

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Temple Emanu-El for ninety years of Jewish religious guidance, the congregation's contributions to the community of Bayonne, and its success at making Bayonne a more prosperous and spiritual community.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
TRINITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Trinity Christian Academy participated in National Make a Difference Day, Good Deeds Literacy Contest in October 2001; and

Whereas, Trinity Christian Academy collected children's books to be sent to the children of New York Police and Fire Fighters affected by the tragic events of September 11th, 2001; and

Whereas, Trinity Christian Academy has demonstrated a commitment to the community and whole Nation by helping others in need, and

Whereas, Trinity Christian Academy is to be commended for its hard work and dedication;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in honoring Trinity Christian Academy for its outstanding dedication to others.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DANNY
COLLINS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man whose unrelenting spirit, and passion for life, have personally touched me during our many years of friendship: Danny Collins. I grew up with Danny and have been impressed by his infectious joy since we first met. Danny's ongoing struggle with the effects of Down Syndrome has been an inspiration to me from a very young age; to watch him undertake this battle with a constant smile on his face has been a reminder of the many ways in which we all take our lives for granted.

Danny was born in Glenwood Springs, CO, in 1953, though he was raised for much of his early life in nearby Carbondale. At the age of ten, Danny Collins returned to Glenwood Springs, where we both spent our childhood. From a young age, it was clear that Danny was a very special person. Though he has Down Syndrome, Danny has been a constant source of light in the lives of others: he has never allowed his challenges to dampen his contagious spirit for life.

In 1978, Danny became a client at Mountain Valley Developmental Services of Glenwood Springs, where he received invaluable care and attention from their many skilled practitioners. He moved into their first group home on Hager Lane and benefited from the camaraderie and love that Mountain Valley Developmental Services had to offer. Danny currently works as a weaver at Mountain Valley

Weavers, where he has developed remarkable skill in the trade, adding a little piece of himself to each item he weaves.

Having spent his entire life in Colorado, Danny has been an avid Denver Broncos football fan for many years. Like many Broncos fans, Danny is an admirer of former Quarterback John Elway. To express his love and appreciation for Elway and his exploits on the field, Danny recently wove bright orange mug mats and a glass case for John Elway and his family—yet another example of Danny's big heart and selfless nature.

Mr. Speaker, I bring my friend Danny Collins to the attention of this body of Congress not because of the particular accomplishments he has achieved during the course of his life, but rather for the infectious spirit and indomitable will that have been his hallmark since childhood. I am proud to pay tribute to a good friend and fellow Coloradan. The love and joy that Danny reflects was absorbed from his caring family who have swarmed around him like angels from the time he was young. Though Danny's parents have sadly passed away recently, I know their affection for Danny lives on in the lives of his three siblings. I echo their admiration for Danny as I pay tribute to him today here on the floor of this distinguished Chamber—he is a truly remarkable man.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF
HARRISON BECKETT LAZAR

HON. VAN HILLEARY

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Speaker, over 2,000 years ago, Cicero, the Roman statesman, philosopher and politician, noted, "Of all nature's gifts to the human race, what is sweeter to a man than his children?" A rhetorical question of course to which the answer is nothing. It remains as true today as it was when Cicero said it two millennia ago.

Children are the greatest gift God can bestow upon us. They bring pride and joy, humility and unconditional love and so much more. Most of what we do is fleeting, but the values and principles we teach our children are lasting. Whatever we may do in life, our children and their progeny are our most important legacy.

Craig and Andrea Lazar welcomed their first child into the world last week. Harrison Beckett Lazar arrived at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 30.

His life will be enriched by a large and caring extended family. Harrison's maternal grandparents are Christine Hessong and Keith Hessong. His paternal grandparents are Charles Lazar, and Linda Lazar. Harrison has five great-grandparents: Don and Angus Hessong, Max and Helen Beloff and Katherine Lazar.

I join them in celebrating the birth of Harrison Beckett Lazar. Harrison's birth, as does those of all children born today, holds the promise of our future. We welcome him to a world that we constantly strive to make better so his future will be a little brighter, more secure and full of promise, and so when the time comes when his own child is born, he may revel in the sweetest gift that can be bestowed upon us.

CHILD HEALTH CARE
AFFORDABILITY

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to help working Americans provide for their children's health care needs by introducing the Child Health Care Affordability Act. The Child Health Care Affordability Act provides parents with a tax credit of up to \$500 for health care expenses of dependent children. Parents caring for a child with a disability, terminal disease, cancer, or any other health condition requiring specialized care would receive a tax credit of up to \$3,000 to help cover their child's health care expenses. The tax credit would be available to all citizens regardless of whether or not they itemize their deductions.

The tax credits provided in this bill will be especially helpful to those Americans whose employers cannot afford to provide their employees health insurance. These workers must struggle to meet the medical bills of themselves and their families. This burden is especially heavy on, parents whose children have a medical condition, such as cancer or a physical disability, which requires long-term or specialized health care.

As an OB-GYN who has had the privilege of delivering more than four thousand babies, I know how important it is that parents have the resources to provide adequate health care for their children. The inability of many working Americans to provide health care for their children is rooted in one of the great inequities of the tax code: Congress' failure to allow individuals the same ability to deduct health care costs that it grants to businesses. As a direct result of Congress' refusal to provide individuals with health care related tax credits, parents whose employers do not provide health insurance have to struggle to provide health care for their children. Many of these parents work in low-income jobs; oftentimes their only recourse to health care is the local emergency room.

Sometimes parents are forced to delay seeking care for their children until minor health concern that could have been easily treated become serious problems requiring expensive treatment! If these parents had access to the type of tax credits provided in the Child Health Care Affordability Act, they would be better able to provide care for their children, and our nation's already overcrowded emergency room facilities would be relieved of the burden of having to provide routine care for people who otherwise cannot afford it.

According to research on the effects of this bill done by my staff and legislative counsel, the benefit of these tax credits would begin to be felt by joint filers with incomes slightly above \$18,000 dollars a year, or single income filers with incomes slightly above \$15,000 per year. Clearly this bill will be of the most benefit to low-income Americans balancing the demands of taxation with the needs of their children.

Under the Child Health Care Affordability Act, a struggling single mother with an asthmatic child would at last be able to provide for her child's needs; while a working-class family will not have to worry about how they will pay the bills if one of their children requires

lengthy hospitalization or some other form of specialized care.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress has a moral responsibility to provide tax relief for low-income parents struggling to care for a sick child, in order to help them better meet their child's medical expenses. Some may say that we cannot enact the Child Health Care Affordability Act because it would cause the government to lose revenue, but who is more deserving of this money, Congress or the working parents of a sick child?

The Child Health Care Affordability Act takes a major step toward helping working Americans meet their health care needs by providing them with generous health care related tax cuts and tax credits. I urge my colleagues to support the pro-family, pro-health care tax cuts contained in the Child Health Care Affordability Act.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DANIEL
AARON ROMERO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker it is with a solemn heart but also great pride that I honor the life and memory of Daniel Aaron Romero. Known to his family as Aaron, this young man responded to his country's call for help and gave his life for its security. On the seventeenth of March, Aaron was killed in Afghanistan while involved in an ordinance disposal operation. Like many young men and women today, Aaron believed that our nation needs her citizens to stand up and fight for our ideals and values, and like Aaron, several will have to pay the ultimate price. Aaron knew the risks, but believed in our cause, and today he reminds all Americans of the courage and selflessness that allows us the freedoms we cherish today. I can think of no better way to honor Aaron then to recognize his achievements and service before this body of Congress and this nation today.

Aaron was born in Longmont, Colorado and grew up in the town of Lafayette. In 1991, he fulfilled a lifelong dream of joining the military. He joined the Army and attended basic, advanced, individual, and eventually, airborne training. He excelled in his role as a soldier, and through hard work and dedication, he joined the prestigious ranks of the Special Forces. He was an esteemed member of B Company of the 5th battalion 19th Special Forces Group of the Colorado Army National Guard, and served as the valuable Communications Chief for his unit.

As member of the U.S. Army, Aaron traveled the world frequently in defense of his country, and after long periods of separation from his family, he was assigned the National Guard Post in Pueblo. He enjoyed spending time with his family and will be remembered as a wonderful person.

Mr. Speaker, Aaron's dedication to excellence is reflected in his decorations which include the Army Service Ribbon, the Non-Commissioned Officers Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, the Colorado Emergency Service Ribbon, the parachute badge, and the Special Forces tab. His dedication to this nation, his bravery, and his courage, serve as an

example to us all. In the wake of the tragedies of 9/11, Aaron's passing is just one more reminder of the price that we pay for freedom. Mr. Speaker it is my profound honor to bring such a man to the attention of this body of Congress and a grateful nation. Thank you Aaron, for all that you gave in defense of your state and your nation. As his family mourns his loss, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies.

DR. GEORGE BASS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding researcher from my district, Dr. George Bass. On Wednesday, June 12, 2002, Dr. Bass, a retired professor emeritus from Texas A&M University, will receive the National Medal of Science for his work in nautical archeology. This discipline is dedicated to understanding human existence through the discovery and study of ships and the cultures that constructed them.

Dr. Bass, known as the "father of nautical archeology," is internationally recognized as a leader in his field. Dr. Bass is credited for conducting the first excavation of an ancient shipwreck entirely on the seabed. This event took place in 1960. Since that time, Dr. Bass has conducted excavations in the United States, Turkey, and the Caribbean.

In 1973, Dr. Bass established the Institute of Nautical Archeology. Today, this institute conducts research on four continents. The information obtained from this research allows us to better understand how ancient societies conducted commerce, educated their children, and organized their lives.

For his contributions to his field, Dr. Bass has received numerous awards and decorations including the Gold Medal for Distinguished Archeological Achievement in 1986. Additionally, he was honored by the Society for Historical Archeology in 1999 and the American Academy of Achievement in 2001.

Although retired from Texas A&M, Dr. Bass is not retired from expanding our understanding of the past. He continues to be actively involved in his research institute and continues to publish in scholarly journals. For his contributions to human knowledge, I am forever grateful.

DIGITAL TELEVISION

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of an exciting new technology. Local television broadcasters across the country are undertaking their biggest advancement in years: the transition to digital television. These stations aim to provide new services to their viewers, our constituents. Digital TV opens the door to new possibilities like High Definition TV, interactive television, and expanded programming options.

Two Cleveland stations already serve my district with digital signals: WEWS, a Scripps

Howard Station and WKYC, a Gannett owned station, are leading the charge into the digital future.

Across the country, local broadcasters have made substantial investments in new transmitting facilities, new production equipment, and in some cases, new broadcast towers. Collectively, the broadcast industry has invested over one billion dollars in this new technology.

While local broadcasters are doing their part to propel the digital television transition forward, all the pieces of this transition have yet to fall into place. The transition will accelerate significantly once cable companies begin to carry local broadcasters' digital signals. 70% of U.S. television households receive their TV through cable. American consumers will begin to reap the full benefits of this revolution once digital television is available on cable.

I hope that Congress can work with these different groups: broadcasters and cable operators, and other interested parties on remaining issues. Until then, however, I am confident the future of television is digital. And that future is bright.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BRET KELLY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life of Bret Kelly, who recently passed away at the age of 79. Bret was a pillar of the Pueblo, Colorado community and, as his family mourns his loss, I think it is appropriate that we remember his life and celebrate the work he did on behalf of others.

Born in Rocky Ford, Colorado, Bret attended Centennial High School in 1940. After graduating, he enrolled at the University of Colorado, though his studies there were interrupted when he answered the call to serve our nation in the US Army infantry in World War II. Bret's service in the war included fighting in the historic Battle of the Bulge, in which he suffered severe shrapnel wounds to his arm and back. At the conclusion of his time in the armed forces, Bret was awarded both the Silver Star and Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster for the uncommon valor that he displayed in the service of our nation.

Bret was a shining example of a man thoroughly involved in his community. He was named Citizen of the Year in 2001 by the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce and was lauded for having a profound influence on the entire Pueblo community. As a member of the Pueblo Board of Water Works and over a dozen community organizations, Bret's passion and involvement in the lives of his neighbors was an inspiration to all who knew him. His early financial support of the Pueblo Hispanic Education Fund made a difference in the lives of countless students. As the head of Steel City Agencies, Inc., Bret took an active interest in each of his 46 employees, promoting their continuing education and encouraging them to join him in giving back to their community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Bret Kelly for his contributions to the Pueblo area. Bret's dedication to his community, employees and family certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress. Although