

East Asia. Now the world has learned that capital that flows in quickly can flow out just as quickly. Global economic instability of this nature affects the U.S. economy too, hurting our exports and damaging investments.

Response: Many economists have proposed restrictions on short-term investment to address this problem, such as a very small tax on international financial transactions, which would make investors more reluctant to move their money from place to place quickly. Overall, we need to take steps to manage the global economy more carefully. This can be done, though not easily, through institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and new cooperative agreements on regulating global economic activity.

Revenue concerns

When money can be moved easily across borders, it becomes very tempting for corporations to place their assets in "tax havens," that is, countries with very low corporate tax rates. This in turn can lead governments to compete to reduce corporate taxes, which means they must rely more heavily on income taxes on individuals. And, with lower tax revenue, this reduces the ability of countries to respond to the other disruptions of globalization.

Response: New international agreements and standards on tax policies and regulating investment can help minimize this effect. Eventually, governments are likely to find that agreements on harmonizing financial regulations will make it easier to eliminate tax evaders.

AN INEXORABLE PROCESS

There is a parallel between the economic forces which shook the United States early this century and those we are confronting today. For most of the 19th century, the economies of our various states were isolated and independent. However, rapid technology changes, driven by railroads and telegraphs, resulted in a nationalization of the economy. Suddenly, workers became concerned about conditions and competition from neighboring states. Unregulated capital went streaming into frontier ventures, leading to a series of banking panics. The answer, clearly, was not that the railroads could be torn up or that telegraph lines be pulled down. Instead, Americans found new ways to regulate production and manage the national economy. And the result was the creation of the most efficient wealth-producing economy the world has ever seen.

The challenge today is to find new ways of cooperating in the global economy. That includes reinvigorating and improving the tools of international cooperation that have served as well over the last 50 years. Instruments such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization, and new international environmental and labor agreements will have to be strengthened to cushion us from the inevitable shocks.

CONCLUSION

Our number one concern in this increasingly globalized economy is jobs—good and secure jobs for Americans. We must pursue policies that continue to promote economic growth and improve living standards. Just as Americans in the last century successfully found ways to master the economic forces of that day, so Americans now must find ways to master, and not resist, the forces of today's global economy.

SALUTE TO 10 BAY AREA ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to ten outstanding environmental leaders in the San Francisco Bay Area who recently were rightly named by the Contra Costa Times as "Ten Natural Treasures."

These men and women—some of them my constituents, some activists with whom I have had the honor to work—have fought tenaciously to protect and preserve not only the resources and the environment of the Bay Area, but also the health and safety of the millions of people who call this very special region our home. Their vision and their dedication establish how determined individuals can change our society for the better, and preserve its treasures for generations to come.

I would like to submit the August 31, 1998 editorial from the Contra Costa Times, and ask all my colleagues to join in recognizing these outstanding environmental leaders.

TEN NATURAL TREASURES

Last week Times staff writer James Bruggers profiled 10 Bay Area environmentalists—citizen activists—who have left an indelible mark on this glorious area. They are residents who made a tremendous difference in the landscape—literally and figuratively.

Their efforts have changed how we think about open space, clean water and the ecology of our home.

Some of them—such as David Brower—are national stars of the movement. Others have made just as significant contributions but at a more local level.

For the record, they are:

David Brower, 86. He's considered the patriarch of the American environmental movement. Once a leader of the Sierra Club, he parted ways with the group in 1969 and formed Friends of the Earth and Earth Island Institute.

Margaret Tracy, 75. She cofounded the Preserve Area Ridgelines Committee, envisioning a network of trails connecting East Bay open spaces.

Dwight Steele, 84. He was a successful lawyer who chucked it all to devote his legal mind to environmental laws through pro-bono work. He fought to keep San Francisco Bay waters open and Lake Tahoe free of pollution.

Silvia McGlaughlin, 81. She helped found the Save San Francisco Bay Association, essentially protecting it from infill and development.

Robert Stebbins, 83. His scientific work was the basis for the California Desert Protection Act, passed Congress in 1994.

Mary Bowerman, 90ish. A co-founder of Save Mount Diablo, she is a botanist who worked to expand the Mt. Diablo State Park's lands.

Will and Jean Siri, late 70s. They fought for environmental justice in poor East Bay communities. The Siris helped give residents living near refineries a political voice.

Manfred Lindner, 78. He pressed for Morgan Territory and Las Trampas regional parks.

Edgar Wayburn, 91. He tenaciously pushed for establishing Point Reyes National Seashore in Marin County and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in Marin and San Francisco.

These 10 individuals left their footprints on the West. They fought, argued, lobbied and

persuaded residents and their legislators that the Bay Area is full of natural treasures worth preserving.

It was our responsibility—and to our benefit—to treat them and their deeds with respect.

They saw where disregard of the environment would lead. They grabbed the wheel and insisted we change course. They resolved to preserve the integrity of the Bay Area so that it would still be noted for its uniqueness and its beauty for generations.

We thank these people, these visionaries, for their efforts. Indeed their sweat equity has paid off.

Yet despite their youthful energy, these trailblazers won't be leading the charge much longer. Their ages attest to that. Looking beyond the next few years, we wonder whether the next generation is up to the task. Will leaders come forward to carry the banner into the next millennium?

The answer, of course, must be yes. Otherwise, all of the work of these environmental pioneers will have been in vain.

Environmental issues of tomorrow include safe and sufficient water supply, suburban sprawl, the competing needs of endangered species and private property rights, old growth forests, our oceans, and the biggie, overpopulation.

The challenges are plenty and the opportunities grand for those with the courage, tenacity, devotion and vision to accept them.

We salute these men and women and suggest that they are in and of themselves, treasures.

CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE: A WAY TO SAVE LIVES AND DOLLARS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, Congress should enact legislation to allow Medicare to concentrate certain difficult surgical procedures in hospitals of special excellence in those procedures. If we did this, we would certainly save lives because the data is overwhelming that some hospitals do difficult procedures better than other hospitals. Better patient outcomes also means savings to Medicare by the avoidance of complications and repeat surgery. It also offers the chance for Medicare to negotiate a bundled, lower payment: Medicare will guarantee a higher volume of patients in exchange for volume price discounts.

I've introduced legislation to establish a Centers of Excellence program, HR 2726, which I hope can be enacted in the next Congress.

The Annals of Surgery's July 1998 issue contains an article which proves, once again, what a life-saver this type of program can be. Following is the abstract of the article, describing using centers of excellence for pancreaticoduodenectomy—a "complex, high-risk general surgical procedure usually performed for malignancies of the pancreas" and duodenum area:

STATEWIDE REGIONALIZATION OF PANCREATICODUODENECTOMY AND ITS EFFECT ON IN-HOSPITAL MORTALITY OBJECTIVE

This study examined a statewide trend in Maryland toward regionalization of pancreaticoduodenectomy over a 12-year period and its effect on statewide in-hospital mortality rates for this procedure.

SUMMARY BACKGROUND DATA

Previous studies have demonstrated that the best outcomes are achieved in centers performing large numbers of pancreaticoduodenectomies, which suggests that regionalization could lower the overall in-hospital mortality rate for this procedure.

METHODS

Maryland state hospital discharge data were used to select records of patients undergoing a pancreaticoduodenectomy between 1984 and 1995. Hospital is were classified into high-volume and low-volume provider groups. Trends in surgical volume and mortality rates were examined by provider groups and for the entire state. Regression analyses were used to examine whether hospital share of pancreaticoduodenectomies was a significant predictor of the in-hospital mortality rate, adjusting for study year and patient characteristics. The portion of the decline in the statewide in-hospital mortality rate for this procedure attributable to the high-volume provider's increasing share was determined.

RESULTS

A total of 795 pancreaticoduodenectomies were performed in Maryland at 43 hospitals from 1984 to 1995 (Maryland residents only). During this period, one institution increased its yearly share of pancreaticoduodenectomies from 20.7% to 58.5%, and the statewide in-hospital mortality rate for the procedure decreased from 17.2% to 4.9%. After adjustment for patient characteristics and study year, hospital share remained a significant predictor of mortality. An estimated 61% of the decline in the statewide in-hospital mortality rate for the procedure was attributable to the increase in share of discharges at the high-volume provider.

CONCLUSIONS

A trend toward regionalization of pancreaticoduodenectomy over a 12-year period in Maryland was associated with significant decrease in the statewide in-hospital mortality rate for this procedure, demonstrating the effectiveness of regionalization for high-risk surgery.

HONORING GUAM'S ARTIST, ERIKA KRISTINE DAVID, DURING THE CHILDART USA EXHIBITION

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, on July 24, 1998, the International Child Art Foundation (ICAF) announced that young Erika Kristine David's artwork has been selected for the ChildArt USA Exhibition. This exhibition was on display from September 5–8 in the Atrium Hall of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC. Young Erika is one of the fifty talented child artists whose work has been selected for this exhibition.

The artwork was selected from an outreach program to elementary and middle schools of nearly every school district in the country. The participants are young students ranging from ages 8 to 12 years old, who submitted their artwork based on the theme: My World in the Year 2000. Fifty child artists, representing 30 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam, were invited by ICAF to attend the ChildArt USA Festival and Exhibition opening on the Labor Day weekend.

Erika Kristine David is the youngest daughter of Enrico and Tess David of Mangilao, Guam. She is a fourth grade student at the Price Elementary School on Guam. Her art teacher Vicky Loughran and her father Enrico traveled to Washington, DC, to attend the ChildArt USA Exhibition. Her favorite subject is art and music and when she grows up she wants to be an artist or a singer. Her other hobbies are spending time with her family and pets, reading, traveling, practicing art, listening to music and snorkeling. The theme of her artwork, My World in the Year 2000, depicts people of the world enjoying a healthy and good life. People feeling safe outdoors, exercising, barbecuing, picnicking and having fun in the sun and in the water.

It is with great pride that today I honor Erika Kristine David from Guam, whose artwork has not only exposed the talent and artistry of the people of Guam, but also whose art has been brought here in the Nation's Capital for all people to enjoy. Erika, along with other young artists collaborated with professional adult artists to create a unique 16 ft. x 24 ft. mural on the National Mall. The theme of the mural is America 2000.

Because of organizations such as "The International Child Art Foundation (ICAF)," a nonprofit group, dedicated to the promotion of children's art and visual global learning, that young artists like Erika Kristine David have been provided an outlet for their work. These young students' talent and artistry will be acknowledged by all who enjoy the arts and praised by those organizations whose mission is to promote arts for the people.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to honor Erika Kristine David's artwork and to highlight the artistic talents of the young students of Guam.

REMEMBERING PETER "JERRY"
MIKACICH**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise in tribute to the late Gerald Peter "Jerry" Mikacich of Sacramento, California. As a beloved husband, father, and friend to many, Jerry Mikacich will be remembered as one of our community's most active and giving citizens.

Today, Jerry will be eulogized at a memorial Mass in his hometown. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in paying tribute to this incredibly caring man whose goodwill will indeed be his lasting legacy.

A native of Northern California, Jerry Mikacich was born in Sacramento on May 10, 1930. He was an active student, athlete and Eagle Scout before he graduated from Christian Brothers High School in 1948. Then, he enrolled at Sacramento Junior College which is Sacramento City College today, and eventually San Jose State.

Since the 1940s, Jerry had a reputation as an avid skier, beginning in childhood and blossoming into a long-term career as a ski shop proprietor. Throughout college, Jerry was known to be a great fan of skiing and an exceptional athlete. In fact, Jerry first came to know his future wife Georgia on the ski slopes.

After college, Jerry soon established a reputation as an expert in the field of winter sporting equipment. Skiers in our area came to rely on Jerry's professional assistance and wisdom. He made this sport available to many who otherwise would never have experienced its thrills, including amputees for whom he adapted ski equipment.

The strength of Jerry's personal character was forever a part of his life. He and Georgia were married on June 19, 1961 and their union remained strong until his passing. As a caring entrepreneur and devoted family man, he served as an outstanding role model for many.

On a personal note, Jerry Mikacich was one of my most valued friends since the early days of my career in public service. He was always there for me and his assistance was tireless and very much appreciated. My thoughts and prayers are with Jerry's wife Georgia, his mother Lottie Munizich Mikacich, his four children, and all the rest of his family during this most difficult of times.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me today in remembering a gracious and generous man, as well as a very dear friend, Jerry Mikacich.

IN RECOGNITION OF ST. LOUIS
CARDINAL MARK MCGWIRE**HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Mark McGwire and his awesome feat in setting a new, single-season home run record.

Throughout this season, Americans have been treated to one of the most incredible sporting achievements of our lifetime. The single-season home run mark of 61 stood as perhaps the most awesome feat in baseball history. I feel privileged to have been able to witness Mark McGwire in action this year—every baseball fan in America knows that they have seen something special in 1998.

Roger Maris set that record 37 years ago, topping perhaps the most impressive achievement of Babe Ruth, the best all-around player ever to take the field in professional baseball. Watching McGwire's pursuit of 62 home runs, placing him among icons like Ruth and Maris, has been a pure joy to witness.

Mark McGwire is not only an outstanding athlete, he is also a man whose conduct epitomizes good sportsmanship. He has remained focused on his goal in the face of a media frenzy and a sea of exploding in flash bulbs. And he did it with amazing grace and real class.

The chase showed something special about Mark McGwire. But it also showed me something special about the people of St. Louis. The fact that seven very lucky fans gave up progressively larger amounts of money, returning their souvenir home runs balls to Number 25, showed that Cardinals fans truly are, as Baseball America called them, the Best Baseball Fans in America. These fans showed their true spirit when they stood and cheered not only for St. Louis' own Mark McGwire, but also for that great athlete, the Cub's, Sammy Sosa.

Mr. Speaker, I could not be more proud to say I am from St. Louis, and I could not be