

IN MEMORY OF MARGARET
LESHER-THORSTENSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mrs. TAUSCHER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, the Tenth Congressional District of California was shocked and saddened last week by the untimely death of one of its true community leaders, Margaret Leshner-Thorstenson. Some might say a shining light was dimmed in Contra Costa County with the passing of Margaret Leshner. I say the light will continue to burn bright through her many gifts of generosity, kindness, and friendship.

As individuals and as a community, we are richer for having had Margaret Leshner in our lives. Mrs. Leshner was an extraordinary woman who had many facets to her life: A mother, wife, businesswoman, philanthropist, and friend. In each role she exemplified a spirit of voluntarism and generosity that all of us constantly strive to achieve. In every cause or endeavor upon which she embarked, she would give 110 percent of herself. Throughout all of her community service, Margaret Leshner realized that her family and friends were her foundation.

I had the occasion to meet Margaret Leshner through the Battered Women's Alternative of Contra Costa County, a Contra Costa organization dedicated to aiding and assisting women in need.

In 1990 she established the Margaret Leshner Transitional Housing and Employment Center. She not only gave financially to the program, but she also spent countless hours meeting and talking to the women who went through the center. Mrs. Leshner was always there to listen and support anyone who needed her help.

As first vice president for Leshner Communications, the newspaper chain founded by her late husband, Dean Leshner, she strove to make the papers an accurate reflection of the character and personality of Contra Costa County. Mrs. Leshner worked side by side with her husband to make the publication one of the most successful in California. Even after the newspapers had been sold, the current owners have carried on the exemplary quality established by Dean and Margaret Leshner.

Not many people knew that Margaret Leshner authored music and lyrics for 40 copyrighted songs and 14 poems. In 1982 she was honored with the Bronze Halo Award of Special Merit from the southern California Motion Picture Council for her contributions as a writer, songwriter, and vocalist. These talents inspired her to begin a wonderful collaboration with the arts and the community.

Through the Dean and Margaret Leshner Foundation, the magnificent building bearing the family name houses the California Symphony, the Diablo Ballet, and other theatrical groups. The center, along with many other buildings, are symbols of Mrs.

Leshner's tireless commitment to the betterment of the community.

Barry Jekoywski, the conductor of the California Symphony in Contra Costa County and associate conductor of the National Symphony here in Washington, captured the essence of Margaret Leshner's dedication to the arts when he said that she believed in the vision and importance of the arts in the community, especially for families and children.

Today her memorial service is taking place at the Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts, the very center that she was instrumental in establishing. Over 1,000 people are expected to attend today's service to pay tribute to the first lady of Contra Costa County.

It is difficult to explain to my colleagues what a special and unique person Margaret Leshner was. Many people's lives have been touched and blessed by her spirit, warmth, and kindness.

Here on the House floor, I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to Margaret's husband, Collin Thorstenson, and her daughters Tricia Ryan Simonds, Wendy Alvs, Roxanne Gibson and Jill Heidt. This is a very difficult time for her family and all of Contra Costa County, an area that considered itself part of Margaret Leshner's family.

With some poetic license, I will borrow the words of Robert Frost to capture the inspiration and dedication Margaret inspired within all of us:

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both and be one traveler,

Long I stood and looked down one as far as I could,

To where it bent in the undergrowth;
Then took the other, just as fair,
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I took the one less traveled by,

And that has made all the difference.

At a time when it was not popular to support causes like battered women's alternatives, Margaret Leshner took a path that most would not have ventured down. She neither sought approbation nor applause. In fact, many of her wonderful deeds never received public attention. She simply wanted to make Contra Costa County a better place for all of its residents. In the end, the paths she chose were eventually the paths that all of us have followed.

The many wonderful contributions Mrs. Leshner gave to our community will continue to thrive and flourish through the foundation established in her and Dean's name. We will miss her warmth and presence within our community, yet the light of her spirit will live forever in all the good that she has done.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HANSEN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mr. LAFALCE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. LAFALCE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. HORN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HORN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

IN HONOR OF ASIAN PACIFIC
AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Hawaii [Mrs. MINK] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to notable accomplishments by Asian Pacific Americans as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month is commemorated here in the Nation's Capital and in other cities nationwide. The annual celebration of this month of meaningful observance stems back to 1978, and is now carried on under Public Law 102-450, which permanently designated the month of May upon finding that "Asian and Pacific Americans have contributed significantly to the development of the arts, sciences, government, military, commerce, and education in the United States."

Comprising nearly 10 million, or 3.7 percent of the U.S. population, Asian Pacific Americans rank among the highest in our educational institutions, hold high political office and log advances in entrepreneurship. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 1994, nearly 90 percent of Asian Pacific Islander men and 80 percent of Asian Pacific Islander women aged 25 years and older had at least a high school diploma. In addition, an estimated 46 percent of men and 37 percent of women had at least a bachelor's degree.

Median income of Asian and Pacific Islander households in 1995 was \$40,614. Business ownership figures show that the number of businesses owned by Asian and Pacific Islanders increased 56 percent between 1987 and 1992, from 386,291 to 603,439.

Asian Pacific American visibility in government is also on the rise. My State of Hawaii boasts the first Filipino-American Governor, Benjamin Cayetano. Chinese-American Gary Locke succeeded in his bid for Governor of Washington State in last year's elections. In addition, there are 23 State Senators in Colorado, Hawaii and Oregon, and 40 State Representatives in Arizona, California, Hawaii, New Hampshire, New York, and Washington State. The membership of this body includes five Asian Pacific Americans, as well as two in the Senate, Senators Daniel Akaka and Daniel Inouye.

Of particular note are Asian Pacific Americans who, through singular dedication to the greatness of our Federal Government, have thrived and risen to positions of prominence in Federal departments and agencies. The following is a list of top-ranking Asian Pacific Americans in the 14 Federal Departments:

Agriculture: Lon Hatamiya, Administrator of Agricultural Marketing Service, and Jeremy

Wu, Deputy Director, Office of Civil Rights, Departmental Administration.

Commerce: Hoyt Zia, Chief Counsel, Bureau of Export Administration.

Defense: Fred Pang, Asst Secretary of Defense for Force Management Policy.

Education: Terry Dozier, Special Advisor to the Secretary (on teacher issues).

Energy: Dr. Sun Chun, Special Assistant to Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, and Thomas T. Tamura, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Human Resources.

Health & Human Services: Dennis Hayashi, Director, Office of Civil Rights.

Housing & Urban Development: Robert Santos, Secretary's Representative in Seattle.

Interior: Danny Aranza, Deputy Director, Office of Insular Affairs.

Justice: Michael Yamaguchi, U.S. Attorney, Northern California, and Rose Ochi, Director of Community Relations Service.

Labor: Donna Onodera, Regional Director, Workers' Compensation Division.

State: William H. Itoh, Ambassador to Thailand.

Transportation: Dharmendra K. Sharma (Mr.), Administrator, Research & Special Programs Administration.

Treasury: Valerie Lau, Inspector General.

Veterans' Affairs: H. David Burge, Jr., Director, National Ctr for Veterans Analysis and Statistics.

To acknowledge the achievements of Asian Pacific Americans in our Federal agencies, I requested a list of the 10 top-ranking Asian Pacific Americans in each agency, and these are the reported listings:

U.S. Department of Commerce: Betty L. Barker, Deputy Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis; Tong S. Chung, Director, Advocacy Center, International Trade Administration; Gurmukh S. Gill, Director, Office of Business and Industrial Analysis; George Mu, Commercial Officer, Career Minister, U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service; Jin F. Ng, Deputy Group Director, Patent and Trademark Office; Sumiye Okubo, Director, Office of International Macroeconomic Analysis; Nancy L. Patton, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Asia and the Pacific; Potarazu K. Rao, Senior Scientist for Environmental Satellite, Data, & Information Service; Usha S. Varanasi, Science and Research Director, Northwest Region; and Hoyt H. Zia (top ranking), Chief Counsel, Bureau of Export Administration.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary of Defense: Frederick F.Y. Pang (top ranking), Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management Policy; Belkis W. Leong-Hong, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense of Plans and Resources, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense of Command, Control, Communications & Intelligence; Austin K. Yamada, Director, Special Advisory Staff, Ofc of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Office of the Deputy for Policy Support; and Julita Aviles, Associate Director for Policy Division, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller).

Defense Intelligence Agency: John K. Kiehm, Chief, Office of Logistics Services, Defense HUMINT Service DHM.

Defense Special Weapons Agency: Joan M. Pierre, Director for Electronics & Systems.

Department of Defense Education Activity: Vernon M. H. Chang, Associate Director for Management Services.

National Security Agency: Ronald D. Lee, General Counsel, National Security Agency.

Department of the Army: Lieutenant General Eric Ken Shinseki, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations & Plans; Brigadier General Edward Soriano, Director, Office of Personnel Management, U.S. Total Army Personnel Command; Dr. Jagdish Chandra, Director, Mathematical & Computer Sciences Division, U.S. Army Research Office; Kisuk Cheung, Chief of Military Engineering, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Military Programs Directorate; Dr. Bhupendra P. Doctor, Director, Division of Biochemistry; William K. Takakoshi, Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of the Army, Office of the Secretary of the Army; and Dr. Renu Virmani, Chairperson, Department of Cardiovascular Pathology, Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

Department of the Navy: Dr. Kia Ling Ngai, Senior Theoretical Solid State Physicist, Naval Research Laboratory; and Dr. Bhakta B. Rath, Associate Director, Materials Science and Component Technology, Naval Research Laboratory.

Department of the Air Force: Dr. C. I. Chang, Director of Aerospace & Materials Sciences, Air Force Office of Scientific Research; and Allen M. Murashige, Chief Scientist, Directorate of Command and Control; and Dr. Joseph H. Shang, Senior Scientist.

US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Members of Education Department-related Commissions and Boards: Rajen Anand, National Committee on Foreign Medical Education & Accreditation; Paul Antony, National Committee on Foreign Medical Education & Accreditation; Jose Evangelista, National Committee on Foreign Medical Education & Accreditation; Kenji Hakuta, National Educational Research Policy & Priorities Board; Mitsugi Nakashima, National Assessment Governing Board; Lynne Waihee, National Institute for Literacy Advisory Board; and Grace Yuan, Civil Rights Reviewing Authority.

Department Staff/Personnel: Therese Knecht Dozier (top ranking), Special Advisor to the Secretary (on teaching); Natarajan K. Gounder, Senior Computer Specialist; Dr. Edward K. Fujimoto, Deputy Director of Communications, Office of Public Affairs; Jeanette Lim, Senior Executive Service; M. Theresa San Agustin, Research Associate, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; Ricky Takai, Senior Executive Service; Melvin DeGuzman, Computer Specialist, Office of the Chief Financial Officer; Thomas Hibino, Equal Opportunity Specialist—Supervisor; Samuel Peng, Statistician; and Sharif Shakrani, Statistician.

US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Political Appointees: Dennis W. Hayashi (top ranking) Director, Office for Civil Rights; Irene Bueno, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation (Congressional Liaison); Deborah Chang, Director of Legislation, Health Care Financing Administration; Regina Lee, Deputy Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families; and Jennifer Chang, Acting Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Administration for Children and Families.

Career Senior Executive Service: Evelyn S. Ohki, Senior Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health, Disease Prevention and

Health Promotion; Kathleen A. Buto, Associate Administrator for Policy, Health Care Financing Administration; Eva T. Jun, Director, Office of Computer and Communication Services, Bureau of Data Management and Strategy, Health Care Financing Administration; Lillian T. Yin, Director, Division of Reproductive, Abdominal, Ear, Nose and Throat and Radiological Devices, Office of Device Evaluation, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration; and Philip S. Chen, Jr., Associate Director for Intramural Affairs, National Institutes of Health.

US Department of Housing and Urban Development: Roberta Ando, Chief, Asset Management Branch; Thomas Azumbrado, Chief, Production Branch; John Chin, Supervisory Systems Accountant; Tzylai Chong, Special Project Officer; Min Li Chung, Systems Accountant; Virginia Der, Budget Analysis; Ronaldo Dizon, Supervisory Computer Specialist; Cornelio Galdones, Supervisory Computer Specialist; David Hashimoto, Supervisory Equal Opportunity Specialist; Carl Kao, Attorney Advisor General; Lily Lee, Housing Program Officer; Robert Leong, Attorney Advisor General; Patrick Liao, Director Single Family Division; Eliza Lo, Supervisory Contract Specialist; Lawrence McGhee, Management Analysis; Satinder Munjal, General Engineer; Dung Nguyen, Executive Assistant; Nita Nigam, Budget Analysis; Jim Park, Executive Assistant; Sandra Pavolka, Supervisory Equal Opportunity Specialist; Alfredo Santos, Computer Specialist; Robert Santos (top ranking), Secretary's Representative in Seattle; Tsou Liang Tang, Structural Engineer; Bam Viloria, Supervisory Attorney Advisor General; and Pamela Walsh, Program Manager.

US Department of Treasury: Valerie J. Lau (top ranked), Inspector General; Jacqueline J. Wong, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary (Tax Policy); Harry T. Manaka, National Director, Collection Field Operations, Internal Revenue Service; Deborah Melody Chew Nolan, Deputy Assistant Commissioner (International), Internal Revenue Service; Helen H. Bolton, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service; Robert D. Ahnee, District Director, Northern California District, Internal Revenue Service; Delora Ng Jee, Deputy Comptroller for Large Case Supervision, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency; and James D. Kamihachi, Senior Deputy Comptroller, Economic and Policy Analysis, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: Paul M. Igasaki, Vice Chairman; Sallie T. Hsieh, Director of Information Resources Management; Raj K. Gupta, General Attorney (Civil Rights); Mark Wong, Policy Analyst; Kenneth W. Chu, Supervisory Attorney Examiner (Civil Rights); Daniel K. Chang, Computer Scientist; John C. Chang, Supervisory Computer Specialist; Indu Kundra, Program Analyst; and Wallace Lew, Attorney Advisor (Civil Rights).

US General Accounting Office: Judy A. England-Jospeh, Director of Housing and Community Development Issues; Thomas J. Schulz, San Francisco Regional Manager Designee; Kwai-Cheung Chan, Director of Special Studies and Evaluations; Allen Li, Associate Director of Defense Acquisition; and Helen H. Hsing, Director of Congressional Relations.

US Office of Personnel Management: Dory E. Zamani, Supervisory Financial Management Specialist; Wesley H. Shimamura, Supervisory Personnel Management Specialist; Deborah A. Kendall, Special Assistant, Congressional Relations; Linda M. Watson, Personnel Staff Specialist; James J. Tsugawa, Personnel Management Specialist; Lina A. Savkar, Employee Development Specialist; Phong V. Ngo, Program Analyst; Teresa Chi Chao Yang Huang, Computer Systems Analyst; James Hong, Supervisory Personnel Staffing Specialist; Jeri T. Hara, Personnel Management Specialist; Jaime P. Espiritu, Computer Systems Analyst; May S. Eng, Statistician, Survey; Esterlita De Leon Cueto, Systems Accountant; Sherman M. Chin, Personnel Management Specialist; and Susai Anthony, Computer Programmer Analyst.

Social Security Administration: Glennalee Donnelly, Senior Executive Service, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Office of Programs and Policy; Tina Sung, Senior Executive Service, On Assignment to the National Performance Review; Leslie S. Chin, Division Director, Office of Systems; Dinesh Kumar, Executive Assistant to the Associate Commissioner for Telecommunications and Systems Operations; Yuan Jye Liu, Supervisory Computer Specialist, Office of Hearings and Appeals; Donna Y. Mukogawa, Assistant Regional Commissioner for Processing Center Operations, Chicago, Illinois; Chih Yuan D. Wang, Computer Specialist, Office of the Commissioner; Seung H. An Actuary, Office of the Actuary; Lyman Goon, General Attorney, Office of the General Counsel; Gordon C. Gonzalez, Field Office Manager, Pasadena, Texas; Alan W. Heim, Field Office Manager, Anchorage, Alaska; Li Ming Koo, Senior Computer Systems Specialist, Office of Hearings and Appeals; Kenneth M. Lew, Supervisory Criminal Investigator, Office of the Inspector General; Jane Y. Lim, Field Office Manager, Parsippany, New Jersey; Sze Jui Lui, Medical Officer, Office of Human Resources; Martin W. Long, General Attorney, Office of the Regional Chief Counsel, Dallas; Maynard K. Malabey, Supervisory Management Analyst, Office of Operations; Thomas J. McCullough, Field Office Manager, Sarasota, Florida; Gloria L. Tong, Program Analyst, Office of the Commissioner; Yen T. Tra, Senior Computer Systems Specialist, Office of Hearings and Appeals; Jack H. Trudel, Supervisory Auditor, Office of the Inspector General, Richmond, California; Wanda H. Waldman, Field Office Manager, Santa Ana, California; Mitchi A. Weger, Field Office Manager, San Antonio, Texas; and Mark E. Young, Field Office Manager, Bremerton, Washington.

US Agency for International Development: Kumar Krishna, Program Analyst; Carla Montemayor Royalty, Administrative Officer; Gloria Steele, Program Analyst Officer; Rodney S. Azama, International Trade Specialist; Paula Y. Bagasao, Senior Advisor; Dirk W. Dikjeran, Support Program Officer; and Kiertisak Toh, Foreign Affairs Officer.

My warmest congratulations to all of these individuals, and other Asian Pacific American Federal employees not listed, for their labor and accomplishments.

As Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific Caucus, I am pleased to commend the Asian Pacific American community for all it has at-

tained in the past year. We are a growing part of this diverse nation and will only continue to increase the number of successes we are able to celebrate. I would like to extend to all a happy Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. GOSS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

COMMEMORATE ASIAN-PACIFIC HERITAGE MONTH BY HONORING THE FILIPINO WORLD WAR II VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. FILNER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, I rise today to commemorate Asian-Pacific Heritage Month by speaking of a group of true heroes of World War II—the Filipino World War II veterans.

Upon arrival in Congress, I soon learned about the plight of the Filipino World War II veterans—many of whom have died and others who are now in the twilight of their years. I learned that these soldiers were drafted to serve in our Armed Forces by an executive order of President Roosevelt. I learned that they defended the American flag in the now-famous battles of Bataan and Corregidor. I learned that thousands of Filipino prisoners of war died during the Bataan death march and while imprisoned under inhuman conditions. I learned that their actions foiled plans for a quick takeover of the region and allowed the United States the time needed to prepare forces for victory in the Pacific.

Then I learned, unbelievably, that soon after the war was over, Congress voted to take away the benefits and recognition that these Filipino veterans were promised, in the Re-Scissions Act of 1946.

Filipino World War II veterans and their families have been waiting for over 50 years for the justice, recognition, and benefits that they so richly deserve. I am proud that the President and Congress took the first step last year to restore their dignity by resolving to recognize these brave veterans for their contributions to the successful outcome of the war.

Now it is time to complete the job. Last year, over 100 Members of this body signed on as cosponsors to the Filipino Veterans Equity Act. This year, I have joined with Congressman BEN GILMAN to reintroduce this legislation (H.R. 836)—and we believe it is time to hold hearings on the issue of equity for Filipino World War II veterans.

What better way to celebrate Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month than to take action on behalf of the Filipino World War II veterans, many of whom have become citizens of the United States.

What better way than to finally correct a monumental injustice and to restore the benefits promised to the Filipino World War II veterans for their defense of democratic ideals.

Words to commemorate Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month are fine, but action is better. Join with me in demanding justice and equity for Filipino World War II veterans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. CAMP] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. CAMP addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

ASIAN-PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. MATSUI] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join my colleagues in commemorating Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month and recognize the many achievements and contributions Asian-Pacific Americans have made to our country. I would also like to thank my colleague from Hawaii, Representative PATSY MINK, for arranging this special order.

The month of May was permanently designated Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month in 1992. Since then, it has become a wonderful opportunity to recognize the many ways in which Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent have enriched our Nation. I would like to take this moment to reflect on the diversity and richness that have so benefited our country.

Asian and Pacific Islanders have a rich history in America that spans over 150 years. As immigrants Asian and Pacific Islanders brought with them unique skills and abilities that enhanced the diversity and richness of our society. Asian-Pacific Americans added to the fabric of our culture through the sharing of values, customs, and perspectives. These same immigrants helped build our rapidly growing Nation during the turn of the century, expanding industries and cultivating farmland in the West.

Over the years, the American experience transformed Asian immigrants as they have in turn transformed America. We, as a nation of immigrants, have shared the same hopes and the same dreams. As a diverse people, Asian-Pacific Americans have enriched our national character. In every area of society, from the arts to business, people of Asian and Pacific Islander ancestry have excelled. In the process, Asian-Pacific Americans have become an integral part of our country's past, and of our country's future.

As one of the fastest growing groups in the Nation, recent Asian-Pacific American immigrants infuse a passionate sense of optimism in the American dream. America has benefited from their collective energy and vision. As these immigrants embrace the ideals and traditions of American life, we must also embrace them and the diversity and new ideas they