

Scientists have recently made exciting new discoveries in the laboratory that have brought us closer to discovering a cure for this group of diseases that take the sight of so many Americans. Just recently, Dr. Matthew LaVail, along with scientists from the National Eye Institute and Regeneron Pharmaceutical Company, made significant strides in their research. With ribosyme therapy, researchers have now established "proof of principle" for two forms of gene therapy. To scientists, proof of principle signifies that there is a good basis to move current studies to human clinical trials. In previous work, gene replacement therapy has slowed retinal degeneration in animals with recessive forms of the disease. With these exciting breakthroughs, we are at a critical juncture where we need to support these research efforts.

This month, the Heart Sight Committee, headed by Carlos and Betti Lidsky, will host "Party With a Purpose," in my Congressional district. The event will provide an opportunity to recognize those who have contributed to fighting Retinal Degenerative Diseases and to raise a portion of the much needed funds to continue research projects, such as those of Dr. LaVail and his fellow scientists. The Lidskys and the members of the Heart Sight Committee are dedicated to not letting lack of research funding be the obstacle to finding a cure. We need to support efforts such as these because with our help, there is a cure in sight.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN

#### HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 1998*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Republic of China on Taiwan, on the occasion of Taiwan's forthcoming National Day.

The Republic of China was founded 87 years ago. Throughout the twentieth century, the Republic of China has been an ally and partner of the United States. In recent years, despite the lack of formal diplomatic relations, Taiwan has been unwavering in its support of United States policies in all areas.

It is appropriate on the occasion of Taiwan's National Day that freedom loving, democratic societies everywhere give their congratulations to the people of Taiwan, for their abiding respect and practice of the most respected traditions common to any true democracy. The people of Taiwan enjoy the right to vote in free and regularly scheduled elections. Their judicial system shows respect for the rights of the individual, and the Legislature is structured under truly representative rules. Furthermore, the people of Taiwan have been their own best natural resource, exhibiting to the world the value of hard work and a capitalistic spirit.

It is time for us to recognize Taiwan for what it is—a faithful ally and partner. Let's help Taiwan support itself by declaring our affections and everlasting friendship for Taiwan.

IN HONOR OF ARCHBISHOP ALOJZ

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 1998*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Archbishop Alojz Tkac, Archbishop of Kosice and the metropolitan of Eastern Slovakia.

Archbishop Alojz Tkac, a native of Humenne, in the region of Zemplin Eastern Slovakia, was ordained a priest on June 25, 1961. After 14 years of service, Archbishop Tkac was denied permission to serve in priestly ministry by the communist party. After eight years of absence, Archbishop Alojz returned to his passion and was named the pastor of the parish in Cervenica.

On February 14, 1990, Pope John Paul II named him the Bishop of Kasice. In 1995, the Diocese of Kosice was elevated to a metropolitan see and Bishop Tkac became its first Archbishop since 1962. Pope John Paul II personally presented the Archbishop with a Pallium, which was worn by Metropolitans on July 2, 1995 during the Pope's visit to Kosice.

On his third visit to the United States, Archbishop Tkac will visit several churches in the Cleveland area and meet with many prominent members of the Slovak-American community. On October 4, 1998, the Archbishop will be attending mass at SS Cyril and Methodius Church in Lakewood, Ohio with Father Ondrejka. The SS Cyril and Methodius Church is honored that the Archbishop will be attending and is grateful for the Archbishop's efforts to preserve the Slovak tradition in Cleveland.

My fellow colleagues, join me in honoring Archbishop Alojz Takac, a man who has dedicated his life to God, freedom and the well-being of all people.

#### TRIBUTE TO EARL A. JOHNSON

#### HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 1998*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Earl A. Johnson for 50 years of community service. Mr. Johnson currently acts as Mayor Pro-Tempore of the Darlington City Council where he has served since 1986.

Mr. Johnson was born in Darlington, South Carolina, which I am proud to represent in the U.S. House, and he has lived there all of his life. He was educated in the public schools, and graduated from Mayo High School in 1942. He later continued his education at Clemson University. After years as a brick mason in the private sector, Mr. Johnson became a masonry instructor at the Darlington Career Center from which he retired after 18 years. He helped with the development and implementation of a masonry education program at the Darlington County Prison Farm through the Darlington Adult Education program. He also taught masonry in the evening classes at Florence-Darlington Technical College for many years.

Mr. Johnson is a member of the St. James United Methodist Church where he has served in many capacities. His community involvement stretches from his church to the commu-

nity's schools to the NAACP and other civic organizations. He has been a member of the Pee Dee United Elk Lodge #1679 for over 50 years, and he has been a member of American Legion Post #210 for 46 of those years. Mr. Johnson is also a dedicated member of the Friendship Masonry Lodge #17, a 32nd degree Mason member of the Pee Dee Consistory #197, and a noble of the Mystic Shrine Crescent Temple #148.

Throughout his career of community service, Mr. Johnson has received numerous awards. In 1993 he was named Man of the Year by his church, and he was recognized for working with the City-In-Schools Program as a mentor at Darlington Junior High. Mr. Johnson is also an accomplished musician who has played the drums with several area bands.

Mr. Johnson is married to the former Hilda Grayson from Beaufort, South Carolina, and they have two children and two grandsons.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me and my fellow South Carolinians from the Darlington area as we pay tribute to Earl A. Johnson for over 50 years of dedicated community service. He is an excellent role model and a devoted public servant.

#### A TRIBUTE TO SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ABOARD PAN AM FLIGHT 103

#### HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 1998*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, this December it will be ten years since the downing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. Thirty-five Syracuse University students, returning from a study abroad semester, were killed in that bombing. This event had a profound effect on the Syracuse community and time is still healing the wounds left by this terrible tragedy.

Jonathan Matthew Taylor, the current Student Government Association Parliamentarian, has asked for the words of a predecessor, John M. Mandych, to be placed in the RECORD. The words of Mr. Mandych were delivered January 18, 1989 at a tribute to the thirty-five Syracuse University students killed in the Pan Am Flight #103 bombing.

Along with Mr. Matthews, I believe it is appropriate to pay tribute again. I submit Mr. Mandych's speech to be placed in the record and invite my colleagues to join with me in remembering those students who lost their lives in this terrorist attack.

A TRIBUTE—SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY FLIGHT 103  
MEMORIAL SERVICE CARRIER DOME, JANUARY 18, 1989

(By John M. Mandych)

We have come together today to pay tribute to our lost colleagues, friends, and loved ones. Meager words that I may think or say cannot eliminate pain or wipe away tears; they may unite us in one thought. May these words begin to ease the sorrow that has been felt from coast to coast, and ocean to ocean.

We may not have personally known one or more of the students called from this life, but we all share a common bond to our alma mater and loved each of the students in our own very special and personal way. I knew one student well. His name was Frederick Phillips—or "Sandy"—as friends called him. Sandy wrote to me from London several

times. I never had a chance to respond to his last letter. Over the semester break, I finally wrote that response. I gathered my thoughts and put them on paper to Sandy. I know I won't be sending this letter, but I thought I'd read it here today, because I know he and the others are listening.

DEAR SANDY, Time has stopped for a while on our campus. It's a little quieter here. People don't seem to laugh as much. And it's cold. It's been cold since we heard the news. For almost a month now, we've been mourning your death and the loss of your companions on that flight. Our university family is a little smaller now, but I think we're a little closer too. I think this closeness has spread to all college students as seen from the dozens of sympathy letters I've received from around the country. So many are sharing in our grief, Sandy, but these letters don't explain your loss—I'm not sure anything will. I'm not even sure if I should look for answers because answers lead to more questions, and questions take time. Time as I have learned is so precious.

Sandy, I'm glad I got to know you for the short time you were with us at Syracuse. You made friends laugh, classrooms brighter, and you made this dome a little louder for those winning touchdowns and tie-breaking baskets. You made our campus better. Sandy, we may have lost you but we didn't lose your spirit. I see it every day now in others, and it's less painful knowing a part of you lives on.

When I first heard the cold news, I wanted to say a prayer. I didn't quite know what to pray for, now I do. I pray that we all live our lives, dream our dreams, walk forward like you did when you were here with us. You and the others have taught us that life is precious, and life too is short. I think you'd want us to know that tragic thoughts, guilty feelings, and profound grief tick away on our own timeclocks.

So we've been grieving for a month now. And I told you time stopped for a while on our campus. Tomorrow, will you mind if we start the clock again? You see, Sandy, the ink is drying on this chapter of our lives. Tomorrow I want to start a new chapter. You, yourself, won't be in this one because I can't bring you back, but you'll be guiding me—you and the others will be guiding all of us. You'll turn the pages as we write, you'll inspire our pens. You see, we all have a responsibility now . . . this book called "life" must read on.

Someday I'll look through the book of my life and in my browsing I'll find a chapter that ended on January 18, 1989. I'll be grateful because you helped me turn that page and write so many others. I'll be thankful that you taught me on Earth, and reminded me from Heaven, how precious time and life really is.

Tomorrow, Sandy, we'll be writing a new chapter with your help. One where clocks tick again, knowledge is sought again, and people laugh again. And Sandy, with your help, I think tomorrow our campus will be a little bit warmer.

#### INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

### HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 1998*

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, my distinguished colleague from the Committee on Ways and Means, Mr. MATSUI, and I today are introducing legislation to prohibit the Department of Treasury from issuing any regulations dealing

with hybrid transactions under subpart F of the Internal Revenue Code. The bill will further instruct the Secretary of the Treasury to conduct a study of the tax treatment of hybrid transactions and, after receiving input from the public, to submit the report to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance.

The subpart F provisions found in the Code have a direct impact on the competitiveness of U.S. businesses in the global marketplace. Historically, Congress has moved carefully when making changes to those sections of the Code pertaining to international taxation. Unwarranted or injudicious action in these areas can have substantial impact on U.S. businesses operating abroad.

With this in mind, I was very concerned when the Treasury Department issued Notice 98-11 earlier this year to restrict the use of hybrid transactions, which Treasury suggested were being used "to circumvent the purposes of subpart F." Treasury's actions caused Mr. Matsui, me and many others to question the regulatory process Treasury intended to use to change the policy.

Both Chairman Archer and Ranking Democrat Rangel wrote Treasury Secretary Rubin to express their concern over the policy Treasury was suggesting as well as the means by which it was implementing the change. Rather than asking Congress to consider possible changes, Treasury was, in effect, legislating by executive fiat. Following up the letters from Messrs. Archer and Rangel, Mr. Matsui and I joined 31 fellow members of the Ways and Means Committee in asking Treasury to withdraw the regulations in order for Congress to have an opportunity to review the issues.

After receiving this input from Congress and the business community, Treasury did issue Notice 98-35, which withdrew Notice 98-11. However, the issue remains unresolved as Notice 98-35 still leaves Treasury with the option of issuing binding rules regarding hybrid transactions. And, although the rules will not be finalized before January 1, 2000, they will be effective for payments made on or after June 19, 1998. Because Treasury still retains this option to issue regulations and, in effect, legislate in this area, I believe Congress must act to protect its Constitutional prerogative.

With regard to the policy, I am concerned that proposed changes to hybrid transactions would increase foreign taxes on U.S. companies operating abroad—thus putting U.S. companies at a competitive disadvantage with their foreign competitors. Congress just simplified some of the subpart F rules in the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, and these, or similar, proposed regulations would be inconsistent with recent Congressional action. Lastly, this policy raises the question as to why the U.S. Treasury Department is so concerned about helping to generate revenue for the coffers of other countries.

I look forward to the study and input from the Department of Treasury on the issue of modifications to the subpart F provisions in the Code. Regardless of the merits of the proposed changes to the subpart F policy, we must not allow Treasury to move forward with regulations until Congress determines the appropriate course of action. The bill we introduce today will allow for that judicious process to go forward and I urge my colleagues to join with us in cosponsoring this bill.

#### TRIBUTE FOR CAPTAIN DONALD COLLINS BROWN

### HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 1998*

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a constituent of mine, Captain Donald Collins Brown, upon his retirement after 28 years of active duty in the United States Navy.

Captain Donald Collins Brown was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corp at the University of New Mexico in 1970. He completed flight training and was designated a Naval Flight Officer in 1971. His sea duty tours include several fleet squadrons in the A-6 Intruder. He also served at sea as Aide and Flag Secretary to the Commander Carrier Group One and Chief of Staff to Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Group Three. Captain Brown commanded Attack Squadron one six five and Carrier Air Wing two. His shore assignments include Attack Aviation Readiness Officer at both Commander Medium Attack Wing and Naval Air Forces Pacific Fleet and most recently as Commanding Officer of the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corp at the University of Utah.

Captain Brown is a Distinguished Graduate of the Naval War College in Newport Rhode Island. He has completed nine extended deployments with various Carrier Battle Groups in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans, the Mediterranean Sea and Persian Gulf. He has over 4,000 flight hours, primarily in the A-6 Intruder and has experience with the F-14, S-3 and EA-6B. His awards include two Legions of Merit, two Meritorious Service Medals, the Strike/Flight Air Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, and other campaign and service awards.

Captain Brown and his wife, Pauline, have two children and reside in Park City, Utah.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to wish Captain Brown my best and commend him on a job extremely well done.

#### IN HONOR OF THE ALLEN THEATER

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 1998*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my best wishes to Cleveland's newly remodeled Allen Theater in celebration of its grand re-opening. The Allen has stood the test of time through many hardships to allow its patrons to enjoy the hundreds of films and performances that have graced its dazzling auditorium.

Designed by the famous architect C. Howard Crane and built by Jule and Jay Allen, the theater first opened its doors on April 1, 1921 amidst a frenzy of publicity praising this \$1,900,000 movie "palace." Its elegant interiors included a Great Rotunda illuminated by a grand chandelier hung 33-feet above ground. It held 3,080 seats and played host to many silent films.

Even with its obvious success, the Allens would operate the theater for only a year, at