

Moreover, he received Booker High School's Senior Volunteer of the year award for the 1999–2000 school year.

Mr. Speaker, while we lost General McLain on September 23, 2003, his greatest legacy lives on in the outstanding family he left behind. Patricia Ann, his loving and devoted wife of 50 years, and his four children will continue to honor their father through their exemplary contributions to our world.

The dedication of this postal facility is the least that we can do to memorialize the extraordinary gift this gentleman and hero gave our nation in dedicating his entire life to protecting freedom, promoting education, and touching lives.

CONGRATULATIONS ON LAGRANGE NOON LION'S CLUB'S 75TH ANNI- VERSARY

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the LaGrange Noon Lion's Club on the occasion of their 75th anniversary. Since its founding, the LaGrange Noon Lion's Club has been a cornerstone of charitable service to its community. I am therefore pleased to submit this proclamation honoring the LaGrange Noon Lion's Club into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCLAMATION, LA GRANGE NOON LION'S CLUB 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Whereas, the LaGrange Noon Lion's Club serves the citizens of LaGrange, Fayette County, the great state of Texas and the United States of America, AND

Whereas, the La Grange Noon Lion's Club gives of their time freely for the betterment of mankind, having a membership of anonymous individual philanthropists, AND

Whereas, the International Association of Lion's Clubs all over the world offer charitable hope to the blind, provide services for youth, disabled and victims of disaster, of which the Noon Lion's Club is a subsidiary

Therefore, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives and the Constituents of District 14 in Texas, I, Representative Ron Paul, do hereby proclaim October 12–18, 2003 the 75th Anniversary Week of the La Grange Noon Lions Club.

FREEDOM FOR NELSON ALBERTO AGUIAR RAMÍREZ!

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I speak today about Nelson Alberto Aguiar Ramírez, a prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

Employed as an electrician, literally turning the lights on, he was forced by Castro's tyrannical policies to pursue a different path. After years of incessant repression, Mr. Aguiar Ramírez decided to turn the lights on Castro's ruthless machinery of repression.

Mr. Aguiar Ramírez joined organizations that opposed Castro's dictatorship and supported basic human rights for the people of Cuba. Mr. Aguiar Ramírez is currently the President of

the Cuban Orthodox Party, and a member of a more recent initiative, the Assembly to Promote Civil Society.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Aguiar Ramírez chose to fight Castro's government even though he was acutely aware of the consequences of doing so. In December 1999, Mr. Aguiar Ramírez was detained by Castro's ruthless repressive apparatus in order to prevent him from commemorating the December 10th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This document, enshrining the essential rights of all humans, is such a danger to Castro's repressive dictatorship that Castro prevented Mr. Aguiar Ramírez from commemorating the anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, it sadly came as no surprise to anyone who has watched the horrors that Castro inflicts on those who cry for freedom when Mr. Aguiar Ramírez was detained on March 20, 2003. He was subsequently sentenced to 13 years in Castro's inhumane dungeons.

Mr. Aguiar Ramírez is classified as a prisoner of conscience by Amnesty International. His wife, Dalia, is deeply concerned about his declining health and his constant malnourishment.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Aguiar Ramírez must be released from Castro's gulag at once. My colleagues, we can not allow human beings such as Mr. Aguiar Ramírez, who rise up to claim their human rights from the clutches of tyrannical despots, to languish in the gulag for their beliefs. My colleagues, we must stand united and demand the immediate release of Nelson Alberto Aguiar Ramírez.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO HAROLD A. MCMASTER FOR HIS IMMEAS- URABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO NORTHWEST OHIO

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding gentleman from Northwest Ohio, Mr. Harold A. McMaster.

As a youth growing up in Northwest Ohio, Harold McMaster's hero was another northern Ohio product, Thomas Alva Edison. From an early age Harold understood the importance of setting goals and seeing them through.

Mr. Speaker, Harold McMaster was a unique individual who combined the foresight and analytical nature of the scientist with the acumen and "street smarts" of the successful businessman. The former helped him "see" how to do things, while the latter enabled him to commercialize his innovations.

A physicist, he held more than 100 patents dealing with glass tempering, solar energy and rotary engines. Harold McMaster was known in many circles as the father of glass tempering.

He graduated in 1938 from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mathematics and in 1939 with a Master of Science Degree in Nuclear Physics, Mathematics and Astronomy.

In 1940, he went to work as a research physicist for Toledo, Ohio's Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company, a producer of flat glass

for windows and automobile windshields. He received one of his first patents in the early days of World War II for a periscope used by fighter pilots to see behind them during combat. McMaster Motor is the fourth enterprise to be built from the germ of an idea by McMaster and his associates. Other companies founded and nurtured by Harold McMaster include: Permaglass, Inc., Glasstech, Inc. and Solar Cells, Inc.

Harold McMaster received the prestigious Phoenix Award as the national glass industry's Man of the Year in 1993. In 1987, Harold McMaster was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Toledo.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Harold A. McMaster. Northwest Ohio was served well by Harold McMaster's innovation and business skill. The legacy of his genius will continue to benefit future generations in engineering and technology.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 563, 564, and 565, I was unavoidably absent, due to a delay in my flight. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

DESIGNATING A BUILDING AS THE JOHN LEWIS CIVIL RIGHTS IN- STITUTE

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to speak on the House floor today regarding legislation that I am introducing along with Representative Denise Majette to name a building in Atlanta, Georgia as the "John Lewis Civil Rights Institute."

The Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site (MLKNHS) has purchased an apartment house located two doors west of Dr. King's Birth Home. The plan is to restore the building and convert it into an educational center—including four classrooms and an auditorium. The MLKNHS currently conducts educational programs in a house on Auburn Avenue, which accommodates 20 students. This new center would allow for expanded offerings of these educational programs. I am proud to introduce legislation that will name this educational center after U.S. Representative John Lewis who has spent his life promoting civil and human rights across the world.

John Lewis was born the son of sharecroppers on February 21, 1940 outside of Troy, Alabama. He grew up on his family's farm and attended segregated public schools in Pike County, Alabama. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religion and Philosophy from Fisk University; and he is a graduate of the American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, Tennessee. He has also been awarded numerous honorary degrees from colleges and universities throughout the

United States, including Clark Atlanta University, Duke University, Howard University, Brandeis University, Columbia University, Fisk University, Morehouse College, Princeton University and Williams College. John Lewis is the recipient of numerous awards, including the prestigious Martin Luther King, Jr. Non-Violent Peace Prize and the NAACP Spingarn Medal. John Lewis is also the recipient of the John F. Kennedy "Profile in Courage Award" for lifetime achievement and the National Education Association Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Award.

As a student, John Lewis organized sit-in demonstrations at segregated lunch counters in Nashville, Tennessee. In 1961, John Lewis volunteered to participate in the Freedom Rides, which were organized to challenge segregation at interstate bus terminals across the South. Lewis risked his life and was beaten severely by mobs for participating in the Rides. During the height of the Civil Rights Movement, from 1963 to 1966, Lewis was the Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which he helped form. SNCC was largely responsible for the sit-ins and other activities of students in the struggle for civil rights. Lewis, at the age of 23, was one of the planners and a keynote speaker at the historic "March on Washington" in August 1963. In 1964, John Lewis coordinated SNCC efforts to organize voters' registration drives and community action programs during the "Mississippi Freedom Summer." The following year, Lewis led one of the most dramatic nonviolent protests of the Movement. Along with fellow activist, Hosea Williams, John Lewis led over 600 marchers across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama on March 7, 1965. Alabama state troopers attacked the marchers in a confrontation that became known as "Bloody Sunday." That fateful march and a subsequent march between Selma and Montgomery, Alabama led to the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

This is an appropriate tribute to a man who has dedicated his life to promoting human rights and I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation. Thank you.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE AND FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 16, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3289) making emergency supplemental appropriations for defense and for the reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Chairman, today we are debating this Administration's request for an \$87 billion bailout occasioned by its failed planning—or lack of planning for post-war Iraq. We are asked to pass this \$87 billion despite the fact that the Bush Administration has not articulated a coherent and workable underlying strategy to accomplish our mission and

bring our troops home safely and soon. It is either unwilling or incapable of doing so.

The only way Congress can ensure for the American people that such a strategy exists and that it has a reasonable chance of success is by using its power of the purse. We are dealing with an Administration that already has a nearly \$400 billion Department of Defense budget and that has already received one supplemental appropriation for some \$63 billion. Yet it fails to explain how or why our forces had tens of thousands of men and women without the proper Kevlar breast plates, Humvees without proper armor, and rancid water for 80 percent of the troops, or how those conditions continued, even after they knew in June that people were dying and being injured.

In addition, the Administration, in its zeal to get all the money now so it will not have to come back in 2004's election year to report to the American people, insinuates that a vote against this bailout is a vote against our troops and a vote to "cut and run." Nothing could be further from the truth. The Administration's own figures show that this is just another dissembling of the facts. According to the non-partisan Congressional Research Service, the Pentagon can stay in Iraq another 6 months without an additional penny in funds. But we have been prevented from seeking accountability from this administration as it asserts a need for "emergency funds."

Mr. Chairman, this Congress has a moral and practical responsibility to modify and condition these funds, and it is time to reject this "rubber-stamped blank check" and insist on the alternative that the Democrats want to put forward, but the majority and the administration have prohibited it from seeing the light of day.

We must work to re-align the funds for necessary equipment and quality of life matters that the Administration failed to do; reform the Contract provisions to eliminate cronyism concerns-like no-bid, cost plus Halliburton deals; eliminate outrageous and unnecessary projects and over spending that comes at the expense of domestic needs; consider other funding options to lessen and leverage U.S. investments, entice foreign cooperation and have it share some costs through its oil reserves. We should do all this—and foremost, we should only approve this bailout if the Administration presents a coherent and workable underlying strategy to accomplish our mission and bring our troops home safely and soon.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for votes on Monday, October 20, 2003, due to a scheduling conflict in my district. Had I been present, I would have cast my votes as follows:

Rollcall No. 563 (H. Res. 356): "aye"; rollcall No. 564 (H. Res. 400): "aye"; rollcall No. 565 (H.R. 3288): "aye."

THE PUBLIC SAFETY INTEROPERABILITY IMPLEMENTATION ACT

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, public safety agencies all across our nation are charged with ensuring the security of our critical infrastructures and the safety of our citizens and their communities. September 11 served to highlight how critical it is that our public safety agencies have the funding, spectrum, and equipment that they need to communicate with each other if they are to fulfill their mission.

The Federal Government has called upon our states and localities to be ever more vigilant and prepared against possible acts of terrorism.

Yet, as hearings in Congress and numerous reports have shown, our public safety agencies continue to lack the ability to communicate with each other interagency and interjurisdictionally. Firefighters cannot talk to police, local police cannot talk to state police, and so on and so on.

We expect our public safety agencies to act with haste and urgency to meet all of our needs and homeland security goals. Therefore, we must provide them with the tools they need to assist us. It is critical to fund radio equipment and technology so that they can talk to each other and be effective responders.

It is for this reason, that along with my colleagues VITO FOSSELLA and ELIOT ENGEL, I am introducing today the Public Safety Interoperability Implementation Act to address this urgent need.

Our bill looks at both the short term and long term funding needs that face our public safety agencies. We set up a Public Safety Communications Trust Fund in the U.S. Treasury, to be administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). While the program will be administered with collaboration with the Department of Homeland Security, we believe NTIA should take the lead.

The Department of Homeland Security has shown itself to be still sluggish in responding to the needs of our nation. We cannot afford to waste more time, money, or red tape. NTIA, an agency well familiar with telecommunications and information technology issues, will be better able to address the communications problems that exist and expeditiously move our nation's public safety agencies into state-of-the-art communications.

In the short term, the Public Safety Communications Trust Fund it will be funded by a 3-year grant program funded through the traditional appropriations cycle, authorizing up to \$500 million a year, so that grants may be provided to implement interoperability.

In the long run, the funding for the trust fund will come from the sales of spectrum conducted by the Federal Communications Commission. Our bill dedicates 50 percent of net revenue from future spectrum auctions to the trust fund.

Grants will be allocated to eligible entities to achieve interoperability, with multiyear grants available to ensure that agencies can develop long term plans without having to worry about funding from one year to the next. Preference will be given to those applicants that present