

was born and raised. Under Mayor Mark Steenbergh's leadership, the former tank plant is being transformed into an attractive and accessible industrial park, a project I had the pleasure to work on with him. Mark is also striving to improve the quality of life of Warren residents by pursuing plans to improve city services, rebuild older neighborhoods, and fashion a new community center for all the residents to enjoy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Tarik Daoud, Gerald Elson, General Motors, and Mark Steenbergh for their years of dedication and devotion to the people of our community.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD A.
STEVENSON, JR.

HON. JOSE E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2000

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late Edward A. Stevenson, Jr., an outstanding individual who dedicated his life to public service. He was honored on November 19 by family, friends, and public officials for his outstanding contributions to the community with a street renaming in his honor. This is a fitting tribute for a man who has given so much to our community.

The Honorable Edward A. Stevenson, Jr. was the only child of the distinguished former Assemblyman Edward A. Stevenson, Sr., who was the first Caribbean-American to serve in the New York State Assembly, representing the 78th Assembly District in the Morrisania section of the Bronx. He was also a founder of the Jackson Democratic Club in the South Bronx.

Mr. Speaker, like his father, Edward Stevenson, Jr. was an active public servant in the Democratic party both in the Bronx and citywide. He became a District Leader in the 78th A.D. and managed several political campaigns.

Under his leadership in the early 1970's, the Bronx Shepard's Restoration Corporation, composed of more than 100 religious organizations committed to rebuilding the Bronx, was founded. He understood the need for the rehabilitation and construction of new housing projects for the homeless, the elderly, and low- and moderate-income families, as well as in facilitating educational opportunities for our youth. He also served as Chairman of the Neighborhood Advisory Board and as a member of Community Board 9. In 1990, he founded Envirogard Corporation, a real estate enterprise to pursue residential property management. Stevenson Jr. also managed the 972-unit Lafayette-Boynton housing complex in the Soundview community.

Mr. Speaker, as cofounder of Voters Organized To Educate and Register (V.O.T.E.R.), a not-for-profit entity, he helped and encouraged thousands of Bronx residents to participate in the electoral process. Two days before his untimely death in December 1996, Edward Stevenson, Jr. was appointed Commissioner of the New York City Board of Elections for the Bronx.

Edward A. Stevenson, Jr. is survived by his wife Mildred and his eight sons, Greg, Eric, Eddie Jr., John, Cecil, Scott, Mark, and Motier.

Like his father and grandfather, Eric is proudly continuing the family tradition of public service. The 34-year-old currently works as Community Coordinator under Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Honorable Edward A. Stevenson, Jr.

TRIBUTE TO TWENTIETH ANNI-
VERSARY OF REE'S CONTRACT
SERVICE, INC.

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2000

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to pay tribute to B. Marie Foster, the founder and president of Ree's Contract Service, Inc., as that Overland Park, Kansas, based firm celebrates its twentieth anniversary in business.

For several years prior to the founding of Ree's Contract Service, Ms. Foster was employed by government contractors, including Quality Maintenance of Kansas City and for Tombs and Sons, which assisted in the construction of the Alaska petroleum pipeline. Based upon the knowledge and experience she gained from those positions, Ms. Foster decided in September 1980 that she could provide quality services to the federal government through her own contracting firm. Working from her home, she won her first contract in November 1980 to provide armed guard services at the U.S. Weapons Testing Area in Jericho, Vermont, providing twenty-four hour service with four employees. In March 1981, Ms. Foster won her second service contract in Champaign, Illinois.

During 1981, Ree's Contract Services was awarded its first major contract at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Georgia. The firm contracted to provide services that included armed security guards, bus transportation, training support, janitorial services, and dormitory management. The firm held the armed guard service contract for three consecutive terms totaling fifteen years; the other service contracts were held for two consecutive terms. Two of the contracts were cost reimbursable with incentive fees, during the terms of the contracts from 1981-1995, the firm never received a rating of less than superior.

Ree's Contract Services, Inc., was incorporated on March 1, 1992. As founder, owner, president and operator of the firm since its inception, Ms. Foster has always believed that the actions of her employees are a personal reflection of herself, and that for her business to be successful, her employees must provide the highest quality service. Since her employees are her most valuable assets, Ms. Foster wants each one to know they are important and cared for by her.

Ree's Contract Services has developed into a successful contracting firm, ultimately growing to approximately 400 employees. The firm has held contracts providing services in 17 different states. Most recently, the firm was awarded the Heartland Regional Contract for guard services at all federal facilities under the management of the General Services Administration within Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska.

As the result of Ree's Contract Service's employees' professionalism and provision of quality services, the firm has developed a reputation for excellence in government contracting. B. Marie Foster and the firm's employees should be extremely proud of this reputation and I know they will continue to expend every possible effort to maintain and improve that reputation. In 1996, the firm was nominated for the Small Business Administration's Prime Contractor of the Year Award; subsequently, for 1996 and 1997, the firm received the SBA Director's Award of Excellence.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to have this opportunity to pay tribute to B. Marie Foster and Ree's Contract Service. I am proud to represent them in the U.S. House of Representatives and I wish Ms. Foster and her staff continued success in the years ahead.

HONORING ALLEN C. BARTEL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2000

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Allen C. Bartel who served as the Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 31 in Edwardsville, IL. His service to scouting spanned over 15 years of his adult life. Mr. Bartel is retiring at the end of the year.

During that time, he guided 17 young men to the rank of Eagle and countless others through the wonderful experience of scouting. The role of the scoutmaster is more than teaching young men to tie knots and start campfires. They provide an educational program for boys and young men to build character, to participate in citizenship, and to develop personal fitness.

Those character issues emanate from the Scout Laws—A scout is: Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean and Reverent. Scouting is an excellent way to instill leadership qualities in our young men. Without the time and commitment of people like Allen Bartel, some boys may not be exposed to these important life lessons.

That is why I am honored to recognize the hard work and volunteer efforts of men like Allen. Thank you for making a difference.

HONORING DAVID BROWER

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 4, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay my final respects to David Brower, one of the true heroes of the environmental movement. David Brower was utterly devoted to the health of our planet. He affected America's physical and cultural landscape with his staunch defense of the Earth. He changed the way Americans view the environment and changed the environment in which they lived. David Brower was one of the Earth's greatest friends.

When David Brower joined the Sierra Club in 1933, the group was mainly an association of hikers interested more in enjoying nature than

in preserving it. An able mountaineer, he spent a great deal of time climbing the peaks in Yosemite and nearby areas. During World War II, Brower joined the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division, where he wrote a training manual on mountaineering and taught climbing techniques.

In 1952, after having published the *Sierra Club Handbook* and having served on the Board of Directors, Brower became the first Executive Director of the Sierra Club. Under his leadership, the group, and indeed the conservation movement, changed dramatically. The organization of 2,000 hikers became a national political force with 77,000 members. Its budget grew from \$75,000 to \$3 million.

Brower turned the Sierra Club into an uncompromising defender of the Earth. One of his first campaigns was to stop the federal government from building dams in the Dino-

saur National Monument on the Utah-Colorado border. Brower won by building public support for the cause through an array of innovative means; he produced a film about the area, conducted boat tours on the river, and published a book that supported his position. Over the years, he became known for these and other creative techniques including full-page newspaper advertisements and coffee-table books.

In the 1960's, he vigorously fought efforts to build two hydroelectric dams in the Grand Canyon. He also worked to create new national parks and national seashores and to pass the Wilderness Act of 1964 in Congress.

In 1969, he left his position as Executive Director of the Sierra Club. He immediately founded Friends of the Earth and co-founded the League of Conservation Voters and carried on with his work. In 1982, he founded the

Earth Island Institute to support environmental projects in other countries. Most recently, he founded the Global Conservation, Preservation, and Restoration Service to work to restore damaged areas. Through these groups, he continued to be in the forefront of the environmental movement.

David Brower can never be replaced, but his work will live on in the people he inspired and the groups he founded. His principles dictated his every action, and his commitment was contagious. His impact was felt across the country and around the world. David Brower was the greatest conservationist of modern times, and he will be sorely missed.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Anne, his children, Kenneth, Barbara, Robert, and John, and all of his family.