

American Society of Agricultural Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying, the U.S. Council for International Engineering Practice, and the Engineering Advisory Council of the University of Arkansas.

Albert Miller was a faithful and dedicated husband to his wife Lynette, the loving father to Alex and Allison, and the proud grandfather to three grandchildren. Throughout his life, he was dedicated to serving his fellow citizens as a leader in both his profession and his community, and he deserves our respect and gratitude for his priceless contributions. He was my friend and I forever will be honored by that friendship.

On behalf of the Congress, I extend sympathies to Al's family, and gratitude for all he did to make the world a better place.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. VELMA HICKEY,
OUTGOING PRESIDENT, NORCO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication to the community and to the overall well-being of Norco, CA, is exceptional. The city of Norco has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated business and community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give time and talent to making their communities a better place to live and work. Mrs. Velma Hickey is one of these individuals.

On January 26, 2002, Mrs. Hickey will be honored as the outgoing 2001 president of the Norco Chamber of Commerce. Through the years, Velma has served as a director on the Board of the Chamber, the Virginia Weidman Home Arts Competition Chairman, Installation Banquet Chair and most recently the Norco Fair Chairman in 2001. She is an active member of the Republican Women's Club, United We Stand America organization, and the vice president of the Norco Historic Society.

Velma Hickey's leadership has led to numerous awards and recognitions. The highlights include: Volunteer of the Year Award from United We Stand America in 1990 and Principal for a Day received from the Corona/Norco Unified School District in 2001, and Lecturer at St. Mel's Catholic Church in Norco from 1987 thru 1990. A graduate of UC Irvine, Velma has a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology.

Velma's tireless, engaged action has propelled the city of Norco forward in a positive and progressive manner. I know that all of Norco is grateful for her contribution to the betterment of the community and salute her as she departs. I look forward to continuing to work with her for the good of our community in the future.

THE MATURE RESPONSE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member wishes to commend to his colleagues the January 20, 2002, editorial from the Omaha World-Herald entitled "The Seriousness of War."

The current war on terrorism is the appropriate response to horrific and unspeakable terrorist attacks on U.S. soil which resulted in the deaths of thousands of innocent people. Under no sadder circumstances could the United States have launched a war. Let us not forget the pain of those circumstances and thus use our incredible capabilities to ensure that the likelihood of similar attacks is greatly diminished for not only future Americans, but also for others around the world.

[From the Sunday World-Herald, Jan. 20, 2002]

THE SERIOUSNESS OF WAR

Pacifism is a legitimate point of view, but its principles seem a woefully impractical response to terrorists who are unmoved by moral arguments.

This thought is prompted by writings from readers who are uncomfortable with the American government's response to the Sept. 11 Osama bin Laden attacks. One such writing by Robert Williams, an Iowa farmer and retired minister, included a bitter denunciation. He said Americans "seek and improve ever more lethal weapons, and we use them now with barely restrained excitement and pride."

Williams is right about one thing—weapons improvement. But in many cases the result has been a dramatic increase in precision, making civilian deaths less likely. That is a reason for some of the pride.

Certainly the nation is not romanticizing war. Not as Americans did in 1861, for example, when picnickers lightheartedly camped near Bull Run with the soon-to-be dashed expectation of enjoying a quick rout of Confederate forces. Europeans cheered during parades at the start of World War I, mistakenly anticipating that the conflict would be brief and glorious.

In 2001, most Americans approached the war in Afghanistan with a commendable seriousness of purpose. They have not cheered the deaths of innocent Afghans (in contrast to Osama bin Laden, whose cackling over the murder of the Sept. 11 victims was captured on videotape). They have supported the enormous humanitarian effort with which America extended its hand to the Afghan people while liberating them from their Taliban and al-Qaida tormentors.

American armed forces, moreover, have carried out their duties honorably. Perhaps no military operation in history has gone to greater lengths to use technology to minimize civilian casualties. An Afghanistan-based correspondent for USA Today recent noted that "despite their popular image as modern-day Rambos, Green Berets are, in fact, a remarkably low-key and cerebral group." One Green Beret told the reporter: "Our mission is not necessarily to outfight the enemy, although we can do that if we have to. We would rather outthink them."

Americans can be proud that our defense lies in the capable hands of level-headed individuals. And that our nation has responded to the assault against us with commendable maturity.

AMERICAN FLAG FLIES OVER REBUILT DOGWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, in November 2000, the Dogwood Elementary School in Reston, VA, was completely demolished as a result of a tragic and extensive fire. The students soon found that the school flag also was lost in the fire.

As members of Congress, we have the privilege of having flags flown over the U.S. Capitol—the symbol of our democracy—and I was honored to present one of those new American flags to the students and teachers at Dogwood Elementary.

The school is now rebuilt and ready to reopen. I want to share with our colleagues the following message provided to me by Linda Thetford, assistant principal at Dogwood Elementary School, about the importance of the American flag to the school and its students.

On behalf of the Dogwood Elementary School we consider it an honor to be selected to receive an American Flag that has flown over the United States capitol. The tragedies of recent world events provide a backdrop for our local tragedy and have provided opportunities for our students to understand the significance of all Americans together to rebuild our future.

In November 2000, the Dogwood Elementary School in Reston suffered a shocking crisis when the entire school was demolished due to an extensive fire. The students, staff, parents and community experienced a tremendous loss as they tried to cope with this catastrophe. Once students were reassigned to temporary classrooms they gathered to raise the flag, which was a daily routine. However they quickly realized the American flag had burned along with all the other building contents.

The 530 students of Dogwood take great pride in representing their community and their country. Many students' families originate from countries throughout the world and speak over 22 languages. While the students attend school, many of their parents have studied to become American citizens. The gift of an American Flag would be a fitting tribute, not only to those heroes of September 11, but also to those in our community who have displayed the American spirit by coming together in time of crisis to rebuild Dogwood Elementary.

During the past year a tremendous number of people have collaborated together to rebuild Dogwood Elementary School. Many individuals have donated their professional skills and talents to help create a wonderful new school for the children of Reston. Thanks to all the dedication and continued effort we are now ready to open our re-built school.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 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: January 23, 2002: Rollcall vote 3, on passage of

H.R. 2234, the Tumacacori National Historical Park Boundary Revision Act, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO L. GEORGE YAP AND
LEASA INDUSTRIES CO., INC.

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor George Yap, the President and Chief Executive Officer of LEASA Industries, Inc., which is located in the heart of one of the poorest neighborhoods in my 17th Congressional District.

George Yap is a special man, and a truly gifted businessman. He has demonstrated beyond all doubt that businesses can operate successfully and profitably in poor communities, relying on neighborhood workers to produce their products, if management has a sound business plan and the commitment to make it work.

George Yap is responsible for nothing less than an economic transformation of an area in my district that had few economic opportunities.

George has reached out to the people in his neighboring community in a way that no one else has. LEASA currently employs 70 full and part-time workers, the majority of whom are residents of public housing who include single mothers, school drop outs and even ex-convicts. Many of his workers have been with the company for more than 10 years and have moved up to supervisory positions.

He has been unselfish in extending his help to people who reside in public housing—people who other businesses, even government leaders, considered unemployable. He recognized and fostered in them the personal pride, desire for achievement, ability to learn, loyalty and commitment that any successful business needs from its employees.

In so doing, George Yap proved to be more than just an employer, and his workers received more than just wages. He has been the biggest motivator and supporter of his employees, helping to keep families together, encouraging them to improve their skills and learn new ones, and improving their quality of life by providing day care for their children and insuring that they receive the health services they need. George also provides mentoring services to new entrepreneurs. Under his guidance, LEASA Industries has won national awards from the U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Small Business Administration, Inc. Magazine and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

This Saturday, January 26, LEASA Industries will break ground on a new \$4.6 million production facility in the Poinciana Industrial Park. I was happy to assist in this effort by legislatively directing almost \$2 million in federal Economic Development funds to this project, which is truly a wise public investment.

I know that my colleagues join with me in offering congratulations to George, his wife Einez, and their three children Andrew, Sean, and Allison for a job well done.

IN HONOR OF BLAKE HASELTON

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Blake Haselton. Mr. Haselton is the Superintendent of Oldham County Schools, a district which lies in Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District.

Last month, Mr. Haselton was named Superintendent of the Year by the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents. Next month, he could be named National Superintendent of the Year by the American Association of School Administrators.

Since he began in Oldham County in 1973, Mr. Haselton has served as a high school biology teacher, athletic director, director of guidance services, and principal. He also served as the district's director of pupil personnel before being named superintendent in 1991.

His colleagues praise him as an education leader who "stays on top of both the academic and financial elements of operating a school system," and "makes his decisions on what's best for kids." The Oldham County Teachers Association says Mr. Haselton is everything teachers want in a superintendent: child-centered, focused on teachers' needs, and an aggressive planner. The chair of the Oldham County Board of Education says Mr. Haselton is a "leader amongst leaders . . . a master teacher" who "inspires the best in others."

Mr. Haselton also serves his community by doing volunteer work for several recreational, civic, and scouting organizations.

I rise today to congratulate Blake Haselton on being named Kentucky Superintendent of the Year, and to wish him well as he vies for the national title next month. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Haselton for his nearly three decades of outstanding service to the people of Oldham County, KY.

IN HONOR OF JIM ARMSTRONG

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of a true leader of the city of Torrance and dear friend.

I met Jim Armstrong when I first ran for Congress. As a teacher of government and former mayor, he shared with me his great insight into the community. Indeed, in the years since, I came to value him as an advisor and friend. He helped me in every campaign and served as a member of my advisory committee on public education. He called himself a "Harman man," and I was clearly an "Armstrong woman."

It is hard to do justice to the true extent of Jim's reputation, influence, and impact. As teacher, councilman, mayor, and citizen, he exemplified the highest standard of community leadership and public service. During his six years on the Torrance City Council and eight more as Mayor, Jim fought for more parkland, for the Cultural Arts Center, for a new police station, and oversaw Torrance's renaissance

into a beautiful and modern city. Even in retirement, Jim remained an active leader in the community, serving in leadership roles in the Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation, Torrance Education Foundation, and Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce.

While Jim's work can be seen in buildings and parks across Torrance, his true legacy lies in the generation of students he inspired as a teacher. Countless students he taught have since pursued careers in which they too serve the community. I am proud to count myself among his students of politics, and am proud to be a part of establishing a college scholarship in Jim Armstrong's honor. This scholarship will be awarded to a student who exemplifies Jim's outstanding community leadership and scholastic aptitude.

No one was more committed to Torrance, to service, or to education than Jim Armstrong. I will miss his counsel, his sense of humor, and his generosity, but mostly, my family and I will miss Jim.

THE QUONSET AIR MUSEUM'S AC-
QUISITION OF AN F-14 AIRCRAFT

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to announce a very important achievement by the Quonset Air Museum in North Kingston, Rhode Island. Thanks to the coordinated effort of the Hasbro Corporation, the Rhode Island Air National Guard, the Rhode Island delegation and the Quonset Air Museum, an all-volunteer organization, the museum has been selected as the new home for the US Navy F-14 Tomcat, tail number A162591.

The mission to bring an F-14 to the museum began over 3 years ago. Thanks to countless letters and phone calls over the years and the diligence of many dedicated civilians and members of the services, today we are rewarded with the acquisition of a military treasure. This aircraft will join 30 other military and civilian aircraft and 5,000 smaller artifacts that are on display in the Quonset Air Museum. This plane was recently given a noble warrior's retirement from Fallon Naval Air Station in Nevada, the new home of the Navy's Top Gun competition. And it was even featured in the movie, Top Gun. But perhaps, most important of all, the F-14 has served the military for over 25 years. It was used in the Persian Gulf War and is now leading our effort in Afghanistan.

Today Rhode Island celebrates these accomplishments at an appropriate time in our nation's history. This aircraft has trained and prepared some of the Navy's top fighter pilots. It exemplifies the strength and vigilance of our country's armed forces and it demonstrates the honor attached to the service to one's country. This occasion reminds me of the importance of patriotism and of my love of this country.

I am proud to be an American, and I am proud to be a Rhode Islander. I hope that current and future generations visiting the Quonset Air Museum share my appreciation for the hard work of the museum in bringing this living legend to our community and for the