

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and reflect on his life and work, we are reminded of the challenges that democracy poses to us and the delicacy of liberty. Dr. King's life, and, unfortunately, his untimely death, remind us that we must continually work and, if necessary, fight to secure and protect our freedoms. Dr. King, in his courage to act, his willingness to meet challenges, and his ability to achieve, embodied all that is good and true in the battle for liberty.

The spirit of Dr. King lives on in the citizens of communities throughout our nation. It lives on in the people whose actions reflect the spirit of resolve and achievement that will help move our country into the future. In particular, several distinguished individuals from Indiana's First Congressional District were recognized during the 21st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast on Monday, January 17, 2000, at the Genesis Center in Gary, Indiana. In the past year, these individuals have, in their own ways, acted with courage, met challenges, and used their abilities to reach goals and enhance their communities.

I would like to recognize Tolleston Junior High School students: Kenneth Alford; Antoinette Correa; William Gonzalez; Brian Henderson; Carl Johnson; LaTasha LeFlore; Brannon Smith; Whitney Sullivan; Amanda Bouleware; Tiffany Finch; Kyle Hargrove; Floyd Hobson; Breon Jones; Ekene Onwuka; Mason Smith; Montreca Walker; and Andrew Binder. These students are members of the Tolleston Junior High School Spell Bowl Team, which won its sixth consecutive State Spell Bowl Championship. The team's success is also a credit to the outstanding ability and leadership of its teachers. In particular, Margaret Hymes and Janice Williams should be commended for the devotion they have demonstrated as coaches for the Tolleston Junior High Spell Bowl Team. Additionally, Tolleston Principal Lucille Upshaw and Dr. Mary Guinn, Gary Superintendent of Schools, should be recognized for their support. The accomplishments of these outstanding individuals are a reflection of their hard work and dedication to scholarship. Their scholastic effort and rigorous approach to learning have made them the best in the state. They have also brought pride to themselves, their families, their school and their communities. For this great achievement, they will be honored with the 2000 "Marcher's Award".

Though very different in nature, the achievement of all these individuals reflect many of the same attributes that Dr. King possessed, as well as the values he advocated. Like Dr. King, these individuals saw challenges and rose to the occasion. They set goals and worked to achieve them. Mr. Speaker, I urge

you and our other colleagues to join me in commending their initiative, determination and dedication.

HONORING GUSTAVO HEREDIA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a man that has gone to great lengths to provide service to his community.

Mr. Gustavo Heredia has created a program, "How to Live in America," that teaches Spanish speaking people basic rules and customs practiced in the United States. Classes offered by the program include: the rights and responsibilities of owning a car; domestic violence prevention; and privileges and responsibilities as immigrants.

By helping to increase awareness of these customs and laws, the program helps the legal process by reducing repeat offenders. Oftentimes, people that are not originally from the United States, or those who do not speak English, break the law unintentionally because they do not understand the laws. Gustavo's program has been included as part of sentencing in several counties across Colorado. Gustavo stresses that the purpose of the class is to inform, rather than lecture, people on how to live their lives. There has been zero repeat offenses committed by program participants.

Gustavo, who recently became a United States citizen, also serves as a court interpreter for Pitkin and Eagle Counties and various law firms.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to commend Gustavo for all of his hard work and his commitment to making Colorado a better and safer place to live.

IN HONOR OF THIS YEAR'S "IRELAND'S 32" MILLENNIUM HONOREE, MR. BENJAMIN PURNELL

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Benjamin Purnell of Bayonne, NJ, on being named one of this year's "Ireland's 32" Millennium honorees.

Mr. Purnell's community service efforts in Bayonne began in 1972, when he joined the Omega Lodge No. 64, where he has served as secretary and worshipful master, the highest office in the lodge. Through the lodge, Mr. Purnell organized many projects addressing the specific needs and concerns of children and young adults. In an effort to instill a sense of community, as well as to provide young

people with a safe haven, Mr. Purnell spearheaded the lodge's block parties, Halloween parties, and its annual Christmas party.

For more than 12 years Mr. Purnell has served as president of the Bayonne Youth Center. At the center, he has provided guidance, leadership, and friendship to many of the city's young people. Mr. Purnell has been instrumental in creating the programs necessary to benefit the young people of the community, including the Youth of the Month Program, the summer camp, an after-school program, computer and cooking classes, and day-care services.

In addition, Mr. Purnell has remained very active in the Wallace Temple African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, serving as superintendent of the Sunday School, co-chair of the board of trustees, director of the junior ushers, treasurer of the senior ushers board, secretary of the Men's Club, and member of the James T. Gregory Male Chorus. Mr. Purnell has also served as secretary of the Bayonne Branch NAACP, member of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, and as planning committee member of the B21C for the city of Bayonne.

Because of his continued commitment to community service, Mr. Purnell has received numerous awards, including the Andrew Young Black Male Achievement Award, the Omega Lodge Service Award, the Bayonne Branch NAACP Community Service Award, and the N.C.C.J. Brotherhood Award.

Born in Berlin, MD, Mr. Purnell graduated from Worcester High School in Snow Hill, MD and has been a resident of Bayonne for more than 30 years. Mr. Purnell is married to Laura Mumford. The couple has two sons, Angelo and Benjamin, one daughter, Lolita, and six grandchildren.

For his unyielding dedication and service to the Bayonne community, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Benjamin Harrison Purnell. He has truly earned his place among this year's honorees.

WHY TAX DEDUCTIONS DON'T HELP THOSE WHO MOST NEED HELP

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, as part of the Patients' Bill of Rights, the Republicans insisted on passing an unpaid-for set of tax deductions which they say will help improve access to health insurance. Their proposals will—but mostly for those in the upper income brackets who already have health insurance or who can afford it. Even in the area of long-term care insurance, the data shows that the Republican proposals disproportionately help those in the upper income brackets.

Mr. Speaker, let's be fair. As we work on the access provision of the Patients' Bill of

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Rights, we should convert all of the tax deductions to credits, so that those who seek to use these tax incentives are all on a level playing field, and so that the Treasury's scarce resources go to those most in need of help.

The following is data from a March, 1999 report to HHS prepared by LifePlans, Inc., entitled, "A Descriptive Analysis of Patterns of Informal and Formal Caregiving among Privately Insured and Non-Privately Insured Disabled Elders Living in the Community." The data shows how LTC insurance is disproportionately held by those in the upper incomes and with the most assets—and how deductions will help those people far more than they will help the lower income. A credit would be a far fairer tool to help encourage the purchase of LTC insurance.

Socio-demographic characteristics	All privately-insured home care claimants (in percent)	All elders age 65 and over (in percent) ^{1,2}
Race:		
White (not Hispanic)	97	85
Non-White	3	15
Living arrangement:	(n=694)	
Alone	34	34
With spouse	44	53
With relative	11	13
Other	11	
Total income:	(n=492)	
≤\$30,000	52	65
>\$30,000	48	35
Total income:	(n=432)	
Less than \$10,500	7	319
\$10,501—\$19,999	22	28
\$20,000—\$30,000	28	19
\$30,001—\$39,999	13	11
\$40,000—\$49,999	9	8
\$50,000—\$74,999	11	8
≥75,000	10	8
Estimated current value of home:	(n=431)	
Less than \$50,000	7	425
\$50,000—\$99,999	28	37
\$100,000—\$149,999	19	18
\$150,000—\$199,999	13	10
\$200,000—\$249,999	11	4
≥\$250,000	22	7

¹ AOA (1998). Prolife of Older Americans. Washington, D.C.
² LifePlans, Inc. analysis of 1995 survey of 1,000 randomly selected individuals age 65 and over.
³ Money Income in the United States: 1997 Current Population Reports, Consumer Income. Note that data from census table is interpolated to assure comparability of intervals. Also note that among claimants, 15% of the respondents who were willing to indicate whether their income was greater or less than \$30,000 were not willing to answer the more detailed income questions. That is why there is a difference between the estimate for the proportion reporting incomes less than or equal to \$30,000 (52%) and the estimate derived when summing answers for those answering the detailed income question.
⁴ American Housing Survey for the U.S. in 1995. U.S. Census Bureau.

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE LOIS DEICKE

HON. PETER DEUTSCH
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the memory of Lois Deicke, a long-time resident of Broward County, Florida, who passed away this past New Year's Eve at the age of 82. Lois will undoubtedly be remembered as one of the most prominent and generous philanthropists in South Florida.

A native of Houston, Texas, Lois moved to Illinois where she met her husband Edwin. Together, they moved to Plantation, Florida, around 1960 after a successful career as an insurance executive. Their impact was felt immediately in the South Florida community, as the Deickes exhibited an overwhelming generosity in donating to a variety of civic, philanthropic, and humanitarian causes.

Throughout her time in South Florida, Lois and her husband both contributed to nonprofit

agencies and projects throughout the community, patronizing the arts, cultural programming, and even research to benefit the disabled. Lois originally began her charitable work by giving to the West Broward Symphony Guild and the Plantation Community Church. She also made a substantial contribution to the city's community center, now commonly referred to as Deicke Auditorium.

Indeed, many organizations have benefitted from their relationship to Lois Deicke throughout the years. She actively supported the Broward Public Library Foundation, the Broward County Cultural Affairs Council, Holy Cross Hospital, and Nova Southeastern University, where she built the Deicke Dorm at the Ralph Baudhuin Oral School. It is also interesting to note that, though Lois was very proud of her residency in Plantation, by no means did her charity stop at South Florida's borders. She also gave to Midwestern universities and charities, founding the Deicke Center for Nursing Education at Elmhurst College in Illinois.

Particularly gratifying is the fact that Lois and her husband both showed a strong interest in programs for the deaf and blind. This interest was undoubtedly rooted in personal struggles: both she and her husband, who passed away in 1984, suffered from hearing loss. Her personal experiences led Lois to form a strong bond with the Fort Lauderdale Lighthouse for the Blind. In 1994, the Lighthouse formally recognized the extraordinary efforts she made in remodeling their facilities, another example of Lois Deicke freely giving of herself for the betterment of others.

Mr. Speaker, Lois Deicke's life can be characterized by her selfless devotion to others and, for that especially, we all owe her a debt of gratitude. Though the South Florida community is undoubtedly saddened by her passing, we should all rejoice in Lois' accomplishments and thank her for her tireless work improving the community around her.

COLORADO'S 2000 TEACHER OF THE YEAR, CRAIG COSWELL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS
OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize Craig Coswell, who was recently named Colorado's 2000 Teacher of the Year.

Craig's innovative teaching methods are what likely earned him this wonderful award. In Craig's class, the textbooks stay closed. Instead, for instance, he charges his students with finding out who fired the first shot of the Revolutionary War by passing out eyewitness testimony of some of the British and Colonial soldiers who fought the famous Battle of Lexington. Innovative approaches like this have made Craig a wonderful asset to his school and our community.

Additionally, Craig does not test the same way as other teachers; instead, he gives "quests". These are a combination of tests and quizzes that measure if students are getting the major points of the material, rather than quoting memorization.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to Craig Coswell for his dedication to the

education of our youth and congratulations on receiving the Colorado 2000 Teacher of the Year. His commitment to the future of this great nation is deeply commendable and highly admirable. We are all grateful for his passionate service.

IN HONOR OF THIS YEAR'S "IRELAND'S 32" MILLENNIUM HONOREE, MR. ROCCO COVIELLO

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Rocco Coviello of Bayonne, NJ, on being named one of this year's "Ireland's 32" Millennium honorees.

Using his success as a businessman and a proprietor, Mr. Coviello is recognized as a community leader and activist. Perhaps his most prided project, Mr. Coviello has tirelessly promoted the ideals and goals of the Milestones Program, an organization that treats developmentally impaired children. This early intervention program is a full service program, which affords families a resource center, as well as in-home treatment for children suffering from disabilities.

Through Mr. Coviello's efforts, the Milestones Program recently financed a building of its own in Bayonne to house the facility, resource center, and treatment areas. In September 1999, the building was dedicated as Chandelier House, in honor of Mr. Coviello's work.

In addition to the Milestones Program, Mr. Coviello has spearheaded the Chandelier Charity Golf Committee and has raised funds for charities, such as the Scoliosis National Foundation, the D.A.R.E Program, the Bayonne Police Vest Fund, and the Hudson County Hospice.

Mr. Coviello is an active member of the Bayonne Chapter of the Unico Club, as well as the local Rotary Club. He also serves as a board member of the Bayonne Hospital Foundation and is a member of the Bayonne Parking Authority.

Born in Summit, Mr. Coviello attended Summit High School and Fairleigh Dickenson University at Madison. He now lives in Bayonne with his wife, Janet, and their two children, Raquel and Rocky.

For his unyielding commitment to the Bayonne community, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Rocco Coviello. His remarkable generosity on behalf of his community is truly inspiring.

LET'S STOP KILLING PATIENTS: THE NEED TO ENCOURAGE MAJOR SURGERIES TO BE DONE IN HIGH VOLUME FACILITIES

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, January 27, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced legislation for Medicare to encourage patients to use certain hospitals that provide better outcomes for sophisticated surgical operations—