

exquisitely restored. In the mid-seventies he produced his first wines, including award winning Petite Syrah, Johannesburg Riesling, and Zinfandels.

Hop Kiln Winery became a Sonoma County landmark, and Marty soon became a Sonoma County force to be reckoned with. He saw that local gravel mining operations were destroying the banks and bed of the Russian River, filling its aquifer, lowering water tables, blocking off tributary mouths, and endangering salmon migration. Marty then began a long struggle against river gravel mining that goes on today.

Also in the Sixties, Marty became the public health director at Sonoma State Hospital and Developmental Center, where with his usual tenaciousness and energy, he rooted out corruption, and founded a model program to fight hepatitis. In 1999, Marty was honored with a Public Health Hero Award from the University of California, Berkeley.

Today Marty Griffin lives with his wife, Joyce, in Belvedere in Marin County not far from where his environmental battles began. In his eighties, he remains active and abreast of environmental issues. His work goes on through several organizations he founded including the Marin County Environmental Forum, the Sonoma County Environmental Forum, and Russian Riverkeeper (founded as Friends of the Russian River). His book, "Saving the Marin and Sonoma Coast: the Battles for Audubon Canyon Ranch, Point Reyes and California's Russian River" is an engaging story of the ongoing battles and larger than life personalities involved in preserving nature's treasures on the edge of the Bay Area's teaming cities.

Madam Speaker, it is a book as well worth reading as Dr. Griffin's life is well worth emulating.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN DENVER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, the year 2007 marks the 10th anniversary of singer, musician, actor, composer, humanitarian and global citizen John Denver's passing from this planet that he worked so lovingly to protect.

A man who reached out consistently to help those in need; the planet, its creatures, its waters, its wildernesses and its people, John ceaselessly gave of himself in an effort to lift all life to its finest and highest potential.

While his awards, recognitions and achievements are many, it may be more appropriate to remember him as a unique human being who was able to touch the hearts and souls of people all over the planet. The over 300 songs that he recorded during his lifetime expressed the longings of the human family for compassion, unity and peace. His vision for all life can be best expressed in the lines from one of his songs:

"We are standing all together, face to face and arm in arm; we are standing on the threshold of a dream. No more hunger, no more killing, no more wasting life away; it is simply an idea, and I know its time has come."

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Energy Independence and Security Act and the long-overdue measures it contains—including reasonable increases in CAFE standards—to help our Nation conserve energy and to lower the energy costs that weigh so heavily on our citizens.

I applaud Speaker PELOSI, Chairman OBERSTAR, and all of the Members who have worked on this measure for their foresighted leadership on this Act and for their dedication to completing the hard work necessary to bring this Act to the floor today.

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, I will draw particular attention to the Short Sea Shipping Initiative created in this Act.

This Initiative will support the expansion of short sea shipping—which is simply the alliterative name of shipping voyages between two points in the United States or between Canada and the United States.

At the present time, trucks carry nearly 70 percent of the freight tonnage transported in the United States. By contrast, the most highly developed water freight transportation routes in the U.S.—those running on the Mississippi River, the Great Lakes, and the St. Lawrence Seaway—carry just 13 percent of freight tonnage in the United States.

The Short Sea Shipping Initiative seeks to make water a mode competitive with roads and rails by supporting the development of the vessels used in short sea shipping voyages as well as of the port and landside infrastructure needed to load and unload those vessels.

Specifically, the Act will make vessels built under the Jones Act in the United States eligible for assistance from the Capital Construction Fund administered by the United States Maritime Administration, MARAD.

As I know there has been debate on this point, I emphasize that MARAD shall exercise sole authority to determine issues relating to operation of a qualified program vessel in the short sea trade.

We further expect that to ensure this program is initiated right away, the Secretary of Transportation shall work to revise current regulations to conform to this legislation while also approving Fund contributions and withdrawals related to eligible short sea shipping transportation projects immediately.

As I close, I want to note that additional measures can still be taken to promote the development of short sea shipping. Perhaps the most important among them is to exempt these voyages from the Harbor Maintenance Tax. H.R. 1499, which I authored, would achieve that exemption and I thank Chairman CHARLIE RANGEL for continuing to work with me to advance this legislation.

I again commend Speaker PELOSI, Chairman OBERSTAR, and all who have worked so diligently to help reduce our dependence on foreign and non-renewable energy sources.

With that, I urge adoption of the Energy Independence and Security Act.

GENOCIDE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 888, Genocide Accountability Act of 2007, which ensures that U.S. laws provide adequate authority to prosecute acts of genocide. Genocide, despite its being such a heinous and atrocious crime, has taken place too frequently, it needs to stop and the perpetrators need to be held accountable for their actions. This systematic destruction of a group of people based on religion, ethnicity or nationality is one of the most horrifying acts that a person can imagine.

Genocidal tendencies can be traced back to the Armenian Genocide that occurred more than seventy years ago and again during the Holocaust. But the end of those conflicts did nothing to prevent genocide from being committed again. Acts of genocide occurred again in Cambodia, Bosnia and Rwanda and are currently taking place in Darfur. Too many have died and continue to die as we stand by and watch. It is our job to do whatever is in our power to end these conflicts.

Individuals who have committed acts of genocide have been identified as seeking refuge in the United States. The constitution of the United States does not allow them to be prosecuted here because they are not U.S. nationals. The Genocide Accountability Act of 2007 will give the U.S. the authority to prosecute the perpetrators in the U.S. as opposed to just deporting them and not knowing if they will ever be held accountable for their actions. This bill will assure that justice is served for their acts of torture and murder.

By passing this bill we are contributing to the welfare of the world. Genocide affects people around the world and not only the direct victims; therefore, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

TWO MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGHS FROM UTMB

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, researchers at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) have been responsible for two significant medical breakthroughs that have the potential to dramatically improve American health care.

Earlier this year, Dr. Lisa Elferink, an associate professor at UTMB's Cancer Center, led a national research team that discovered how use of the bacterial pathogen, *Listeria monocytogenes* could help medical researchers and practitioners understand the mechanisms by which cancer cells develop. This discovery is a major step in developing successful treatments for a variety of cancers.

Another team of UTMB researchers, lead by Dr. Angela Shepherd, have helped American men at risk of osteoporosis by developing the Male Osteoporosis Risk Estimation Score

(MORES). While osteoporosis screening is common for women, many men who are at risk for this bone disease are not regularly checked. MORES provides a quick and easy way to identify men who may need further screening and possibly treatment for osteoporosis.

The development of MORES and the new use of *Listeria monocytogenes* are just two of the advances in medical research to come out of UTMB. UTMB is one of America's leading centers of medical research, as well as a source of quality health care for the people of the Gulf Coast of Texas. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to extend my congratulations to the researchers involved in these recent breakthroughs and to everyone associated with UTMB for their tireless work to improve health care.

HONORING RETIRING ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATOR DR. BARRY WEINSTEIN

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the long service of Dr. Barry A. Weinstein, a dedicated public official representing the town of Amherst as a member of the Erie County Legislature whose service to that body—but not to our community—will conclude on December 31, 2007.

Dr. Weinstein was elected to the Legislature in November of 2007, and his impact upon the Legislature was nearly immediate. A former member and President of the Williamsville Central School Board, Dr. Weinstein's experience at that level benefited him in that he would look beyond political partisanship and toward the betterment of our community.

Since his initial election, Dr. Weinstein served in a number of leadership roles in the Legislature, including multiple terms of service as Majority Leader and as Minority Leader. Dr. Weinstein's commitment to his constituents and to the thoughtful and respectful conduct of the people's business was vast indeed.

That commitment, however, will not end with the conclusion of his term as a county legislator. Dr. Weinstein's election last month to a four-year term as a member of the Amherst Town Board will open yet another new chapter in his public life. As a former local elected official myself, I can attest to the challenges that these positions pose. I thank you, Madam Speaker, for allowing me this opportunity to honor Dr. Weinstein's past service and ask you and the rest of our colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Weinstein the very best of health and success in the years to come.

HONORING ALEXANDER MALLONEE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with great pleasure to honor a labor leader in my district who has done so much to protect peo-

ple's rights. Alexander Mallonee is retiring after 30 years with the United States Postal Service, including more than 25 years with the National Association of Letter Carriers, NALC, and almost 10 years with the North Bay Labor Council. Since he first joined the union, Alex has demonstrated a calm, caring and respectful approach to addressing the issues facing members of the National Association of Letter Carriers and of the labor council.

Alex didn't set out to be a labor leader. In fact, he was attending San Francisco State University for a master's degree in English when his life changed. As his wife, Kathy Farrelly, remembers it, he was studying in the library in the fall of 1969 when there seemed to be some sort of commotion outside. People raced out of the building, so Alex went to the terrace to take a look. What he saw was the school quad filled with police toting bullhorns and billy sticks to break up a student demonstration.

A command squad rushed up the stairs, Kathy continues, stating simply, "He got hit over the head with a baton."

There he was, an innocent bystander, unconscious, his head bleeding onto the cement, and a cop looming over him with a club in his raised hand. It was a perfect picture of the times, and a photographer who happened to be there snapped it for the cover of Rolling Stone and for Newsweek magazine.

"I think that's what launched him into social advocacy," Kathy says. "It was a colossal injustice."

From that decision evolved a life devoted to advocating for free speech and human rights. Alex gave up the idea of teaching Victorian literature and instead, because he needed to make a living, became a letter carrier. "He quickly joined the union and became active," Kathy notes. And from that decision came his involvement in labor issues. Soon thereafter, in 1980, he became president of the local branch. He has been re-elected every two years since.

As always, Kathy says, his motivating force has been a search for justice.

"There are so many crises we have handled," explains Jerry Andersen, vice president of Branch 183 of the NALC. "He just doesn't lose his cool."

At the same time, Alex works to protect people's rights, he takes time to teach people, Andersen adds. "A lot of management in the postal service have learned from him."

Alex is one of those people who makes a difference quietly. He doesn't seek glory for himself, but gets satisfaction from doing a good job. In fact, he becomes embarrassed by pomp and circumstance, Andersen notes. Fortunately for Alex, he doesn't need ceremonies to recognize his authority. He has the respect of those he works with and those who work for him.

Kathy, who is retiring as well from her long career as counsel to Sonoma County, says she doubts either one of them will sit back and watch the world go by. Alex will keep on with the letter carriers union for a while, she expects, and with his efforts to make labor unions more a part of an overall progressive movement that includes the environment and affordable housing.

And of course, as an avid cyclist, he will spend more time enjoying the stunning bike trails of northern California.

But the impact of his life protecting workers' rights will live on in Sonoma County. So, too,

will the philosophy he and his wife share and live—that no one can afford to ignore justice that goes awry.

Madam Speaker, Alex Mallonee's advocacy for just causes has meant a lot to me over the years. Because of this and especially because of his life and legacy to the people of Sonoma County, I am proud to honor him on his retirement.

TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EXTENSION

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, with the loss of approximately three million manufacturing jobs in the United States since 2001, many families know the effects of increased foreign imports and the outsourcing of their jobs all too well. HCTC was created to ensure that our constituents who lost these good manufacturing jobs would still be able to afford health insurance for themselves and their families. It is unjust for our constituents who have lost these jobs to additionally endure lost or inadequate health insurance because it is unaffordable.

Unfortunately the spouse of the wage earner will suffer the devastating loss of this needed financial assistance to obtain health care coverage when the qualifying wage earner becomes Medicare eligible. The current eligibility requirements for the HCTC program leave a Medicare ineligible spouse without continued assistance under the HCTC, which in far too many cases means being left entirely without health care insurance.

I am pleased that language was included in H.R. 3920, the Trade and Globalization Act of 2007, a bill to reauthorize the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act that corrects this loophole and ensures that spouses and widows will remain eligible for the HCTC. The House of Representatives passed H.R. 3920 on October 31, 2007; however, this bill has not yet become public law. Consequently, today the House will consider an extension of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act through March 31, 2007.

As our constituents wait for H.R. 3920 to become law, there are still those who are losing their eligibility for the HCTC and in danger of losing health care coverage for their spouses. As more wage earners approach Medicare eligibility, they fear for the well-being of their spouses and incur mounting stress and anxiety. Passage of this legislation is urgently needed to put an end to these hardships. An extension of the current Trade Adjustment Assistance Act will not ensure that our deserving constituents remain eligible for the HCTC. I urge this body to make certain that the reauthorization of Trade Adjustment Assistance is passed into public law in the urgent manner necessary to protect hard-working Americans.