

the world to participate in Olympic competitions. Becky coordinates large local sporting events including Summer Jam Basketball, two Olympic Trials held in the Civic Arena, and many national and regional weightlifting meets.

Even though her workload is tremendous, she finds time every day to be in the youth center and be available to anyone who wants to talk because helping youth is her passion. Becky's excellence at work earned her the InterServ Warren Metcalf Award as the most valuable agency employee. Also, she has been recognized as one of the "20 People Who Count" by the St. Joseph NewsPress. Becky is dedicated not only to helping her co-workers, but also to making sure the center can be as helpful as possible to the community. She opened the building during a snow storm, shoveled the walks, works late, works evenings, comes in on weekends, and always assists with any event that is going on agency-wide.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Becky Snethen. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF ANNE CLARK MARTINDELL

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Anne Clark Martindell, former American Ambassador to New Zealand and New Jersey State Senator, who died last week at the age of 93. Her lifetime of public service is worth honoring here, because she was not only an outstanding public servant, a generous benefactor of good causes, and a talented and gracious woman, but she proved that it's never too late to show your mettle, to be your best self and to use your ability and drive to make the world a better place.

Born into a family of means in 1914, Anne Clark lived a comfortable and sheltered life. She attended private schools and entered Smith College in 1932. She took to higher education immediately and decided that she would go on to law school. When she told this to her father, who by the way was a prominent attorney who later became a Federal Judge, he demanded that she leave school, because "no man would want to marry an educated woman"!

Anne returned to Princeton, married George C. Scott, Jr. shortly thereafter and the couple had a daughter and two sons. This marriage ended in divorce and she later married Jackson Martindell, publisher of Who's Who. This marriage produced another son, Roger Martindell, who carries on the tradition of community service as a member of the Princeton Borough governing body, and is my friend and neighbor.

The dormant seed of her desire to make a difference, to do more, to participate in the betterment of the community, came alive—was fertilized—by her strong opposition to the conditions surrounding our involvement in the Vietnam War. When Anne Martindell's brother, the journalist Blair Clark, became Eugene McCarthy's campaign manager in 1968, she began to raise money for the campaign in

New Jersey and was selected as a delegate to the tumultuous 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago.

Anne Martindell liked to say she never did anything real until she was in her 50's. She was 54 years of age when she began her political career. On her return home from the convention, where she had been recognized as one with the ability to clearly articulate her strong opinions and to fearlessly champion what was, at that convention an unpopular point of view, she was asked to serve as Vice Chair of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee.

The (always) female Vice Chair of the party was considered at that time a mere figurehead, but that was not Anne Martindell's style. She is legendary for having arrived at a meeting of the male power brokers where she was told she wasn't welcome, because they used salty language that she wouldn't like. "I don't give a blank (here insert your favorite 4 letter word) what kind of language you use", she said, "I'm coming in."

Anne Martindell was asked to run for State Senate in 1973, in what had been traditionally a Republican district. She won the election, making her one of the first women to serve in New Jersey's upper house.

It was a very different world when Anne Martindell went to the New Jersey legislature (an example of which was that women were so little thought of in the Legislature, that there still were only men's rooms in both Chambers and caucus rooms—the women legislators used the public facilities). Although fathers did not still think higher education would spoil their daughters' chances at marriage, there was still a lot to be done to support and increase women's participation in community life. She worked on primarily women's issues, education, and the environment. She served as Chair of the Education Committee and a member of the powerful Appropriations Committee. As Chair of the Budget Subcommittee for Higher Education, she sponsored a law to increase loans for higher education. She wanted to make it more available to those who didn't have the means, but had the desire and thirst for more learning. She understood that very well.

She also continued to show her feisty side by introducing a resolution stating that it was the sense of the New Jersey Senate that enough evidence was available to institute impeachment of the President and that Congress ought to get on with it.

She was a Carter delegate to the 1976 Democratic National Convention and campaigned vigorously for him in New Jersey. After his election, she left her Senate seat and became director of the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), part of the State Department's Agency for International Development. In 1979 she was nominated for the ambassadorship to New Zealand and Western Samoa and served in that capacity until 1981.

She was the first female ambassador to New Zealand and once again ran into some resistance, but her political instincts, coupled with grace and charm, endeared her to the people and she in turn treated them with respect and affection. It was in New Zealand that she met the man she called "the love of my life"—the New Zealand painter Sir Tossell Wollaston and they remained close until his death in 1998.

Last year, at the age of 92, she returned to Auckland, New Zealand to attend a meeting of the Partnership Forum and was greeted with

great warmth. The American Ambassador in New Zealand has hailed her this week as one whose legacy as Ambassador lives on in the hearts of the people.

But then, Anne Martindell was always doing extraordinary things. And she didn't like to leave things undone. So it was no surprise to her friends when a decade ago she re-enrolled at Smith College, attended classes, studied with students who could have been her great-grandchildren, and graduated in 2002 at the age of 87. In honor of her outstanding life and work, she got her undergraduate degree along with an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree. Poetic justice, don't you think?

Annie Martindell is mourned by her family: daughter, Margery Luther of Ann Arbor Michigan, sons, George C. Scott III of Richmond, Virginia; David C. Scott of Princeton, and Roger Martindell, 9 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren and a brother, J. William Clark of Great Barrington Massachusetts. She is also mourned by her many friends in Princeton, and throughout New Jersey, and across the broad swath of lives she has touched.

Anne Martindell was on a book signing tour for her new book—the appropriate title of which is *Never Too Late*—when she was stricken with her last illness. It breaks my heart to think she will never get a chance to autograph my copy. I will miss her phone calls with good advice, her strong opinions on current events, and her ease of friendship. Anne Clark Martindell has taught us all a valuable lesson about opportunities and readiness to recognize a call to action whenever it appears in our lives. And it is never too late to take that message to heart.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ALVIN
LADY JACKETS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the Alvin Lady Jackets softball team on becoming the first fourth seed softball team in Texas history to win the University Interscholastic League Championship.

One factor behind the Lady Jackets success was head coach Carla Newsom's determination to make sure her team found the silver lining in every seemingly dark cloud. For example, when the Lady Jackets lost the first game of a best of three series in the regional semi-final, Coach Newsom told the team to be thankful for the loss for two reasons. First, they could now wear their "dress white" uniforms in the next games; and second, and most importantly, they no longer had to eat spaghetti with meatballs for their pre-game meal.

The team adopted the Journey song "Don't Stop Believing" as their anthem. The girls sang the song before, during, and after the games throughout the playoffs. On the night of the final game for the State Championship, the first game of the evening lasted 15 long innings, delaying the start of the Lady Jackets' game by almost two hours. As they were waiting in their dugout for their time, the Lady

Jackets kept their sprits up by singing their anthem, much to the joy of their loyal fans who heard “Don’t Stop Believing” resonating from the dugout.

Lady Jacket Amber Anderson was awarded the MVP award of the State tournament; was named the Texas High School Softball Player of the Year and was one of two Lady Jacket players, along with Alexis Joseph, named Texas Girls Coaches Association all State player of the year. Coach Newsom was named Texas Girls Coaches Association Coach of the Year 2008.

All graduating seniors on the Lady Jackets team are planning to continue their involvement in organized softball at the collegiate level. Madam Speaker, I again extend my congratulations to the players and coaches of the Lady Jackets and insert the Lady Jackets championship roster into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

2008 ALVIN LADY JACKETS

Jessica Savage, Amber Anderson, Vanessa Eng, Alexis Joseph, Tiffany Denham, Britni Wells, Kelsey Nichols, Megan Potts, Natalie Farias, Kelsi Kettler.

Megan Knippa, Meghan Gomez, Megan Garza, Amber Brooks, Adela Gomez, Maci Meyer, Nicole Powers, Lauren Denny, Alicia Smith.

Head Coach: Carla Newsom; varsity assistant: Kelly Bembry; assistant coaches: Jennifer Dominguez, Paula Tafelski; trainer: Eric Nuncio; manager: Brady Hudson.

Athletic Director: Mike Bass; Alvin High School Principal: Kevon Wells; Superintendent: Dr. Robby McGowen.

INTRODUCTION OF THE 21ST CENTURY COMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO ACCESSIBILITY ACT

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act, along with my colleague Representative HEATHER WILSON (R-NM). Madam Speaker, telecommunications technologies have a proven ability to empower individuals with the necessary tools of the information age. These technological tools can animate the personal use of communications for work or enjoyment, but also impact health care delivery, educational opportunities, the prospects for employment, and job creation. The goal of the legislation is to establish new safeguards for disability access to ensure that people with disabilities are not left behind as technology changes and the United States migrates to the next generation of Internet-based and digital communication technologies.

As the story in today’s Washington Post business section makes clear, the practical effect and use of many innovative services and high tech equipment in the marketplace can be diminished or eliminated for individuals with disabilities if accessibility isn’t built-in, or factored into the design, of the product or service. This keeps the promise of the information age as just that—a promise. And it often means that to obtain accessible equipment, individuals with disabilities must pay significantly, and in many cases needlessly, more than if standards and accessibility were built in

or adopted earlier in the design process. The provisions of this bill will help to ensure that such accessibility is factored in and manufactured into products and services as a matter of course, which also will have the effect of reducing costs to consumers who rely on such services and products.

In summary, here is what the bill we are introducing today aims to do. First, Section 102 of the bill extends the Federal law that currently requires hearing aid compatibility on newly-manufactured and imported telephones, to comparable equipment used to provide IP-enabled communication service. The purpose of this section is to make sure that people with hearing loss have access to telephone devices used with advanced technologies, including cell phones or any other handsets used for Internet-based voice communications. (This section is not intended to extend to headsets or headphones used with computers.)

Section 103 of the bill, addressing relay services, clarifies that telecommunications relay services (TRS) are intended to ensure that people who have hearing or speech disabilities can use relay services to engage in functionally equivalent telephone communication with all other people, not just people without a hearing or speech disability. It revises Section 225 of the Communications Act of 1934, which has been interpreted at times (by the FCC) to authorize only relay services between people with disabilities and people without disabilities. This section also expands the relay service obligation to contribute to the Telecommunications Relay Services Fund to all providers of IP-enabled communication services that provide voice communication.

Sec. 104 of the legislation, designed to address access to Internet-based services and equipment, builds upon authority contained in Section 255 of the Communications Act of 1934, which generally requires telecommunications service providers, as well as interconnected VoIP providers and manufacturers, to make their services and equipment accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. This section creates new safeguards for Internet-based communications technologies (equipment, services and networks) to be accessible by people with disabilities, unless doing so would result in an undue burden. Where an undue burden would result, manufacturers and providers must make their equipment and services compatible with specialized equipment and services typically used by people with disabilities. (The term “undue burden” has the same meaning given it in the Americans with Disabilities Act.)

In addition, this section also contains measures to improve the accountability and enforcement of disability safeguards under Section 255 and the new Section 255A, including directives for new FCC complaint procedures, reporting obligations for industry and the FCC, the creation of a clearinghouse of information on accessible products and services by the U.S. Access Board and National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), and directives for enhanced outreach and education by the FCC and NTIA.

Sec. 104 also clarifies that the transmission and receipt of text messages sent by radio to and from mobile wireless devices are telecommunications services, and therefore must comply with the accessibility obligations under Section 255 and the new accountability measures under Section 255B.

The bill also contains a modest section on universal service. This provision makes consumers with disabilities—as a distinct group—eligible to receive universal service support through two specific measures. First, it grants the FCC authority to designate broadband services needed for “phone communication” by people with disabilities as services eligible to receive support under the existing Lifeline and Linkup universal service programs. For example, this would include deaf individuals who are otherwise eligible for Lifeline and Linkup support, but who rely on Internet-based video relay services or point-to-point video for their telephone communications. Second, it grants authority to the FCC to designate programs that distribute specialized equipment used to make telecommunications and Internet-enabled communication services accessible to individuals who are deaf-blind, as eligible for universal service support. Such support, however, is capped at \$10 million per year.

Section 106 of the bill contains a specific requirement for real-time text support, to ensure that people with disabilities, especially individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing or who have a speech disability, are able to communicate with others via text in an IP environment with the same reliability and interoperability as they receive via the public telephone network when using TTYs. A primary goal of this section is to ensure that individuals who rely on text to communicate have equal access to emergency services during and after the migration to a national IP-enabled emergency network.

Section 201 of the legislation directs the FCC to conduct three inquiries within 6 months of passage of the Act, and to report to Congress on the results of such inquiries within 1 year: (1) to identify formats and software needed to transmit, receive and display closed captioning and video programming provided via Internet-enabled services and digital wireless services, including ways to transmit televised emergency information that is accessible to people who are blind or visually impaired; and (2) to identify ways to make user interfaces (controls—e.g., turning these devices on and off, controlling volume and select programming) on television and other video programming devices—including the receipt, display, navigation and selection of programming—accessible to people who are blind or visually impaired, and (3) to identify ways to make video programming guides and menus (typically on-screen) accessible in real-time to people who cannot read those guides or menus.

Section 202 expands the scope of devices that must display closed captions under the Television Decoder Circuitry Act of 1990 from the present requirement of television sets with screens that are 13 inches or larger, to all video devices that receive or display video programming transmitted simultaneously with sound, including those that can receive or display programming carried over the Internet. The section also requires these devices to be able to transmit and deliver video descriptions. Video description is the provision of verbal descriptions of the on-screen visual elements of a show provided during natural pauses in dialogue.

The next section of the bill addresses video description and closed captioning. Section 203 reinstates the FCC’s modest regulations on