

of Menominee. Among his other activities, Hugh was active with the Republican party, and was on the local harbor commission, the industrial park commission, the hospital board and the board of the First National Bank of Marinette.

Mary, while raising three boys, has served as an Elder, Deacon and president of the Women's Association of the First Presbyterian Church. Among other volunteer efforts, she was president of the local hospital auxiliary, a director of the local DAR youth club, and a member of the city's Cemetery Board.

A man like Hugh Higley with a wife like Mary could have been a success anywhere in the world. Even after Hugh's retirement from Ansul, he could have seized a business opportunity wherever he found one, but he chose to remain in the area and make his new venture, Interstate/Valweld, one of the region's great success stories.

Like their father, his sons Dave, Hugh and Bill could have taken their business acumen and their technical acumen and established themselves successfully anywhere, but those special traits they learned from their parents—the importance of family and the value of forging lasting ties to their hometown—have drawn them back.

Thus the town is blessed with another generation of Higley's, who are creating their own legacies of service to the community. There are no greater gifts a family give to its home town than wisdom, foresight, and quality business practices in its professional endeavors, and a lifetime of dedication and volunteerism to public service in its private efforts.

This is the heritage of this remarkable couple, Hugh and Mary Higley.

Mr. Speaker, the local community will seek to recognize these priceless gifts. May 29, 1998, has been proclaimed Mary and Hugh Higley Day in the city of Menominee. I invite my colleagues to join me, adding our voices in humble thanks for a lifetime of service.

GOOD LUCK, TIME SHARERS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 22, 1998

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year I had the distinct honor and pleasure of informing our colleagues of a magnificent task of some young people in my district. These young people were honored for performing the highest number of acts of kindness in the nation. Today, I would like to inform my fellow Member of Congress of the acts of twelve young people from East Orange, NJ. These fourth and fifth graders, the Community Problem Solving Team of the Quest Program of the John Howard, Jr. Unique School of Excellence, became aware of the fact that there are many people in the city who do not have enough resources to get adequate food and often go hungry. They decided to pool their resources and use their skills to supplement existing hunger agencies in the area.

They spent over 500 hours in volunteering their time to local soup kitchens and to SHARE of New Jersey, an agency which provides food to needy families at reduced costs. They also raised over \$1,000 through candy sales, school dances, and bake sales. They

used the proceeds to purchase almost 50 cases of non-perishable foods for local food pantries as well as perishable foods for weekly soup kitchens.

Mr. Speaker, this project received first place in New Jersey in the junior division of the Community Problem Solving Component of the International Future Problem Solving Program. As such, the John Howard School Community Problem Solving Team, known as TIME SHARERS (Team Is Making Efforts to Stop Hunger All Round East Orange Really Soon), will represent New Jersey at the International Competition in Ann Arbor, Michigan, June 12–15, 1998. I would like to take this opportunity to wish them good luck but more importantly, I want to thank each of them—Camia Bell, Brittani Carter, Daveena Colwell, Lynn Duck, Jawaan Finch, Lemar Gale, Myrtha Glaude, Barry Ishmael, Aniyah Jones, Savannah Segovia, Sophia Stewart and Jasmine Woodyard, and their coach and Quest teacher, Ms. Christine McAdams, for caring and being part of the solution to a big problem. They are all a good example of what everyone should be doing to make life for our fellow man, woman and child.

IN RECOGNITION OF CRYSTAL ANZALDI, INSPECTOR JOSE BERRI-TORRES AND AGENTS CÉSAR NIEVES AND ISMAEL CINTRÓN

HON. CARLOS A. ROMERO-BARCELÓ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 22, 1998

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday morning, May 20, I had the honor of participating in the 1998 Congressional Breakfast organized by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to celebrate the winners of the Third Annual National Missing Children's Awards. I had been looking forward to this day and the opportunity to salute the three outstanding Interpol investigators from Puerto Rico whose diligent investigatory work led to the rescue of missing child, Crystal Anzaldi.

Crystal Anzaldi, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Anzaldi, and her two sisters, traveled to Washington from Oregon, where they now live, to commemorate this important event. Crystal was just 14 months when she was abducted from her home in San Diego, California, in December of 1990. Crystal's parents searched for her for seven long years, until an amazing chain of events and clever investigative work, led to her being identified and recovered in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Investigating a complaint alleging child abuse, Inspector Berríos of Interpol Puerto Rico discovered that Crystal's birth certificate was fraudulent. He researched her case thoroughly and carefully; contacting the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Web-site. He assigned Interpol Agents Ismael Cintrón and César Nieves to search the Center's database of photographs of missing and abducted children. The Agents were shocked when they recognized the unique smile of a 14-month old baby. It was Crystal, who was then eight years old. She was reunited with her biological family shortly thereafter.

By initiating the chain of events that led to Crystal's recovery—all three agents deserve to

be commended for ending a long and painful search. Their intuition, optimism, determination and meticulous investigative work were critical towards the success in reuniting this family.

I also want to recognize the outstanding service to our society being performed by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the many organizations, such as grassroots activists, police departments, and others throughout the nation whose commitment makes such a difference in the lives and well-being of all children. Adelante and God-speed in your work on behalf of children and families in the Nation.

A BILL TO RESTORE EQUITY TO THE COLLECTION AND PAYMENT OF MOTOR FUEL TAXES ON NATIVE AMERICAN LANDS

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 22, 1998

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing a bill that will help restore integrity and equity to the process of the collection and payment of motor fuel taxes on Native American lands. I am pleased to be able to introduce this bill with the support of 8 bipartisan cosponsors: Representative SANDLIN (D-TX), Representative ISTOOK (R-OK), Representative DANNER (D-MO), Representative BLUNT (R-MO), Representative COBURN (R-OK), Representative BILL BARRETT (R-NE), Representative DOC HASTINGS (R-WA), and Representative EHLER (R-MI).

Taxes placed on the sale of motor fuels directly supports the efforts of state and federal governments in building and repairing our nation's roads and bridges. In order for our states to play their role in our transportation system, they need to be sure that they are collecting *all* of their motor fuel taxes. Unfortunately, that is not currently the case. Currently, some Native American tribes do not always collect and remit gas tax receipts to the appropriate government. This practice has cost the states a significant amount of revenue that could have been used to improve roads and bridges. Lost revenue estimates for some states are in the millions. It is estimated that Oklahoma, alone, lost roughly \$13 million in motor fuel tax receipts for FY '96. Many other states are also adversely affected, for example: Washington State, Oregon, Idaho, New Mexico, Kansas, Michigan, and New York.

The bill that I am introducing seeks to address this problem. It will prohibit the Secretary of Transportation from allocating funds for public lands highways on Indian lands and reservations unless either (a) the Indian tribe has entered into a written agreement with the state in which the highway is located that provides procedures for the payment and collection of motor fuel taxes that are sold to a non-Native American by a retail establishment that is located on such land, or (b) the Indian tribe refuses to enter into a written agreement and/ but the allocation of funds is essential to the construction or maintenance of a highway or road that is a critical component of the National Highway System.

The primary aim of this plan is to ensure that non-Native Americans pay and are assessed the gas tax. This plan is not intended

to infringe on tribal sovereignty, rather, it is meant to encourage the tribes to work cooperatively with the states in order to formulate a mutually-agreeable compact on the subject of motor fuel taxation. In addition, this bill does not address the issues of gambling or cigarette taxes—it focuses only on the collection and remission of motor fuel taxes.

This bill will yield numerous benefits. First, it would help ensure that states have adequate funds for road maintenance and construction. Second, it would end an inherent unfairness posed by the sale of tax-free fuel on Native American lands. And, third, it would preserve jobs and keep businesses open. Many purchasers of motor fuel, both gasoline and diesel, are likely to travel to Indian lands, because they know they can avoid paying state motor fuel taxes. And, the motive to do this can be great for many drivers. In fact, in some states, the tax on gasoline can be as high as 34 cent per gallon and 28 cents per gallon for diesel.

The sale of tax-free fuel poses serious concerns for retailers who must pay the tax and who are located within a reasonable distance of the Indian reservation, because the Native American retail establishments, by selling gas at a lower price (i.e., without the tax) have the potential to put countless numbers of establishments out of business. For example, avoiding the tax on diesel fuel for a typical truck with a 250 gallon tank could mean a savings of \$70—a sufficiently large amount to justify a trucker traveling to Native American lands to refuel his or her truck. At the very least, a trucker could plan or time his, or her, routes to ensure that they purchase tax-free fuel on Native American lands.

I urge Members to consider the impacts caused by the non-collection and remission of motor fuel taxes on Native American lands and to cosponsor this legislation.

IN HONOR OF CHARLES
SCHODOWSKI AND JOHN RINALDI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 22, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles "Big Chuck" Schodowski and "Li'l" John Rinaldi as they celebrate the twentieth anniversary of their television program, "The Big Chuck and Li'l John Show."

First launched in 1978, "The Big Chuck and Li'l John Show" has served as the vehicle to Cleveland's most beloved practitioners of broad comedy, providing late night laughs to generation after generation of Clevelanders. That the show continues to thrive in a competitive late night television landscape dominated by syndicated programming attests to the popularity of Big Chuck and Little John's crazy antics.

Charles Schodowski initially entered into Cleveland television as an engineer at WJW Channel 8 in 1960. By 1963, he was a writer and occasional, if nervous, actor on a popular show hosted by the legendary Ernie "Ghoulardi" Anderson. Big Chuck's problems with stage fright were apparently short lived, however. When Anderson left for Hollywood in 1966, the show's producers tabbed Big Chuck to co-host the show with popular Weatherman

Bob Wells, who was known as "Hoolihan the Weatherman." "The Hoolihan and Big Chuck Show," which featured a movie interspersed with short skits performed before a live studio audience, enjoyed a successful run until Wells' retirement in 1977.

Making his debut as "Bridget the Midget," John Rinaldi became a regular contributor on "Hoolihan and Big Chuck." Li'l John then joined Big Chuck as a co-host of "The Big Chuck and Li'l John Show" in 1978. Today, "The Big Chuck and Li'l John Show," the recipient of numerous Local Emmy nominations, is one of the longest running shows in the country.

My fellow colleagues, join me in congratulating Big Chuck and Li'l John for twenty wild years of ridiculous blond wigs, coconut creme pies, and that distinctive laugh track that is instantly recognized throughout the city of Cleveland. Let us all hope that those laughs keep on coming for twenty years more.

MINNESOTA SMALL BUSINESS LEADERS RECOGNIZED

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 22, 1998

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, small business reflects the quintessential element of American creativity, innovation, and free enterprise within our nation's economy. America's 23 million small businesses employ over 50 percent of the private workforce and are the principal source of new jobs. Small businesses generate more than half of the nation's gross domestic product. We will recognize the contributions of our nation's small businesses during the week of May 31 to June 6 through ceremonies in Washington, D.C.

Prior to that national event, ceremonies will occur in our districts throughout the country. On Friday, May 29, I will be privileged to join with others gathered to honor Minnesota's leaders in the small business community, several of whom are constituents and friends.

Sue McCloskey has been named the 1998 Minnesota Small Business Person of the Year. This award, determined by the U.S. Small Business Administration, is based on sales growth, employer expansion, financial strength and response to adversity.

Sue, a personal friend of mine, is the president and founder of Office Plan, a remanufacturer of office furniture. Starting her business in 1991 with three partners and one employee, Sue currently employs 33 personnel and has an annual revenue of \$4.5 million.

Office Plan buys outdated cubicles and work stations from businesses located throughout the country and refurbishes them on a made-to-order basis. Environmental sensitivity is a hallmark of Office Plan. Work fabric is recycled or sent out to be made into industrial rags, and recycled products and environmentally sensitive materials are used in production whenever possible.

Recently, Office Plan faced a major catastrophe. All of the firm's computers were stolen and important business information such as clients, billing and orders had to be reconstructed. With Sue's determined leadership, this was accomplished with minimal disruption. Our states and community take great pride in

Sue McCloskey's success and are pleased with this well deserved recognition.

Northland Organic Foods Corporation, under the leadership of Peter Shortridge, has been recognized as the Small Business Exporter of the Year. Northland specializes in exporting organic food including grain, soybeans, buck wheat and whole grains. Focusing on research, marketing initiatives, educational programs and customer service, Northland has opened new markets for U.S. businesses.

A positive benchmark for hallmark of the Northland Corporation has been its outreach to its customers. All staff members speak the language of the customers they work with and are knowledgeable about the respective cultures and business practices of the specific country to which they export.

Charles Jones, a Minnesota resident, employed with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has been named the National Veterans Small Business Advocate. This award is presented to individuals who advance small business opportunities for military veterans.

Charles Jones is a vocational rehabilitation specialist. In that position, he helps disabled veterans to get the training and counseling needed to return to the world of work. Recognizing the potential for self-employment, Charles has worked with the Minnesota Small Business Development Centers to help disabled veterans to start a number of enterprises including: a gunsmith service, trucking, a restaurant and free-lance art. He obviously has worked very successfully to match a wide variety of business ventures to the interest of the vets.

Mr. Speaker, these are the recipients of this year's SBA awards. Thanks to their stewardship and dedication, the spirit of entrepreneurship is alive and flourishing in Minnesota. My congratulations to the award recipients and to all small businesses in the state of Minnesota.

HONORING JIMMY STURR AND HIS
ORCHESTRA NINE TIME GRAMMY
AWARD WINNERS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 22, 1998

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity today to honor Jimmy Sturr and His Orchestra, a musical group whose name in synonymous with polka music in America.

As a Member of Congress with a large Polish American constituency in Western and Central Massachusetts, I have learned firsthand from the people who I represent of this group's popularity and intergenerational appeal, and I am pleased to share their accomplishments with the House of Representatives today.

The rise in popularity of polka music in America is due in large part to the contributions of Jimmy Sturr and His Orchestra. Sturr's style of polka music embraces musicianship. This Americanized genre of polka music, which features the trumpet, saxophones and clarinets, is their trademark and is enjoyed by generations around the globe.

Having just recorded their 99th album, the excellence of their recordings has earned the group 9 Grammy Awards and 13 consecutive