

A PROCLAMATION COMMENDING  
SAN DIEGO'S TRIBUTE TO HEROES

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, San Diego's Tribute to Heroes was established to honor and support local heroes and their organizations; and

Whereas, San Diego's Tribute to Heroes should be commended for its worthwhile efforts for servicemen and their families, emergency workers, and children's health care; and

Whereas, San Diego's Tribute to Heroes ball will be held October 5, 2002 at the San Diego Aerospace Museum;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in recognizing San Diego's Tribute to Heroes organization for its dedication.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE CREW  
OF THE USS "BENNION" 662

**HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the World War II veterans from the crew of the USS *Bennion* 662 on their reunion.

The *Bennion* is one of many destroyers that participated in WWII. The majority of the men who served in the USS *Bennion* were just 17 years old when they signed up to serve their country.

The crew of 300 faced immeasurable dangers from Japanese Kamikazes and destroyers. They were exposed to enemy torpedo attacks and air raids. Fortunately, the *Bennion* crew survived because of their skillful coordination and the indivisible combination of men and material, which bounded them together for a common purpose.

The *Bennion* was given a citation that reads: "For extraordinary heroism in the action as a Fighter Direction Ship on Radar Picket duty, during Okinawa Campaign, April 1, 1945 to June 1, 1945. A natural and frequent target of the heavy Japanese aerial attack while occupying advanced and isolated stations, the USS *Bennion* defeated all efforts of enemy Kamikaze and dive-bombing planes to destroy her. Constantly vigilant and ready for battle day and night, she sent out early air warnings, provided fighter direction and, with her own fierce gunfire downed 13 hostile planes, and she rendered a valiant service in preventing the Japanese from striking in force the naval forces off the Okinawa Beachhead. A valiant fighting ship, the *Bennion*, her officers and her men withstood the stress and perils of vital radar-picked duty, achieving a gallant combat record which attests the teamwork, courage and skill of her entire company and enhances the finest traditions of the United States Naval Services."

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to welcome and salute the crew of *Bennion* 662 in their reunion. It is my pleasure to join the members, family and friends of this crew in extending my deepest appreciation for their outstanding services and sacrifice for our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SPENCER BACHUS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday September 26 I missed rollcall votes 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, and 423 due to a family emergency. If I had been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 416, "aye" on rollcall 417, "aye" on rollcall 418, "aye" on rollcall 419, "nay" on rollcall 420, "aye" on rollcall 421 "aye" on rollcall 422 and "aye" on rollcall 423.

TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S MAN TO MAN GROUP OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Cancer Society's Man to Man group in Huntsville, Alabama on their Fifth Anniversary. This group works hard to educate our community about prostate cancer and encourage testing for early detection. This group of men, who are each fighting their own battles with prostate cancer, meet once a month to discuss the latest information about methods of screening, treatments, side effects, and coping with the disease.

As you know, September is National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, and I want to commend this group of men, their spouses, and their families who work to increase awareness about prostate cancer. In 2002, approximately 189,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. It is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in men and is the second leading cause of male cancer death. In fact, more than 30,000 American men lose their battles with prostate cancer every year. However, during the past five years, death from prostate cancer has been reduced by 27% due largely to increased early detection. Only by significantly increasing research funding for prostate cancer will we be able to develop necessary, innovative treatments and find a cure.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Man to Man group for their grassroots efforts and advocacy for prostate cancer awareness and cancer research. I appreciate the work they do to support the members of the North Alabama community who have been diagnosed with this form of cancer, as well as their families. On behalf of the people of North Alabama and the United States House of Representatives, I send my congratulations to Jim Bennett and the Man to Man group of Huntsville on their Fifth Anniversary and my best wishes for many more years of successful service to our community.

HONORING MARLENE M. FANSLER

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marlene M. Fansler for her dedication and service as President of the Fansler Foundation in Fresno, California. Marlene Fansler will be honored at the Break the Barriers Annual Fundraising Dinner on the evening of September 28, 2002.

Marlene Malan Fansler was born in South Gate, California. As a toddler, Marlene moved to Fresno with her parents, Howard and Erma Malan, where her father began his dental practice. In 1957, Marlene graduated from Fresno High School and went on to receive her Liberal Arts Degree from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. After marrying a fellow Brigham Young graduate, Marlene taught elementary school in Houston, Texas for a short period. She and her husband later resided in Portland, Oregon where they raised their three children. In 1968, Marlene and her children moved back to Fresno to be near her parents. Marlene not only brought her teaching skills to Fresno, but also the creative and managerial abilities she learned while developing a 'stretch and sew' knit fabric business. She started a shop in Fresno's Manchester Mall called Kopi Kat Knits, where she met D. Paul Fansler in late 1969. They married in 1976 after a six-year courtship.

Marlene spent the next 14 years raising the children, helping her husband with the development of Piccadilly Inn Hotels, and continuing her activities as a member and teacher in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. The combined families now total eight children, sixteen grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Paul Fansler began the Fansler Foundation in 1984, to be supportive of local, worthwhile, legitimate, charitable, and civic endeavors with focus on developmentally challenged young people. After Paul's unexpected death in 1990, Marlene took over the Piccadilly Inn Hotels and the Fansler Foundation.

Marlene is currently a member of the California State University of Fresno Kremen School of Education Community Council, Board of Pathways, a Foundation for UCP of Central California, Catholic Diocese of Fresno, and the Marjaree Mason Center Art Auction Committee. Under Marlene Fansler's leadership, the Fansler Foundation has funded over 30 organizations, including Break the Barriers.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marlene M. Fansler for her commitment and devotion to the people and organizations in which she serves. I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking her for her community service and wishing her many years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, previously scheduled commitments caused me to miss the vote on H.J. Res. 111—making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2003. Had I been

present I would have cast my vote in favor of this legislation. This legislation is critical to the continued operation of our government.

**A PROCLAMATION COMMENDING CONGRESSMAN RANDY “DUKE” CUNNINGHAM**

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Congressman CUNNINGHAM joined the Navy in 1966 and is recognized as one of the most highly decorated pilots in the Vietnam War; and

Whereas, Congressman CUNNINGHAM was designated the first flying ace in Vietnam and was awarded the Navy Cross for his courageous acts; and

Whereas, Congressman CUNNINGHAM trained U.S. fighter pilots at the “Top Gun” program at Miramar Naval Air Station; and

Whereas, Congressman CUNNINGHAM now serves his country in the United States House of Representatives;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in recognizing Congressman RANDY CUNNINGHAM for a lifetime of service and sacrifice for our country.

**REPORT FROM PENNSYLVANIA**

**HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to share my Report from Pennsylvania for my colleagues and the American people.

All across Pennsylvania’s 15th Congressional District there are some amazing people who do good things to make our communities a better place. These are individuals of all ages who truly make a difference and help others. I like to call these individuals Lehigh Valley Heroes for their good deeds and efforts.

Today, I would like to recognize Mrs. Grace Hart O’Boyle of Bethlehem. Mrs. O’Boyle is a prime example of someone who has devoted her life to the betterment of our communities.

Mrs. O’Boyle served Bethlehem Township as a junior high school, business and English teacher and was an active participant in the city’s summer school program for many decades. Despite commitments to Brownie troops and other youth organizations, Mrs. O’Boyle found time to raise a family and her strong commitment to education and the community is reflected in her own children’s education-based careers.

While most would relax in their retirement, Mrs. O’Boyle saw her retirement only as an opportunity to help her community. She continued to substitute teach and was a member of Bethlehem’s Professional Woman’s Association, American Association of University Women, and served with various other organizations.

Mrs. O’Boyle is marked by her humbleness and devotion, which she exhibited on her 80th birthday. Instead of accepting the flowers and gifts that usually mark such an occasion, Mrs.

O’Boyle established a Scholarship fund to help bright, needy students at her local parish school.

Mrs. O’Boyle stands out as an example of the effect one person can have upon their community and for this she is a Lehigh Valley Hero in my book.

Mr. Speaker, this concludes my Report from Pennsylvania.

**TRIBUTE TO MARGARET VINSON HALLGREN**

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret Vinson Hallgren, President of the National Military Family Association, NMFA, in recognition of her distinguished service to our country.

For 18 years, while filling critical volunteer positions within NMFA, including four terms as director of government relations and an unprecedented six terms as president, Margaret has worked tirelessly to help partially offset the extraordinary hardships and sacrifices service members and their families endure while serving our Nation.

Margaret Hallgren, whom I have the honor of knowing personally, has been a military family member all her life, first as an Army “brat,” then as an Army spouse. She is the widow of an active duty Army officer, W.H. Vinson, Jr., and is now married to Hal E. Hallgren, who retired after 30 years of active duty in the U.S. Army. She has four grown children and nine grandchildren.

After earning her B.A. degree from Vassar College and a Masters of Accounting from Duke University in Political Science/International Law, Margaret worked for 2 years as an Intelligence Analyst for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in Washington, DC.

Margaret later went on to an incredible career at the National Military Family Association, NMFA, where she has touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of active duty, National Guard, Reserve, and retired families in her unwavering efforts to enable them to achieve a reasonable quality of life. It is an understatement to say that Margaret has been in the vanguard of Congress’ and the Department of Defense’s actions to sustain readiness and the All Volunteer Force.

Among her numerous accomplishments, perhaps her biggest achievement comes from her visionary work as one of the 12 original cofounders of the Military Coalition, TMC. The Coalition was organized in 1985 for the sole purpose of attempting to repeal legislation which would have reduced retired pay cost-of-living adjustments by 22.5 percent over a 7-year period. After TMC’s successful effort in this area, Margaret and other leaders in the Coalition had the foresight to recognize its future potential and kept it intact. Today, the Coalition is comprised of 33 military and veterans organizations and represents more than 5.5 million active duty, National Guard, Reserve, retired members and veterans of the seven uniformed services plus their families and survivors. Thanks to Margaret’s insight, NMFA continues to be a leader in TMC on issues affecting military families.

Mr. Speaker, Margaret Hallgren’s extraordinary career of leadership, volunteerism and personal dedication in protecting the welfare and quality of life of every member of the uniformed services community is an inspiration and continuing lesson to all Americans. My best wishes and gratitude go with her. Margaret, I salute you on behalf of all our servicemen and women, past and present who have worn and continue to wear the uniform.

**RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF THE AMERICAN CANINE ASSOCIATION’S SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS AT GROUND ZERO IN NEW YORK**

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my gratitude and appreciation to the Search and Rescue Teams of the American Canine Association, ACA, who, for 8 weeks following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, tirelessly and selflessly served at Ground Zero in New York City. Following the devastating attacks on our country and our very way of life, handlers Robert Yarnall, Jr., Susan Yarnall, Heather Nothstein, Michael Glass, Avi Thol, Travis Hayden, Sean Hayden, and Amy Dinardi, along with canines Gus, Nela, Nala, Samson, and Duchess, came to the aid of a grieving nation and endured tremendous personal difficulty to assist in finding survivors of the Twin Towers.

In the year since September 11, we have come to a new appreciation of the heroes who live among us, those who volunteer their time, ability, and talent, without thought of recognition. The actions of these handlers and canines represent the true values of America—generosity, compassion, and service to community—that have made us great. I am proud to have had these extraordinary people and canines represent Chester County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The ACA deserves our thanks and our commendation for a job well done.

**CONGRATULATING DR. JAMES T. HARRIS ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS PRESIDENT OF WIDENER UNIVERSITY**

**HON. CURT WELDON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to welcome and congratulate the new president of Widener University, Dr. James T. Harris III. Founded in 1821, Widener University is composed of eight schools and colleges that offer liberal arts and sciences, professional and preprofessional curricula. A comprehensive, teaching institution chartered in both Pennsylvania and Delaware, Widener is a three-campus university offering 150 programs of study leading to an associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degree. Dr. Harris becomes only the ninth president in Widener’s rich 181-year history to lead this institution in continued excellence.