

law in Calabasas, she has also expanded her interest in horticulture. Along with her husband, she established Astoria Mushroom Growers, specializing in the cultivation of Shitake mushrooms.

Though Susan's successes have not come easy, she has never lost sight of her goals. Through her efforts, Susan has not only enriched her life, but the lives of those in our community. Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in paying tribute to Susan Windsor.

#### RECOGNIZING SHEILA DAAR

#### HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 1998*

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize Sheila Daar, an expert in the field of integrated pest management (IPM), who has been awarded a 1997 Stratospheric Ozone Protection Award by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The award recognizes extraordinary achievements and international leadership in protecting the Earth's protective stratospheric ozone layer.

Ms. Daar is the Executive Director of the non-profit Bio-Integral Resource Center (BIRC). This organization works with government agencies and the private sector to design and implement least-toxic IPM programs for solving pest problems in agricultural and urban systems.

Since 1992, Ms. Daar has developed and disseminated practical information on non-chemical alternatives to the toxic fumigant methyl bromide, focusing on California crops, including strawberries and grapes, that use significant amounts of this pesticide. Methyl bromide is a class one ozone depleting substance scheduled for phaseout in 2001 under terms of the U.S. Clean Air Act. Ms. Daar and her staff have documented alternatives, established on-farm applied research and demonstration projects, and conducted technical outreach programs to assist farmers and urban pest control companies to adopt alternatives to methyl bromide. She is an active member of the United Nations Methyl Bromide Technical Option Committee, and co-author of IPM Alternatives to Methyl Bromide and other publications on this topic.

The Environmental Protection Award is significant because it recognizes the two decades of research and public education that Ms. Daar performed. She is a pioneer in the field of integrated pest management in a state and a culture that took pride in synthetic chemical response to pests and the development of pesticides and herbicides of great variety and power. Ms. Daar has made significant contributions to our present understanding of the wide, unexpected sweep and longevity of these toxins, in terms of poisoning our soil, our biosystem, and our atmosphere.

She has labored long in agricultural fields, along the sides of California's highways, in city lots and anywhere where plants grow; espousing, and teaching the values of reduced dependence on synthetic, chemical toxins.

Ms. Daar's early horticultural successes were in teaching as well as being appointed to the State of California Pest Management Advi-

sory Committee in 1993, and to the California Department of Transportation's Public Advisory Liaison System, in 1995. She continues to serve on both bodies.

I am enormously pleased to recognize this remarkable woman on behalf of my district, my state and my country.

#### HONORING LEO ARAGUZ

#### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 1998*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Leo Araguz, a native of Harlingen, Texas, who is being honored tonight in his hometown for the professional athletic accomplishments in his young life.

Leo Araguz, a small town guy of modest means, has played professional football, as a kicker, for several National Football League teams. Tonight, his family, friends and community plan a surprise celebration for him in his hometown, and I want to let him know that the House of Representatives supports the efforts of his community to honor his work.

Professional sports are the top of the heap for athletes in our country. In Texas, football easily reigns over other sports. Getting to the top in professional football is a difficult thing to do under the best of circumstances, but the circumstances for Leo have never been easy.

As a good athlete in school, he almost missed out on sports altogether after a car wreck that badly injured his leg. A full year of therapy not only brought him back to football, but strengthened his legs, which made him decide to concentrate on the kicking game. As a former soccer player, kicking came quite naturally, and a star was born.

The strength of his kicking game assisted the Harlingen High School Cardinals in securing several South Texas football honors. In college, at Stephen F. Austin State University, he led his division in punting in 1992.

Since that time, he has played for the Miami Dolphins, the San Diego Chargers, and the Oakland Raiders. He has just been re-signed by the Miami Dolphins and will soon go there for training camp. Please join me in commending Leo Araguz for his hard work and his commitment to excellence in the game of football.

#### HONORING RABBI AVI WEISS, THE HEBREW INSTITUTE OF RIVERDALE

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 1998*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Avi Weiss and the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale this year celebrate 25 years of passion and outreach within the Jewish community.

Rabbi Weiss has traveled far and wide to support the cause of Judaism, most famously for his work at Auschwitz where he persuaded an order of nuns to move their convent from the gates of that infamous death camp.

He went to Buenos Aires in 1994 to comfort the families of the victims of a bomb attack on

a synagogue. There he met with Argentine President Carlos Menem and was invited to a Cabinet meeting to discuss security concerns. And it was at his urging that the International Relations Committee of the House of Representatives conducted hearings on the bombing when the official investigation lagged.

Rabbi Weiss was named Rabbi of the Year by the New York Board of Rabbis for outstanding service to the rabbinate.

He also pioneered outreach programs at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale including free High Holy Day Services, a free Passover Seder and programs to reach the mentally and physically handicapped as well as elderly shut-ins. It is the only synagogue in the country which is barrier free.

The Hebrew Institute of Riverdale reaches 4,000 families embracing Jews of all commitments.

Rabbi Weiss is a great personal friend and I congratulate him and the Center for their great work over these 25 years.

#### TRIBUTE TO ISSAC GONZALES

#### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 1998*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Issac Gonzales, a community leader in my Congressional District who passed away on January 21, 1998 at the age of 72.

Issac was born and raised in National City, California. In his younger years, he served with distinction in the United States Army and received a number of military honors for heroism and bravery including two bronze stars, a victory medal, and a purple heart.

Issac was a true community leader. He was honored for his service to his neighborhood as a volunteer in the Community Policing Program and worked until his death as a member of the San Diego Senior Citizens Patrol. A quiet man, he also worked tirelessly within his church and led by example.

Issac won the respect and appreciation of his friends, family, and the entire community for his involvement in all aspects of the community life of National City.

We come across a small number of special people who touch our hearts and souls with their activism, optimism, and dedication to making everyone's life richer. Issac was one of those chosen few. My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Silvia, his sons Andrew and Robert, and his family and friends. Issac Gonzales will be dearly missed.

#### HONORING DOMINIQUE DE MENIL

#### HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 1998*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of an extraordinary woman, Dominique de Menil of Houston, a world renowned patron of the arts, philanthropist, and passionate advocate for human rights, who passed away December 31, 1997, at the age of 89. Her death is a tremendous loss not only for her family, but for the city of Houston and

the nation. Along with her late husband John de Menil, who died in 1973, Dominique de Menil left indelible marks on the world of art and the cause of civil rights.

Dominique de Menil was born in Paris on March 23, 1908. Heiress to the Schlumberger Ltd. oil field service company fortune, she made Houston her home for more than 50 years and became its leading arts patron and benefactor. Mrs. de Menil received her bachelor of arts degree from the Sorbonne in 1927. At twenty-three she married Jean de Menil, a young baron from a French military family. In the early 1940s, they came to America with the expansion of Schlumberger and settled in Houston. They became American citizens in 1962.

In 1954, declaring that "art embodies the highest aspirations of humankind," the de Menils established the Menil Foundation to foster knowledge and understanding in the fields of art, architecture and philosophy. Its primary focus has been the visual arts. In addition, Mr. and Mrs. de Menil were among the founders of Houston's Contemporary Arts Museum and responsible for nurturing it during its infancy.

Mrs. de Menil and her late husband were internationally known for establishing Houston's Rothko Chapel in 1971. Mrs. de Menil called the Rothko Chapel, which houses an ensemble of large paintings by the abstract artist Mark Rothko that were commissioned for the chapel, a place "dedicated to meditation and peace." The chapel is ecumenical, open to all religions, belonging to none. Outside the chapel is a reflection pool with Broken Obelisk, a Barnett Newman sculpture dedicated to the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose civil-rights work was close to the heart of Mrs. de Menil. She hosted many distinguished visitors for special programs, including Bishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, Tibet's Dalai Lama, and South African President Nelson Mandela.

A sense of the suffering and indignities heaped on humankind was of great concern to Mrs. de Menil. She founded the Rothko Chapel Awards, \$10,000 prizes presented annually to five recipients, often little-known individuals, who battled for human rights. She also joined with former President Carter to establish the Carter-Menil Human Rights Prize of \$100,000, awarded every other year in Houston or Atlanta. Mrs. de Menil also worked closely with the late Congressman Mickey Leland to further civil and human rights around the world.

After John de Menil died, Dominique de Menil continued the couple's projects, and she masterminded a large, many-pronged program in the art and human rights. In 1987, the Menil Collection museum in Houston opened to the public. Designed by architect Renzo Piano, it houses one of the greatest privately assembled collections in the world, numbering more than 15,000 works of art. Museums in New York and Paris wooed Mrs. de Menil in hopes of acquiring the collection. But Mrs. de Menil was determined to keep the collection in her adopted home of Houston.

In 1995, she presided over the opening of another building, also designed by Renzo Piano. The Cy Twombly Gallery houses a collection of sculptures and paintings by the prominent American artist. In 1997, she presided over opening the Byzantine Fresco Chapel, designed by her son Francois de Menil, containing two 13th-century Byzantine frescos from Cyprus.

Mrs. de Menil also played a pivotal role at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston. She gave generously to foster the arts at Rice University and the University of St. Thomas. She and her husband brought a young architect named Philip Johnson to Houston to design the modern campus at the University of St. Thomas. Mr. Johnson, of course, went on to establish himself as one of the nation's premier modern architects. In 1969, she and her husband established the Institute for the Arts at Rice. She had a great appreciation for the place of art in a strong community and worked to ensure that Houstonians from all walks of life could enjoy our city's many artistic and cultural treasures.

Whatever she did, Mrs. de Menil's intelligence, enthusiasm, and integrity served her and all those she encountered well. She brought a tireless energy, an unflagging drive and a passionate caring to each of her causes. Mrs. de Menil will be remembered for these qualities and her dedication to making the world a better place.

Mr. Speaker, Dominique de Menil was one of a kind. She was a person of strong opinions who cared greatly for justice and the welfare of others. She will be greatly missed but never forgotten by Houstonians, the many people throughout the world with whom she worked, and countless others who care about art and human rights. We are all infinitely richer for her legacy and were blessed with her wisdom, compassion, and dignity. As she intended, the artistic and humanitarian causes she championed will remain as her legacy.

#### CHILD CARE

#### HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, December 3, 1997, into the Congressional Record.

#### CHILD CARE CHALLENGES

Finding high-quality, affordable child care is a common challenge for working parents, with profound consequences for the emotional and cognitive development of children, the workplace, and welfare reform. To choose where your children will be for long hours is to choose the people and the environment that will help shape them.

I find Hoosiers ambivalent about child care. Many accept that working mothers are a reality and want greater investments in improving the quality of child care. Others believe mothers should stay at home with their small children, or at least not be encouraged by government subsidies to leave their children in the care of others.

Child care has become an increasingly urgent issue for a number of reasons. First, 62% of women with young children work outside the home. Today, an estimated 13 million children under the age of 6 spend some or all of their day in child care. The effort to push welfare recipients into the workforce also adds to the demand for child care, since most of them are single women with young children. Second, recent research has indicated that the stimulation and attention children receive from infancy until the age of 3 has a critical impact on their ability to learn and grow throughout the rest of their lives. Third, child care is expensive: on aver-

age, \$3,800 per year for each pre-school age child. Employers, meanwhile, lose an estimated \$3 billion each year due to child-care related absences by workers. For low-income working parents, child care is a perpetual emergency.

#### FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

The federal government has a few programs aimed at making child care better and more affordable: child care subsidies for low-income families and those receiving welfare benefits; a modest income tax credit for a portion of child care expenses; a tax exclusion for employer-provided child care benefits; low-cost, nutritious meals and snacks for poor children in child care; and Head Start, a part-day pre-school program for disadvantaged youngsters. These programs will cost the federal government about \$12 billion in 1997.

#### KEY ISSUES

Recently, President and Mrs. Clinton hosted a conference at the White House which focused on the three key child care issues:

#### Availability

The availability of care varies widely. Care is sometimes scarce for babies because of the lower child-to-adult ratio they require. Options are also limited for school age children; in Indiana, only 37% of public schools offer extended day programs.

#### Affordability

The expense of child care can place great strains on the family budget. The 1996 welfare reform law increased federal child care funding by \$4 billion over six years, yet only one in ten eligible families receives subsidies. Many communities have hundreds of parents on waiting lists for assistance. Low-income working parents are competing with welfare recipients moving into the workforce for limited child care funds. Some large employers have stepped up efforts to help employees meet their child care needs by building on-site child care centers, providing referrals, or giving employees pre-tax cash assistance, but only 4% of American workers are eligible.

#### Quality

Although there are many excellent child care facilities, too much of the child care in this country is unsafe at worst, mediocre at best. States are primarily responsible for regulating the health and safety of child care settings, and requirements vary widely. A 1995 study indicated that one in eight child care centers provided care that could actually jeopardize children's safety and development.

But it's not enough just to keep children safe. Because of the importance of early childhood experiences on later learning, child care needs to provide age-appropriate activities, a low child-to-adult ratio, and lots of attention from stable, nurturing adults who understand child development. Yet this is lacking in up to 6 out of every 7 child care centers by one estimate. One problem is that turnover among child care workers is about 50% annually, primarily due to low wages. The average salary for a worker in a child care center is just over \$12,000 per year—considerably less than the average bartender earns. With such low wages it is difficult to attract highly skilled and experienced individuals. Moreover, most states, including Indiana, do not require child care workers to have any training prior to beginning their jobs. But increasing wages for child care workers will drive up costs, making child care even less affordable.

#### SOLUTIONS

The question for government is what it can do to make the child care situation better. It