

Although President Clinton won't admit it, Social Security is not financially sound. Statistics show that within the next 15 years, the system will begin to pay out more than it takes in. This means that unless we begin to make changes now, the system could be bankrupt in 30 years.

As a father and grandfather, I am not only concerned about the money I have payed into Social Security over the course of my lifetime, but now my children and grandchildren are putting their hard-earned dollars into the program as well. The worst part is, none of us have any confidence that this money will still be there when we need it.

Mr. Speaker, before our break you asked us to find out how our constituents would like to see the Social Security system reformed. I agree that the only way to create a system that is consistent with what Americans want is to talk to the very people who pay into and benefit from the program.

It is time for us to use the suggestions we heard from our constituents while we were back home and show the President and Social Security can and must be reformed now.

#### WORKER MEMORIAL DAY

### HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 28, 1998*

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, for today's observance of Worker Memorial Day, I would like to have the opportunity to recognize a shameful tragedy that millions of Americans must face every day.

Last year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, over 6,000 workers were killed by traumatic injuries, 50,000 workers died of occupational diseases, and 6.2 million suffered injuries on the job. Lamentably, my home state of Indiana has paralleled these statistics by averaging 60 deaths a year.

Today in South Bend, Indiana, community leaders, business owners, and union representatives are gathering to pay tribute to two friends whose deaths hit very close to home. Officer Paul Deguch, member of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 36, was struck down in the line of duty by a senseless act of violence. This pointless death has not only shocked our community, but left his family devastated.

Jim Slater, member of the Elevator Constructors Local 57, was also killed on the job this year while working in an elevator shaft. His wife is now without a husband, his three children no longer have a father, and those he knew have lost a great friend.

As Members of Congress we must continue the fight begun at the turn of the century to ensure safety for everyone at their place of employment. Our American workforce is responsible for our booming economy, our high standard of living, and the quality of life which we enjoy. We have made a great deal of progress in the last eighty years, but for Officer Deguch, Jim Slater, and every other worker killed or injured on the job, we must do more.

My prayers go out of the families of those who were taken from us, and I know the rest of our community joins me. I only hope that we in Congress can do more to prevent tragedies like these from happening in the future.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF HOUSTON'S FIFTH ANNUAL AFRICA DAY

### HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 28, 1998*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Houston's fifth annual celebration of Africa Day taking place on Saturday, May 2, 1998.

African Cultural Exchange, Inc. (ACE) initiated Houston's celebration five years ago, joining an international effort to recognize the progress of people of African descent toward social, cultural, and economic freedom. Since its inception, ACE has had five goals and objectives: to exchange culture, arts, and educational programs between African countries and the United States; to build bridges of communication and better understanding; to promote awareness and appreciation of diverse culture; to provide programs and activities for children, youth, and the elderly; and to establish The Africa House as a cultural exchange center to serve all people.

The theme of this year's celebration is "Children of The World—Our Future." Festivities at the University of Houston, Central Campus, will include exhibitions and cultural activities, a soccer tournament, and an awards ceremony to recognize the achievements of children and youth. Other activities will provide opportunities to promote the arts, business, and entrepreneurial awareness and exchange.

The Africa Day celebration is especially timely this year in light of President Clinton's recent trip to Africa. While Africa still faces poverty, malnutrition, disease, unemployment, and terrible conflict in some places, free markets are taking hold, and democracy and peace are making progress. As a genuine partner and friend to the people of Africa, America can make a difference in its future. Cultural exchanges such as Africa Day are essential to bridge the gap and increase awareness and understanding between the United States and Africa.

I congratulate Africa Day on its fifth anniversary and commend the African Cultural Exchange, Inc. and all of the participants and supporters for their dedication to improving U.S.-African relations and to the future of our children and communities. Our continued support of events such as Africa Day will enhance our children's future, their educational development, economic growth, and their quality of life.

#### RECOGNIZING COURTLAND SEYMOUR WILSON

### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 28, 1998*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Courtland Seymour Wilson, Executive Director of the Hill Development Corporation on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Over the course of his life, Mr. Wilson has built a wonderful legacy of community and political activism that has improved his city and the world in which we live.

Born and raised in New Haven, Mr. Wilson attended school and worked there until enlist-

ing in the United States Army. During World War II he saw active duty in both Italy and North Africa, returning to New Haven in 1945 having achieved the rank of Master Sergeant.

As dedicated an activist as he is a worker, Mr. Wilson's career began as a machinist in several shops in New Haven where he strived to organize his fellow workers. He served on the Executive Committee and as Treasurer of the International Association of Machinists local of the AFL-CIO.

Courtland Wilson did not however, contain his activism to the workplace. His efforts for equality and justice led to his Presidency of the New Haven chapter of the NAACP, and the founding of both the Hill Parent's Association—precursor to the Hill Development Corporation—and the New Haven Black Coalition.

This dynamic synergy of community and job politics led to his transition from machinist to staff activist at Yale University. Mr. Wilson was hired by Yale to desegregate their School of Medicine during a period of hiring and enrollment reforms. From Assistant Dean of Student Affairs at the Medical School, Mr. Wilson moved to Yale-New Haven Hospital's Office of Government and Community Relations where he worked until his "retirement" in 1985. During his tenure at Yale-New Haven, he sat on many local and state governing boards, and is a lecturer at the Yale School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry.

For the past 13 years he has been the Executive Director of the Hill Development Corporation, working diligently to ensure every family's right to decent, affordable housing. For his countless efforts and contributions to New Haven, Mr. Wilson was given the Elm Award in 1995, the city's highest honor. In addition to his esteemed years of service, Courtland Wilson raised his usually low profile by winning his first elected office, that of Democratic Party Ward Co-Chair, at age 78.

A man who loves life, Courtland Wilson enjoys the company of his wife of 56 years, Ruth, and his children, Courtland H., Jon, Ruthia, and Peter, as well as the company of his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. As his family and friends gather to celebrate his eight decades of improving our world, I rise today to wish him a happy and healthy birthday, and to thank him for his countless, tireless contributions.

#### TRIBUTE TO HONOR DOUGLAS KLEPSCH

### HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 28, 1998*

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to greet you today as we honor Youth Corps Volunteer, Douglas Klepsch, for his selfless act of bravery.

Douglas Klepsch went beyond the call of duty when he took it upon himself to investigate the cries from a woman who sought help at the Woodhaven-Richmond Hill Ambulance Corps because her kitchen was on fire. That altruistic decision saved eight lives. This outstanding young man is an inspiration to us all. He risked his own life to save the lives of others.

Gathering here today to acknowledge the heroism of Douglas reminds us to continually

pay heed to the local heroes of our community. Recognizing Douglas Klepsch will allow us all to take stock in our actions and reflect on how we too can make a difference in our neighbor's lives. I wish Douglas Klepsch success in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MICHIGAN REPRESENTATIVE BOB EMERSON: THE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN'S 1997 INDIVIDUAL HEALTH ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AND HURLEY MEDICAL CENTER: THE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN'S 1997 CORPORATE HEALTH ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

### HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 28, 1998*

Ms. STABENOW. Ms. Speaker, I wish to recognize the American Lung Association of Michigan's 1997 Individual Health Advocate of the Year, Michigan Representative Bob Emerson and the 1997 Corporate Health Advocate of the Year, The Hurley Medical Center.

Bob Emerson was first elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 1980 and has a 100 percent voting record against tobacco. As past chairperson of the Public Health Subcommittee, he has been a strong advocate against the dangers of smoking and a leader in educating our children of its dangers. Representing the Flint area, Representative Emerson is also the founder and chairperson for the Greater Flint Health Coalition. I am proud to have served in the state legislature with Bob and I know first hand that he is a fighter and champion for our children. And as someone who fought side by side with him against tobacco companies. I am very pleased his work is being acknowledged through this award.

On the corporate level, the Hurley Medical Center has become a national leader in treating Asthma and related illnesses. By sponsoring a summer Asthma camp, children from around Michigan have had the opportunity to enjoy nature and the summer weather in a safe environment. The Medical Center is also responsible for an innovative education program that many other medical organizations across the country have used as an example in effectively treating the disease.

Both award winners overwhelmingly met the criteria set by the American Lung Association of Michigan. The work completed by Representative Emerson and the Hurley Medical Center are wonderful examples for our communities and are rooted in social responsibility, innovation, and activism.

The American Lung Association is one of our county's most important health organizations. Their commitment to our children, public health, and education is unbarrelled. I am very proud that our Michigan chapter is one of the strongest in the nation and I thank them for taking the time to recognize the individual and corporate advocates that make a true difference in our communities.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM VON ALVEN

### HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 28, 1998*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great American and resident of Northern Virginia, William H. von Alven, who has served the country faithfully and ably for twenty-six years at the Federal Communications Commission. Mr. von Alven will retire from the FCC on April 30, 1998, and I am pleased to join Congressman Frank Wolf, FCC Chairman William E. Kennard and the employees of the FCC in congratulating Mr. von Alven on this remarkable accomplishment. Mr. von Alven is seventy-eight years old and has worked right up to the present point.

Mr. von Alven received his B.S. from the University of Idaho where he was elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa. After pursuing graduate studies in engineering and management at Harvard and UCLA, he worked extensively in the private sector and edited the best selling book Reliability Engineering, which was in print for more than 30 years. Mr. von Alven served as president of many communications industry institutes and societies, and chaired several international conferences. He received the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Centennial Medal, and a Department of Defense award for his contributions to the Advisory Group on the Reliability of Electronic Equipment. In 1996, he was awarded the Telecommunications Industry Association's Certificate of Recognition and the FCC's Catherine Forester Public Service Award.

Mr. von Alven will retire as a Senior Public Utilities Specialist. He has managed the Part 68 terminal equipment registration program since its inception at the FCC in 1976 and has made many important contributions to the FCC. He will be greatly missed by his friends and colleagues at the Commission. Mr. von Alven is just one example of the many extraordinary federal employees residing in my district. Through his long years of service, he is certainly deserving of special recognition by the Congress.

FORT COLLINS HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE BOWL TEAM TO COMPETE IN THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOWL

### HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 28, 1998*

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, the winners of the Rocky Mountain Regional Science Bowl will soon be in Washington, D.C. to compete in the National Science Bowl. Since the regional winners are from my congressional district—The Fourth Congressional District of Colorado—I am especially proud of the young people who worked so hard to come to represent the Rocky Mountain region, the State of Colorado, and their school.

Fort Collins High School truly fielded a Science Bowl team of great accomplishment this year, Mr. Speaker. Our community will be well represented in the competition.

As a member of the Education Committee, I am truly encouraged by these students. Indeed the success we have been working toward as a nation is embodied in the Fort Collins High School team. Despite national test results and international comparisons showing U.S. students lagging, Colorado's Science Bowl champions are proof that American students are capable of high achievement in the field of science.

All hailing from my hometown of Fort Collins, Colorado, the Regional Championship Team consists of the following contestants: Miss Kristin Bjornsen, Mr. Stephen DiVerdi, Mr. Andrew Fangman, Mr. Jeremiah Way, and Mr. Jeremy Zimmerman.

Of course, these students could not have come so far on their own. Behind every successful team is the backdrop of encouragement and leadership. In this case, the students are most fortunate to have the firm backing and guidance of their families.

Surely, the parents of the champions are most proud, and have sacrificed themselves to help their children achieve great victories. They have every right to be proud.

Mr. Speaker, as you and my colleagues know, I have spent the past 10 years in public service working to improve Colorado's education system. My efforts to deliver more resources directly to classrooms, and treat teachers like real professionals have been motivated by my desire to see students achieve their potential.

Within that context, the success of the Fort Collins High School Science Bowl team is a triumph for our entire community, and a real sign that our hard work is paying off by creating school environments where ordinary children can become extraordinary students.

But Mr. Speaker, this day really belongs to the students. Bjornson, DiVerdi, Fangman, Way and Zimmerman are champions all the way. I urge my colleagues to help me welcome these students to their Capital City and wish them well in their pursuit of the National title.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

### HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 28, 1998*

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, founded more than half a century ago, the Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program allows high school students a chance to compete in a broadcast script writing contest. The competition, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the U.S. Ladies Auxiliary, conducts this annual speech competition and provides the winners with a scholarship. I am very pleased that this year Scott Wilson, 18, from Palm Bay High School was selected as the winner from the state of Florida.

I commend him for his hard work both in this competition and as demonstrated in his academic achievements. In recognition of his selection as the winner of this competition, I am hereby submitting his speech to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for printing.