

faced bankruptcy, but by 1993, she was the head of a multi-million dollar corporation. Ninfia's Inc. now operates 34 restaurants and employs 1,300 people . . .

"Finally, no discussion about free enterprise can be complete without addressing the importance of competition. Competition is the force that prohibits market anarchy. Competition does this by allowing businesses to enter and leave the market as they wish. When businesses are in a market together, they keep that market moving and improving. This improvement allows the customer to have the best product at the best price. Without competition, the monopolistic business can decide what the customer should have in addition to being able to set the price."

Mr. Kinsey concludes that, "American society would be very different if our Founding Fathers had not established a government in which free enterprise could thrive. Fortunately, we live in a system that allows us the freedoms of economic choice, voluntary exchange, private property, and profit motive. It is these freedoms that have helped make the American economy the greatest and most coveted in the world."

A TRIBUTE TO E. TUNNEY MAHER,
JR.

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize E. Tunney Maher, Jr., an outstanding resident of my constituency who will be honored by the Hastings-on-Hudson Chamber of Commerce as its Hastings-on-Hudson Citizen of the Year on April 9th.

Tunney Maher is a lifelong resident of Hastings-on-Hudson who is retiring after 23 years as the director of St. Matthew's Christian Youth Organization basketball program. However, Mr. Maher has contributed significantly to the community in many other ways. For the last 19 years, Tunney has been employed in the Rehabilitation Department at St. Cabrini Nursing Home. In 1991 he was awarded the Archdiocese of New York Parish Volunteer Award. He also has been named a Suburban Hero by Gannet Newspapers and was honored by St. Matthew's Roman Catholic Parish at its 1994 Annual Dinner.

Although Tunney has devoted himself to helping the citizens of Hastings-on-Hudson, his pride and joy has been his work with the CYO basketball program. There are currently 150 youths in the program now, and over 800 children have been a part of the program since its inception. However, Tunney has made certain that the program is not strictly basketball. He has made it a policy to have the youngsters give something back to the community by helping to feed the homeless, clean up the environment, and other projects that reflect a dual responsibility. Tunney reflects on his experience with the youth basketball program: "It's a time-consuming thing, but it's worth it. There's a great deal of satisfaction when you've worked with these kids and you've done something positive for them."

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join in congratulating Tunney Maher, Jr. on receiv-

ing the citizen of the Year Award from the Hastings-on-Hudson Chamber of Commerce. I am confident the lessons he imparted to the youths of his village will assist them in developing into solid, productive citizens.

HONORING MR. ROBERT EUGENE
ELLEDGE

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an American hero. Last week, I had the opportunity to present Mr. Robert Eugene Elledge, of Pomona, CA, with the Order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit.

This event was truly special because Mr. Elledge is a Korean war veteran who served our Nation nobly and honorably. Unfortunately, Mr. Elledge had to wait 49 years to be honored for his sacrifices.

On May 9, 1951, Mr. Elledge and his division marched throughout the night in pouring rain to reach the hill they were ordered to capture. Early the next morning, the Communist Chinese Forces and North Korean Forces began their May offensive. This operation was designated "The Second Chinese Communist Forces Spring Offensive," also known as the Battle of Soyang or as Mr. Elledge recalls it, the May Massacre.

The May Massacre began with planes overhead, dropping leaflets. Mr. Elledge heard pilots talking over loudspeakers in a foreign language. His division ate a hot breakfast, and then they were ordered to attack.

As Mr. Elledge began to crawl up the hill, his helmet was cracked into pieces by enemy fire, rendering him unconscious. He awoke disoriented, and found himself crawling down the hill, where he found a medic. The medic began bandaging the wounds on his head and neck, treated his pain, and placed him on the ambulance. Then, they told Mr. Elledge that his company had been annihilated—only four had survived.

Mr. Elledge received treatment for these wounds in South Korea, Japan, and at Fort Custer, MI. A hometown hero, Mr. Elledge was featured in an article in the Quincy Herald Whig. He received the Combat Infantry Badge and the Bronze Service Star. However, he never received the medal that is most frequently associated with individual sacrifices to our Nation—the Purple Heart.

The Order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit is the oldest military decoration in the world presently used, and the first award made available to the common soldier. This honor was begun early in our Nation's history by another soldier, Gen. George Washington. General Washington, although considered a stern commander, was always appreciative of the troops who served him so loyally. His order permitting meritorious soldiers to wear the figure of a heart on purple cloth over the left breast began the tradition of this combat decoration.

Today, the Order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit may only be awarded to a member of the Armed Forces who is killed or wounded in action.

Forty-nine years ago, Mr. Elledge felt that his experience fell within this definition, and he

began to inquire about when he might receive this honorable award.

But, it seems that the paperwork requesting the medal was lost. In fact, back in 1951, the Army told Mr. Elledge that his service records were missing, and that he would most likely have to wait several years to receive his Purple Heart.

Last Friday, 49 years after surviving the May Massacre, tears came to Mr. Elledge's eyes when he received the medal he had waited for so patiently.

The Korean war is often referred to as our "forgotten war". While his paperwork may have been forgotten, the sacrifices that Mr. Elledge made for our country in Korea will always be remembered.

This year, we mark the 50th anniversary of the Korean war, a time to commemorate not the war, but rather the veterans thereof and the sacrifices they made to preserve democracy on the Korean Peninsula almost 50 years ago. My colleagues, I encourage you to take the time to recognize the American heroes in your district, and to ensure that their sacrifices are not forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO MARY ROMANO

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of a remarkable woman from my district, Mary Romano of Maplewood, New Jersey, who was feted on Sunday, April 2, 2000 at Cryan's Beef & Ale in South Orange, New Jersey to mark her retirement as Maplewood Democratic Chair. Due to her many years of service and leadership, it is only fitting that we gather here in her honor, for she epitomizes a strong spirit of caring and generosity.

Born in Mount Pleasant, Pennsylvania, Mary is one of four children of the late Sarah and John Melillo who came to the United States from the Province of Avellino, Italy. When she was five years old, her parents moved from Pennsylvania to the Roseville section of Newark, New Jersey. She was educated in the Newark School system and graduated from Central Technical and Commercial High School.

Mary continually touches the lives of the people around her. She is an active member of many organizations including, Maplewood Seniors, St. Joseph Rainbow Seniors, Maplewood Service league and Maplewood Women's Club. In addition to her duties as municipal Democratic Chair she has held numerous other leadership positions including, Treasurer of Immaculate Heart of Mary Rosary Altar Society, Vice President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the South Orange BPOE 1154 and Executive Board Member of the John J. Giblin Association. She is currently the corresponding secretary of the Giblin Association. She retired in 1987 from the Essex County Office of Public Information, where she was Secretary to the Director.

Known for a questioning mind and an ability to get things done, Mary has devoted much time and energy to numerous Democratic organizations. Her many duties include, Vice Chair and Current Chair of the Maplewood

County Committee, Delegate to the New Jersey Democratic Convention in 1983, Co-Chair of volunteers in Northeast New Jersey for Jim Florio's 1990 Gubernatorial campaign, and a volunteer for the National Governors Association 84th Annual Meeting in Princeton, New Jersey.

As an involved resident of Maplewood, she is always ready to participate in activities and contribute to the public good. Numerous groups including, the John J. Giblin Association, the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society and the Maplewood Senior Club II have honored her. The latter group named her Senior of the Year.

Mary has been married since 1946 to Nicholas F. Romano, who is retired from the Newark Board of Education. She has lived in Maplewood since 1961. Her two children are Nicholas Francis Romano, Jr. and Mary Michele Fox. She has three grandchildren, Christina Marie Romano, Joseph Timothy Fox and the twins Jessica Lynn Romano and Anthony Romano.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Mary's family, friends, the Democratic Party, the Township of Maplewood, the State of New Jersey and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of Mary Romano.

ESTABLISH A CENTER IN THE DIAMOND VALLEY RESERVOIR

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to introduce legislation that will assist in establishing an interpretive and cultural center in the vicinity of the Diamond Valley Reservoir in southern California. This center will preserve, protect and make available the extraordinary discoveries that were uncovered during the construction of the Diamond Valley Reservoir to all citizens of the United States.

During the past five years, the construction of the Diamond Valley Reservoir outside of Hemet, California has been the largest, private, earth moving construction project in the United States. The Reservoir is now the largest man made lake in southern California. It covers 4,500 acres, is 4.5 miles long and 2 miles wide and is 160–250 feet deep. The cost of \$1.8 billion for construction was totally borne by the residents of southern California. The reservoir will provide a desperately needed emergency supply of water for the city of Los Angeles and the surrounding area.

During the construction and excavation of this massive project, extraordinary paleontology and archeology discoveries were uncovered. Unearthed were 365 prehistoric sites, pictographs, petroglyphs, stone tools, bone tools, and arrow heads. In addition, a preserved mastodon skeleton, a mammoth skeleton and a 7 foot tusk and bones from extinct animals previously unknown to have resided in the area including the giant Long-Horned Bison and an enormous North American Lion were discovered. In addition, the construction of the Diamond Valley Reservoir unearthed the largest known accumulation of late Ice Age fossils known in California. The scientific importance of this collection may now rival

California's other famed site, the La Brea Tar Pits.

It is my honor to introduce legislation which will be the first step in preserving this world class collection of archaeological, paleontological and late Ice Age fossils for future generations.

RECOGNITION OF THE OHIO VALLEY CHAPTER OF ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS PARTNERSHIP WITH OSHA

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend an historic partnership between the Ohio Valley Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). The agreement provides incentives for contractors to voluntarily improve their safety performance under the high-standard guidelines set by the partnership while OSHA will recognize those contractors with exemplary safety programs. This cooperation signifies that the participants are committed to ensuring the highest standards of workplace safety.

I want to recognize the local Ohio leadership of ABC in forging this partnership which is beneficial to workers, contractors, and OSHA. Additionally, I would like to recognize the OSHA Area Director, William Murphy from Cincinnati, Ohio, for his hard work in making this alliance possible.

The Associated Builders and Contractors and OSHA have always shared a common goal: saving lives and protecting the well-being of local workers. Now they have a partnership which provides a model for cooperation between the public and private sectors. This new level of cooperation will allow both groups to more effectively meet their goals and maintain the levels of safety which make American workers the best in the world.

I am pleased to recognize and commend this partnership and I am hopeful that it will set the stage for future cooperation in other industries.

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE MENEFFEE (CHUCK) D. BLACKWELL

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Chuck Blackwell, a former Lexington, Missouri, resident and graduate of Wentworth Military Academy. He was 84.

Chuck, a son of the late Horace F. and Berrien Menefee Blackwell, was born on February 17, 1916. He attended Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, Missouri, and graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1936. While in college, he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Delta Theta fraternity. Then, he attended the University of Michigan Law School, where he was

elected to the Order of the Coif and a member of Phi Delta Phi law fraternity. Upon graduation in 1939, he joined a law firm then called McCune, Caldwell & Downing.

Chuck left the law firm in 1942 to serve his country during World War II. He rose from the rank of second lieutenant to major while assigned to the Fourteenth Armored Division, Army of the United States, from 1942 until 1946. A war hero, his military service was recognized with a Silver Star, a Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster, a Purple Heart and three battle stars.

In 1948, Chuck rejoined the law firm, known for many years as Blackwell, Sanders, Matheny, Weary & Lombardi, where he served as a managing partner. Professional affiliations developed during his 57 year law career included the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the Missouri Bar and the Lawyers Association of Kansas City. He also served on many corporate boards.

Chuck was also involved in many civic and charitable activities in his community. He was a University Trustee of the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art from 1957 to 1991. Additionally, Chuck was a member of the Board of Governors of the American Royal Association, Vice President and Director of the Charles R. and Minnie Cook Foundation, board member of the Jacob L. and Ella C. Loose Foundation and the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, Trustee of the Loretta M. Cowden Foundation and the Midwest Research Institute, and Director of the Starlight Theatre Association. Furthermore, Chuck was an avid hunter and fisherman and loyal Kansas City Chiefs, Kansas City Royals and Missouri Tigers fan.

Chuck married the late Mary Lou Harris Blackwell of Kansas City on April 25, 1942. They were married for 56 years and had one son, the late Stephen M. Blackwell.

Mr. Speaker, Chuck Blackwell was my good friend and a great American. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family.

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE MORRIS ABRAM

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Morris B. Abram, an outstanding leader of the American Jewish community and an activist in the civil rights movement whose accomplishments helped shape our country and typified the ideal of public service. His death last month at the age of 81 was a loss to all of us who counted this great American as a friend and mentor on the ways to promote civil rights at home and human rights abroad.

He served as the president of Brandeis University and was asked by five presidents to take a lead role in a number of commissions and panels that promoted equal educational and housing opportunities for all Americans, and protection of our seniors against corruption in the nursing home industry and greater respect for human rights around the world.

Having served on the staff of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg, he