

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to introduce House Resolution 538 in honor of my friend Johnny Unidas. The indelible impression he left on the City of Baltimore, my home state of Maryland, and the nation is deserving of today's recognition. He will be missed, but not forgotten. I ask my colleagues to join me in support of this important resolution.

IN HONOR OF REPRESENTATIVE
FRANK PALLONE, JR.

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as a colleague and friend, to honor Representative FRANK PALLONE, JR. for his tremendous career and his accomplishments for the People of New Jersey. He has always fought the principled battles for the progress of American society. For his efforts, Mr. PALLONE was awarded the Justice for Cyprus award at the Cyprus Federation of America's annual Awards Gala on Saturday, October 5th.

The Honorable FRANK PALLONE was officially sworn in for his seventh term in the US House of Representatives on January 3rd, 2002, winning his reelection with 68 percent of the vote. He has been a very active and dedicated Member of the House throughout his tenure. He is Vice-Chairman for the Communications of the Democratic Policy Committee, a Member of the Democratic Steering Committee, Co-Chairman of the Democratic Task Force on Health Care Reform and the House Democratic Environmental Task Force.

FRANK PALLONE has been recognized time and again for his commitment to the advancement of many issues, including expanding health care access and affordability, protecting the integrity of Medicare and Medicaid, ensuring food safety, protecting the environment and strengthening environmental laws. For his efforts, he was recognized as Legislator of the Year in 2001 by the New Jersey Association of Broadcasters, and Outstanding Legislator of the Year in 1999 by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

A native of Long Branch, New Jersey, Mr. PALLONE earned an academic scholarship to Middlebury College. After he graduated cum laude, PALLONE received his master's degree in international relations at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

FRANK PALLONE and his wife, Sarah, have three children, daughters, Rose Marie and Celeste Teresa, and son, Frank Andrew.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Congressman FRANK PALLONE, JR. for his remarkable leadership in promoting peace and justice in Cyprus.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

October 3, 2002, rollcall vote 437, on approving the journal, I would have voted "yea".

RECOGNITION FOR CHIEF DENNIS
COMPTON OF MESA, ARIZONA

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Chief Dennis Compton of the Meza, Arizona Fire Department who is retiring after 30 years of dedication and commitment to the fire and emergency services.

Among Congressional Fire Services Caucus leaders, Chief Compton is highly regarded for his character and integrity. He is an individual who has lent an enormous amount of time to the Congressional Fire Services Institute, serving as Chairperson of its National Advisory Committee. Many of the recent successes enjoyed by the fire service bear his imprint.

Chief Compton possesses many outstanding attributes, perhaps none more important than his skills as a coalition builder. We tend to think of the fire service as a unified service. As a former fire chief, myself, I can tell you from personal experiences that it is not. The fire and emergency services must often address internal conflicts that can disrupt progress at both the local and national levels. In either case, I cannot think of anyone more qualified and effective in resolving differences and building coalitions than Chief Compton.

Fortunately, he has reassured the fire service that he will remain an active advocate for public safety causes upon retirement as chief. I will hold him to that promise. At this critical juncture as we discuss proposals for defending our nation against potential acts of terrorism, we need to heed the advice of knowledgeable individuals who can offer sound judgment and guidance on such a critical issue. Chief Compton is such an individual.

However, I have it on good authority, Mr. Speaker, that the reason for Chief Compton's retirement has to do with two passions: his grandson and his Diamondbacks. Apparently he would like to spend more time with both.

In closing, I extend to Chief Compton my congratulations on his retirement and thanks for his immeasurable contributions to our nation's fire and emergency services.

HONORING DONALD BOTT

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to honor a dedicated and accomplished educator in Northern California, Mr. Donald Bott. Don was recently named the 2002 National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year by the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund.

When the Newspaper Fund began in 1958, it focused on helping high school journalism teachers achieve their potential in teaching the skills to make their students first-rate journalists. The tradition continues to this day with the Fund's recognition program for outstanding teachers. This year, the Newspaper Fund concluded that Don Bott, who teaches at Amos Alonzo Stagg High School in Stockton, California, represents the nation's best in scholastic media advisers.

Don, who was previously named as one of only five Distinguished Advisors by the Newspaper Fund in 2000, will now have the opportunity to travel to conferences throughout the year, speaking about the importance of offering journalism as a core part of school curriculum.

Don's academic background is exceptional. Over the years, he has earned various degrees and certificates, including a Journalism Educator certificate, a Language Development Specialist certificate, a Single-Subject Secondary Teaching Credential, a Master of Arts degree in English from California State University, Sacramento, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Literature, with honors, from my alma mater, the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Furthermore, Don has excelled professionally as an educator. Aside from teaching at both the high school and college levels, he has worked to develop standards and curricula in the field of secondary school journalism studies. His peers have recognized his excellence by naming him as a Special Recognition Adviser, San Joaquin A+ Educator, and 1994-95 San Joaquin County Teacher of the Year.

Despite the accolades he has received personally, Don Bott views his work with a measure of modesty. He is quick to point out that the success of Stagg High School's newspaper, The Stagg Line, is a reflection of the talent and commitment of the students who produce it. Not surprisingly, one of his recent students has also received national acclaim. Together, Don and his students have created an award-winning newspaper. Among the honors it has garnered are: eight consecutive NSPA All-Americans, three National Pacemakers, two CSPA Gold Medalists, a Quill and Scroll International First Place, a first-place state JEANC Best of the West, three first-place NSPA National Best of Show awards, a Journalist Impact Award, and numerous regional awards.

While he is humble about his own role in the newspaper's success, Don is very proud of what his students have achieved in light of their school district's circumstances. Whereas many of the acclaimed student newspapers in the country are produced in affluent schools, The Stagg Line has been a bright spot in a high school that underperforms on standardized tests. This, indeed, is a tribute to a great teacher, inspired students, and hard work.

I congratulate Don Bott for the outstanding work he has done to touch young lives and advance the quality of news journalism. May he and his colleagues continue their great success.

MULEGÉ AND THE FIGHT OF
PINEDA

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, the relationship between Mexico and the United States of America is stronger than ever before. This relationship has been tested and strengthened throughout their shared history, a history typical of two close neighbors. There have been disputes and agreements, conflicts and truces, all of which have led the two countries to where they stand today: united, both in their

diplomatic relations, and in their efforts to improve the lives of all their citizens.

Fortunately, recent history between our two countries has been resoundingly positive. But in the decades following our countries' declarations of independence, disagreements and conflict were far more commonplace than the diplomacy and cooperation we are accustomed to today. One of these disagreements led to full-scale war, the effects of which have influenced the geography and culture of North America to this day. This war, the Mexican-American War of 1846–48, was characterized by fierce battles, tense stand-offs, and from both countries, overwhelming national pride.

In 1847, in Mulegé, there was one such conflict that today is honored as the embodiment of Mexican national pride. Shortly after the beginning of the war, United States forces set out to isolate Baja Mexico from the mainland and to make the pueblos neutral in order to pacify the populace and prepare them for eventual U.S. rule. Mulegé was one such targeted pueblo. When hearing of the U.S. encroachment into the Baja, government officials in Mexico City dispatched a group of officers led by Captain Manuel Pineda to establish a military presence in the region. Captain Pineda arrived in Mulegé by September of 1847, and set to work assembling a group of Baja locals to help him resist the advancing U.S. forces. In response to Pineda's mobilization, the U.S. military officials sent the sloop Dale to Mulegé, under the command of Thomas Selfridge. Once arrived, Selfridge sent ashore a letter to Pineda and his men warning against any agitation. Pineda, undeterred, responded that he would defend his country to the end.

On October 2nd, 1847, Commander Selfridge sent some 75 sailors and marines ashore to attack the defenders of Mulegé. Outnumbered and outgunned, Pineda and his men exchanged fire with the advancing Americans from opposite banks of the creek leading up to the pueblo. Although neither side suffered casualties, the intensity of the firefight was enough to repel Selfridge's men, marking the first military success for the Mexican Army in the war. Pineda's success began a swelling of public support, and he and his men would go on to fight many more battles until his capture in March of 1848, at the very end of the war. Pineda had many successes during his military career, but none were as courageous and inspiring as his stand at Mulegé.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge not only this historical event, but also the shared history of the United States of America and Mexico. Many good men from both countries have fought and died in the name of patriotism, and today, both countries are stronger for it. Through times of peace and war, our countries now find themselves more closely allied than ever before. I am sure the future will serve to strengthen that bond.

HONORING AIR FORCE MAJOR
JAMES G. CUSIC III

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Air Force Major James G. Cusic III, a constituent of mine from Fairview Heights, Illinois.

Major Cusic is receiving a Certificate of Merit from the American Red Cross for his actions on September 11, 2001. This is the highest award the organization gives for someone who saves or sustains a life with skills that were learned in an American Red Cross safety course.

The attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001 made this perhaps the most tragic day in our nation's history. However, the day could have been even more catastrophic if it were not for the efforts of men and women such as Major Cusic.

On the morning of September 11, Major Cusic saw the news of the attacks on the World Trade Center from his Pentagon office. As he watched, he began to feel the floor shake below him, and the television reported that a third plane had been used as a weapon. This time, the target was the Pentagon. A voice came on the Pentagon intercom with a message to evacuate the building.

As the news came that a second hijacked plane might be headed toward Washington, Major Cusic cleared all the rooms in his area of the building to make sure everyone had exited. Next, he assisted five of the approximately 65 patients that were being treated at the Air Force Pararescue triage site.

Major Cusic volunteered to reenter the building as one of five leaders of a 20-person team to provide medical treatment for survivors in the building. He was responsible for providing treatment for life threatening injuries. Major Cusic aided one man who had a severe scalp laceration and a spinal injury. He assisted another man who suffered from severe burns on his face and neck and was experiencing difficulty breathing.

Later in the evening, Major Cusic's heroic actions were needed once again. A firefighter that had entered the building as part of the rescue effort collapsed from heat exhaustion and an erratic pulse. Once again, Major Cusic provided the treatment necessary under extreme circumstances.

Major Cusic maintained clarity of mind throughout the day on September 11 and should be commended for his actions in the face of adversity. At the end of the day, he was directly involved in saving three lives and in caring for two more people with severe injuries. In addition, he provided invaluable encouragement to other survivors and those involved with the rescue effort.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Major Cusic and to wish him all the best in the future for him and his family.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
TAMI LONGABERGER

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Tami Longaberger, president and chief executive officer of The Longaberger Company, has been selected to attend the Helsinki Women Business Leaders Summit in Helsinki, Finland; and

Whereas, Tami Longaberger has also been chosen to serve as chairwoman of the U.S. executive committee during the Helsinki Summit; and

Whereas, Tami Longaberger time and again has proven herself to be a remarkable business leader and role model; and

Whereas, Tami Longaberger is to be commended for her tireless efforts, dedication and devotion to the cause of bridging cultural differences and building business cooperation across the globe.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in recognizing Tami Longaberger for her leadership role at the Helsinki Women Business Leaders Summit.

COMMEMORATING THE 42D ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 7, 2002

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, last week, we commemorated the 42d anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Cyprus. In 1960, Cyprus claimed sovereignty over its territory following 80 years of British colonial rule, and since that time, it has been a close friend of the United States.

Cyprus now stands as the leading candidate country for membership in the European Union (EU). On September 30th 2002, the EU's Enlargement Commissioner stated that Cyprus complies with all political and economic conditions required for membership. The Government-controlled areas of Cyprus enjoy an atmosphere of economic prosperity and political freedom, allowing its people to enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the world.

Unfortunately, the northern portions of the island have been occupied by Turkish troops for more than 28 years, and an illegitimate government was set up there to rule an illegitimate state that only Turkey has recognized. As many as 35,000 Turkish troops remain to keep this government viable.

The United States must maintain pressure on the Turkish side to end its illegal occupation of Cyprus and allow the people of that island to resolve the problem without outside interference. Too often, Turkey seeks to use its occupation as a veto over the legitimate aspirations of the Cyprus government, including its bid to join the EU.