

Association. On April 23, the American Lung Association of Michigan, Genesee Valley Region, will hold their 15th Annual Health Advocate Awards Dinner, where they will honor State Representative Bob Emerson as their Individual Health Advocate and Hurley Medical Center as Corporate Health Advocate for the year 1997.

The Association's criteria for Individual Health Advocate includes a minimum of 5 years on a health association board or participation in a health related activity, and outstanding contributions to health education and promotion of research. State Representative Bob Emerson of Flint serves as a shining example of this commitment to health issues.

Bob Emerson was first elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 1980, and has been reelected to six subsequent terms. He currently serves on the House Appropriations Committee, Chairing the School Aid and Department of Education Committee and is Vice Chair of the Community Health Subcommittee. As past Chair of the Public Health Subcommittee, Bob was instrumental in making many strides in the areas of state public health, including the designation of prenatal care as a basic health care service and the funding of vital local health services. Outside of the state capitol, Bob has been involved in such groups as the Greater Flint Health Coalition, and was a co-founder of the Crim Road Race, Inc., a non-profit organization that has raised more than one million dollars for the Michigan Special Olympics.

For the honor of Corporate Health Advocate of the Year, The American Lung Association has listed as requirements a definitive plan to promote lung health in the workplace, demonstration of commitment to social responsibility on the part of its employees, a positive display of financial support, and a dedication to improving the quality of life for the citizens of the region. Hurley Medical Center has consistently proven itself worthy of this distinction.

One of the largest hospitals in the state of Michigan, Hurley Medical Center employs approximately 2,500 employees and 475 attending physicians who serve more than 20,000 patients annually. In addition, the Center also operates as a teaching hospital of Michigan's State University's College of Human Medicine, thereby helping cultivate the next generation of medical professionals.

Mr. Speaker, since 1904, the American Lung Association has provided an invaluable resource to the country for information and research of lung disease and health. I commend the Association for recognizing and honoring Representative Bob Emerson and Hurley Medical Center as their Health Advocates of the Year. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Representative Emerson and Hurley Medical Center.

#### CHICAGO ORGANIZATION STRIVES TO HELP HOSPITALS CUT HEALTH CARE COSTS

#### HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 21, 1998*

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, all of us in this body are rightfully concerned about the rising cost and quality of health care for our

constituents. I rise today to share with my colleagues an effort undertaken by a group in my Congressional District in Chicago that I believe is an important step forward in our nation's goal of providing all of our citizens with quality health care at affordable prices.

As you know, technological advances in medical care are occurring virtually every day as scientists, physicians, health care manufacturers and institutions combine their vast talents and energies to find cures for all that ails humanity. As a result, the quality of health care available in our hospitals is at an all time high; a level that would have been the stuff of fiction only a few years ago. Advances in organ transplants, laser surgery, drug therapy, physical rehabilitation and scores of other areas have led to longer and more enjoyable lives for millions of our citizens. But the miracles of medicine often come at a daunting price tag for families and working Americans. This rising cost is a challenge that faces us in this body every day.

None of us wants to return to the less effective medical treatment procedures of the past. We want to take full advantage of the better treatment plans that are available. We must be concerned that all efforts are made to ensure that our health care delivery systems are operating at peak efficiency. Our hospitals and other health care facilities must rise to the challenge of advancing the frontiers of medical treatment while not pricing the average Americans out of that quality care.

A vital step in this process is to enhance the management skills of those who hold supervisory positions in health care. To this end, a new book has just been published by the International Association of Health Care Central Service Material Management, in my Congressional District, entitled: *Supervision Principles: Leadership Strategies for Health Care Facilities*, Second Edition. This book offers health care managers a guide to assist them in personal situations from selecting the best applicants to resolving conflicts to building a cohesive team that will strive to answer all patients' needs in a professional, efficient and cost effective manner. It emphasizes modern management techniques as Total Quality Management and provides real world answers to combat waste and inefficiency, with the net result that hospitals are in a better position to check the rising cost of health care without sacrificing quality of care that all of our constituents rely upon.

Progress in health care is something we all want to see continue. By having better prepared health care managers who can rise above the daily chores they now face to address the larger issues of bringing the advancement of medicine to every American, we will reap the benefits of a healthier, happier nation. I applaud the International Association of Hospital Central Service Material Management for putting forth this constructive work and for helping in our job of working toward a more responsive health care system for all Americans.

CHARLES WILLIAMS—1997 RONALD PEARCE BLIND EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

#### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 21, 1998*

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a constituent, Mr. Charles Williams of Dallas, TX, the Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind's 1997 Ronald Pearce Blind Employee of the Year Award.

It is always a pleasure to stand before my colleagues and commend constituents on their achievements. The achievements of Mr. Williams and his award are very inspiring and can serve to motivate individuals who believe that their disabilities prevent them from being productive.

Mr. Speaker, the Ronald Pearce Blind Employee of the Year award recognizes vision-impaired employees who, during the past year, have demonstrated outstanding job performance and work practices. Mr. Williams has shown exemplary skills and work habits as the materials handler in the writing instruments department at the Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind, where he supplies the marker, and highlighter machine operators. He also packages the marker boxes and labels the packages for shipping.

Mr. Speaker, Charles Williams is good at his job because he works hard. As his supervisor comments, he "has a thorough knowledge of his job," and "always looks out for the needs of others before his own needs."

Mr. Williams lost most of his sight in 1992 when he was returning from a moving job in Salt Lake City, UT. After that experience, Mr. Williams had several eye surgeries because of glaucoma. However, his spirit and approach to life has remained unscathed and unaffected. His colleagues will tell you that his energy and attitude are positive and inspiring. This also reflects his great work ethic, as he is an owner of a community store that serves older and lower-income individuals in his hometown of Vivian, LA. In our Dallas community, he is a junior deacon and works with area children.

Mr. Speaker, Charles Williams is a motivated individual who is focused in both his service to others and his work. Therefore, it is fitting that he is the recipient of the Blind Employee of the Year award, presented to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding job performance. I congratulate Mr. Williams on receiving his award and wish him continued success.

#### EXERCISE TIGER ASSOCIATION

#### HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 21, 1998*

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, there is an old military saying which alerts us to "expect the unexpected." This time-tested adage is as true today as we send young fighting men and women to Bosnia as it was two generations ago in World War II.

On April 23–24, 1998, the New Jersey Exercise Tiger Association will commemorate the 54th anniversary of Exercise Tiger. This year

is a special year as the Exercise Tiger Association commemorates all Exercise Tiger veterans in the nation while embarking on the Ohio class USS Maine SSBN 741, a nuclear missile submarine of the United States Navy's Sub Group 10 based at Kings Bay, Georgia. In particular, four veterans of the historic battle will be honored representing all Exercise Tiger veterans. They are Bud Carey, Lt. USN ret. LST 507, Ocean City, NJ; Tom Glynn, USN ret. LST 289, Cape May, NJ; Bob Benson, US Army ret. 3207th Quartermaster Co., Columbia, MO; and Charles Griffey, US Army ret. 478th Truck Co., Independence, MO.

Exercise Tiger was designed to be a dress rehearsal for the D-Day invasion of France. But as is so common in the "fog of war," the best laid plans are always subject to the unexpected and the unanticipated, the unforeseen. And so it was on April 28, 1944 when an American amphibious assault force which was practicing for the D-Day invasion was suddenly attacked by German warships. The surprise attack resulted in the death of 946 men, the second highest death toll of that long and embittered war.

Today, U.S. service men and women are serving in Bosnia in an effort to again secure peace in Europe. These dedicated individuals, like those who have served so honorably before them, have the difficult task of fulfilling the commitments made by American foreign policy makers. And like those who served in uniform over 54 years ago, the unexpected can happen at any moment with devastating effect.

I wish to salute the fine men who served and died 54 years ago while conducting Exercise Tiger. There is a special kinship between those American heroes and the men and women who today are serving on Bosnia. I wish also to pay tribute to Walter Domanski of the New Jersey Exercise Tiger Association. I consider Walter to be one of the "keepers of the flame," ensuring that Americans will remember and reflect on the sacrifices that our military has made and continues to make on our behalf. Finally, I wish to commend these four honored veterans, for they are the models and inspirations for those who serve our country today.

#### RECOGNIZING FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP'S BICENTENNIAL

#### HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 21, 1998*

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, as the former mayor of Franklin Township, New Jersey, it is my privilege to congratulate the people of Franklin Township as they commemorate the 200th anniversary of the incorporation of their community. This bicentennial year is a time for great celebration and reflection for the residents of historic Franklin Township. It is now

that we especially celebrate the growth and prosperity of Franklin and remember its past.

Beginning as an agriculturally based center of Dutch settlers in the 1650's, the area has expanded its horizons in many ways over the years. Now a home for over 45,000 people, Franklin Township has achieved economic and cultural diversity; cultivating rural and suburban as well as industrial and commercial areas. Of course along its way to becoming the strong community it is now, Franklin also contributed greatly to our history.

Franklin has been a site of some of America's earliest settlers, a stage for critical Revolutionary War battles, a crucial strategic point for Civil War supply transports and many other such exemplary pieces of our common history. From these pieces of their past, to their continual development of today, the people of Franklin Township have been builders of our Nation.

Thus, it is fitting that Franklin Township will continually celebrate its bicentennial this year with events such as a community service month, the Franklin Township benefit event, a cultural festival and a community spirit day. Also, they will commemorate their rich heritage with a Revolutionary War re-enactment, Bicentennial parade and other similar activities.

In the future years I know that Franklin Township will continue to build on its rich history, prosper and grow as it always has. While the township lies outside the boundaries of my congressional district, it will always have a special place in my heart. Once more, my congratulations and best wishes to the people of Franklin Township on their 200th anniversary.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO CHESTERFIELD SMITH

#### HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 21, 1998*

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chesterfield Smith for being honored by Legal Services of Greater Miami. In his honor, Legal Services of Miami is renaming their offices the Chesterfield Smith Center for Equal Justice. Throughout his long and distinguished professional career, he has strived to improve the quality of legal representation for those less fortunate and has worked to improve our community.

Chesterfield Smith's leadership and service to his community are standards for all. For the past several years, he has chaired the Legal Services of Greater Miami's Campaign for Justice. Under his leadership, the Campaign for Justice has worked to improve a great many lives by being actively involved with housing, employment, community, and family issues affecting the poor. During his tenure as

President of the American Bar Association, where he served with distinction from 1973–1974, Chesterfield Smith championed a more activist agenda that remains a hallmark of the Association until this day. As a founding partner of the law firm, Holland & Knight, Chesterfield Smith pushed himself and members of his profession to take a greater responsibility in providing quality legal representation for all those in need. Among his many other accomplishments, Chesterfield Smith has received the Distinguished Floridian Award from the Florida Chamber of Commerce, the Jurisprudence Award from the Anti-Defamation League and most recently, he became only the 12th individual to receive the prestigious Great Floridian Award, presented by the Florida History Associates.

Chesterfield Smith has long been respected for his professional achievements but what distinguishes him from all others is his standing commitment to the people and community around him. I wish Chesterfield Smith the best on receiving this distinction from Legal Services of Miami. His leadership and ability to inspire others are truly commendable.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

#### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 21, 1998*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, the leadership of the House of Representatives have been proclaiming that campaign finance reform is not a priority issue to the people of this country. Well I am here to tell you that over the Easter break I hosted town hall meetings in almost every county in my district. At those meetings a wide variety of issues were discussed, including entitlement reform, tax simplification and health care coverage. At every meeting I attended the issue of campaign finance reform was addressed. When I asked the people in attendance if campaign finance reform should be a major priority of Congress, every hand in the room went up.

The message from the public is clear, it is time to change the campaign finance system and take big money out of politics. I heard that message everywhere I went over the break. I find it hard to believe that my district is unique when it comes to this issue. I would challenge my colleagues, especially the House Republican Leadership who have refused to schedule a fair vote, to ask their constituents if this should be a major priority. I think they will see that the public is demanding change and it is our responsibility to act now.

Mr. Speaker, we have avoided this issue for too long. It is time to take action. The people of my district will not accept "no" for an answer.