

strive to help local charities with their time, money, and fellowship.

I congratulate the members of the Torrance Rotary on achieving this milestone. The club is a valuable part of the Torrance community. Its contributions are much appreciated. I wish the Torrance Rotary continued success.

HONORING THE HEBREW IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY (HIAS) AND THE COUNCIL MIGRATION SERVICE OF PHILADELPHIA ON THEIR 118TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 15, 2000*

Mr. HOFFFEL. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) and the Council Migration Service of Philadelphia on their 118th (one hundred plus "chai") Anniversary. Founded in 1882 by Louis Edward Levy, HIAS and Council was the first organization of its kind in the United States.

HIAS and Council is part of a humanitarian effort of help Jews and people of other backgrounds who are fleeing from persecution. HIAS and Council helps to provide asylum and resettlement to all people who want to enter the United States. HIAS and Council works diligently to help the refugees adapt to their new environment and gain permanent residence in America.

Because of the extensive work done by HIAS and Council in the 1920's, Philadelphia became the second most active community in the country for assisting Jewish refugees fleeing from Eastern Europe.

In 1976, the U.S. Justice Department's Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) recognized HIAS and Council as an agency authorized to practice immigration and nationality law on behalf of eligible clients. This organization is the only Jewish agency in the Philadelphia area that provides law-related refugee and immigration services. The agency services clients from over 35 countries worldwide.

I am proud to represent such an extraordinary organization as the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society and the Council Migration Service of Philadelphia. This anniversary should serve as a long-standing tribute to hard work and dedication for all who have made HIAS and Council the wonderful organization it is.

RECOGNIZING DR. JAMES BERTZ

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 15, 2000*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, Dr. James Bertz, a native of Cadiz, Ohio recently traveled to South America as part of the "Healing the Children Mission"; and,

Whereas, This is just the most recent of many such missions that Dr. Bertz has set out on to perform corrective facial surgeries on children; and,

Whereas, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Bertz. His dedication and commitment to helping heal children all over the world deserve recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION—VOTE CLARIFICATION ON H.R. 701—THE CONSERVATION AND REINVESTMENT ACT (CARA)

**HON. LARRY COMBEST**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 15, 2000*

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD a clarification of my vote during final passage of H.R. 701, the Conservation and Reinvestment Act. Mr. Speaker, during final passage, I was gathering together Members of the House Agriculture Committee to catch a flight to Idaho for a committee field hearing. I mistakenly voted "yea" when I intended to vote "no" on final passage.

Let me clearly state for the record my opposition to H.R. 701 is due to the concerns I have over its impact on private property rights, federal budgeting, and the troubling shift in policy to acquire more federal land instead of properly maintaining what the United States government already owns. During consideration of H.R. 701, I supported numerous amendments that sought to remedy these concerns and improve the bill. Unfortunately, the measure in its final form was still not a bill that I could support and is why I intended to vote "no" on passage. I would ask that this statement follow debate on H.R. 701 in the permanent CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Again, I regret this error and appreciate the opportunity for clarification.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF LOYOLA SCHOOL

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 15, 2000*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I pay special tribute to an exceptional independent school in the New York Metropolitan Area as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary. The Loyola School is a prime example of independent and progressive education at its best.

Loyola school is an institution filled with rich history. It was founded by a most visionary educator, The Reverend Neil McKinnon, S.J. In October of 1900, McKinnon, Pastor of the Parish and founding Principal of the school, opened the door to eight young men of various ages and academic readiness. Since its conception 100 years ago, the school has survived and thrived through its early days of struggle, the depression, two World Wars, rising educational costs, and the struggle to maintain the ever important Jesuit tradition.

Throughout its history the school has overcome a century filled with challenges in order to encourage and establish the highest of educational and religious standards. The Loyola School strives to provide every student with an excellent education complimented by diverse and enriching extra-curricular activities.

Loyola is nationally recognized as a School of Excellence and regionally respected as one of the finest independent schools in the Metropolitan area. They enjoy success in sports, both old and new. To complement the success of the staff and students, the school also en-

joys a growing endowment and an expanded faculty. All of these factors have proven successful to the students.

In addition to the excellence of the staff and student body, Loyola school also enjoys the convenience of new network wiring and learning curriculum to incorporate technology into a vibrant and interesting juxtaposition of traditional heritage and forward-thinking education.

Loyola's rich history provides the school with a promising future. The school now educates some 200 of the brightest boys and girls in a comprehensive program which works to mold its young individuals into conscious, competent and compassionate graduates. Their hope is to enrich students with intellectual ability, religious clarity, and a commitment to justice. The graduates of Loyola move forward armed with the "strength from the past and faith in the future." I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the faculty, students and individuals involved in creating and maintaining the standard of excellence at The Loyola School.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 15, 2000*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 10, 2000, I missed rollcall vote No. 154. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on this procedural vote on H.R. 3709, the Internet Nondiscrimination Act.

While I regret my absence from the floor, I was at the White House with the President and many of my Democratic colleagues speaking out on the need for prescription drugs for our seniors. Nearly every day I receive letters and calls from individuals in the North Bay who are worried if Medicare will be there when they need it. That's why I have consistently been pushing the Republican-led Congress to consider legislation to protect the future of the Medicare Program and expand Medicare to cover medications. It is my hope that the Republican leadership will open the debate so that we may consider meaningful health care reform for Medicare beneficiaries. With a projected Federal budget surplus, it only makes common sense to make the Medicare Program a top priority. I look forward to working with the President and my House colleagues to make this happen.

HONORING MR. BOB WILLARD FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 15, 2000*

Mr. HOFFFEL. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Mr. Bob Willard for 50 years of service on the active crew of the Glenside Fire Company. Mr. Willard joined the fire department in 1949 and quickly rose up through the ranks. In less than 5 years, Mr. Willard was promoted to lieutenant. Four years later he

moved up to captain. He served as captain for a year and was then elected deputy chief. Mr. Willard served as deputy chief for 17 years, tying the company record. He has also served as the company's vice president for the past 25 years.

I am proud to have such a civic minded and hard-working constituent in the community. As a leader in the Glenside Fire Department, Mr. Willard has impacted the lives of countless individuals. The residents of Glenside have long benefited from his service and that of the entire Glenside Fire Department. I applaud the Glenside Fire Department for honoring Mr. Willard and I enthusiastically concur with their recognition of his leadership.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN JOHN C.  
SIMPSON

**HON. NICK LAMPSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 15, 2000*

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding career of Captain John C. Simpson, who is retiring on June 2, 2000, after 25 years of distinguished Coast Guard service. Captain Simpson's career has had a wide-ranging impact across a broad spectrum of our vital national interests. This includes serving on high endurance cutters in the Pacific to protect our maritime boarder and preserve our natural resources, commanding coastal units on the Gulf Coast to rescue those in distress and ensure compliance with federal maritime laws, and developing progressive naval doctrine to enhance the interoperability of the Coast Guard and Navy to protect our global strategic interests.

For the past three years, Captain Simpson has commanded Coast Guard Group Galveston, Texas. His area of responsibility includes both the inland and offshore waters on the coast of Southeast Texas. As Group Commander, he integrated active duty, reserve and auxiliary personnel into a cohesive team that together conducted more than 3,500 search and rescue cases, resulting in over 700 lives saved and \$35 million in property preserved. He carried out an aggressive program that balanced maritime law enforcement with education of the boating public, commercial vessel operators, and the fishing industry. He also directed the annual maintenance and servicing of over 2,550 aids to navigation in the critical waterways leading to the Ports of Galveston, Port Arthur, Beaumont, Freeport, and Houston. One can only truly appreciate Captain Simpson's contribution in ensuring maritime safety after realizing that over 90 percent of the goods imported into the United States are carried by ships, and a large percentage of that trade enters the maritime thoroughfares under his charge.

Despite these accomplishments, Captain Simpson's greatest and most lasting achievement has been his strong advocacy for the men and women under this command. In times of limited resources and an austere budget climate, when the Coast Guard is being asked to do more than ever before, Captain Simpson has been tireless in his pursuit to ensure that his units had the right tools to get the job done. During my visits with Captain Simpson, I have been continually im-

pressed with the resourcefulness, dedication, and commitment of the men and women at Coast Guard Group Galveston, which is a testament to his exceptional leadership.

Mr. Speaker, Captain Simpson's career is ripe with countless examples of self-sacrifice and extraordinary accomplishment in service to our great Nation. His contributions to Southeast Texas are immeasurable. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Captain Simpson and his wife, Jan, fair winds and following seas as they chart a new course together in Seattle, Washington.

Congratulations, Captain Simpson, on a job well done.

VOTE NO ON PNTR

**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 15, 2000*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today I oppose granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China. It is clearly the wrong step to take if we want meaningful change from China on a wide variety of issues that are important to all Americans.

It must be noted that Chinese leaders have broken every previous trade agreement they have signed with the United States. What makes us believe that this time will be any different? During the last decade alone, China violated four major trade agreements: the 1992 Memorandum of Understanding on Prison Labor, the 1992 Memorandum of Understanding on Market Access, the 1994 Bilateral Agreement on Textiles, and the 1996 Bilateral Agreement on Intellectual Property Rights. Most recently, after signing the current bilateral in November, China turned its back on the agreement. Their Chief Negotiator stated, "it is a complete misunderstanding to expect this grain to enter the country . . . Beijing only conceded a theoretical opportunity for the export of grain." These governments are not ventures in theory—these agreements should be unbreakable.

Another argument for supporting PNTR is that US businesses will introduce the Chinese people to democracy and human rights. However, when we look at how Chinese workers are already being treated by corporations such as Wal-Mart, Timberland, Nike, Alpine and others, it becomes clear that is not the case. Wal-Mart and Nike's operations in China have become synonymous with child labor, forced labor and hazardous working conditions. These are not the values we want to bring to other countries. By granting PNTR, we give up any hope of influencing the PRC's policy on worker and human rights. We are inviting US companies to leave the US to produce goods in a country which does not support a minimum wage, basic safety regulations, or the right of association. Let's export our values—not our jobs.

It is not only workers who are oppressed by China. Religious groups too often are denied basic human rights. Recent examples include prison sentencing of Falun Gong members without trials for undetermined sentences. The United States Catholic Conference expressed their opposition to PNTR by stating, ". . . we have urged that the well-documented violations of the Chinese peoples' human rights,

and notably their lack of true religious freedom be seriously addressed and reversed." Religious freedom is one of the most important freedoms guaranteed to US citizens. Let us not reward a country who so blatantly disregards this right.

The agreement also omits any statement on environmental protections. Having just celebrated the 30th anniversary of Earth Day in the United States, we should continue to be vigilant in our pursuit of a healthy international ecosystem. We would send a message that protecting the world's natural resources and pollution control are not important if we agree to PNTR. According to the Sierra Club, "nothing was done in the WTO/PNTR package to mitigate the increased risks to endangered wildlife." They also note the State Department's 1999 Report of China's Human Rights Practices, "the China Development Union (which works for environmental and political reforms) virtually was shut down by arrests of its members during the year." This agreement is not just an affront against the environment, but also against the Chinese who press the government to protect their natural resources.

Some members of the agricultural community are looking favorably on this agreement. However, it should be noted that China already has had overall agricultural surpluses and is still producing a glut of agricultural goods. China has already backtracked on tariff and market-access portions of the bilateral. The PRC will not allow American farmers to participate in a competitive marketplace. Charles McMillion, a founder of the Congressional Economic Leadership Institute, wrote, "China's agricultural glut is likely to continue with WTO membership. . . ." Even the National Farmers Union, opposes giving this permanent status: "We must not unilaterally disarm our Nation's ability to respond if China fails to comply with commitments contained in this agreement." Make no mistake, international markets are critical to our farmers. However, we must not engage in agreements with countries who frequently renege on past agreements and who do not believe in the type of fair trade that will benefit American agriculture.

President Clinton has said that this is an essential national security issue. He is right—but he is on the wrong side of the argument. There are just too many incidents where China has acted egregiously against American security interests. In recent years, China fired several live missiles in the Taiwan Strait. At the same time, the PRC has supplied other rogue nations with weapons that could be used against U.S. soldiers abroad. Already, five major military organizations—the American Legion, the Fleet Reserve Officers Association, the National Reserve Association, the Warrant Officers Associations, and the Reserve Officers Association—have publicly agreed that it would not be in the best interest of the United States to grant PNTR.

This vote is one that will have repercussions for generations to come. We can take this opportunity to stand for military security, human and worker rights, the environment, and fair market access, or we can choose to give a "blank check" to China, allowing them to dictate a lower standard. I urge my colleagues to reject PNTR.