

inspiration for all those who struggle to overcome social, racial and economic injustice.

PATSY MINK will forever be remembered as a modern day pioneer of gender and racial equality in government. Throughout her distinguished career, PATSY continually overcame insurmountable obstacles to achieve success and acceptance in her professional and political career. In Hawaii, she became the first Asian-American woman to practice law and the first Asian-American woman to be elected to the Territorial House before Hawaii became a state in 1959. While serving in the Territorial House, she became one of the leading advocates for Hawaii's statehood. In 1964, she had the honor of becoming the first Asian-American woman of Japanese-American heritage to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

During her tenure, Congresswoman MINK became a leading advocate for racial, gender and social equality. Inspired by her lifelong challenges, Congresswoman MINK fought for women to have equal access to education and athletic opportunities. Thanks to her leadership and steadfast commitment, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 helped dismantle gender discrimination in schools across this country. In order to preserve and protect her beloved state of Hawaii, Congresswoman MINK also helped write tough environmental protection laws safeguarding sacred lands and fragile waters from over development and exploitation.

I feel absolutely privileged to have served with this historic and wonderful woman. Despite all the obstacles and challenges, PATSY MINK was still able to achieve her dreams and goals. Her perseverance and determination should continue to be an inspiration for future generations of Americans. I will forever admire my friend and colleague for her lifelong commitment and service to her country. Although it is difficult to say goodbye to my colleague, I know that her profound contributions and legacy will continue to influence our nation's future.

INTRODUCING LEGISLATION THAT EXPANDS THE DEFINITION OF CHARITABLE WORK

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill that would allow certain computer services to be counted as charitable deductions.

Many small non-profit organizations have not utilized all the technical advances that computers can bring, because of the cost of hiring a networking and technology specialist. My bill would allow computer technologists to donate their time and deduct that time from their federal taxes. Some of the services that would be tax deductible include setting up networks, fixing computers, training staff and creating custom programs. My legislation would assist small non-profits in becoming more efficient and productive, by utilizing new skills, software, and hardware.

My bill would also allow computer graphic specialists to donate their time and knowledge for the creation of brochures, the design of

websites, and preparation of printing films. Once again, non-profits would gain substantially from having computer professional graphic artists design their education and information pamphlets.

Non-profit and charitable organizations do great work in the community, and my bill would give them better access to services that will help them help others.

HONORING JIM WHITTINGTON, MSGT USAF, RETIRED

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues the news that my good friend, Jim Whittington, of Laurel MS, has been given the "Excellence in Community Service" Award by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Although he would disagree with me, there is no individual more deserving of this award than Jim Whittington. Jim is a leader of a nationwide grassroots movement fighting to restore earned health care for military retirees. While there are many grassroots leaders across the country who have been working together in this fight, it was Jim's persistence that led to the introduction of legislation that was enacted into law and went a long way towards fulfilling America's commitment to military retirees.

In the spring of 1999, Jim, along with his friend and fellow military retiree Floyd Sears, of Ocean Springs MS, organized a Military Retirees Summit in Laurel. Over 400 retirees from the southeastern United States gathered to explain to local officials, including me, how the United States government had broken its promise of lifetime health care for military retirees.

Having recently been elected to Congress, I had never confronted this issue before. I did not know about problems with military health care. Like many other Americans, I believed that our nation's veterans received priority health care. Until I attended the summit in Laurel, I did not know that military retirees, who served a career in service to the country, were not getting the level of health care that had been promised to them.

Since the founding of our Republic, recruits to the uniformed services were promised lifetime health care. They were told that health care would be provided for them and their families when they retired after a career in service. And for many years, they received quality health care when they retired. But over time, Congress changed the laws. The availability and quality of health care for many military retirees declined. For too many retirees, health care just wasn't there at all.

Jim Whittington is one of the most tenacious people I know, and it was his persistence that got me to agree to attend his summit. What I learned at that summit convinced me and others across the country to join the fight to make good on the "Broken Promise." If it wasn't for Jim Whittington, the Keep Our Promise to America's Military Retirees Act would not have been introduced.

But, thanks to Jim, the bill was introduced in the fall of 1999, giving the grassroots a plat-

form on which to stand and challenge Congress to act. In just one year, Congress enacted Tricare for Life, which went a long way towards restoring the promise of lifetime health care and keeping faith with our nation's military retirees.

Tricare for Life—TFL—answered the prayers of thousands of military retirees and their families. Jim Whittington is one of those who benefit from TFL. But Jim knows that there are still thousands more military retirees and dependents who are not covered by TFL and still lack the level of health care they have earned. Jim unselfishly continues to be one of the grassroots leaders fighting to restore the health care promise for ALL military retirees.

TFL was the first big victory for the military retirees, but it will not be the last. Today there is a movement called the MRGRG—The Military Retirees Grassroots Group—that has no formal structure or membership. But there are thousands of them, connected by the Internet, who have combined their individual voices into one. Leaders of the MRGRG, including Jim, are circulating a "White Paper" throughout Congress that outlines the remaining promises waiting to be kept.

Jim Whittington has earned the respect of Americans across the country who know of his leadership in the fight to treat military veterans with the respect they deserve. But Jim is a humble man and knows he did not do this alone—far from it. He knows he shares this award with fellow retirees who cared enough to act.

But it is always up to somebody to take the first step. When Jim took that step—to organize the Laurel summit and convince his Congressman to attend—he did not know where it would lead. Today we know that Jim and the others of the MRGRG have set an example for all Americans. They have shown us that Democracy works—that Americans who combine their individual voices into one voice, loud and strong, can change things and restore justice where it is needed.

So, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to salute my friend Jim Whittington, who has set an example for all of us.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JAMES HENRY HAIGLER

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and sacrifice of one of our Nation's Fallen Firefighters and one of my District's hometown heroes, Mr. James Henry Haigler. Mr. Haigler worked for ten years as a Driver with the Sanford Fire Department. He was one of the Sanford community's unique group of hometown heroes; the firefighters, law enforcement officers, and others who keep our streets safe, protect our families and possessions from fire, and are the first to respond to an emergency. Our hometown heroes put their lives on the line for each of us every day.

On January 19, 2001, the Sanford Fire Department lost one of its own heroes. James suffered heart failure just two hours after completing a 24-hour shift, leaving behind his wife Renee and his son Dustin. His loss was felt deeply in the department and in the community. As a firefighter, James displayed selfless

devotion everyday on our streets and in our communities. "Big Jim" as he was affectionately known was dedicated and professional, and when we called on him, he was ready to lay down his life for us.

On October 6, 2002, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation will honor James and many other firefighters who made the supreme sacrifice. Every year at the National Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland, survivors join together to celebrate how these brave men and women lived and what they represented in their communities. Members of the Sanford Fire Department who served as pallbearers for Mr. Haigler and a department escort will accompany Mrs. Haigler and Dustin to the ceremony. In addition, Congress, with my support, passed into law a resolution calling for all flags to be lowered to half-staff on the day of the National Firefighters Memorial Service.

The National Fallen Firefighters Memorial reminds us that our country is filled with hometown heroes, who embody the American spirit. The Haigler family, the Sanford community and the family of firefighters can be proud of the sacrifice that James Haigler made. The citizens of North Carolina and I will make sure that the memory of this hero does not soon fade.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, October 2, I was absent during the beginning of the legislative session as I was discussing the state of our Nation's health care with the United Domestic Workers of America/National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees in Philadelphia.

I request that the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD reflect that had I been present and voting, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 427, "yes" on rollcall No. 428, "no" on rollcall No. 429, "no" on rollcall No. 430, "yes" on rollcall No. 431, "yes" on rollcall No. 432, "no" on rollcall No. 433 and "no" on rollcall No. 434.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DANIEL JURAFSKY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Mr. UDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Daniel Jurafsky and to submit for the RECORD a recent article from the Rocky Mountain News describing these accomplishments. Dr. Jurafsky recently was one of twenty-four scholars chosen as MacArthur fellows, awards granted annually by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Daniel Jurafsky is an associate professor of linguistics and computer science at the University of Colorado in Boulder. Dr. Jurafsky focuses on designing computer and other systems that use everyday language to communicate with their users. A major part of his re-

search is concentrated on identifying patterns in syntax that are relevant to the underlying semantic structure of communications. With the help of his colleagues, Dr. Jurafsky has found that by recognizing these patterns, computers can be more efficient and accurate in their interpretation of language because they can connect what is heard to what is most likely meant by that language.

Every year the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation rewards a small group of exceptionally creative individuals by naming them MacArthur Fellows. The foundation gives fellowship awards to those individuals who are pursuing unique approaches to their fields of study and those taking intellectual, scientific, and cultural risks. Jonathan Fanton, president of the MacArthur Foundation, has said it is "a vital part of the Foundation's efforts to recognize and support individuals who lift our spirits, illuminate human potential, and shape our collective future."

Clearly, these criteria describe the University of Colorado's awardee. Dr. Jurafsky's research is all about enabling better communications between people and computers, which is so important in our 21st century technology-driven lives.

Dr. Jurafsky is an incredibly talented and dedicated individual who is well liked and respected by his colleagues. I am certain that the foundation made an excellent choice in awarding Dr. Jurafsky this prestigious fellowship. I am honored to represent such an exemplary individual.

CU PROFESSOR CHOSEN FOR "GENIUS AWARD"

MacArthur Fellow to receive \$500,000 to spend as he likes

(By Bill Scanlon, Rocky Mountain News—September 25, 2002)

One day, you're working 70 hours a week and playing the drums in your spare time.

The next day, you're awarded a half-million dollars for being one of the 24 most creative and intellectually brilliant scholars in the nation.

"I was shocked," University of Colorado linguistics professor Daniel Jurafsky, 39, said Tuesday, after hearing that he was one of 24 Americans chosen as MacArthur Fellows.

The no-strings-attached awards are to nurture geniuses who are "a source of new knowledge and ideas" and have "the courage to challenge inherited orthodoxies" and to take intellectual, scientific and cultural risks.

For Jurafsky, that means time to pursue his passion for helping computers communicate better with people—and vice versa.

No-strings-attached means he could use some of the money to buy a hot tub for his funky century-old Boulder house, or to buy a Corvette or Jaguar.

"No, that's not my style," Jurafsky said Tuesday. "If it doesn't involve work or music, I'm not interested. And I have a nice old set of drums—Ludwig."

It's a good thing Jurafsky likes to travel, because otherwise he'd have a tough time deciding how to spend the half-million dollars.

"I may spend some of it on research expenses or to help pay for graduate students or postdocs," Jurafsky said. "If the department said, 'If only we had a big computer,' maybe I could buy them one. But really, computers are so inexpensive now. And unlike the sciences, we in the humanities don't have big expenses for equipment."

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation has been presenting the awards since 1981—to 635 scholars in all. The board

searches for extraordinary originality, dedication, self-direction, exceptional creativity and promise for important future advances.

Linguistics chairwoman Barbara Fox said the MacArthur Fellow award is perfect for Jurafsky.

"He's brilliant and creative and wonderfully unique. He's generous and kind and a wonderful person."

Fox said Jurafsky "makes the department a community. He knows how to get people to work with others."

Part of the mystique of the MacArthur awards is that the nomination process is secret—the winners are caught completely by surprise.

"They call you up," Jurafsky said. "They say, 'Sit down.' They ask you if you're alone." After he heard on Friday, they told him he'd have to keep it to himself for four days. "They told me I could tell my parents, but no one else," said Jurafsky, who is not married.

Jurafsky wants to improve on Google and other search engines. Now, someone who wants to know who shot Abraham Lincoln can type in "Lincoln" and "assassination," and get back references to 1,000 Web sites.

"But suppose you want to ask an entire question and get back one short answer?" Jurafsky said. "You type in, 'Who assassinated Abraham Lincoln,' and you get back, 'It was Booth.'"

He's on sabbatical this year, but starting in January Jurafsky will teach an introductory course in linguistics and a graduate course in psycholinguistics.

When he's not jamming with some of his fellow scholars and jazz lovers, you can sometimes see him in the chorus at CU musicals. "I'm a baritone," he said.

Jurafsky's optimistic about today's students and the future of the human race. "The freshmen today know a lot more about computers than most faculty," he said.

"They're completely capable of carrying on five instant-messaging conversations while doing their homework."

"We do want to teach them programming, but their comfort level is there. Seven years ago, incoming students were afraid of computers. It's like night and day."

Jurafsky foresees a day when computers can assist translation.

People from around the world can communicate, typing in whole sentences that the computer can instantly translate "close enough so the other person can understand it. It's definitely possible."

HONORING THE CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REAL ESTATE BROKERS, INC.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the California Association of Real Estate Brokers, Inc. for their many contributions to the real estate industry.

The California Association of Real Estate Brokers, Inc. (CAREB) is the state chapter of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, the oldest minority real estate association in America. CAREB has been instrumental in promoting the participation of minorities in the real estate industry and has been responsible for many of the anti-discrimination and fair housing laws which now exist locally and across the country.