

from his commitment and dedication to the people of Queens.

Robert Stern passed away on November 19, 1998. He was survived by his wife, Irene, children Ronnie and Randy Stause, Stacey and Richard Block, grandchildren Jackie and Brett Strause, David and Daniel Block, brother William and sister Ellin.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring to your attention the outstanding life and work of Mr. Robert H. Stern. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the contributions Mr. Robert H. Stern had made to the New York community.

A TRIBUTE TO JOAN-PATRICIA O'CONNOR, 27TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2002

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's most notable women during the month of March and it is my honor to not only recognize women of the past but to also recognize women who are making a difference in my community. While a month of remembrance is certainly not sufficient, I am honored today to pay homage to such women as Eleanor Roosevelt, Sandra Day O'Connor, Harriet Tubman, Sally Ride and all the women of my Congressional District, whose contributions have made a profound difference in the face and fabric of our nation.

I have the privilege today of recognizing an outstanding woman of California's 27th Congressional District. Ms. Joan-Patricia O'Connor has dedicated her professional career to the support of non-profit associations, educational institutions, and community organizations.

JP is a graduate of both Pomona College in Claremont, California and the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. After earning double M.A. degrees, in Journalism and Public Relations, JP remained at USC as a member of the School of Journalism's Public Relations part-time faculty. She currently serves as the Dean of the Association of Management track at ASAE's School of Management in addition to teaching Membership Marketing at the same institution. She has developed a program for UCLA's Extension Program and is called on frequently as a guest lecturer.

JP began her consulting and marketing firm over 25 years ago, directing her efforts to the world of non-profit groups and associations. She has helped countless organizations recruit volunteers, raise funds, and attract participants. Due to her efforts on behalf of these groups; JP has created a sense of volunteerism and giving which permeates the community.

JP's volunteer service is enhanced by her professional expertise. She currently serves as the President of the Board of the Burbank YMCA where along with the Board she completed a strategic plan for the facility, which serves over 28,000 adults and children. She also serves on the Board of the Burbank Noon Rotary as the scholarship chair and newsletter editor.

For her countless efforts JP has twice been named one of the "Outstanding Young Women in America" and was awarded a Fellowship by the American Society of Association Executives, a honor she shares with fewer than 200 people nationwide.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an outstanding and extraordinary woman of California's 27th Congressional District, Ms. Joan-Patricia O'Connor. The entire community joins me in thanking JP for her continued efforts to make the 27th Congressional District a place of extraordinary volunteerism and superior giving.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 19, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join the Greek American community in celebrating the 181st anniversary of Greek independence.

On March 25, 1821, the Archbishop of Patras blessed the Greek flag at the Aghia Lavra Monastery near Kalavrita, marking the beginning of the Greek war of independence in which nearly 400 years of Ottoman rule were turned aside.

Ancient Greece was the birthplace of democratic values. It brought forth the notion that the ultimate power to govern belongs in the hands of the people. It inspired a system of checks and balances to ensure that one branch of government does not dominate any other branch.

These ideals inspired our Founding Fathers as they wrote the Constitution. In the words of Thomas Jefferson: "to the ancient Greeks . . . we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves out of Gothic darkness."

Today, the United States is enriched not only by Greek principles but also by its sons and daughters. Greek Americans have made major contributions to American society, including our arts, sports, medicine, religion, and politics.

My home State of Michigan has been enhanced by the Greek community. In Macomb and St. Clair Counties, we are served by St. John's Greek Orthodox Church and Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. These institutions provide a multitude of community services and add to the rich diversity of the area.

Mr. Speaker, I join the people of Greece and those of Greek ancestry around the world celebrating Greek Independence Day.

I salute all of them for the tremendous contributions to freedom and human dignity which they have made.

A TRIBUTE TO ELLEN DAIGLE, 27TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2002

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

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I would like to pay special honor to an outstanding woman of my Congressional District, Ms. Ellen Daigle. Ellen is a true inspiration for all those who strive each day for their American Dream. Working to both expand her small business and improve her community, she can certainly be held up as one of my community's most precious citizens.

Her business, Ellen's Silk-screening, has grown steadily since she first began producing her personalized T-Shirts from her garage 25 years ago. Today she employs over a dozen people and provides hundreds of products for schools, businesses, and the community.

Ellen's success has not gone without notice. She has been named to Los Angeles Business Journal's list of Top 100 Women-Owned Businesses twice in the last five years. She has also been honored by Business Life magazine as a "Woman of Achievement" and by the National Association of Businesswomen with induction into its Millennium Hall of Fame.

Her activism in the community has been outstanding. She has always felt that businesspeople have an obligation to donate their time and talents to ensure the vitality of the communities in which they live and work. Ellen has served as a Park Commissioner for the City of South Pasadena, founded the group, "South Pasadenans for Responsible Intelligent Growth" and began "Expanding Horizons," a program for local students to help them learn about career choices and the local job market. Because of her service to the City of South Pasadena's parks programs, the California Parks and Recreation Society bestowed upon her their greatest honor.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an outstanding and extraordinary woman of California's 27th Congressional District, Ms. Ellen Daigle. The entire community joins me in thanking Ellen for her continued efforts to make the 27th Congressional District a more enjoyable place to live.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RYAN RANDALL PATTERSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate a young student from my district, Ryan Randall Patterson. His hard work and dedication have been rewarded with a great opportunity to pursue higher education and compete in one of the nation's most esteemed science competitions. Ryan recently won the 2002 Intel Science Talent Search, and as he celebrates his achievement, I would like to commend him for his determination and self-sacrifice in achieving this

honor. I've personally met Ryan and words cannot explain how impressed I was with this young man and his achievements. He is certainly a well deserving recipient of this honor and I am pleased to represent him and his family in Colorado.

Ryan, a student at Central High School in Grand Junction, designed and built a glove that translates American Sign Language into text on a portable screen. This invention has taken him to the international level in Intel's Science Talent Search, a competition that he won both this year and last. This incredible invention is just the latest in a long list of electronic devices that Ryan has developed over the years. Ryan's fascination with electronics began in the third grade on a simple circuit board, and he has been exploring new possibilities in electronics ever since. His curiosity and determination have certainly paid off. At 18 years of age, Ryan has won over \$192,000 in scholarships, \$15,750 in cash, two laptop computers, and two trips to Sweden to attend the Nobel Prize ceremonies. Throughout all of his achievements, Ryan has maintained his integrity and modesty. He hopes to use his gift for electronics and inventing to improve people's lives, particularly the lives of the disabled.

Mr. Speaker, the innovation and commitment demonstrated by Ryan Randall Patterson certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress, and this nation. Ryan's achievements serve as a symbol to aspiring science students throughout Colorado, and indeed the entire nation. The recognition that Ryan has received is proof that hard work, attention to your studies, and a passionate pursuit of your goals can lead to great rewards. The opportunities offered as a result of winning the 2001 and 2002 Intel Science Talent Search are incredible and they certainly are going to a well deserving individual. Congratulations Ryan, and good luck in your future endeavors. You are a future leader in this country, and I am quite confident that this will not be the last honor you receive.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS, SHERIFF FRED ALLENBRAND

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to former Johnson County, Kansas, Sheriff Fred Allenbrand, who died on February 15th, at age 68.

For half of his life—34 years—Fred Allenbrand served as sheriff of Kansas' fastest growing county, which now comprises two-thirds of the population of the Third Congressional District. Elected in 1966, he served until his retirement in 2002, and oversaw the sheriff's office during a time span when Johnson County grew from a collection of small communities to a major suburban hub of the Kansas City metro area. Dismantling the patronage system that previously had been the hallmark of the sheriff's office, he professionalized the workforce, improved pay and benefits and modernized the force's equipment and facilities.

Fred Allenbrand is survived by his wife, Ramona, daughters Cindy Barnes and Karen

Wiggin, and son Kent, as well as by seven grandchildren. He will be remembered as a humane, progressive public servant, who was a kind, honest man of great integrity. I worked with him for twelve years as Johnson County District Attorney. I learned much from Fred about our criminal justice system and about people. Fred Allenbrand was my friend.

It is fitting that 2000 people attended his memorial service, including hundreds of law enforcement officers. Following the service, a funeral procession that was estimated by the Johnson County Sun to be three miles long traveled to his internment site. Mr. Speaker, I include with this remembrance an obituary of Sheriff Allenbrand that appeared in the Kansas City Star.

[From the Kansas City Star, Feb. 16, 2002]

FORMER COUNTY SHERIFF FRED ALLENBRAND DIES

(By Tony Rizzo and Finn Bullers)

Fred Allenbrand, who served longer than any other Johnson County sheriff, died Friday at age 68.

Allenbrand took over a 25-member department in January 1967 and retired in January 2001, after building it into a law enforcement agency with more than 400 employees.

"His contributions to Johnson County law enforcement are too numerous to mention," said his successor, John Foster. "But if there's one thing he should be remembered for, it's the integrity he maintained during his 34 years in office." Growing up on a Johnson County farm, one of 13 children, Allenbrand used to wave from horseback at passing squad cars. He was so enamored of police work that he took a \$200 a month pay cut to the department as a deputy in 1958. "I loved it," he said of his early career in an interview before his retirement.

He quickly progressed through the ranks and by 1962 was a lieutenant, but he was demoted after backing the wrong man in the election for sheriff. The experience prompted him to run for sheriff in 1966.

After winning the election, Allenbrand moved to dismantle the political system that had led to his demotion. He worked for a civil-service system to protect deputies' jobs, and he worked for better pay and benefits for employees.

"He totally removed any kind of patronage from the system before a time it was regularly done. I think that was the key to his popularity," County Commissioner Annabeth Surbaugh said. "You couldn't fix the deal in Johnson County. He was honest to the end."

Throughout his tenure as sheriff, Allenbrand sought to keep his department abreast of advances in law enforcement while keeping pace with the county's tremendous population growth.

"You have to be willing to change," Allenbrand said in the pre-retirement interview. "If you're not willing to change, you'd better not live in Johnson County."

Today the department runs a crime laboratory open to every police department in the county and two jails that hold more than 500 prisoners.

Toward the end of his tenure, Allenbrand took some heat for problems associated with construction of one of those facilities—the county's jail at New Century AirCenter.

The project, which Allenbrand oversaw, experienced cost overruns, construction delays and trouble with the security system. The jail officially opened in July 2000, three years behind schedule.

The complex is named after the former sheriff, and more than 230 prisoners are held in the detention center.

When he retired, Allenbrand said he was also proud of the employment opportunities for women and minorities, and the cooperation among all the county's police agencies that was developed while he was sheriff.

He was one of the driving forces behind the establishment of a professional police academy in the county.

Herb Shuey, department historian and a retired deputy, described Allenbrand "as the most important sheriff in the history of the department."

In a book about the Sheriff's Department, Shuey said Allenbrand made himself a first-rate administrator and politician, but at his core he was always a police officer first.

"His compassion is well known and his respect for the law is equally known," Shuey wrote. "More importantly for the citizens of Johnson County, his attitudes filter down and through his subordinates."

After he was first elected sheriff, Surbaugh said, "no one ever really gave him any competition. And the reason is, how can you fight honesty, integrity, consistency and fair government? He had a fire in his belly."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO OTTO "TINK" SNAPP

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise today to recognize the life and contributions of Otto "Tink" Snapp of Pueblo, Colorado who peacefully left us on a Monday morning, February 18, 2002. Tink was a popular member of the community and was often sought by many for his listening ear, advice, and warm smile. He served his country and fellow Coloradans for over a half century, and as his family and friends mourn his loss, I would like to take this opportunity to highlight his accomplishments and generosity to his fellow man.

Tink began his service to this country in 1942 as a member of the Army Air Force in China, serving in the hostile China-Burma-India Theater. It was in this area during World War II that our nation fought and held Japanese advances into China. Tink, along with thousands of soldiers and airmen, braved the hazards of the environment to ensure that democracy and freedom reigned throughout the world.

After the war, Tink returned to his native Pueblo and continued his service to his community as an employee of Minequa Bank. Over the years he served in several positions; beginning as the bank bike messenger and eventually rising to the position of executive vice president. Tink's is the kind of story that lends substance to the American Dream. His long career spanned almost fifty years, ending in 1994 with his retirement at the age of 75.

Tink was well known throughout the community as an avid sportsman who enjoyed a wide range of sports, from golf and tennis to basketball and softball. For over twenty-three years, he traveled as a referee at home and on the road to ensure fair and unbiased officiating for local Colorado sporting events. Tink also served his community as a deacon and elder of the First Presbyterian Church and as a member of his local Masonic Order, and the Colorado Bankers Association.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Otto "Tink" Snapp for the great strides he