

and third stream of Hoagy Carmichael and Bix Beiderbecke, he clearly demonstrates not only his mastery of jazz history, but also his deep passion for this uniquely American art form.

I would like to thank Rob for his efforts to keep jazz alive in the hearts of enthusiasts and casual listeners alike who find too few options today when they turn on the radio. As Rob states, and I quote, "There are virtually no places left on radio where someone like me is given three hours weekly to program music free of focus-group driven playlists and to present it as I hope works best for listeners and artists who might otherwise be totally forgotten."

Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate Rob for spending these past 25 years sharing his passion with us through the radio. Hot Jazz Saturday Night is the highlight of the week for many local and international jazz aficionados. With a large and loyal listener ship, I am confident that we will continue to hear Hot Jazz Saturday Night for many years to come.

THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
HANDLEY-MEADOWBROOK LIONS
CLUB

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding civic organization in Fort Worth, Texas on its 60th anniversary, the Handley-Meadowbrook Lions Club.

The Handley-Meadowbrook Lions Club was chartered on November 8, 1945 by Marlow C. Fisher. The club had 44 charter members. Since its founding, the Handley-Meadowbrook Lions Club has been associated with Lions Clubs International, the world's largest service organization.

Over the last 60 years, the Handley-Meadowbrook Lions Club has been a vital part of the Fort Worth and Tarrant County community. Club members have been involved continually in humanitarian efforts and public service projects that not only have improved the community but also the lives of an untold number of people.

The work of the Handley-Meadowbrook Lions Club has resulted in direct financial contributions to such outstanding programs as the Texas Lions Camp for Handicapped and Diabetic Children, the Texas Lions Foundation and the Lions Club International Foundations. These foundations provide humanitarian and disaster aid in Texas and worldwide. In addition the club's work supports the Texas Eye-glass Recycling Center, the Leader Dog for the Blind and the Lions World Services for the Blind programs that provide blind persons with a guide dog, the Lions Organ and Eye Bank, the Lions Drug Awareness Council and the Julian C. Hyder Youth Camp for youth.

Members of the Handley-Meadowbrook Lions Clubs today continue to be committed to involvement in the community through a wide array of activities that make Fort Worth and Tarrant County a great place to live and work.

Fort Worth and Tarrant County have been fortunate to have the Handley-Meadowbrook Lions Clubs in its midst for the last six decades.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Handley-Meadowbrook Lions Club on its 60th Anniversary and to offer appreciation for the excellent work it has rendered to Fort Worth, Texas, the United States and around the globe.

MOURNING LOSS OF LIFE CAUSED
BY EARTHQUAKE THAT OC-
CURRED ON OCTOBER 8, 2005, IN
PAKISTAN AND INDIA

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 18, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was not able to be here to vote on this important measure. Sadly, I was attending the funeral of one of my constituents, a young Marine named Sergio Escobar, who died October 7 while serving our Nation in Iraq. But I want to take this opportunity to join my colleagues in expressing my condolences to all of those who have been affected by the massive earthquake that struck Southeast Asia on October 8, 2005.

The effects of this 7.6 magnitude earthquake have been devastating. At least 38,000 lives have been lost, with the death toll continuing to rise. Nearly 3 million people have been left homeless and are living in tents or on open ground in freezing temperatures. In some areas, entire villages have been buried in rubble. The Pakistani government estimates \$5 billion in damages to its infrastructure.

The areas worst hit by the earthquake, Pakistan-administered Kashmir and the NorthWest Frontier province, are in remote, mountainous regions. According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the terrain presents a logistical challenge unprecedented for any humanitarian operation. There is an urgent need for additional helicopters to deliver supplies and evacuate victims. Meanwhile, thousands of people are awaiting rescue, food, and medical attention.

The United States has rushed food and medical supplies to the region, and has committed \$50 million in initial aid for the relief and reconstruction effort. Nations around the globe have sent rescue workers, search and rescue dogs, tents, and equipment. Private aid organizations are also dispatching volunteers and assistance. Together, I know that we can make a difference and help people rebuild their lives.

Tragedies such as this earthquake and last year's horrific tsunami remind us that we must help one another—both before tragedies strike and also once rebuilding has begun. Nations were very generous in offering help for victims of Hurricane Katrina and I pledge to work with thy colleagues in Congress to ensure that our friends in India and Pakistan have what they need to recover from this tragic event.

My thoughts and prayers go out to all of the victims and their families.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JULIUS PERR

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the State of Indiana lost a giant of the engineering community last month. On Sunday, September 25, Dr. Julius Perr passed away in his home country of Hungary where he revolted against a Soviet-led communist regime before coming to the United States as a refugee of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution.

Julius Perr and his wife Elizabeth, made Columbus, Indiana their home and found peace from the unrest in Eastern Europe. It was also in Columbus where Julius began a 41-year career as a mechanical engineer for Cummins Engine Company. In this time, he distinguished himself by submitting more than 300 patents on engine technology improvements, 80 of which are still in use today.

Cummins recognized Julius's extraordinary accomplishments by establishing an award in his honor. Each year, Cummins presents the Dr. Julius P. Perr Innovation Award to acknowledge innovative contributions of Cummins personnel.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the State of Indiana, I extend heartfelt sympathies to the family of Dr. Julius Perr, specifically his wife Elizabeth; his sons Andrew and Victor Perr; his daughters Maria Garrison, Elisabeth Perr-McColm and Karolina Perr; and his eight beloved grandchildren.

Julius Perr was commended by the U.S. Patent Office for setting an example for future generations of inventors. But it is his love of culture and allegiance to his community that will be most missed by those who know him the best. The State of Indiana was fortunate to call him one of its own.

WHATEVER IT TAKES TO REBUILD
ACT, PART II

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today Representatives CHARLIE MELANCON, WILLIAM JEFFERSON and I are introducing the Whatever It Takes to Rebuild Act, Part II.

On September 15, 2005, President Bush addressed the nation from Jackson Square in New Orleans, LA and offered the following pledge on behalf of the American people:

Tonight I also offer this pledge of the American people: Throughout the area hit by the hurricane, we will do what it takes, we will stay as long as it takes, to help citizens rebuild their communities and their lives.—President Bush, September 15, 2005, New Orleans, LA.

Just three weeks later, on October 7, 2005, Congress and the President broke this pledge by adding a clause to Public Law 109-88, the Community Disaster Loan Act of 2005, that requires Gulf Coast Communities who receive assistance from the federal government for lost tax revenues (to assist in the payment for police officers, firefighters, school teachers and other essential services) to pay back the

aid with interest. Never before has Congress or the President required the repayment of this aid. That is why we are introducing the "Whatever It Takes to Rebuild Act, Part II."

The "Whatever It Takes to Rebuild Act, Part II" would repeal the provision in Public Law 109-88 that requires Gulf Coast Communities to repay the assistance they receive under the Community Disaster Loan Program. This legislation would permanently repeal the \$5 million cap on these loans, would make states eligible for this assistance, repeal the cap that limits loans to 25 percent of a municipalities operating expenses, and would provide this assistance as grants when a disaster has been declared an "Incident of National Significance" under the National Response plan (Hurricanes Katrina and Rita were both declared "Incidents of National Significance").

This legislation is similar to H.R. 1795, the "Whatever it Takes to Rebuild Act", which would provide federal assistance for lost tax revenues to New York following the terrorist attacks of 9/11. Following 9/11, President Bush also promised New York and the country that we will do whatever it takes to rebuild.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this important legislation to provide real relief to the Gulf Coast and let's do what it takes to rebuild.

TRIBUTE TO MARY BOURDETTE

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, Mary Bourdette, a great champion for America's children and families took a leave from her job advocating for parents, and it is important that we take the time to mark her extraordinary career. In her 30 year career, Mary has been an ever-present voice and an unyielding force, reminding everyone around her that we must do much more for children—especially for the most disadvantaged children in our country.

I first met Mary back in California when she was working on improving education in the state. My wife Cynthia and I have long valued Mary for her friendship as well as for her passion for her work. Mary and I worked closely together when I chaired the Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families in the 1980's. She is a skilled lobbyist and negotiator and her vision and persistence were critical to my efforts on child welfare policy in addition to numerous other issues.

One of the reasons Mary is so effective in fighting for children is that she is an idealistic pragmatist. She would always fight to the end for what she knew was right. But she was just as committed to getting the different sides together and fostering communication—particularly when the situation was at its most polarized.

Mary advocated for children and families in many capacities here in Washington, DC over the past 30 years. She first fought for the Legal Services Corp. to help ensure that our poorest citizens have access to the legal system that our Constitution promises. She later

worked tirelessly at the Children Defense Fund on the first major expansion of the Earned Income Credit and the original enactment of Child Care and Development Block Grant—programs that have made an enormous difference for America's poorest families. Her work with the Child Welfare League of America as Director of Public Policy also proved vital for the well-being of America's children and families. And her 8 years with the Clinton Administration allowed Mary to play a central and critical role in the many federal policies that affect children.

So I commend Mary for her impressive career and thank her both for the assistance she has provided to me over the years and on behalf of the millions of children who have benefited from her intelligence and passion.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT LARRY W. PANKEY

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sergeant Larry W. Pankey of Morrison, Colorado. Sergeant Pankey died October 3 at Walter Reed Army Medical center here in the Washington, D.C. area, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sergeant Pankey was assigned to the 467th U.S. Army Reserve Engineer Battalion, Greenwood, Mississippi. He is survived by his wife and daughter in Morrison, Colorado, and his mother in Louisiana.

Mr. Speaker, we owe Sergeant Pankey a great debt of gratitude for his service to America. My heartfelt sympathy goes out to friends and family of Sergeant Pankey.

He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

FORMER TAIWANESE PRESIDENT LEE'S VISIT TO D.C.

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would join all Americans in welcoming President Lee, during his historic visit to our Nation's capital from Taiwan.

I am pleased to know he will have the opportunity to meet with Members of Congress.

Taiwan is a beacon of democracy and freedom in the Pacific.

It is my hope Taiwan will continue to shine despite the continued threats across the Strait from China.

I hope in the near future all restrictions on high-level visits from Taiwan would be lifted, so that Members of Congress will be able to welcome the current president of Taiwan to DC as well.

It is important these visits take place so that a balanced understanding of both sides of the Taiwan Strait will be directly available to Congress, the Administration, and the American public.

Congress and the American people remain unequivocally committed in their support for the people of Taiwan.

The Taiwanese should be praised for their continued commitment to freedom, human rights and democracy.

Through the tireless efforts of President Lee, Taiwan will continue to shine as a beacon of democracy and freedom.

Again, we welcome President Lee to Washington, DC during this historic visit.

INTRODUCING THE IMPROVE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Improve Interoperable Communications for First Responders Act of 2005. This act provides Federal assistance to local first responders for developing an interoperable means of communications. Ensuring first responders at the local, state, and Federal level have the ability to effectively communicate with each other should be one of the Federal Government's top priorities. The ability of first responders to effectively communicate with each other, and with their counterparts at different levels of governments, is key to their ability to save lives in the crucial time immediately after a natural disaster or a terrorist attack.

My bill helps first responders by establishing a Director of Interoperability and Compatibility to help develop a national strategy and architecture for an interoperable system, as well as to bring together Federal, State, local, and tribal officials to work on a coordinated effort to develop and coordinate efforts to implement an interoperable communications system. The bill also provides a grant program so state and local governments can receive Federal assistance for planning and designing an interoperable system, as well as in training first responders how to use the system.

Rather than simply further burdening taxpayers, or increasing the already skyrocketing national debt, my legislation is financed through cuts in corporate welfare and foreign aid programs, which subsidize large corporations and even American businesses' overseas competitors such as the Export-Import Bank use of taxpayer money to underwrite trade with countries such as Communist China. It is time for the Federal Government to begin prioritizing spending by cutting unnecessary programs that benefit powerful special interests in order to meet our constitutional responsibilities to ensure America's first responders can effectively respond to terrorists' attacks.

Mr. Speaker, reducing spending on corporate welfare and foreign aid to strengthen first responders' interoperable capability is a win-win for the American people. I hope my colleagues will help strengthen America's first responders' ability to help the American people in times of terrorists attacks and natural disasters by cosponsoring the Improve Interoperable Communications for First Responders Act.