

World War II, and he was a captain in Gen. Patton's 2nd Armored division. Cpt. Lumpkin served from 1940 to 1946, but although his service in the army ended, his service to Ft. Benning did not.

In 1993, at the age of 90, Mr. Lumpkin heard the fort needed money to restore seven WW II-era buildings. Otherwise, they were slated for destruction. Mr. Lumpkin wrote a personal check for \$100,000 to save the buildings. He told the commanding general at the time, Maj. Gen. John Hendrix, that the check was bad—he didn't have the money to make it good. Yet, he did make it good over time, by helping to raise money and resources to restore the structures.

Mr. Lumpkin and his family have consistently dedicated themselves to the preservation and betterment of Ft. Benning. They are a true inspiration to the rest of us. By their faithful efforts, they have made a significant contribution to this county and to its history. I would like to enter into the record this commendation of an old soldier who may have stacked arms in 1946, but has never, in the following half century, stopped fighting to preserve Ft. Benning and its heritage.

I salute you, Mr. Lumpkin, and I thank you for your contributions.

RECOGNIZING ST. BRIDGET'S ELEMENTARY, REED ELEMENTARY, AND HENRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 1999

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. Bridget's Elementary School, Reed Elementary School, and Henry Elementary School for being selected as state champions, for their achievements in the President's Challenge Physical Fitness Award Program.

The State Championship Award is presented to schools with the highest number of students scoring at or above the 85th percentile on the President's Challenge. The Presidential Physical Fitness Award is a prestigious accomplishment, and in the 1998–1999 school year more than two million children nationwide earn this award.

Mr. Speaker, physical activity is an important component of the health and development of our future generation, and I hope you will join me in commending these schools for their dedication to quality physical education.

EXPRESSION OF DESIRE: TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 1999

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, today the Republicans continue their budgetary charade in an attempt to fool the American people into believing that they intend to save the Social Security surplus when they have already begun spending it. Their latest tactic has manifested itself in the form of a resolution "Expressing the Desire of the House Not to

Spend any of the Social Security Budget Surplus and to Continue to Retire the Debt of the Public."

The truth is, this "expression of desire" is too little, too late. If Republicans truly believed their empty promises; if they truly intended to practice what they preach; they wouldn't be on the way to spending \$27 billion of the Social Security surplus they desire to protect. The Congressional Budget Office reports that, by late summer, the Republican majority had already committed the entire \$14.4 billion non-Social Security surplus, going so far as to end up with a budget deficit of \$16 billion. As this deficit grows, the Social Security surplus shrinks.

There is an inverse relationship here, but my Republican friends on the other side of the aisle seem content with ignoring this fiscal reality and reverting to the dream world which brought us the \$800 billion tax cut package. In light of these numbers, it would surprise anyone that there would be any money left over for massive tax cuts; yet the Republicans decided to spend their entire political collateral on spending these fictional funds while the debt continues to grow and the Social Security surplus continues to shrink. They spent all their time and energy on trying to pass this reckless tax cut package while the business of the people was completely neglected. These irresponsible actions have left us in the unnecessary, otherwise-avoidable position of having to vote for a Continuing Resolution yet again to keep the government funded because the Republicans didn't fulfill their fiscal duty to the American people.

Now that the tax cut has been rightfully vetoed by the President and the American people have voiced their opposition to spending money that doesn't exist, the Republican leadership decides to "Express Their Desire . . . Not to Spend any of the Social Security Surplus." They designate funding for a census that is mandated to occur every ten years as emergency spending, thus committing themselves to dipping into Social Security, and they continue their balance sheet gimmicks, thinking they'll get away with these tactics under the guise of false fiscal responsibility by passing today's resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I intend to vote for this resolution because I believe in it and because I believe my actions up to this point are a reflection of my commitment to saving Social Security and paying down the debt. I cannot, however, cast this vote on the resolution in question without identifying it as what it is: yet another Republican budget gimmick.

HONORING JAPANESE AMBASSADOR KUNIHKO SAITO FOR HIS EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNITED STATES-JAPANESE RELATIONS

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 1999

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, His Excellency Kunihko Saito, the Honorable Ambassador of Japan, is returning soon to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tokyo upon completion of his assignment here. Prior to his departure, this Member wishes to recognize Ambassador Saito's extraordinary contributions to

strengthening the friendship and alliance between the United States and Japan.

It is frequently remarked that there is no more important relationship in the world today than the relationship between the United States and Japan. Today, this relationship is stronger than ever and one of the reasons for that fact is the efforts of Ambassador Saito. During the three and a half years, he so ably represented his nation here, Ambassador Saito helped our two countries navigate a series of milestones that updated the terms of our security relationship for the post-cold war era through the new U.S.-Japan Defense Guidelines and our agreement to cooperate on research on ballistic missile defense because of the threats from North Korea. Moreover, Japan's contribution as host nation support for our armed forces stationed there remains the highest in the world.

We also have deepened our cooperation through the Common Agenda, including efforts to fight disease, control narcotics, protect endangered species, and preserve the environment. And while trade frictions will always exist even among the closest of friends, Ambassador Saito has made important contributions to bilateral negotiations aimed at opening Japan further to U.S. products through deregulation and to facilitating the kind of foreign direct investment to Japan that supports our exports.

As Chairman of the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee of the House International Relations Committee, this Member extends to Ambassador Saito and to the friendly, gracious and diplomatically astute Mrs. Saito, the recognition and appreciation of the United States Congress for an important job extremely well done. We wish these two good Japanese friends continued success in all future endeavors and hope for future contact.

IN HONOR OF GLORIA KARPINSKI BATTISTI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Gloria Karpinski Battisti, Immediate Past President, Catholic Charities Corporation Board, as she is honored for promoting her Polish Heritage through her outstanding accomplishments by the Polonia Foundation of Ohio, Inc.

Gloria Karpinski Battisti has dedicated a substantial portion of her life to helping others through social service. As an active member of the Cleveland community, Gloria Karpinski Battisti has led a remarkable career of civic, church, and ethnic service. Gloria has been involved in the Polish-American community through her position as Director of the Polonia Foundation of Ohio. She is also a member of the Polish Women's Alliance, the Alliance of Poles, and the Polish American Congress.

Through her resolute dedication and enthusiasm for helping others, Gloria Karpinski Battisti has participated and served with various groups and organizations. Most notably, Gloria Battisti served as the past Chairman of Catholic Charities. She was the first women