

the municipalities' history, equal to 34 cents per thousand gallons of water discharged into the sewer system. By January 1994 this rate had increased to \$3.55 for the same thousand gallons, a 1000% increase. Based on project engineering estimates and financial considerations, rates were expected to approach \$6.00 per thousand gallons by the year 1999.

The Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust (The Trust) was established in March 1993. Utilizing Federal grant money, the Trust established a State Revolving Fund that provided zero interest loans for sewer related infrastructure improvements for municipalities faced with mandates to meet environmental regulations.

This form of Federal and State support of capital improvement project has become a critical component for municipalities to move progressively forward in achieving environmental goals.

In the case of the City of New Bedford, this support has enabled the community to complete every project outlined in their facilities plan to provide infrastructure capabilities for industrial, commercial and residential growth, while meeting clean water mandates and environmental commitments.

As a result of our efforts, New Bedford is the first community to take advantage of extending State Revolving Fund debt and amortizing these commitments out over 30 years. Thus extending the term of the SRF debt to reflect the useful life of the financed projects again minimizing impacts to rates. A community that once faced sewer fees that were unaffordable has completed the largest sewer related capital improvement program in its history, without breaking the back of the ratepayers.

This is testament to Federal, State and Local governments forming partnerships to solve problems.

**ELLIS ISLAND MEDALS OF HONOR
AWARDS CEREMONY—NECO
CHAIRMAN WILLIAM DENIS
FUGAZY LEADS DRAMATIC
CEREMONY ON ELLIS ISLAND,
NY, MAY 6**

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2001

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, standing on the hallowed grounds of Ellis Island—the portal through which 17 million immigrants entered the United States—a cast of ethnic Americans who have made significant contributions to the life of this nation were presented with the coveted Ellis Island Medal of Honor at an emotionally uplifting ceremony.

NECO's annual medal ceremony and reception on Ellis Island in New York Harbor is the Nation's largest celebration of ethnic pride. Representing a rainbow of ethnic origins, this year's recipients received their awards in the shadow of the historic Great Hall, where the first footsteps were taken by the millions of immigrants who entered the U.S. in the latter part of the nineteenth century. "Today we honor great ethnic Americans who, through their achievements and contributions, and in the spirit of their ethnic origins, have enriched this country and have become role models for future generations," said NECO Chairman William Denis Fugazy. "In addition, we honor the immigrant experience—those who passed through this Great Hall decades ago, and the

new immigrants who arrive on American soil seeking opportunity."

Mr. Fugazy added, It doesn't matter how you got here or if you already were here. Ellis Island is a symbol of the freedom, diversity and opportunity—ingredients inherent in the fabric of this nation. Although many recipients have no familial ties to Ellis Island, their ancestors share similar histories of struggle and hope for a better life here.

Established in 1986 by NECO, the Ellis Island Medals of Honor pay tribute to the ancestry groups that comprise America's unique cultural mosaic. To date, approximately 1,300 American citizens have received medals.

NECO is the largest organization of its kind in the U.S. serving as an umbrella group for over 250 ethnic organizations and whose mandate is to preserve ethnic diversity, promote ethnic and religious equality, tolerance and harmony, and to combat injustice, hatred and bigotry. NECO has a new goal in its humanitarian mission: saving the lives of children with life-threatening medical conditions. NECO has founded the Forum's Children Foundation, which brings children from developing nations needing life-saving surgery to the Untied States for treatment. This year alone, NECO's efforts have helped save the lives of twelve infants from around the world.

Ellis Island Medals of Honor recipients are selected each year through a national nomination process. Screening committees from NECO's member organizations select the final nominees, who are then considered by the Board of Directors.

Past Ellis Island Medals of Honor recipients have included several U.S. Presidents, entertainers, athletes, entrepreneurs, religious leaders and business executive, such as William Clinton, Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter, Gerald Ford, George Bush, Richard Nixon, George Pataki, Mario Cuomo, Bob Hope, Frank Sinatra, Michael Douglas, Gloria Estefan, Coretta Scott King, Rosa Parks, Elie Wiesel, Muhammad Ali, Mickey Mantel, General Norman Schwarzkopf, Barbara Walters, Terry Anderson and Dr. Michael DeBakey.

Congratulation to the 2000 Ellis Island Medals of Honor recipients.

MEDALIST LIST: ELLIS ISLAND 2000

Richard A. Abdoo, Business Leader, Lebanese.

Anthony R. Abraham, Business/Community Leader, Lebanese.

Dr. William A. Athens, Physician/Surgeon, Hellenic.

Nelson Viriato Baptista, Business Leader, Portuguese.

Amin J. Barakat M.D., Physician, Lebanese.

Edward J. Bergassi, Business Leader, Italian.

Bharat B. Bhatt, Business Leader, Indian.

Norman P. Blake, Jr., Business Leader, English/German.

Gunter Blobel, M.D., PhD, Scientist, German.

Jules J. Bonavolonta, Business Leader, Italian.

Patricia R. Brandrup, Business Leader, English.

Hon. Jesse Brown, Business Leader, African.

Art Buchwald, Syndicated Columnist, Austrian/Hungarian.

Gerard L. Cafesjian, Investor/Philanthropist, Armenian.

Dr. Vincent J. Calamia, Physician & Business Leader, Italian.

Charles V. Campisi, Chief of Internal Affairs, Italian.

Carlos H. Cantu, Business Leader, Mexican.
Elvira M. Carota, M.D., Physician/Educator/Humanitarian, Italian.

David E.A. Carson, Business Leader, English.

Frank Carucci, Educator, Italian.

Margo Catsimatidis, Advertising Exec./Philanthropist, Russian.

Leonard A. Cecere, Attorney, Italian.

Michael Chakeres, Business Leader, Hellenic.

Alvah H. Chapman, Jr., Business/Community Leader, English.

Dr. Ben John Chen, Community/Business Leader, Chinese.

George C. Chryssis, Community/Business Leader, Hellenic.

Sam C. Chung, Banker, Korean.

John R. Climaco, Attorney, Italian.

Vance D. Coffman, Business Leader, German/English.

Paul F. Cole, Labor Leader, Irish/German.

Evanthea Condakes, Community Leader, Hellenic.

James Costaras, Educator, Hellenic.

Stephen J. Dannhauser, Esq., Attorney, German/Irish.

James DeCuzzi, NYC Commissioner, Italian/British.

James F. Demos, Community Leader, Hellenic.

James L. Doti, Educator, Italian.

Hon. Dennis C. Droushiotis, International Business Leader, Cypriot.

Walter E. Dunn, Jr., Labor Leader, Irish.

Joseph P. Dunne, Law Enforcement Officer, Irish.

Jean C. Emond, M.D., Surgeon/Humanitarian, Canadian.

Gaetana Enders, Author/Community Leader, Italian.

Jack W. Eugster, Business Leader, Swiss.

John D. Feerick, Lawyer, Irish.

Steven Fisher, Business Leader, Russian.

John S.T. Gallagher, CEO Healthsystem, Columbian/Irish.

John E. Callaghan, Sr., Business Leader, Irish.

Laurance W. Gay, Business Leader, Italian/Irish.

Louis C. Generali, Business Leader, Italian.

Liz Giordano, Business/Community Leader, Italian.

Robert C. Golden, Business Leader, Irish.

Alan Harvey Goldfield, Business Leader, Austrian.

Hon. Norman Goodman, Attorney/Government Official, Russian/English.

Milton Gralla, Publisher, Polish.

Hans G. Hachmann, Attorney, German.

Michael Haratunian, Business Leader, Armenian.

Dr. L.P. Hinterbuchner, Educator/Physician, Slovak.

Dr. Eugene M. Holuka, Dip. of Internal Medicine, Ukrainian.

James J. Houlihan, Business Leader, Irish.

Raffy A. Hovanesian M.D., Community Leader, Armenian/Lebanese.

Henry J. Humphreys, Community Leader, Irish/English.

Hon. Charles J. Hynes, District Attorney, Irish.

James S. Isray, Business Leader, Polish/Hungarian.

Mjr. Gen. Robert R. Ivany, Maj. Gen.—United States Army, Hungarian.

Jay S. Jacobs, Business/Civic Leader, English/German.

Dr. William A. Athens, Physician/Surgeon, Hellenic.

Thomas H. Jacobsen, Business Leader, Norwegian.

Willie James, Labor Leader, African.

Albert Joseph, Business Leader, Lebanese.

William H. Joyce, Business Leader, Swedish/Irish.

Dr. Kirk P. Kalemkeris, Doctor/Author/Community Leader, Hellenic.
 Sok Hui Kang, Community Leader/Activist, Korean.
 Mike Kojaian, Business Leader, Armenian.
 George P. Kokalis, Community Leader, Hellenic.
 Elyse Kroll, Business Leader, Russian/English.
 Glenn Kummer, Business Leader, Swiss/German.
 Leonard A. Lauder, Business Leader, Hungarian/Czech/Austrian.
 Hon. Peter K. Leisure, Sr. District Judge, English/French.
 Alfred Lerner, Business Leader, Russian.
 Leo Liebowitz, Business Leader, Romanian/Polish.
 Anthony J. Limberakis M.D., Nat'l Cmdr Order of St. Andrew, Hellenic.
 Dr. Herbert London, Educator, Russian/Polish.
 Robert Lopez, Business Leader, Puerto Rican.
 Susan Lucci, Emmy Award Winning Actress, Italian/Swedish.
 Robert W. Mahoney, Business Leader, Irish.
 Gerald F. Mahoney, Business Leader, Irish/Scottish.
 Hon. Guy James Mangano, Presiding Justice, Italian.
 Colonel William J. Martinez, Commander, Spanish/Mexican.
 James S. Mavromatis, Special Agent, Hellenic/Yugoslavian.
 Hon. John McCain, United States Senator, Scottish/Irish.
 Royce Neil McNeill, FSA Scot, Scottish Clan Leader, Scottish.
 C. Dean Metropoulos, Business Leader, Hellenic.
 William D. Modell, Business Leader, Hungarian.
 Zena, Mucha, Government Relations Specialist, Ukrainian.
 Hon. Michael B. Mukasey, Chief Judge, So. District NY, Russian/Polish.
 Joseph P. Nacchio, Business Leader, Italian.
 Fred Nauman, Labor Leader, German.
 Joseph Neubauer, Business Leader, Israeli.
 Peter M. Nicholas, Business Leader, Hellenic.
 Hugh O'Brien, Philanthropist/Educator/Performer, Irish/German/Scottish.
 John Pappajohn, Business Leader, Hellenic.
 Ike Pappas, Television Journalist, Hellenic.
 Nazario Paragano Sr., Builder/Real Estate Broker/Banker, Italian.
 Hon. Michael L. Pesce, Adm. Judge, Italian.
 Thomas M. Reich, Attorney, Russian.
 Hon. Janet Reno, Attorney General of the U.S., Danish.
 Chita Rivera, Entertainer, Puerto Rican.
 Douglas L. Rock, Business Leader, Austrian.
 John Roland, TV News Anchorman, German.
 Hon. Eugene T. Rossides, Business/Community Leader, Cypriot/Hellenic.
 John P. Rousakis, Community Leader, Hellenic.
 T. Timothy Ryan, Jr., Investment Banker, Irish.
 George E. Safiol, Business Leader, Hellenic.
 Edward M. Salem, Community Leader/Humanitarian, Lebanese.
 Tamir Sapir, Business Leader, Russian.
 Albert Schwartzberg, Business Leader, Russian.
 Cristina Schwarz, Spanish Language TV Executive, Argentina/Austria/Chile/Croatia.
 Irving J. Shulman, Business Leader, Russian.

Nathaniel L. Sillis, Business Leader, Lithuanian/Polish.
 Sam Simonian, Business Leader, Lebanese/Armenian.
 Louis H. Siracusano, Sr., Entrepreneur, Italian.
 David S. Slackman, Business Leader, Polish.
 Richard A. Smith, Business Leader, German/Dutch/English.
 Salvatore F. Sodano, Business/Community Leader, Italian.
 Taraneh Sohrab, Banker, Persian.
 Harold A. Sorgenti, Business Leader, Italian.
 Hon. Eliot Spitzer, NYS Attorney General, Austrian/French.
 Robert G. Stanton, Conservation Leader, African.
 Jerry Stiller, Polish.
 Thomas C. Sullivan, Business Leader, Irish.
 Dr. William A. Athens, Physician/Surgeon, Hellenic.
 Sidney Taurel, Business Leader, Spanish.
 W.R. Timken, Jr., Business Leader, German.
 Joe Torre, New York Yankees Manager, Italian.
 William Ungar, Business Leader, Polish.
 Hon. Thomas Von Essen, NYC Fire Commissioner, German.
 Michael Wach, Television Executive, Polish/Russian.
 LaDane Williamson, Business Leader, English/Italian.
 Gary Winnick, Global Financier/Philanthropist, Eastern European.
 Barry Zorthian, Communications Consultant, Armenian.

HONORING SCOTT CHASE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Good Samaritan named Scott Chase. Scott braved the freezing cold temperatures to save the life of an older woman, who was involved in a tragic accident on January 17.

On that fateful Wednesday afternoon, longtime friends Shirley Maris and Mary Belle Hamm were meeting other friends for lunch at a popular restaurant in Southeast Denver. Ms. Maris parked in a space that appeared to be on a parking lot. In reality, she drove her car onto a 9-foot-deep pond that was covered with ice and 3 inches of snow. When the two women parked on the ice, their vehicle plunged into the water. Several onlookers witnessed this horrible incident. One of these witnesses was Scott Chase, who ran out of his company's boardroom and to the site where he saw Ms. Hamm in the vehicle's rear window. An employee from the restaurant broke the rear window with a propane tank and Scott dove into the water and rescued Ms. Hamm from the frigid water. Tragically, officers and rescue teams could not save Ms. Maris, who drowned after being trapped underwater for 20 minutes. However, Ms. Hamm was treated for hypothermia and released from the hospital.

Mr. Speaker, the entire state of Colorado was saddened by Shirley Maris' untimely death. But we were also encouraged by Scott Chase's heroic efforts. When I hear of such courageous acts, it gives me great hope for

our nation because it reminds me of the deep wells of compassion that many people shelter in their hearts. So today, I honor Scott Chase, who did not flinch and who did not brag—he merely did what any Good Samaritan would do. Scott is a model citizen, and we all can learn from his example.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DAMON CASTILLO, JR., OUTGOING 2000 PRESIDENT, GREATER RIVERSIDE HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2001

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to a man who has given time and time again to the children, parents and communities of Riverside, CA. An individual whose dedication and unselfish public service has made Riverside a better place to live and work. Dr. Damon Castillo, Jr. is one of these individuals and much, much more.

On January 20, 2001 Dr. Castillo was honored as the outgoing 2000 President of the Greater Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. In his capacity as President, Damon brought his belief that in partnership with the local businesses and the communities our schools can build a solid foundation of literacy knowledge permitting all students to succeed well into the next millennium.

Dr. Damon Castillo, Jr. has 29 years of experience in the field of education, including teaching, administration, personnel management and district superintendent. As Superintendent of the Alford Unified School District in Riverside, a district serving almost 17,000 students, Damon oversaw the passage of a school bond in the amount of \$57 million. That school bond measure, combined with state funds, allowed the Alford Unified School District to receive a total of \$100 million for modernization and growth needs. Additionally, during his position as superintendent, the district continuation school was recognized by the state as a "Model Continuation School." One elementary school was also recognized as a California Distinguished School—the first in the district's history.

Damon's history of involvement in the community have also included: Member of the Board of Directors of the United Way of the Inland Valleys, President-elect of the Arlington Rotary Club, Member of the Riverside City Council's Downtown Specific Plan Committee and as a member of my Hispanic Task Force. Recognitions have included the 1998 Inland Empire Hispanic Image Awards, 1998 Greater Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award, 1999 Minority Male Award and the 1999 Presidential Citation for Educational leadership.

His outstanding work to promote Hispanic businesses, community organizations and students of the Inland Empire make me proud to call him a community member and fellow American. I know that all of the Inland Empire, including myself, are grateful for his contributions to the betterment of the community and salute Damon as the outgoing 2000 President. I look forward to continuing to work with him for the good of the Inland Empire in the future.