But Alan Walden is more than a fine journalist. He also is a great American. As president of Patriots of Fort McHenry, Mr. Walden has done more than any single individual to help restore and preserve this national treasure. We in Baltimore owe him an enormous debt of gratitude for his tireless efforts on behalf of this historic shrine.

I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Alan R. Walden for his dedication and commitment to quality journalism. His reporting has touched all of our lives, and his dedication to Fort McHenry has enriched the lives of all Americans.

TRIBUTE TO CECIL LEBERKNIGHT

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity before my Colleagues in the House of Representatives to honor a great America, Mr. Cecil Leberknight.

We've heard many people praised for being ''great Americans'' in this Chamber, and in most cases, you think of some nationally known figure. Cecil is not nationally famous for his achievements, but he still fits the description as well as anyone.

Mr. Cecil Leberknight is a native of Cambria County, Pennsylvania who has devoted his life to public service where it most directly impacts people and communities, at the local level. For fifty years he has served, in numerous capacities, as the champion of Pennsylvania's boroughs. He began his incredible career of service in the winter of 1948, when he became Dale Borough councilman in Cambria County, Pennsylvania, which is still his and his wife Dorothy's home. Since then, he has served with over 100 council members. The list of career accomplishments of this one man is amazing. Just reading the list is exhausting.

In the 1950's he was elected and reelected to serve as President of the 33 member Cambria County Borough Association and has represented that county at the state borough association level since 1957. In 1962, he was elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly, where he continued to champion the cause of public service, working tirelessly to obtain better working conditions and pay for police, firemen, school teachers and administrators, and nurses.

Mr. Leberknight also chaired the Governor's Justice Commission in the last 1960's, served on the Johnstown Flood Museum and Heritage Association as both president and board member. Additionally, he has also been: vice chairman of the Johnstown Area Regional Planning Commission, president of Dale Borough Historical Association, board member and treasurer of the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra, president of the Historic Sandyvale Cemetery Association, charter member of the Cambria County Chapter of Pennsylvania Clean Ways, organizer, charter member and treasurer of the Pennsylvania 12th District Equipment Center, and member of the Greater Johnstown Watershed Association.

He hasn't stopped. Currently, Mr. Leberknight serves as president of the Cambria County Housing Corporation, where he's been for the last seven years. Additionally he holds numerous citations from, and honorary lifetime memberships in, local volunteer and civic organizations.

If that weren't enough, Cecil is also a champion of education. His interest in improving and promoting education has led him to hold positions such as the State Legislative Chairman of the Pennsylvania Congress of Parents and Teachers, president of the Cambria County Council of Parents and Teachers, Adult Scouter with the Robert E. Peary Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and a charter and current board member of the Cambria County Ethnic Arts and Cultural Center.

I think that is an extraordinary resume. I am so proud and honored to have known Cecil for most of my life and feel fortunate to live in a town that has a person like him working for it. In addition to being a person who is so civically motivated and cares so much about his community, he is also a great friend and a great family man. He is truly an outstanding person and I am very pleased to be able to congratulate him as he celebrates fifty years of public service.

Congratulations, Cecil, and thank you.

TIME TO RECONSIDER DESTRUCTIVE EMBARGO POLICIES

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I have long held that the real victims of U.S. trade policy, and specifically of our various trade embargoes, are American citizens who hope to sell goods abroad, most especially our agricultural producers. The intended victims of sanctions are corrupt foreign rulers but they always find a way to get goods from our competitors and when they fail to do so they simply pass along any suffering to their internal political opponents.

But, as I said, somebody is negatively affected. A recent issue of the American Farm Bureau Federation's ''Farm Bureau News'' contains a headline story which does a fabulous job of explaining how these embargoes adversely affect our American Farmers and Ranchers. In this front page story the Farm Bureau News masterfully details the true impact of trade embargoes.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent a very rural, agriculturally-based district. My constituents are well aware of the importance of opening export markets for America's agricultural producers. Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to place in the RECORD this story from the Farm Bureau News in hopes that people in the Administration, as well as in this Congress will begin to reconsider destructive embargo policies which only harm our nation's farmers and other producers including my constituents.

AG TAKES BIGGEST HIT FROM EMBARGOES

Trade sanctions and embargoes for the purpose of social reform or other reasons hurt American farmers and ranchers more than any other sector of the economy, Farm Bureau told a House Agriculture subcommittee last week.

''Farm Bureau strongly opposes all artificial trade constraints such as embargoes or sanctions except in the case of armed conflicts,'' said Ron Warfield, president of the Illinois Farm Bureau. ''We believe that opening trading systems around the world and engagement through trade are the most effective means of reaching international economic stability.''

President Clinton imposed sanctions against India and Pakistan after those countries detonated nuclear devices. House Agriculture Committee Chairman Bob Smith (R–Ore.) and ranking minority member Charlie Stenholm (D–Texas) have urged Clinton to exempt food and agricultural commodities from those sanctions. Pakistan is an important market for U.S. agricultural products, ranking third in purchases of U.S. wheat.

Sens. Dick Lugar (R–Ind.), Pat Roberts (R–Kan.), Larry Craig (R–Idaho) and Max Baucus (D–Mont.) have also asked Clinton to exclude agricultural exports from the sanctions.

Warfield, a member of the American Farm Bureau Federation board of directors, told the panel that when sanctions are imposed, agriculture typically bears the brunt through lost sales and gains a reputation as an unreliable supplier. While American agriculture loses through sanctions and embargoes, its toughest competitors win by picking up those markets.

Warfield noted that when the United States placed a grain embargo against the Soviet Union in the 1980s, American farmers lost $2.3 billion in farm exports. He said the effects continue to be felt.

''When the United States cut off sales of wheat to protest the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, other suppliers—France, Canada, Australia and Argentina—stepped in,'' Warfield said. ''They expanded their sales to the Soviet Union, ensuring that U.S. sanctions had virtually no economic impact. Russia still appears to restrict purchases of American wheat, fearing the United States may again use food exports as a foreign policy weapon.''

Just the threat of sanctions can provoke trading partners into a retaliatory stance and threaten U.S. agricultural exports, the farm leader pointed out.

Warfield said Farm Bureau supports a bill (H.R. 3654) by Re. Tom Ewing (R–Ill.) that would prevent selective agricultural embargoes. The legislation, he said, would prevent useless embargoes that destroy American export markets while creating opportunities for other countries. Warfield said engagement with other nations, not sanctions and embargoes, should be the preferred option.

''The United States, as the leader in world trade, has an unprecedented opportunity to promote its values throughout the world by peaceful engagement through trade,'' Warfield said, ''Reaching out through engagement and trade, not withdrawing behind embargoes, is the best way to achieve positive change—not by denying ourselves access to the markets and creating opportunities for our competitors.''

TRIBUTE FOR MR. JOHN M. MELLA

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, this past April I had the pleasure to speak at a testimonial dinner in a small area of my district a few miles north of the Wisconsin border in a town called Iron Mountain. Iron Mountain is an old, ethnically diverse iron mining town which is surrounded by beautiful plush forests, roving wolves and soaring eagles. It is such a delight for me to have the opportunity to visit this

town because of its relaxing atmosphere and the friendly demeanor of its residents. However, even in the apparent serenity of this tucked-away, laid-back fishing haven, many people in Iron Mountain still have the haunting memories of their days as soldiers during times of war.

You see Mr. Speaker, my district, Michigan's First Congressional District, has the most veterans residing in its area than any other congressional district in Michigan. So it is often that I attend a veterans gathering or function. The purpose of the testimonial dinner that I attended this past April was to honor one of those veterans. His name is John Mella and he is the reason why I stand before you today with this tribute. Mr. Mella has recently completed his year as American Legion State Commander. We, in the Upper Peninsula, couldn't have been prouder to have him as State Commander since it has been fifteen years since a fellow Yooper has held the post.

Mr. Mella became part of the American Legion because of his honorable service in the United States Armed Forces. He has worked his way up as American Legion State Commander because of his continued patriotism and his commitment to the preservation of the memory of all soldiers of war. He, as do all veterans, understands what it means to be part of a community, to work together for one another. Mr. John Mella and all veterans who are part of the American Legion have made a pledge to our nation that during times of peace or times of war, they will be a united body to provide service to our country and will be the model of Americanism, joining together for the betterment of one another.

Ever since May 9, 1919 when the American Legion approved its constitution, it as upheld its stated commitment to God and Country. All citizens of the United States can look to these people who epitomize dedication and devotion to our nation. As the Representative of Michigan's First District, I am proud to have one of these such citizens residing in my district. In Iron Mountain, a town of apparent serenity and peacefulness, resides many brave Americans who had served and fought to protect justice, freedom and democracy, one particular is Mr. John Mella, a man of distinction, honor and service. A man who has my sincere admiration and appreciation. A man I am proud to call my friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, June 11, 1998, I was unavoidably detained in a meeting with Attorney General Janet Reno, Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder, Martin Luther King III, Julian Bond, Revered Shuttlesworth, Alabama State Senator Hank Sanders, and others. The meeting was held in regard to discrimination and intimidation being committed by the FBI and U.S. district attorneys against African-American voters. This pattern of intimidation was carried out by continuously bringing charges of voter fraud and prosecuting people in Alabama's predominately African-American counties.

If I had been present, I would have voted ''no'' on rollcall vote No. 229, ''aye'' on rollcall vote No. 230, and ''aye'' on rollcall vote No. 231, a very important vote on House Resolution 446 which condemns the brutal slaying that occurred recently in Jasper, TX.

SHIRLEY L. STORY AWARDED SOCIAL WORKER OF THE YEAR

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pay tribute to one of Northwest Indiana's most dedicated social workers, Shirley L. Story, of Gary, Indiana. On March 20, 1998, Shirley was honored at the Annual Social Worker of the Year and Citizen of the Year Awards Celebration with the Social Workers of the Year Award. The highest honor for a member of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), this award is given yearly to a person who displays outstanding leadership, commitment, and professionalism beyond the normal clientele relationship.

Shirley was honored for her exemplary work as a Social Worker Supervisor at St. Joseph's Carmelite School for Girls in East Chicago, Indiana. During her twelve years at the Carmelite School for Girls, Shirley has instituted programs dedicated to improving the lives of the young women with whom she has contact. Indeed, she has created such initiatives as the Independent Living Program, where high school seniors are allowed to rent an apartment. The girls pay bills, utilities, and work their own jobs learning valuable skills for their future. Shirley is also dedicated to improving the field of social work as a whole. She is currently serving her second term as a representative to the NASW Indiana Chapter, which allows her to share her knowledge and experience with other social workers around the state.

Deeply committed to the community through her work, Shirley also volunteers much of her personal time. She is actively involved in her church, the New Revelation Church, in Gary. Some examples of the dedication Shirley has for her church include her service as the First Vice President of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Baptist State Convention of Indiana, Inc., the Recording Secretary in the Progressive Baptist Convention Midwest Region, and a Co-Sunday School teacher for young women. In addition, Shirley is active in the Delta Sigma Theta Public Service Sorority, Church Women United, and the alumna associations of Loyola University and Ball State University. Though certainly dedicated to her work and community, Shirley is also a caring, family-oriented person. Her children, Chisle Leah and Vaughn Michael, are twenty-one and nineteen, respectively. Chisle is a licensed cosmetologist and Vaughn will attend Purdue University this fall. Part of a family, Shirley often takes care of her nieces and nephews, especially the children of her sister who passed away three years ago. In addition, she often visits her relatives to spend quality time with them.

Shirley plans to remain with the St. Joseph's Carmelite School for Girls. With the opportunities for creating new programs, positive effects of the community, and helping individuals in need, she is very satisfied in her current position as Social Worker Supervisor. However, Shirley has not limited her potential for good works in the future. She is considering opening a consulting firm to broaden her activities throughout the region.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Shirley Story for being named Social Worker of the Year. Her dedication, service, and leadership to her community and her family has rewarded the people of Indiana's First Congressional District with one of the real heroes of our time.

IN HONOR OF TOM SALOPEK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tom Salopek, who was recently chosen to serve as Guest Conductor for the 1998 Junior Tamburitzan Festival. Tom's selection is yet another sweet note in a career marked by his love for the tambura.

A member of the Zagreb Junior Tamburitzans at the age of nine, Tom was something of a music prodigy. In fulfillment of this promise, he would later become Assistant Musical Director of AZJT from 1979–1980 and then Musical Director from 1987–1991. In 1992, Tom was named the tambura instructor and musical director of Cleveland Junior Tamburitzans, a position he still holds.

A dedicated musician with an unyielding and untiring vision as to his artform, Tom inspires the respect of his pupils with his dedication, spending long hours searching for and arranging the group's music. His appointment as Guest Conductor is a recognition of this dedication to craft.

Tom's passion for tambura is hardly surprising when one considers his roots in the Croatian community. Tom's parents, Peter and Kay, encouraged their children's interest in Croatian tambura, becoming actively involved in their group. To this day, Tom remains close to his roots, living in Cleveland's ''Old World'' East 185th neighborhood.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in congratulating Tom Salopek on his appointment as Guest Conductor at the 1998 Junior Tamburitzan Festival. Let his sweet music continue for years to come.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHATHAM BOROUGH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, CHATHAM, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 1998

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Chatham Borough Volunteer Fire Department located in Chatham, New Jersey on the occasion of their 100th anniversary. This anniversary marks the culmination of a long, proud history of providing voluntary protection of the lives of the citizens and their property in case of fire. The fire department will celebrate this historic centennial with a week of scheduled events beginning on June 27, 1998.