community, I extend a heartfelt thank you to Jay and wish him many wonderful years as he moves on to the next phase of his life with his wife, Cathy, and son, Keiran.

ON TALMADGE E. KING, JR., M.D. OF UCSF RECEIVING THE EDWARD LIVINGSTON TRUDEAU MEDAL

HON. BARBARA LEE
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 16, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and offer my personal congratulations to Talmadge E. King, Jr., M.D. The American Thoracic Society has awarded Dr. King the Edward Livingston Trudeau Medal to recognize Dr. King’s lifelong contribution to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of lung disease. Dr. King, throughout his career, has made significant contributions to pulmonary medicine, in-patient care, research, specialty organization, and academic medicine.

As a scientist Dr. King has contributed greatly to the fundamental understanding of interstitial lung diseases. His contributions have served to bridge basic biological investigations and clinical science and have guided both research and clinical care. He has been instrumental in developing and leading rigorous clinical research in interstitial lung diseases. The studies, many of which involved multiple centers and were led by Dr. King, have served to define specific diagnostic criteria and to determine the role of various tests in establishing a diagnosis. Dr. King has played a major role in creating the international classification system now used to make sense of the different interstitial lung diseases and also to define histological-radiographic correlations that now enable many diagnoses to be established without biopsy. Currently, Dr. King is involved in a reassessment of the histopathologic basis of classification that will permit even further refinements of therapeutic trials.

Dr. King has made great strides in clinical and academic medicine. He has been a member of the American Board of Internal Medicine, Subspecialty Board on Pulmonary Disease and is currently on the board of directors of the American Board of Internal Medicine, as well as serving as the ABIM representative to the American Board of Medical Specialties. He either has served or is currently serving on several NIH-wide advisory and/or governing groups, including the board of governors of the NHLBI, the board of external advisory groups, and the advisory board for clinical research. Dr. King has received numerous awards and was recently named to the Institute of Medicine.

In all of these roles, Dr. King has not only excelled as a clinician and leader but has taken a leading role in calling attention to the inequity of health care and lack of diversity in its own ranks. We expect Dr. King will have a significant and far-reaching impact. He has written about disparities in health care as, for example, with his editorial in the American Journal of Medicine calling for health care reform: “Unjust, inhumane, and unattended!” More recently, Dr. King led a group of faculty at San Francisco General Hospital in writing a text-book devoted to diseases of vulnerable and underserved populations.

Dr. King continues to serve as a mentor to young enthusiastic investigators, obtaining funding and building a clinical base of operations and he continues to publish prodigiously.

Dr. King is recognized in the scientific community for his teaching and lecturing skills. He is prized as a lecturer all over the world. He is equally impressive when teaching students one-on-one as when lecturing to a packed crowd in the largest auditorium at an international meeting. He has trained many pulmonologists, a number of whom now have assumed leadership roles in academic pulmonary medicine and in the field of interstitial lung disease.

As a clinician, Dr. King is truly exceptional. He has incredible experience and clinical judgment honed by years of caring for patients with interstitial lung disease. In his interactions with patients, he demonstrates intelligence, skill and respect and, in so doing, inspires countless students to aspire to the role of clinician. His calm demeanor and straightforward approach fosters near immediate rapport. He maintains the highest standards of excellence in patient care and expects that from all his colleagues and trainees. His professional competence has been recognized at all levels. He is on multiple lists of the finest doctors, such as the Top Doctors and Best Doctors in America. Above all, he is sought after for his opinions by pulmonary specialists all over the world. Dr. King is the epitome of the clinician’s clinician.

It is truly my pleasure to join the American Thoracic Society in recognizing my constituent, Talmadge E. King, Jr., MD for his receipt of the prestigious Trudeau Award.

TRIBUTE TO JIM HORNK

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 16, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I take this time to remember one of Northwest Indiana’s most distinguished citizens, Jim Hornak of Hammond, Indiana. On Monday, May 14, 2007, Jim passed away at the age of 56 as the result of an automobile accident. Known for his commitment to his union and his community, Jim will sorely be missed.

Always a champion of developing the minds of young people, Jim Hornak served as School Board President for the School City of Hammond. As a member of the board, Jim was fully committed to establishing and continuing educational programs that would afford the children of Hammond with the best opportunities for a productive future. Jim was focused on providing our students the tools necessary to be successful in their academic careers.

Furthermore, Jim was a firm believer that in order for students to achieve success and reach their full potential, they need the best teachers to serve as their guides. For this reason, Jim worked diligently to assure the best teachers were in place when it came to their professional development, and he constantly sought opportunities that would help make them better and more efficient in their position to help shape their students’ futures.

Not only was Jim focused on improving his community’s school system, he also played a major role in the betterment of his union, Carpenters Local 1406. Though he retired in 2006, Jim was a true member of the Carpenters of Northwest Indiana. For 20 years, Jim served as a business agent for the union. During that time, he also served as a board member for regional organizations and the Northwest Indiana Joint Carpenters Apprentice Program, as well as President of the Northwest Indiana District Council, as well as the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

From his involvement in improving the school system in Hammond to his unwavering commitment to his fellow carpenters, Jim always has been a pillar of the Northwest Indiana community. Evidence of his devotion to his community was further demonstrated in his service as board chairperson for the Millennium Project and his participation in several organizations, including: the Pirates, Lake Area United Way, Calumet Project for Industrial Jobs, Hammond Parks Foundation, and the Hammond Education Foundation.

Jim’s commitment to the community and his colleagues is matched only by his devotion to his family. Jim leaves to cherish his memory his wife, State Senator Linda Lawson; parents, Paul and Theresa Hornak; sister, Paula (David) Baranczyk; and daughters, Heather Hornak, Jennifer (Jeff) Bacio, and Laura Wozniak. Jim’s adoring grandchildren, Jake Hornak, Maya Strong, and Genavive Bacio, will treasure the memories of their grandpa, as will many other family members, colleagues, and friends whose lives he has touched.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Mr. James Hornak for his outstanding devotion to his community. His dedication to his family, friends, colleagues, and to all students in Hammond, Indiana, is worthy of the highest admiration. Jim’s selflessness, his commitment to improving educational opportunities for children and improving the workplace for his fellow union members, as well as his devotion to his family are an inspiration to us all, and he will sorely be missed.

HONORING PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS’ YOUTH ART MONTH

HON. TOM DAVIS
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 16, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the efforts of Prince William County Public Schools during the annual Youth Art Month. Youth Art Month is an annual effort to recognize and promote art education in schools across the country. Specifically, this program seeks to emphasize the importance and benefits of incorporating art into youth education.

Since 1984, the Council for Art Education has been a primary sponsor of Youth Art Month alongside fellow organizations, such as the National Art Education Association, to consistently make this effort a success.
HON. EARL BLUMENAUER
OF OREGON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 16, 2007
Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the “Energy Saving Mortgages Amendment” to H.R. 1427. This amendment calls on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac work with lenders to quantify a household’s monthly savings for purchasing an energy-efficient home or from living in a neighborhood providing transit and other transportation alternatives and shifts those savings into the “safety” category of expenses. The amendment forces lenders to recognize the added purchasing power homebuyers generate by saving on energy and transportation costs. This allows the homebuyer, based on their enhanced buying power, either to qualify for a mortgage or to qualify for a larger mortgage.

By requiring lenders to quantify these savings, the amendment helps lower-income or first-time homebuyers qualify for mortgages to purchase homes located in transit-friendly locations or for homes that incorporate greater energy-efficient building technologies. It also increases the lending ceiling for homebuyers purchasing a home in a neighborhood that allows for transportation savings from access to transit or other forms of transportation and for home buyers purchasing an energy efficient home.

THE COPS IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF
HON. RUSH D. HOLT
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 15, 2007
Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of The C.O.P.S. Improvements Act of 2007, H.R. 1700. I am a proud cosponsor of this legislation that would allow The Community Oriented Policing Services (C.O.P.S.) program to hire an additional 50,000 police officers to walk the beat in our local communities.

The creation of the C.O.P.S. program was a breakthrough in law enforcement. By funding additional officers, critical technologies, and valuable training, C.O.P.S. has been a catalyst for the revolutionary shift to community policing. However, limits on hiring new officers has hindered the ability of the C.O.P.S. program to address the rise in violent crime. Between 1995 and 2005, the C.O.P.S. program helped put 117,000 additional officers on the beat across every state and in most communities in our Nation. Unfortunately, in 2006 the then Republican-led Congress decided to eliminate the ability of this program to help hire additional law enforcement officers. This was a tragic mistake.

According to the General Accountability Office “C.O.P.S. funded increases in sworn officers per capita were associated with the decline rates of violent, property crimes, and property crimes.” The same GAO study showed that between the years of 1998 and 2000, C.O.P.S. hiring grants were responsible for reducing crime by about 200,000 to 225,000 incidents—one third of which were violent.

It is appropriate that in the wake of the tragic events at Virginia Tech, we are reauthorizing the C.O.P.S. program and restoring the program’s ability to help local law enforcement agencies hire additional police officers. Earlier this week, I met with state and local law enforcement officials, school safety officers, and gun control advocacy organizations to learn what more the Federal Government should be doing to prevent gun crime. All the participants understood the importance of the C.O.P.S. program and the positive effect that community oriented policing has had on crime rates.

Across the state of New Jersey, approximately 4,790 officers were hired by local police departments using C.O.P.S. funds. This meant an additional 628 police officers and/or sheriff deputies walking the beat in the local communities of my Congressional District. Further, 33 school resource officers were hired to ensure that our children’s schools are safe.

A Congressional Report, indicates that when The C.O.P.S. Improvements Act of 2007 becomes law there will be 268 more police officers on the beat, approximately $13 million more for law enforcement grants, 14 additional school resource officers, and an additional $3.6 million in technology grants for law enforcement officers in the 12th Congressional District.

This legislation has been endorsed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Sheriff’s Association, the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Police Organizations, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and the National League of Cities.

The C.O.P.S. program and community policing have put us on the right track. The police chiefs and sheriffs in my district consistently tell me that we could have never achieved this much without the additional officers and technology funded under the COPS program.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot afford to under fund this program anymore. The COPS program has been vital to our local communities. Our police departments can do only so much with the resources they are given. At a time when we are asking our law enforcement officers to reduce crime and protect our hometowns from potential terrorist related threats we should do everything we can to increase the funding of the COPS program. H.R. 1700 is an essential first step.