to responsibly use the resources of our earth while simultaneously renewing our environment and making it stronger. We are more than up to the task—Americans have always been pioneers and innovators, and nature has always played a vital role in that frontier spirit. Our ancestors tamed the wilderness; now it is our challenge to sustain and preserve it.

In the 110th Congress, the House has passed historic legislation to protect our planet. We have acted to improve vehicle fuel efficiency, promote renewable sources of energy and invest in new energy-efficient technologies. In addition, we have proposed legislation to slow, stabilize and ultimately reverse greenhouse gas emissions. I urge the Bush Administration to partner with Congress and the American people to enact these bold proposals.

One of the greatest joys of my life has been sharing in the wonder of the natural world with my family, my friends, and especially my children. Whether a simple walk outside or a trek to the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge, these experiences have renewed my spirit.

Future generations deserve the same opportunity. This will only be possible if we fully embrace Earth Day's challenge to recognize the immense value of our environment and our planet. As we celebrate sprouting leaves, sunlight, spring, and all the splendor of nature, we also commit to ensuring that we can enthusiastically enjoy every Earth Day to come.

CONGRATULATING ANNA CERVENAK AND MAX BARTIKOWSKY, HONOREES OF THE GREATER WILKES-BARRE SOCIETY OF FELLOWS, ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my distinguished colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Anna Cervenak and Max Bartikowsky, recipients of the Anti-Defamation League's Distinguished Community Service Award.

This award is presented to persons who are dedicated champions of human rights and have distinguished themselves by civic, philanthropic and other extraordinary activities.

Max Bartikowsky was born and raised in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. His celebrity began at an early age, being the impish inspiration for a shoeshine boy character called ''Little Max'' created by the famous cartoonist, Ham Fisher, who originated the ''Joe Palooka'' comic strip once syndicated in over 900 newspapers nationwide. Fisher was also a native of northeastern Pennsylvania.

Bartikowsky graduated from Wyoming Seminary after which he attended the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School and Wilkes College. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1951 to 1955. He went on to complete the Gemological Institute of America's Diamond Grading Class after which he took an active role as the third generation in the Bartikowsky family jewelry business. Today, he is president and CEO of Bartikowsky Jewelers, currently celebrating 121 years in business.

Bartikowsky has been especially active with the Jewish Community Center (JCC) where he has served as president, a member of the board of trustees and the board of directors. He is a supporter of the JCC's Fitness Center, JCC Camp, JCC Basketball Banquet and the JCC 5:30 Club.

He also serves on the board of Temple Israel where his grandfather was the first president in 1924. He is a past president of the Wilkes-Barre Lions Club and Jewish Family Services and has been a member of Masonic Lodge 655, Caldwell Consistory, and Irem Temple for 50 years. He is also a supporter of Wyoming Seminary.

Bartikowsky has been honored by the Knights of the Saber, JCC 5:30 Club, Wyoming Valley Family Service Association and the Jewish Family Service. He was also featured in articles in the Outlook and Pennsylvania Heritage magazines.

Anna Cervenak graduated from Forty Fort High School and College Misericordia where she earned a bachelor of social work degree. She went on to Marywood University where she earned a master's degree in social work. A member of Alpha Sigma Lambda, Social Work Honor Society, she was elected to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Cervenak started her career at Bell of Pennsylvania while still in high school. She worked as an operator, in engineering, employment and as the company's public speaker. When she retired from Verizon in 2007, she was Director of Community Relations/Public Affairs.

A past president of Junior Achievement, she is currently a member of its board of directors. She is also a member of the board of directors of Penn's Northeast, Great Valley Technology Alliance, Pittston Chamber of Commerce, Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry, Athena Award Committee, Victim's Resource Center, Catholic Youth Center, Catholic Social Services, King's College President's Council, Luzerne County Community College Foundation, Penn State-Wilkes-Barre, Step-By-Step, Boy Scouts of America, Blond Association, Circle 200 and the Mountain Laurel Center for the Performing Arts. Ms. Cervenak also chaired the Blue Ribbon Committee to save Tobyhanna Army Depot, Burn Foundation and the Jewish Family Service Advisory Board.

Her awards include Athena Award, Top 50 Business Women in Pennsylvania, Top Business Women in Northeastern Pennsylvania, Arthritis Foundation Community Leader of the Year, Susan B. Roebling Distinguished Citizen Award, Wyoming Valley Woman's Pathfinder Award, NEPA Boy Scouts Woman of the Year Award.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Bartikowsky and Ms. Cervenak. Their extraordinary community service to northeastern Pennsylvania is both legendary and inspiring. They have clearly made a significant contribution to the improvement of the regional quality of life and, for that, we are all grateful.

EARTH DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 1117, supporting the goals and ideals of Earth Day. On this day we are reminded of the importance of protecting our environment for generations to come.

Established in 1970, Earth Day commemorates the birth of the modern environmental movement. Thirty eight years ago today, 200 million Americans from coast-to-coast took to the streets to demonstrate the importance of environmental stewardship and conservation. Their voices are still heard today, as we continue to celebrate Earth Day globally.

We must act responsibly and expediently to protect our environment by addressing global warming. Scientists worldwide agree that global warming is a reality and its consequences will be devastating and far-reaching.

Protecting our environment is not only crucial for this generation, but for the many generations to come. By implementing environmentally responsible policies today, we will ensure that our children and grandchildren will have clean water to drink and clear air to breathe.

We must focus on developing renewable energy, reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, expanding access to sustainable resources, and increasing environmental consciousness. This Congress has taken great strides to these ends, but there is still much work to be done.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the goals and ideals of Earth Day. May we continue to make environmental issues a top priority of the 110th Congress.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF EAGER FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Eager Free Public Library, EFPL, for 100 years of service to the people of Evansville, WI. Since the doors first opened a century ago, the Eager Free Public Library has been an invaluable and vital part of the community.

During the 1890s, Wisconsinites embarked on a movement to secure free public libraries around the State. However, few were as passionate and dedicated to the cause as Mr. Almeron Eager. Eager's passion for libraries was evident when he passed away in 1902. In his will, Mr. Eager bequeathed $10,000 to the city of Evansville to construct a free public library in his name. The library's cost would end up exceeding $10,000 but his surviving family members contributed money to cover the remaining cost. After several years of searching for the proper site, the first construction shovel finally pierced the ground in May 1907 and the library was dedicated in June 1908. The prairie school style of the

building would become a trademark design of Claude and Stark, the architects of the EFPL.

One hundred years later, the library still stands tall, in large part thanks to the vision of Almeron Eager. As a communitarian, Mr. Eager knew that free public libraries are the cornerstone of our democracy. A library brings hope and knowledge to our children, fosters intellectual freedom, and makes important information readily available to all citizens. The mission of EFPL, and so many others, to provide equal access to resources makes free public libraries critical to fulfilling the promise of a democratic society.

Not only do our free public libraries provide intellectual enrichment but they also serve as an important community gathering place. Through a wide range of programs including discussion groups, computer classes, and family events, EFPL has worked tirelessly to give every citizen the opportunity to fulfill their potential and become an active participant in our democracy.

For the past 100 years, these overarching goals have been the foundation of the library's distinguished reputation and unwavering commitment to equality and education. I am proud to join the residents of Evansville in honoring the family of Mr. Almeron Eager and celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Eager Free Public Library.

HOLDING NORTH KOREA ACCOUNTABLE

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, in 2006 the world was alarmed when North Korea tested a nuclear device. Since then, North Korea has been pressured to reveal details about its nuclear program, but it has blatantly defied transparency deadlines and Six-Party talks have yielded few results.

North Korea has recently re-declared its intent to provide a ''complete and correct'' declaration of all its nuclear programs, but while the U.S. awaits this declaration, we shouldn't reduce the necessary pressure required to hold North Korea accountable to its promises.

The U.S. should not ease sanctions on North Korea until we have sufficient verification measures in place. Specifically, North Korea should not be removed from the list of state sponsors of terrorism until it accurately declares the number of nuclear weapons and the amount of fissile material it has. We must continue to insist on full transparency and not acquiesce to deceitful North Korean rhetoric.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR DR. RONALD NUTT

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a Tennessean on his 70th birthday whose scientific accomplishments have had an incalculable impact on the medical community and our Nation.

In 1969, Dr. Ronald Nutt received a PhD in Electrical Engineering at the University of Tennessee. In the nearly 40 years which followed, he pioneered technology which has saved countless lives and brought distinction to East Tennessee and the University of Tennessee.

Even those who have never heard of Positron Emission Tomography (PET) probably know someone who has been helped by it. PET is a non-invasive technique which can map the entire body with molecular imaging.

Pioneered and internationally marketed by Dr. Nutt, PET is a critical tool today in medicine, and the method is widely used in the fields of oncology, cardiology, and neurology. PET has saved countless lives by innovatively detecting tumors, improving biopsies, and helping to determine the stage of a disease. The effect of PET scanning was so extraordinary, Dr. Nutt was named Distinguished Scientist of the Year in 1999 and received the TIME Magazine Medical Innovation of the Year honor in December 2000.

Dr. Nutt's lifetime of developing this technology has led to many other discoveries. He is the holder of dozens of patents in the field of electrical engineering, with many more still pending. Prior to his work on PET technology, Dr. Nutt took a products business from a single employee to a $10 million a year business in the 1980s. Today, he sits on the board of directors of several companies and continues to be a leader his field.

Dr. Nutt is not only an example of American ingenuity, but his work is also the benchmark for success in his field. His professional accomplishments are equal in scope only with his personal character and continued devotion to family, community, and many worthy causes.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating the career of Dr. Ronald Nutt on the occasion of his 70th birthday. His work is far from over, but his impact is already certain.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE THE IJC'S PROPOSED WATER LEVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution concerning the International Joint Commission, IJC, and water level management on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. I am deeply disappointed that it has come to the point where such action by Congress is necessary.

I have the distinct privilege of representing the entirety of the American span of the St. Lawrence River, as well as a significant portion of Lake Ontario. As a native of the area, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of the selection of an appropriate water level management plan to my constituents who live, work, and vacation along Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River.

The Great Lakes represent the largest supply of fresh water on the planet and this vast supply of fresh water flows out to the saltwater of the Atlantic Ocean via the St. Lawrence River. However, following the completion of the St. Lawrence Seaway and the Moses-Saunders Power Project in the 1950's, there was no choice but to come up with a plan for ''artificially'' regulating this outflow. Unfortunately, the current water level regulation plan, known as ''1958 D with Deviations,'' has resulted in significant negative environmental impacts on fisheries and wildlife throughout the region I represent in Congress. For example, the current regime has resulted in the substantial derogation of at least 33,000 acres of wetlands, allowing a thick cattail monoculture to expand and replace large areas of biodiverse meadow marsh, resulting in the loss of habitat for a wide range of aquatic, avian, and upland species.

Since 2000, the IJC's International Lake Ontario St. Lawrence River, LOSL, study has spent more than $20 million in taxpayer money to develop an approach to water level regulation that would best suit the environmental and economic needs of this vital natural resource. And, over the years, the IJC has devised plan after plan to achieve that goal—soliciting extensive public comment to fully vet these proposals with the residents who are most affected. Yet, for all of that effort, the IJC has chosen to waste years of research and millions of dollars in taxpayer money, in addition to ignoring significant amounts of public comment, by proposing a brand new water levels regime ''Plan 2007.'' Moreover, I am very concerned that the lack of transparency in the IJC final development of ''Plan 2007'' was created in the shadows and with little or no outside input.

It is clear to anyone living in this region that the wrong approach to water level regulation can have significant negative impacts. We have all seen firsthand the devastating consequences that the existing regime has had on the environment. The status quo is simply unacceptable. We need a comprehensive and effective approach to regulate the water levels of both Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. Thus, like many residents along the lake and river, I invested time and effort to support the approach I believed best met the environmental and economic requirements of the region—Plan B+. I believe B+ appropriately balances sound environmental principles with the needs of both residents and recreational boaters, while, at the same time, providing benefits for the Moses-Saunders Power Project.

Virtually every regional and environmental organization that has examined this process agree that Plan B+ is based on sound scientific principles and is the one approach that best meets all the needs of the various stakeholders. Unfortunately, despite the public vetting of three proposed plans, on March 28, 2008, the IJC released ''Plan 2007,'' which had not previously been submitted to the public for comment or fully evaluated by the scientific community and the State of New York, as the proposed water level management plan for Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River.

Plan 2007 does little to improve the existing water level management plan, both in terms of environmental protection and hydropower generation. Further, lessons learned from the LOSL Study will be used for the Upper Great Lakes Study to examine water levels on the St. Claire River and Lakes Ontario and Huron.

Therefore, today, along with the Gentlewoman from Western New York, Mrs. SLAUGHTER, a co-chair of the Great Lakes Task Force