

Mr. Bynum has dedicated himself to making our community a better place. Beginning in the late 50s when he played baseball for the Bailey's Crossroads Little League, Mr. Bynum has devoted years to making Little League a strong, positive institution for the children of Northern Virginia.

In the late 70s, Mr. Bynum coached his first baseball team for children between the ages of 10 and 12, and has continued this service for 28 years, coaching hundreds of children in the Mason District Little League. While off the field, Mr. Bynum ran three golf tournaments to raise needed funds to build batting cages that can be seen on the Parklawn Park fields on Lincolnia Road, as well as to purchase a lighted scoreboard dedicated at last year's Opening Day Ceremonies on the fields of Mason District Park.

In addition to his years of coaching, Mr. Bynum has served as President of the Mason District Little League, as well as several other Board positions. Despite having no children of his own, Mr. Bynum did all of this as a result of his passion for baseball, the children, and the Little League institution.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I wish the very best to Mr. Bob Bynum as he is recognized for his years of service to the Mason District Little League. He certainly has earned his recognition, and I call upon all of my colleagues to join me in applauding this remarkable service to our community and our children.

A TRIBUTE TO SCOTT K. NIELSON
ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, Scott K. Nielson was born on April 3, 1922, in Huntington, Utah. His father was Gerald W. Nielson and his mother was Lone Wakefield Nielson. Scott had three brothers, Kirk Nielson, Dick Nielson and Tom Nielson, and one sister, Jean Nielson Adamson. He married Lila H. Wilson on April 10, 1943. Scott and Lila have three sons, Scott, Jr., Mark, and Gaylan, and one daughter, Wendy Nielson. They have 12 grand and 10 great grand children.

Scott is an outstanding father, grandfather, and great grandfather. His children and their children love and respect him. He is a loving and caring father, and a wonderful role model. Because of his love and support, all of his children attended college. The three sons have graduate degrees, and are successful and productive members of the community. His daughter Wendy has a flourishing career as a systems administrator for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Scott is a veteran of World War II having served in the U.S. Army in the Pacific Theater. His unit fought in the Philippines, Guadalcanal and Luzon.

Following World War II, Scott worked as a coal miner and construction contractor, Scott, along with his father and brothers built many of the roads in Emery County, Utah and the Millers Flat Dam, a storage facility located in Huntington Canyon, Utah. During the 1950s, the Nielson men turned to mining uranium in both Utah and Colorado. In 1961, Scott moved his family to Salt Lake City, Utah. He and his

brother Kirk Nielson were service station dealers for several years. Scott and Kirk continued to work together, first in the service station and then in the remodeling business until retirement. Scott is a talented mechanic and carpenter and has continued to work part time doing home modeling up to the present time. A man who can do anything around the house, Scott is an excellent electrician, plumber, and finish carpenter who has a reputation for the quality of his workmanship—Scott is never satisfied with anything less than perfection.

Scott is an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and is currently a member of the High Priest Quorum. Church activity is a very important part of Scott's life and he and Lila, his wife of fifty-nine years, are currently serving a mission for their church in Salt Lake City.

Scott Nielson has lived a long and productive life. He is an outstanding father and role model. He will continue to be an important member of the community for many years to come. I look forward to honoring him again on his 90th and 100th Birthdays! Happy 80th Birthday Scott!

HONORING THE PIPEFITTERS
LOCAL #208 ON THE OCCASION OF
THEIR CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Local #208 of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry, located in Denver, Colorado. From their formation on April 26, 1902, Local #208 has a history full of challenge, perseverance, loyalty, and ingenuity.

Before the creation of Local #208, conditions for pipefitters based in Denver were generally poor. Employment was not steady and jobs were scattered across the nation, forcing pipefitters to constantly move. However, with the increase in indoor plumbing and construction, pipefitters soon found employment in hospitals, schools, and water systems, among others.

As the number of jobs grew, so did the need for a union to protect the interests of the workers in the pipefitting industry. The national union was founded on October 7, 1889 and two of the first elected officers were from Denver.

On April 26, 2002, the Pipefitters Local #208 will have existed for 100 years. This is truly an achievement. From their beginnings in 1902, the Local has contributed to the welfare of their members, as well as the pipefitting industry. The loyalty of Local #208 to its members was demonstrated numerous times when it came to the aid of financially distressed pipefitters in Denver and across Colorado. In fact, the Local provided interest free loans to its members who were experiencing difficult times.

Local #208 also gave back to Denver and its budding pipefitters. Local #208 coordinated with other locals in the region to advocate for stronger worker protections, improvements in

health and safety, and contract agreements. Additionally, the Local created a Joint Apprenticeship Committee that provides training and accreditation of new pipefitters.

In the last 25 years, Local #208 has successfully fought for better wages and working conditions of its membership and has helped to make Denver the great city it is today. Members of Local #208 have contributed to the construction of such Denver institutions as the home of the Denver Broncos, the Denver Public Library, the Denver International Airport, and the home of the Colorado Rockies.

Over 100 years, Local #208 has thrived through perseverance, loyalty, and creativity. These are the characteristics that will allow Local #208 to last for another 100 years. I am proud to congratulate Local #208 on their first 100 years and wish them all the best in the future.

IN MEMORY OF HERMAN A. ENGEL

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the memory of Herman Engel of Tyler, TX, who recently passed at the age of 85. He was a war hero, pioneering oil man, and beloved community activist and father.

Herman first started in the oil industry working for Shell Oil in Houston, where he was born. After graduating from LSU with a degree in Petroleum Engineering he spent time in East Texas, Houston, and Oklahoma working for various oil companies. He moved to East Texas permanently in 1976 to run the East Texas Salt Water Disposal Company and remained active with the company even after his retirement in 1989. Prior to 1976 he had been vice president of APCO Oil Corporation and of Union Texas Petroleum, both of which were in Tulsa, OK.

As a professional he was recognized as a leader. In 1983 he was selected as a "Pioneer Engineer" by the Petroleum Landmen, Petroleum Geologists and Petroleum Engineers of East Texas. He was an Honorary Life Member of the Independent Petroleum Association of America and was a Distinguished Member of the Petroleum Engineers. He also served as vice president and director of both the Society of Petroleum Engineers and the American Institute of Mining.

Before he began his professional career, Herman served his country in the Second World War. This true American hero was an officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and spent 1½ years in Alaska in addition to his 2½ in the South Pacific.

While in Tyler he was an integral part of the community and played a major part in helping to make East Texas a better place for everyone. He served as a vice president and director of the Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce. He was a long-time director of East-Texas Lighthouse for the Blind, and was an active supporter of several local organizations and foundations. Among those were Louisiana State University, Tyler Junior College, and the Tyler Independent School District. He was also a devoted trustee of the Watson W. Wise Foundation.

In passing, Mr. Engel leaves behind two daughters Dee Landers and Alice Beam; a

sister Elizabeth Engel; and 6 grandchildren. He was a wonderful father, devoted husband, and beloved grandfather. Mr. Speaker, this was one of those men who made a lasting impact in everything that he did. We will remember with great respect everything this kind and caring man did for his community—Mr. Herman A. Engel.

MICHAEL VANG INVESTIGATION

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to recognize a dark anniversary for one of my constituents. Three years ago, Suzie Vang lost her friend and husband to unknown circumstances in Laos.

On April 19, 1999, Michael Vang and Mr. Houa Ly, a resident of Appleton, WI, both Americans, were traveling along the border between Laos and Thailand. According to eyewitnesses, the U.S. congressional research missions, nongovernmental organizations and other sources both Ly and Vang were seized by Lao Government authorities. Despite the building evidence, the Lao Government continues to deny knowledge of their whereabouts or the role of government security forces in their abduction.

The State Department has been asked repeatedly by Members of Congress to vigorously investigate and resolve this case since it was first reported in early May 1999. It is certainly true that we have received some assistance from them. However, there continues to be a lack of results. This is not surprising considering that the State Department continues to pursue an investigation in cooperation with the regime in Laos—a regime involved with their disappearance. While the State Department continues their slow and seemingly never-ending investigation, the trail grows colder.

We need a renewed effort. We need to initiate a new independent investigation free from coordination with the government of Laos. Three years is long enough. And, as long as this case goes unresolved, I will continue to oppose Normal Trade Relations (NTR) status for Laos.

HONORING THOMAS E. BRUNK
UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Mr. Thomas E. Brunk, upon his retirement from the Federal Government after 33 years of distinguished and dedicated service to Northern Virginia, our Nation, and the Department of Defense.

Tom's career truly can be described as an American success story. Tom began his career as a young intern in Oklahoma, somewhat bewildered by the sights and sounds of the bustling air logistics center. Now, more than three decades later, he will end his ca-

reer as a member of the Senior Executive Service and as the deputy director and the highest-ranking civilian of the Defense Contract Management Agency, a worldwide organization of 12,000 employees responsible for ensuring that the supplies and materials going to our Military Services—our men and women in uniform—are delivered on-time and are of the highest quality. His contribution has been particularly notable over the last nine years as contingency contract management has been needed to support America's military deployments at locations around the world.

Despite his relative youth, Tom quickly demonstrated exceptional managerial skills in support of major aerospace systems, including the B-2 aircraft and the Peacekeeper missile. With great vigilance and a strong sense of duty, he led operations reviews at dozens of major Defense contractors, and after having proved his mettle on the plant floor, steadily advanced to positions of increasing responsibility. In 1990 he accepted an appointment to the Defense Department's principle contract-management organization, the Defense Contract Management Command. In this capacity, Tom has been a stalwart standard bearer in the Department's pursuit of acquisition excellence.

The capstone of Tom's career came in March 2000, when he spearheaded the establishment of the Defense Contract Management Agency, a combat-support organization responsible for the management of 310,000 government contracts cumulatively valued at more than \$100 billion. As deputy director since the agency's inception, Mr. Brunk has brought to bear his considerable managerial, technical, and interpersonal skills to ensure America's fighting forces receive the material support they need to protect and defend our nation. He has helped DCMA earn a place of prominence in the Department's technology revolution, as evidenced by his role in the development and deployment of the Standard Procurement System, a Department-wide purchasing and payment system that will replace a jumble outmoded and disparate programs that for years have bedeviled financial management with the Defense community.

Whether it is on the flight line at an air logistics center in Oklahoma City, on the plant floor at a manufacturing plant in St. Louis, or at a negotiations table in the Nation's capital, Tom Brunk served with dignity, commitment, and integrity. On the occasion of his retirement from the Federal Civilian Service, I offer my congratulations and thanks to this long-time resident of Northern Virginia, and wish him and his wife, Sharon, well in their future pursuits.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I wish the very best to Mr. Brunk as he is recognized for his years of service to the Federal Government, the people of Northern Virginia and our nation. He certainly has earned this recognition, and I call upon all of my colleague to join me in applauding this remarkable service.

IN MEMORY OF GALE CINCOTTA

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2002

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during this reflective season of Ramadan, Passover, and

Lent, I have been reflecting on friends whose lives closely paralleled the stories of sacrifice in the Holy Books. It is this reflection that calls to my mind Mrs. Gale Cincotta of Chicago, who passed from this life to the next on August 15, 2001. I am grateful for the opportunity to encapsulate her life's work for the RECORD.

Born of humble origin and reared in Chicago's Austin neighborhood, Gale became a neighborhood activist and then national leader as her personal knowledge of injustice led her on a passionate journey. Her dissatisfaction with her sons' educational opportunities spurred her to address the issue. She became impassioned with the root causes of an inadequate educational system: poverty, lack of decent and affordable housing and the resulting decaying neighborhoods. As her understanding grew about these issues, Gale found her true vocation. Armed initially only with a small but vocal band of neighborhood residents, Gale began a crusade which would eventually lead her to national prominence. She was, the Chicago Tribune noted upon her death, "one of the most effective community activists in the nation." I would add that she had extraordinary vision, a sharp intellect, a love of those without voice or power, and a boundless sense of humor.

Feisty, blustery, and with a keen ability to cajole or badger those with influence and power into doing what needed to be done, Gale earned the respect of all with whom she worked whether or not they agreed with her. Her passion was unmistakable, her commitment unwavering, and her expertise unparalleled. She taught many people, including myself, what being a neighborhood activist is really all about: it is about changing people's lives for the better. It is about helping them gain power to improve the condition of people's lives.

Though responsible for many changes in neighborhood development and revitalization, lending practices and housing concerns across our nation, Gale's greatest public accomplishment was gaining Congressional approval of the Community Reinvestment Act in 1977. Passage of this Act, now a cornerstone of neighborhood financing that has released billions of dollars of private credit to formerly red-lined neighborhoods, was considered by the Chicago Tribune Gale's "single greatest triumph." Ever the champion of marginal neighborhoods, she persuaded not only elected officials but also bankers, insurance companies, landlords, and business leaders that neighborhood investment—while being the right think to do—could also be profitable. She taught them that the savings of people of ordinary means should not be drained from their neighborhoods, but made available for reinvestment. Her work made the capitalist system work in some of the most neglected corners of our nation. Her tireless and unmatched efforts yielded visible results by turning faded city blocks into flourishing neighborhoods from coast to coast. Gale organized other programs and works, and many awards and accolades were bestowed upon her through the years, but surely none meant as much to her as the lasting legacy of the Community Reinvestment Act and the people and communities it still helps.

Gale Cincotta lives on in the seeds she planted in the hearts of the people she served and the minds of those she battled with and against to make people's lives better. She