

and women in Afghanistan when their helicopter crashed while on a humanitarian mission to evacuate two injured children. Lieutenant Colonel John Stein of western Illinois was among those killed. I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate his life, commend his remarkable bravery, and extend my sincerest condolences to his family, friends, and loved ones. He will be missed.

A Bardolph native, John Stein began dating his wife, Barbara (Nelson) Stein, while the two were students at Macomb High School. He graduated in 1981, she in 1980. Macomb High School principal Michael Sartore remembers Stein as a quiet, hard-working, dedicated student. A career military officer, Lt. Col. Stein resided with his family at Moody Air Force Base in Valdosta, Georgia. The couple has three children: Doug, 17, Erin, 13, and Timothy, 11. His mother, Hazel Henry, still lives in Macomb.

Lieutenant Colonel Stein was a helicopter pilot with the 41st Rescue Squadron at Moody Air Force Base, a part of the 347th Operations Group specializing in rescuing downed pilots behind enemy lines. Kelly Friday, a childhood friend, said that even in high school Lt. Col. Stein wanted to be a helicopter pilot. "Any goal he set out to achieve, he mastered it," he recalled. "He was very intelligent; anything he touched he mastered."

On behalf of the communities in western and central Illinois, I would like to extend my thoughts and prayers to the Stein family at this difficult time. Lieutenant Colonel John Stein's courage in serving his country will not soon be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING DUSTIN WRIGHT FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dustin John Wright, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dustin has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as the H. Roe Bartle Summer Camp for five years, and the BSA snorkeling and ranger programs. Over the 10 years he has been involved in scouting, Dustin has earned 35 merit badges. Additionally, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as patrol leader, assistant patrol leader, and troop's chaplain aide. Dustin also has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements with such awards as the Parvuli Dei Catholic Religious Award, the Ad Altare Dei Catholic Religious Medal, the Arrow of Light Award, the World Conservation Award, and the Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say Award.

For his Eagle Scout project, Dustin constructed and installed a handrail for a bridge, and improved 150 feet of trail with gravel at the Heartland Presbyterian Center in Parkville, MO.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dustin John Wright for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of Amer-

ica and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

INTRODUCTION OF PRO-LIFE LEGISLATION

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce three bills relating to abortion.

First, the Freedom of Conscience Act of 2003 prohibits any federal official from expending any federal funds for any population control or population planning program or any family planning activity. It is immoral to force the American taxpayers to subsidize programs and practices they find morally abhorrent.

Second, I rise to introduce the Partial-birth Abortion Funding Ban Act of 2003. This bill prohibits federal officials from paying any federal funds to any individual or entity that performs partial-birth abortions. The taxpayer must not be forced to fund this barbaric procedure.

Finally, my Life-Protecting Judicial Limitation Act of 2003 provides that the inferior courts of the United States do not have jurisdiction to hear abortion-related cases. Congress must use the authority granted to it in Article 3, Section 1 of the Constitution. The district courts of the United States, as well as the United States Court of Federal Claims, should not have the authority to hear these types of cases.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that my colleagues will join me in support of these three bills. By following the Constitution and using the power granted to the Congress by this document, we can restore freedom of conscience and the sanctity of human life.

HONORING ROCKLEDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Rockledge Volunteer Fire Company on its one hundred years of service to that community.

Many things have changed for the company since its founding in 1903. It has grown from a single wagon pulled by the firefighters themselves to a small fleet of trucks capable of meeting all fire fighting needs. While it was once reliant on others to help put out its fires, the Rockledge Volunteer Fire Company is now large enough to lend its services beyond the town borders of Rockledge.

The fire company has become a staple in Rockledge, and its members have always been active in the community that they served. The late Jules Ceigekowski served in the company for seventy years, and Robert Snyder, a former police and fire chief in Rockledge just celebrated sixty years of service in 2002. In addition, the fire company offers junior memberships to those under the age of 18.

Since its beginning, the Rockledge Fire company has been based on volunteerism,

community, and caring for others. I firmly believe that it is those three principles that will continue to carry the company and its members for many years to come, and I am grateful for the service the company continues to provide to the citizens of Rockledge. Again, I congratulate the Rockledge Volunteer Fire Company on its 100th anniversary.

APPLAUDING THE FUNDRAISING EFFORTS OF THE TEACHERS AND FACULTY AT THE ORANGE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS, IN SANTA ANA, CALI- FORNIA

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the fundraising efforts of the teachers and faculty at the Orange County High School of the Arts, in Santa Ana, California.

Like many schools across the nation, the Orange County High School of the Arts is facing serious budget concerns. Forecasting \$600,000 in cuts, a number of janitors, clerical and cafeteria workers were laid off. School officials announced that many more teachers could be laid off during the school's second semester.

In spite of these dire outlooks, teachers are leading a fund-raising effort that has raised \$73,000 so far to prevent more layoffs and increases in class sizes.

In a band called "Will Play for Food," teachers are selling out concerts to raise money. Some have even donated back their raises.

These teachers are going above and beyond their duties to maintain a high quality education at their schools. Our teachers should be using their energy to improve the performance of their students, instead of performing to keep their jobs.

The bottom line is that we are leaving our children and our teachers behind. If we want to stimulate the economy and improve our country's future, the best investment we can make is the education of our youth.

TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL EVAN JAMES

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, last week western Illinois lost one of its sons in the war against Iraq, and I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate his life, commend his bravery, and extend my condolences to his family, friends, and loved ones. Corporal Evan James, a member of the Marine Corps Reserves Unit based in Peoria, Illinois, made the ultimate sacrifice for his country. While his unwavering commitment to this nation and its ideals are an inspiration, it is a tragedy that this young, promising life was cut so short. He will be missed.

Corporal Evan James, 20 years old, was born to Mike and Donna James of LaHarpe, Illinois. A 2000 graduate of LaHarpe High

School, he played basketball while there and was a guard and outside linebacker on the Thunder football team. After graduation, Cpl. James joined Company C of the 6th Engineer Support Battalion to help pay for college. He was studying to be a physical fitness trainer at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. James' unit was fully mobilized on January 14, 2003 and he was deployed to the Persian Gulf in February. According to Gunnery Sergeant James Howard of the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center in Peoria, Evan James achieved his corporal's rank faster than most Marines, and was very professional with leadership abilities beyond his age. Captain John Bruzza called James a model Marine and a good leader who performed well above his pay grade. James' aunt Diane Kornegay said this about her nephew: "They wanted a few good men and in Evan they got the best . . . If you met him you would love him. He was that kind of person and we're just very proud of him for the person he was."

On behalf of the communities in western and central Illinois, I would like to extend my thoughts and prayers to the James family at this difficult time. Corporal Evan James' courage in serving his country will not soon be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTOPHER
KENNALEY FOR ACHIEVING THE
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Robert Kennaley, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christopher has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as the H. Roe Bartle Summer Camp for 7 years, the Philmont High Adventure and the Packard High Adventure. Over the nine years he has been involved in scouting, Christopher has earned 33 merit badges. Additionally, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as three time patrol leader and assistant senior patrol leader. Christopher also has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements with such awards as the member of the Order of the Arrow, the Parvuli Dei Catholic Religious Award, the Ad Altars Dei Catholic Religious Medal, the Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say Award and the World Conservation Award.

For his eagle scout project, Christopher designed and constructed a fence on the side of a storage shed at St. Therese Catholic Church in Parkville, MO.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher Robert Kennaley for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

FLOYD SPENCE POST OFFICE
BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the late Congressman Floyd Spence and to commend his extraordinary career as a servant to the nation and to the people of South Carolina. Floyd was a true leader dedicated to preserving the American way of life, and he did so for over forty years in both the South Carolina state delegation and the United States House of Representatives. Serving as the chairman for the House National Security Committee from 1995–1999 and for the Armed Services Committee from 1991–2001, he was an advocate for heightened national security and for increased military funding. He drew his passion for the military from his own personal experiences of serving in the navy reserves for more than forty years. It was no secret that defending the nation was his top political priority. Congressman Spence was also an ardent voice against big government, which kept his platform focused on the needs of his fellow South Carolinians and away from that of sweeping federal legislation.

It is well fitting that the facility of the United States Post Office in Lexington, SC, honors Congressman Spence's memory by bearing his name. He was deeply committed to public service, a leader of our nation, and a passionate supporter of national defense. We all mourned his loss when he passed away and can still feel his absence during this time of national crisis. I am proud to say that his diligent efforts as Chairman of the Armed Services Committee have helped prepare the nation for the present war and we all owe Congressman Spence a debt of gratitude for his work in shaping the military into what it is today. Seldom will you ever find a truer American than Floyd Spence, and I am proud to have served with him in Congress and to call myself a fellow South Carolinian.

TRIBUTE TO DR. AND MRS. FRANK
LIGHT

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize Dr. and Mrs. Frank Light for their many contributions to health care in my district and around the world.

As a member of Rahway Hospital's Medical/Dental staff since 1973 and long-time trustee of the Rahway Hospital Foundation, Dr. Light is a very active member within his hospital community. Dr. Light is also an active member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists as well as former board member and president of the John E. Rannels County Hospital and the Family and Children's Society, Counseling, Testing and Adoption Center.

In addition to their contributions within the hospital community, Dr. and Mrs. Light have

dedicated their time to helping provide free health care to needy children around the world through Healing the Children Midlantic, Inc. As a member of the International Relations Committee, I am very aware of the need for quality medical care for children around the world, and am extremely appreciative of Dr. Light's efforts over the past twenty-five years as part of a medical team that has traveled to many countries to provide such medical services.

Dr. and Mrs. Light have also provided a home to many children while they undergo medical treatment and surgery in this country. They are able to give love to these children while they are far away from their loved ones as well as support while they undergo medical procedures. Dr. and Mrs. Light have dedicated their lives to bettering the lives of children around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representative join me today as I recognize Dr. and Mrs. Light and their innumerable contributions to the medical community and to the health and future of children around the world. It is selfless acts such as these that set an example for the rest of the world.

NORTHERN IRELAND PEACE AND
RECONCILIATION SUPPORT ACT
OF 2003

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of more than 25,000 of my constituents who are of Irish descent, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1208, which recognizes the importance of funding the peace process in Northern Ireland.

The people of Ireland, the people of Great Britain are long-standing friends and allies of the United States and the American people. In these difficult times, we are deeply grateful for their partnership in the coalition against terror and their invaluable contributions in the war in Iraq.

Our investment in the International Fund for Ireland contributes to strengthening relations and creating thousands of new jobs and businesses for Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland. Importantly, more than 80 percent of the Fund's contributions have targeted disadvantaged areas by offering job training programs for unemployed youth and through the economic, social, and physical regeneration of deprived areas.

We should continue to support the Fund's community-building programs promoting greater dialogue and understanding between Catholics and Protestants. We should also help advance the Fund's role in the development of a new generation of leaders in Northern Ireland in order to bring about a more peaceful and prosperous future in the region.

The Good Friday Agreement of 1998, which called for basic human rights and marked the first meaningful step toward reconciliation in Northern Ireland was suspended last year. Elections in May will determine the future prospects of the agreement, which makes this resolution especially relevant and timely.

Mr. Speaker, our shared goal with Ireland is for all Catholic and Protestant families to live