

the Silver Bell Club, Lodge 2365 of the Polish National Alliance of the United States, for hosting this celebration of success in sports and academics. The effort of all those involved in planning this worthwhile event is indicative of their devotion to the very gifted young people in Indiana's First Congressional District.

FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4205) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes:

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Gilchrest amendment to H.R. 4205. The amendment allows the Department of Defense to activate 5 more crucial emergency response teams designated as Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams, formerly called RAID teams, to address an emergency event caused by a weapon of mass destruction. As Chairman of the Special Oversight Panel On Terrorism, facts have been revealed to show that an event caused by a terrorist is becoming much more likely. It has also been revealed that first responders to such an event are not currently equipped to handle an incident that includes nuclear, biological, or chemical materials.

There are many adversaries of the United States who are becoming increasingly sophisticated and well financed. So it is not a matter of . . . "if . . . we are attacked by a weapon of mass destruction but . . . "when" . . . we are attacked. Our nation needs to be ready with well-trained teams that can help local first responders in managing such an event. These response teams, as trained and equipped by the Army, are a valuable resource for respective state governors.

Some parts of the country, such as my own area in New Jersey, are densely populated and have a great need for a response team. The New Jersey National Guard and the State of New Jersey needs to have a team that can easily reach the populated areas of its state and the surrounding region. Cities like Philadelphia and Atlantic City just to name two are far from the reach of even the closest response teams currently scattered throughout the country.

It is important that we have enough response teams to be able to work in concert with various agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, Federal Emergency Management Agency, State Police, local law enforcement agencies, fire departments, hospitals, and emergency medical technicians to respond to WMD events all over the country. It is equally imperative that the response team have the means for being mobile so that a team may expeditiously deploy to a region that otherwise would be inaccessible by normal transportation mechanisms.

Mr. Chairman, I applaud the decision by the Secretary of Defense to create an organization that is immediately available to him for that expeditiously deploying resources in the event of a WMD incident. I also urge the Secretary to evaluate methods for enhancing prevention measures to complement the consequence management efforts. As individuals and groups gain an easier time to acquire information, materials, and resources, the need for our senior officials and citizens to have a sense of urgency becomes more evident.

Mr. Chairman, our nation has yet to face a WMD event involving nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons and we owe it to ourselves to be prepared. Some of the nation's most populated region are currently unprepared and unprotected. This amendment will provide a valuable resource that may be applied some of those regions.

I urge other members to emphatically support this measure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, there are times when the obligation we have to be a good parent conflicts with the schedule of the House of Representatives. Tomorrow is such a day for me. Accordingly, I would like to note for the record that, were I able to be present tomorrow, I would vote in favor of the Transportation Appropriations bill the House will consider. I appreciate the assistance my district will receive because of this important appropriations bill as well as the courtesy that has been extended to me by both the Chairman and Ranking Member in considering funding requests important to Silicon Valley.

In addition, I have been informed that there will likely be an amendment offered to strike the provisions in this bill that would freeze CAFE standards at their current level. I would also like to note for the record that I would vote in favor of this amendment.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I speak in celebration of the 80th birthday of His Holiness Pope John Paul II.

Pope John Paul II was born Karol Wojtyla in Wadowice, Poland in 1920. He studied secretly during the German occupation of Poland. His experience during the Nazi occupation of Poland changed his path. Karol Wojtyla was active during the war in the Christian democratic underground group and helped Jews escape Nazis. Before the end of World War II, he decided to become a priest.

In 1946, he was ordained and spent eight years as a professor of social ethics at the Catholic University of Lublin, Poland. In 1964, he was named the archbishop of Krakow and

only three years later he was appointed cardinal by Pope Paul VI. On October 16, 1978, Cardinal Wojtyla was elected Pope. He took the name of this predecessors, and became the first Polish leader of the Roman Catholic Church and the youngest pope in this century.

John Paul II has been the most traveled, popular and political pope. He has visited over 100 countries and almost every country that would receive him. He was a strong critic of the Communist regimes in Eastern Europe, especially in his native Poland and Soviet Union. In addition, he has opposed economic sanctions against Cuba, Iran and Iraq. Pope John Paul II is determined in promoting liberty and equality for all the people. Pope John Paul II stays determined to lead Catholics into the third millennium.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in sending His Holiness Pope John Paul II the best wishes for his birthday and many years of healthy and productive work. Stolat!

RECOGNIZING MAY 2000 AS NATIONAL ARTHRITIS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2000

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I bring to the attention of my colleagues an illness that affects millions of Americans. I am speaking of Arthritis. Today I recognize May 2000 as "National Arthritis Awareness Month." You may be surprised to learn that arthritis affects children and adults and is not limited to senior citizens.

Arthritis affects the lives of 43 million Americans or one out of every six of us, including 285,000 children. This number will grow to over 60 million individuals by 2020. Unfortunately, this crippling disease remains the leading cause of disability in the United States and it costs our economy \$65 billion annually.

What many of us do not know is that Arthritis also is more common among women—for whom it is the leading chronic condition and cause of activity limitation.

Despite these compelling facts, for generations, our nation has labored under the many myths surrounding Arthritis. It is still widely believed that arthritis is an inevitable part of the aging process. It is also widely believed that there are few effective treatment options for Arthritis apart from taking a few aspirin. Finally, yet another falsehood is that individuals with arthritis should refrain from physical activity.

Despite these misunderstandings and myths, however, we can do something to combat Arthritis in America.

Thanks to the work of voluntary organizations like the Arthritis Foundation, we are spreading the message that there is help and hope for Americans living with this painful and debilitating disease. In the past year, we have reached several milestones in our battle against Arthritis. Whether it involves the new and exciting treatment options arising from our investments in research or our first steps in implementing the National Arthritis Action Plan, we have been provided new tools to aid us in our fight against the disease.

In early 1998, the Arthritis Foundation joined forces with the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention to develop the National Arthritis Action Plan—an innovative public health strategy that will forcefully confront the burden of Arthritis. Among our goals are improving the scientific information base on arthritis, increasing awareness that arthritis is a national health problem, and encouraging more individuals with arthritis to seek early intervention and treatment to reduce pain and disability.

As we take stock of these accomplishments, it is important to remember the challenges we still face in improving the quality of life for Americans living with arthritis and, ultimately, finding a cure. Thus, as we mark National Arthritis Month, I call on the American public to apply our vast talents, energy, and unbending resolve to continue to find the means and measures to combat arthritis. Through this combined effort, we will find a cure.

THE ADDITION OF COSPONSORS OF
H.R. 3615, THE RURAL LOCAL
BROADCAST SIGNAL ACT

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, all relevant committees have filed their reports on H.R. 3615, the Rural Local Broadcast Signal Act, and I was unable to add Congressman JOHN SPRATT of South Carolina as a cosponsor. However, Congressman SPRATT is a strong supporter of the legislation and agrees that rural citizens deserve to have the benefits provided by the legislation, which passed the House on April 13. I regret that he was not able to be included as an official cosponsor.

TRIBUTE TO NEIL K. BORTZ

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I honor Neil K. Bortz, a friend and community leader, who will receive the Distinguished Service Citation from the National Conference for Community Justice (NCCJ) on May 25. Neil was selected for this prestigious award for distinguishing himself personally and professionally and for furthering the cause of inter-group understanding in our community.

Neil is a Cincinnati native. He earned a Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University, and continued his studies at the Harvard Graduate School of Business, where he received an M.B.A. Neil also served our nation as a Lieutenant in naval aviation.

Neil has been very active in our community. He is one of the founding partners of Towne Properties, a real estate development and management company that specializes in mixed use projects and suburban residential developments. He has served on the boards of the Harvard Business School Club of Cincinnati, where he served as Chairman; the Playhouse in the Park; Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce; the Harvard Club of Cincinnati; Cincinnati 2000 Planning Committee; Cincinnati Country Day School; and the Greater Cincinnati Convention and Visitors Bureau. He

also was a member of the Young Presidents Organization.

Neil currently serves on the boards of many local organizations, including the Walnut Hills High School Alumni Foundation, where he is Chairman, and where I recently had the opportunity to join him at an event to celebrate an extraordinarily successful private fundraising effort for this top-ranked public high school. He is also on the board of United Jewish Appeal, where he is Co-Chairman; Cincinnati Equity Fund; Cincinnati Olympic 2012 Committee; and the National Multi-Housing Council. He is a member of the Urban Land Institute Multi-Family Committee and the Presidents Organization.

All of us in Cincinnati are grateful to him for his full devotion and service to our community.

RON SAATHOFF: LABOR LEADER
OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues today I recognize Ron Saathoff, as he is honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO, at its 12th annual Worker's Memorial Dinner with its Labor leader of the Year Award.

As President of International Association of Fire Fighters Local 145, Ron has been a committed labor leader for many years. He has been a determined advocate for decent wages and benefits for firefighters, and has led the fight to ensure that safety is the Fire Department's highest priority.

Ron has displayed a commitment not only to firefighters, but to the entire labor movement. He serves as a member of the Labor Council Executive Board, and as Chair of the Labor Council's Finance Committee, Ron has helped the Council grow and become a stronger organization.

Through his dedication, Ron has done much to advance the cause of the labor movement in our area. My congratulations go to Ron Saathoff for these significant contributions. I believe him to be highly deserving of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO Labor Leader of the Year Award.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY
RECOGNIZES RAYMOND P. FARLEY

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the accomplishments of Raymond P. Farley and his contributions to central New Jersey. Over the course of the last thirty-six years, Mr. Farley has worked as a teacher, district supervisor, principal, adjunct college professor, and superintendent.

Mr. Farley has been the Superintendent of the Hunterdon Central Regional High School District since 1990. During his tenure, Hunterdon Central Regional has won a state record three "New Jersey Star School Awards" and nine "New Jersey Best Practices

Awards." It was the first ever Malcolm Baldrige Finalist in Education, and it received the Governor's Award for Performance Excellence. Mr. Farley himself was honored as an Earl Murphy Outstanding Educator/Administrator for 1994.

A constant theme in the accomplishments of Mr. Farley is technology. Hunterdon Central Regional High School has been deemed "One of America's Top 100 Wired High Schools" by Family PC magazine. Hunterdon Central Regional has also won the National School Boards Association's "Technology Leadership Award." The Courier News, in its "1997 People to Watch," remarked, "Hunterdon Central Regional High School Superintendent Raymond Farley revamped the school to make it the most technologically advanced public school in the state." Industry is also aware of the accomplishments of Mr. Farley. The President and CEO of Bellcore has said, "Ray is one of our state's leaders in educational telecommunications."

Mr. Farley has not limited his hard work to the halls of the Hunterdon Central Regional High School District. He has traveled as far away as Singapore, and here to the Capitol to lecture about school reform. Throughout his career, Mr. Farley has worked to spread his talents across many geographic and political boundaries.

Mr. Farley has also found time to share his talents with the community. To name a few, Mr. Farley has served on the Board of Directors of the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce, and is on the Board of Regents of St. Peter's College in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Mr. Raymond P. Farley has demonstrated dedication to his goals and to the community. Friends, colleagues, and family of Mr. Farley are honoring his exemplary career this week. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Farley's accomplishments.

SALUTE TO MAXINE ALEXANDER

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2000

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I salute Maxine I. Alexander who will celebrate her 80th birthday on May 24, 2000. Maxine is an outstanding example of an individual who successfully balanced career and family by working hard, caring for loved ones, and serving others.

Maxine was born in Aurora, Nebraska, where she put the values of caring and serving into action early, becoming a school-teacher for the Aurora public schools at the age of 17. She continued to serve her community as clerk of the Draft board during the 50's, before going to work for the Bureau of Reclamation with assignments in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado.

Maxine retired in 1987 after a 50-year career and settled in Oakhurst, California where she has spent her retirement traveling and spending time with her family that she loves very much. She is the Mother of 5 children, Grandmother to 13, and Great grandmother to 18. I know that all of her family joins me in congratulating her on her 80th birthday and thanking her for her life of service and caring. Happy Birthday Maxine.