

Captain Ahrens and Fire Medic Schwarz worked feverishly to resuscitate the little boy. They were continually challenged to improvise and reassess all treatment efforts due to the extremely small size of their patient. Due to their professional, capable, and highly competent performance under difficult circumstances, the infant was delivered to the emergency room with the best possible chances for survival.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to send my sincere gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to those distinguished public servants who are truly deserving of the title "hero." Their professionalism and initiatives have earned them the well deserved Public Safety Awards from the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce. It is because of these outstanding public servants and their peers that Fairfax City continues to be one of the finest cities in the world.

RECOMMENDING AN ARTICLE BY
R.C. SPROUL, JR.

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 1998

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recommend to my colleagues the following article by a young writher, R.C. Sproul, Jr., the son of the remarkable theologian and author. While this article is indeed instructive and important in regards to the recent situation with Iraq, I believe that the author does a fine job addressing the much broader topic of following the Constitution in all matters, including those of inciting war and promoting peace. His article was written for CovSyn, which is a publication of the Kuyper Institute, in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

Our founding fathers formed our government to ensure that no single person could have complete power or authority over any aspect of government; to give anyone that kind of power is to invite tyranny.

I urge my colleagues to read and consider Mr. Sproul's article. We all took an oath to uphold the Constitution: an oath which we must take seriously if we are to promote liberty, peace and civil society.

BOMBING THE CONSTITUTION

By R.C. Sproul, Jr.

When was the last time the United States went to war? That's not exactly an easy question to answer. If, however, the Constitution is in fact the law of the land, the answer is December 8, 1941. You see, the Constitution says that only the Congress has the power to declare war on another nation. That would seem to mean that without such a declaration, there is no war. Some kept this pretense the first time the United States went to war after World War II. Some called the Korean War a "police action." Vietnam, though there was again no declaration of war, was known as a war.

Since Vietnam U.S. soldiers have shot at soldiers from other countries, and been shot at, in Libya, Grenada, Panama, Somalia, the former Yugoslavia, and Iraq. And it appears we're going to non-war again in Iraq sometime soon. Where, to quote Mr. Dole, is the outrage? How is it that the Constitution can be so brazenly ignored?

Some argue that in an age of intercontinental ballistic missiles, that the requirement for a Congressional declaration is out-

dated. In none of the above "non-wars" however, have such missiles constituted a treat to American safety. And even if such were the case, why not change the Constitution to reflect the current situation?

Others suggest that we have no need for this old rule since we now have the "War Powers Act" which gives congressional approval for the President to use the military freely within a certain time frame. But that's not at all the same thing. The Constitution no where gives the Congress the right to shirk their role as declarers of war.

Still others try to argue that the United Nations security council now serves that role. Again though, the Constitution says nothing about giving them this role. Neither does it say that a sufficient number of handshakes with Madelaine Albright shall be a substitute for Congressional action.

And still some go on insisting that these conflicts aren't wars. With the U.S.S. Nimitz in the Suez Canal, with 3,000 ground troops being sent to join the 1,500 already in Kuwait, with Stealth bombers lined up and ready to go, this is nonsense. When soldiers shoot at each other, whether they're in a foxhole, or in a room full of computers, or 35,000 feet in the air, that's war.

The only explanation I can think of is that no one really knows what the Constitution says. And while I'm not surprised that government school products would be ignorant (how can they know the Constitution when they can't read it?), what frightens me is that each and every soldier, from the buck private loading the cargo planes, to the lieutenants fresh out of ROTC, to the Commander-in-Chief, all of them have take a solemn oath to uphold and protect the Constitution.

These United States are no longer operating under the Constitution. We, like those great nations which have come and gone before us, have sunk to the level of empire. And you, friend, are no free man or woman, but just another subject. Remember that as you wave that flag in honor of the bombing heroes.

1998 CONGRESSIONAL OBSERVANCE
OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join my colleagues today in a celebration of Black History Month. We have come together today to remember the struggle of African-Americans, to commemorate their accomplishments and to honor their contributions. While it is my sincere hope that my fellow citizens do this every day of the year, it is nonetheless appropriate that we set aside the month of February to pay special attention to both the history and future of African-Americans in this country.

As a former history teacher and a longtime scholar of American history, I am very familiar with and deeply grateful for the countless contributions that African-Americans have made to American identity, culture, science, literature, arts and so much more. I am continually fascinated by the depth and intricacy of the American experience throughout history, and I recognize the critical role that the African-American community has played in its development.

I represent the great state of Illinois, and in particular a congressional district rich in history. Illinois is fittingly known as the Land of Lincoln, a state which boasts the childhood home of Abraham Lincoln, the site of his first law practice, the venue for the Lincoln-Douglas debates, and the State Capitol in Springfield, where Mr. Lincoln spent a portion of his venerable political career. I am enormously proud to have served in that same legislative body, working always in the shadow of the memory of the man who had the courage to declare that under a system of slavery, our nation could never be truly free.

Near Shawneetown, Illinois, there is a unique historical landmark known as the Old Slave House, which was built in 1834. During the pre-Civil War era, the Old Slave House served as a holding place for escaped slaves who had been captured and were awaiting return to their owners. The Slave House is the only known remaining structure to have been used by kidnappers operating a sort of "reverse" Underground Railroad and is considered a key site by researchers and historians seeking to preserve relics of this critical time in American history. I am committed to ensuring that the Old Slave House and other sites receive the recognition and protection necessary for their preservation, so that future generations may benefit from the important lessons they have to teach.

Mr. Speaker, let me close by urging my colleagues and all Americans to embrace the opportunities provided by the celebration of Black History Month. This is a chance to educate a new generation about the experiences and contributions of African-Americans. This is an opportunity to pay tribute to the prominent African-Americans who have given so much to this country throughout its history. And perhaps most importantly, this month should serve as a somber reminder of a grim history of hundreds of years of slavery. Let us never forget what came before and let us never cease our efforts to rid this great nation of the racial discrimination that has for so long been used to justify it.

TRIBUTE TO SELMA LARSON

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say a few words about one of my constituents, whose tireless efforts on behalf of senior citizens deserves respect and recognition.

Selma Larson is a columnist for the Adrian Daily Telegram in Adrian, Michigan. Her focus for a number of years has been on issues impacting senior citizens. Along with her column, she hosts forums to give voice to the concerns of seniors.

Selma doesn't expect you to agree with her on every issue. And, as it should be, she does not hesitate to take public servants to task when she holds a different view. But her commitment to improving the quality of life of our senior citizens is unquestionable. I always take note of her opinions and value her insights very much. In a very unique and important way, Selma Larson ably conveys to me the views of like-minded seniors in Lenawee

County. She does this without expecting recognition or reward for her efforts.

For these reasons, when I was asked to nominate a candidate for the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Ageless Heroes Award, Selma's name was the first to come to mind. I know her colleagues and her friends in Lenawee County would agree that she is worthy of this honor.

Mr. Speaker, Selma Larson, through her vigor, hard work, and dedication, serves as a role model to us all. She proves every day that in America a person with commitment and drive can have a lasting impact on issues affecting all of us.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION OF CONGRESSMAN TOM A. COBURN, M.D.
ON ROLL CALL VOTE NUMBER 557

HON. TOM A. COBURN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 1998

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Speaker, In conducting my end of the year of review this past month I discovered that without explanation, my vote was not recorded on Roll Call vote number 557, passage of H.R. 1270, Amendments to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. I was in fact present for this vote and did in fact vote Yea.

EQUITY IN TRANSPORTATION
FUNDING

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, as a "donor state," Californians pay more in federal taxes at the gas pump than they receive back in federal funds for highway construction, bridge, and road maintenance. When Congress re-authorizes transportation funding legislation this year, I will support equity in transportation funding for California.

Taxpayers in my state expect their hard-earned tax dollars to be used for improvements in their communities and across California. Unfortunately, that is rarely the case. The truth is, some of the money is always used in some other town, in some other state. Mr. Speaker, we should stop asking California taxpayers to pay for highway and infrastructure improvements they will likely never see.

California communities are struggling to maintain their infrastructure. Many communities, including those I represent, are finding it virtually impossible to keep up with growing populations and business development. This is not only unfair, it is becoming unsafe.

Congress must support more equitable funding formulas for states that traditionally pay much more than they receive for their tax dollars, especially California. Mr. Speaker, we must enact a fairer transportation funding formula this year. I urge my California colleagues to unanimously support a funding formula that is fair for California taxpayers.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF ELIZABETH RECEIVING THE 1998 COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AWARD FOR THE NATION'S TOP URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE PROGRAM

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 1998

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the city of Elizabeth, New Jersey for receiving the 1998 Community Empowerment Award from the National Association of State Development Agencies (NASDA) for developing the nation's most successful Urban Enterprise Zone.

The city's UEZ program, which is administered by the Elizabeth Development Company, beat out more than 3,000 eligible zone program participants from 40 states for the honor. The award will be presented February 26th at the annual NASDA Awards Luncheon in Washington, D.C.

In five years Elizabeth's UEZ program has generated over \$30 million in revenue. In addition, the program has helped jump start over \$500 million in economic development and provide more than 6,000 jobs for the region. In the future, the program expects to add 5,000 more jobs with the development of the New Jersey Gardens MetroMall.

Elizabeth's UEZ program is a model for how targeted sales and business tax cuts coupled with effective community programs can serve to spur growth in our urban areas. This nationally renowned program has attracted such visitors as Boston Mayor Tom Menino and has brought innovative approaches to nurturing relationships between private and public sector agencies.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped make this program so successful. I would especially like to congratulate Elizabeth Mayor Christopher Bollwage; Executive Director of the Elizabeth Development Company, Ed Kolling; Deputy Executive Director of the EDC, Bill O'Dea; Planning Director, George Devanney; UEZ Coordinator, Don Devanney; Senior Project Coordinator, Don Goncalves and Community Relations Coordinator, Dave Strochak.

TRIBUTE TO FAMILY
CONNECTIONS ADOPTIONS

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Family Connections Adoptions for over 15 years of devoted service to the community. Family Connections Adoptions helps families adopt children with special needs from all over the globe.

Family Connections Adoptions began in February, 1983. In 15 years the agency has placed over 1400 children, about half of which have been from California. The rest have been from developing countries—India, Korea, Thailand, South America, Vietnam, Romania, Ethiopia, China, Russia and others. The agency began by serving families in three countries with an office in Modesto, California. The serv-

ice area has expanded gradually and now covers the whole state of California. There are branch offices in Sacramento, Fresno, and Oceanside.

The children range in age from infancy to fifteen years. The children are of every race and ethnic background. All of the children have been "waiting children," which means that they have some special needs. These special needs can consist of medical challenges which include blindness, deafness, missing limbs, cerebral palsy, heart problems, cleft lip and palate, hydrocephalus, failure to thrive, severe asthma, fetal alcohol syndrome, and drug addiction. Some of the children at Family Connections have been free of medical challenges but their age, large sibling group, or minority race kept them waiting for an adoptive family.

The family who adopt through Family Connections vary in age, income, education, race, and family size. Couples who have been married two years and singles are welcome to apply. For some, the adoption is a first child for the family. For others, the new addition joins a family with other children. The common factor all families share is their desire to nurture a child.

Many of the agency staff are adoptive parents themselves and they relate to adopting families with warmth and understanding. Family Connections has a commitment to children who wait for permanent, loving homes and to the families who long to open their hearts and homes to the waiting children.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Family Connections for their contribution to child adoption. It is the care and devotion displayed by Family Connections that warrant this recognition. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Family Connections many more years of success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CABLE
CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF
1998

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 1998

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Cable Consumer Protection Act of 1998.

I am pleased to be offering this legislation today with my good friend, the gentleman from Connecticut, Mr. SHAYS. The purpose of our legislative proposal is quite straightforward. We believe that Congress must act to continue consumer price controls past March 31, 1999, when they are scheduled to end pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The Telecommunications Act mandates that after March 31, 1999, consumer price controls for cable programming services end, a policy premised on the assumption that subsequent to enactment of the Act the telephone industry would mount a large scale assault of cable markets across the country. It is clear that competition to the cable industry has not materialized in any significant way after passage of the Telecommunications Act and that except for a few exceptions in limited areas of the country, the phone industry has largely pulled back from entering the cable business. Moreover, the cold reality is that for the overwhelming majority of consumers, an alternative wireline competitor is not going to show