and we must make sure Americans feel comfortable and secure when paying their taxes online.

This legislation would also require the IRS to notify a taxpayer when it becomes evident in the course of a tax fraud investigation that he or she may have been the victim of identity theft. In the past, when presented with evidence of such fraud, the IRS, incredulously, would not apprise an individual of the serious situation he or she was facing. This must change.

In addition, the bill would also simplify tax filing requirements for businesses owned jointly by a husband and wife and make it easier for a married couple to file as a single proprietor of a business rather than as a partnership. It increases consumer protections from predatory providers of refund anticipation loans, gives taxpayers more time to recover property seized improperly by the IRS, and updates federal law to stop certain forms of tax fraud.

Perhaps most importantly, this bill would strengthen our outreach to people entitled to cash back on their tax returns under the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The EITC is effective because it rewards work. The families of Americans who work hard but don't earn a lot should not be forced to live in poverty. However, recent evaluations have shown that approximately 25 percent of hardworking households eligible for the EITC have not claimed it, and billions of dollars in targeted tax credits did not end up in the hands of the workers who needed them most.

When hundreds of millions of Americans step up to invest in their country by paying their taxes, they must know that Congress is looking out for their best interests. By passing this bill, we are doing just that.

I thank my colleagues and urge passing of the bill.

RECOGNIZING YOM HASHOAH, HOLOCAUST MARTYRS' AND HEROES' REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues and my constituents in solemn recognition of Yom Hashoah, or Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day; a special day where we mourn the millions of Jews who perished at the hands of the Nazis.

This day has special significance for Jews, the main target of Nazi atrocities. I represent many constituents who are Holocaust survivors and many more that lost friends, relatives and loved ones. We mourn their loss; honor their memory; and unite in opposition to acts of bigotry and intolerance.

We also pause to remember the innocent people of Darfur. The mass killings, acts of rape, and displacement of innocent civilians occurring daily in Darfur is unconscionable and must end. This is a moment in human history when the poignant expression "Never Again" must be repeated over and over again, coupled with real action to end this tragic period of human suffering.

This year, as we commemorate Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day on Capitol Hill, we pause to remember one Holocaust survivor, Professor Liviu Librescu, who was tragically killed on the campus of Virginia Tech protecting his students from a gunman who murdered 32 innocent people.

His death occurred on Monday, April 16, the day Israelis commemorated Yom Hashoah.

A native of Romania, Liviu Librescu survived the Holocaust, endured years of communist oppression in Eastern Europe, immigrated to Israel in 1978 and then relocated to the United States where he taught engineering science and mathematics.

Before the tragedy at Virginia Tech, Professor Librescu was known as a passionate, world class educator who dedicated his life to teaching students. Now, he will also be remembered as the hero who saved lives by blocking a doorway from an oncoming killer, allowing students to escape to safety. Professor Librescu sacrificed his life, so that others may live. His selfless action in the face of such terrifying danger epitomizes the heroism and courage that defined Liviu Librescu's life.

May the memory of Liviu Librescu, the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust, and the victims of genocide in Darfur be blessed for all eternity.

RECOGNITION OF
SUPERINTENDENT PAUL VRANISH

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to a great educator: Mr. Paul Vranish, Superintendent for Tomillo Independent School District. The Texas Education Agency named Mr. Vranish the Communities in Schools Superintendent of the Year.

Mr. Vranish became the Superintendent of Tomillo ISD in June 2002. He was recognized for his part in his "Parent Chats" program which encourages better communication between the community and the school district.

Along with increasing dialogue between the district officials and the public, Mr. Vranish has also worked to bring his students and community the information and technology they need to excel in the world by providing increased computer access and free high-speed internet access to Tomillo, a small Texas town near the Mexico border.

Mr. Varnish is a dedicated educator who has done much to provide a quality education

for his students and community. I wish to congratulate Mr. Vranish for receiving the Communities in Schools Superintendent of the Year from the Texas Education Agency.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM CLAY FORD, JR.

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate William Clay Ford, Jr., on being a recipient of the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit's "City of Detroit" Boneh Kehillah Award. Mr. Ford displays an unwavering devotion, as a business and community leader, to the people and the company that help define Detroit as the Motor City. It is my privilege to acknowledge Mr. Ford for his exemplary commitment to the growth of 21st century innovation and ushering in a renewed sense of community and pride to the citizens of Metro Detroit.

Among the many titles Mr. Ford has held throughout his career with Ford Motor Company, he is most notably recognized for serving as the President and CEO of Ford Motor Company and for his continuing role as executive chairman of the board of directors. Mr. Ford is a proven leader in the automotive industry and a conscientious environmentalist, a combination that allows him to promote technology that improves our lives while investing in Michigan's economic future and preserving our planet.

Mr. Ford displays a commitment to the spread of ideas and humanitarianism that reach far beyond the walls of the boardroom. He humbly utilizes his resources to give back to the community and takes an active role in organizations that promote regional economic revitalization such as Detroit Renaissance and the Detroit Economic Club. Mr. Ford inherited a name that is easily identified with Detroit, but it is his actions and personal convictions that ultimately define him as a spirited leader in our community.

I am honored to express my gratitude and admiration to Mr. Ford. He truly exemplifies "Boneh Kehillah" through his on-going efforts to foster a bold plan for the future of Metro Detroit and its workers.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Ford on this momentous occasion. May he know of our admiration and warmest wishes for continued success.

OFFERING HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO THE VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES REGARDING THE HORRIFIC VIOLENCE AT VIRGINIA TECH AND TO STUDENTS, FACULTY, ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED

SPEECH OF

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my sorrow and disbelief over the

massacre at Virginia Tech. I join a country and Congress, especially my colleague from Virginia, that are still experiencing profound mourning and shock. I extend my deepest sympathies to the families and friends of all the Virginia Tech victims. We all continue to have the injured victims in our prayers.

I particularly want to recognize the heroism of Virginia Tech Professor, Liviu Librescu, who was gunned down while blocking his classroom door while he and his students were under attack, ultimately sacrificing his own life for those of his students.

Mr. Librescu, age seventy-six, was born in Romania and survived the Holocaust and his internment in a labor camp and Focșani ghetto. He and his family later survived the oppression of the Romanian dictator, Nicolae Ceaucescu, and ultimately left Romania for Israel after then Israeli Prime Minister, Menachem Begin, personally intervened for the family's release. He came to Virginia Tech to teach in 1986.

Liviu Librescu was a celebrated scientist who was an expert in composite structures and aeroelasticity, which worked earned him NASA grants and other prestigious awards for his impressive work.

Madam Speaker. Liviu Librescu is to be buried imminently in his native Israel.

Yesterday, the Jewish community, in my native Brooklyn, volunteered to hold a service for Mr. Librescu in Borough Park and hundreds of Brooklyn residents gathered to pay their respects to Mr. Librescu and his widow Marlena Librescu, before they returned to Israel. The care and concern shown by the Brooklyn community for the Librescus, was truly remarkable.

I think New York State Assemblyman, Dov Hikind, said it best when he remarked about Mr. Librescu that, "not only was he a hero of the Jewish people, but a hero of all people".

May his remembrance be a blessing.

TRIBUTE TO BOB KEEGAN

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, after nearly 33 years of service with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Bob Keegan, deputy director of the Global Immunization Division, retired on March 30, 2007. Bob spent the first 11 years of his career in STD control, first as a public health advisor in Newark, NJ, and New York City; as STD regional training instructor in Atlanta; as deputy to Marty Goldberg in Houston, TX; and finally as the STD education specialist in Atlanta.

From 1985 to 1990, Bob coordinated CDC's Refugee Health Activities in Southeast Asia, helping to assure that refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos were immunized and treated for communicable diseases.

In 1991, Bob joined the newly formed Polio Eradication Activity, which had a staff of six and an annual budget of \$3 million. Since that time, the Activity has grown to become the Global Immunization Division, GID, with a staff of 100, and an annual budget of more than \$140 million. GID has expanded to include measles mortality reduction and regional elimination, and routine immunization strengthening. As the deputy director of GID, Bob has

helped CDC become a major force in the global polio eradication initiative. Bob is a recipient of the William C. Watson Jr. Medal of Excellence, Public Health Advisor of the Year Award from the Watsonian Society, the Philip Home Award from NIP, and the CDC Foundation Heroes Award.

Bob worked closely with the CDC Foundation, CDC colleagues, Rotary International, and partners to help establish the Polio Eradication Heroes Fund. This fund honors those injured or killed while working on vaccination campaigns with recognition and a cash award for their families. Bob also helped the CDC Foundation establish the Endowment for Global Health Priorities, providing a flexible funding source for essential services and equipment for CDC's global health activities. This endowment has been especially useful to support activities in the field.

Although not part of his official duties, Bob is the developer and administrator of CDC Chatter.net, an unofficial blog for CDC employees.

Bob is known as an innovative leader, a superb manager and creative trainer, and, at times, a rabble-rouser. He has served as an informal mentor to many and has gained deep respect and friendship from colleagues around the world. Not quite ready to put his feet up, Bob plans to ride his recumbent tricycle across the United States this summer before joining Gloria, his wife, in London where she will continue her career in school counseling.

I congratulate him on his achievements.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TEACH FOR AMERICA ACT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Teach for America Act and to ensure that this important program gets the Federal support it needs to expand and put more outstanding recent college graduates in our Nation's underserved schools. I thank my bipartisan cosponsors, Congressman CASTLE, Congresswoman DELAUNO, Congressman REGULA, and Congressman SARBANES, for their work on this issue.

Teach for America is a national corps of college graduates of all academic majors who commit two years to teach in public schools. Since its creation in 1990, more than 12,000 exceptional individuals have joined Teach for America and directly impacted the lives of over 2 million students in under-resourced schools across the country.

What's more, when these teachers leave the program, they often continue to work in education and public service. Sixty-three percent of Teach for America alumni remain in education as teachers, principals, school founders, and policy advisors. Others pursue work in fields such as law, medicine, and social work where they continue to increase opportunities for children living in low-income communities.

Madam Speaker, 17 years of experience have proven that Teach for America is a program that works. We in Congress have supported this program in the past. Our bill would cement our partnership with this important initiative by making Teach for America a federally-authorized program. It would help Teach