

Project Management at Caltrans District 8 in San Bernardino, a post he held since 1988. In that capacity, he was responsible for directing a professional engineering staff in the development, design and delivery of highway projects totaling in excess of \$100 million a year. Sassaman was a member of a team that helped develop the project management concept at Caltrans, and later helped implement the system in District 8. The district was the first one in the state to use "single hat" project managers to streamline the process of delivering transportation improvements. He also was a facilitator at the project management academies that taught the system to Caltrans supervisors.

Among Sassaman's other career highlights are supervising the design of the complex Simi Valley/San Diego Freeway interchange—now named the Ronald Reagan Freeway 118/405—in the San Fernando Valley area of Los Angeles.

Sassaman was born in Neptune, NJ, but grew up in Phillipsburg, on the Pennsylvania border. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Lafayette College in Easton, PA, and a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Southern California. He also completed course work at California State University, Long Beach, and Mount San Antonio College in Walnut, CA, in business management. He holds a certificate in real estate from Mount San Antonio College.

Sassaman was hired at Caltrans District 7 as a junior civil engineer in July 1962; and held a variety of positions within the district over the next 26 years. They included Design Project Engineer of the 118/405 Freeway interchange; Resource Management Section Chief, Project Management Section Chief, Hydraulics Section Chief, Management Services Branch Chief; and Deputy District Director for Administration.

Sassaman is registered as a Professional Engineer in California (Civil), and is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Project Management Institute.

There are few tasks as monumental in southern California as overseeing our regional freeway system with a commitment to responding to local needs and concerns, and for his dedication to better serving the commuting public of southern California as well as Caltrans employees, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in congratulating Bob Sassaman upon his retirement.

#### MENTAL HEALTH PARITY NOW!

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2002*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, The National Mental Health Association's, NMHA, powerful vision for our country is to be a just, humane and healthy society in which all people are accorded respect, dignity and the opportunity to achieve their full potential free from stigma and prejudice.

Today, June 6, 2002, Americans are rallying on Capitol Hill to send Members of Congress a clear and unified message: Mental Health Parity Now! We must do more than simply hear what they are saying; we must persevere until we make it a legal reality.

Passage of a Mental Health Parity Bill would be a major step toward realizing the vision of the NMHA. Specifically, it is my hope that this Congress will pass the Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act of 2002, which will address the critical need of assuring that insurance coverage for physical ailments and mental ailments are comparable. Mental illness is real and widespread, but fortunately it is often very treatable and manageable.

Unfortunately, a parity amendment to the fiscal year 2002 spending bill for the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, which was passed by the Senate, failed in conference on a party-line vote. The amendment would have closed the loopholes of 1996 Mental Health Parity Act and given true parity to the American people. Instead, Congress extended the existing flawed mental health parity provision up until December 31, 2003. This leaves this important issue in pressing need of a resolution.

Over 54 million people in the United States experience some form of mental illness in their lifetime, but many go without the much-needed treatment a mental health professional could provide. In fact, almost half of the people of our nation with severe mental illness never seek or receive treatment. This in large part is due to stigma.

Throughout our nation's history, we have viewed mental illness with ignorance, fear and misunderstanding. We would not stand by while insurance companies put up barriers to cancer treatments, nor should we turn our backs on those suffering from mental health problems.

Many health insurers opposed to parity laws are concerned that overall health care costs will be significantly increased, due in part to the fact that treatment is sometimes more expensive and longer lasting than many physical ailments. However, access to mental health care often reduces medical claims for physical illness.

Recent studies show that full parity can be implemented without causing significant cost increases for managed care. In states that have enacted parity laws, many consumers use mental health care more efficiently. In the great state of Maryland, after a small rise of less than one percentage point in the first year of parity, mental health costs held steady in year two and declined in year three.

As millions of suffering Americans go without medical assistance, it costs the nation upwards of \$150 billion each year. Vital human capital is lost and medical bills skyrocket as ailments worsen until even more expensive management is inevitable. The most damaging effect, however, is the pain and suffering that untreated individuals and their loved ones must endure.

The events and the aftermath of September 11 have exemplified the need to provide mental healthcare to all sectors of the population, including our youngest generation. Children, who are exposed to violent and threatening experiences, such as the September 11th attacks, may need special attention in order to heal emotionally.

If a child with a mental health problem is left untreated, the results can be devastating. Victims may repeatedly relive a traumatic event, which can cause anxiety and depression, impair concentration and learning and ultimately perpetuate a cycle of aggressive or violent behavior.

This vicious cycle can be lessened by strengthening families through programs and understanding, breaking down misconceptions of mental illness and providing people access to mental health professionals and vital treatment. All of these factors will help give millions of Americans the opportunity to recover and live healthy and productive lives.

I am proud that Congresswoman ROSA DELAUNO and I were successful in securing \$20 million in funding for fiscal year 2002 for the National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative, administered through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration. Presently, we are working to secure an additional \$50 million for fiscal year 2003 to continue this highly-regarded program.

I would like to commend the National Mental Health Association and the other organizations and individuals here today, who are pushing for mental health parity. This call for parity in the coverage of costs for mental and physical ailments through insurance programs merits our serious attention. Let us make their vision a reality in the 107th Congress.

HONORING PATRICIA BARELA  
RIVERA

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2002*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the District Director of the Small Business Administration, SBA, in Colorado, Patricia Barela Rivera.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said that the true measure of a person's character is how they handle themselves in times of adversity. By this gauge, Patricia Barela Rivera's character is worthy of our admiration.

Ms. Barela Rivera certainly knows a great deal about overcoming adversity, shrugging off disappointment and competing against unfavorable odds. She built a successful business in Colorado when Latina entrepreneurs were few and far between. She volunteered countless hours on behalf of minority non-profits, and eventually became the Director of the Governor's Advocate Corps in Colorado, where she swiftly built a reputation for inspirational management and was recognized as a leading voice on behalf of diversity in the Romer administration.

Tragically, just weeks ago, Ms. Rivera's condominium burned down just days before the SBA's biggest event of the year. Ms. Rivera lost her home and all of her possessions. This kind of blow would level many, but not Patricia Barela Rivera. She picked herself up, bought something to wear, attended the event and served gracefully as the Master of Ceremonies. That kind of dedication is worth our attention. At a time when many question the determination and quality of public servants, I find Ms. Barela Rivera's example inspiring.

Reflecting on the fire, she reasserted her belief that "everything happens for a reason and eventually shows itself to be something good". On her choice of attending the event in the midst of her personal chaos she said simply, "I had to be here. It's about strength. It's about surviving when we have devastation in our lives."

Patricia Barela Rivera, or "PBR" as she is affectionately known to her friends, is clearly a

dedicated public servant. She also is a remarkable human being. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Barela Rivera.

#### 58TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2002*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 58th Anniversary of D-Day. It was June 6, 1944 when American and Allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy, France, which began the continental campaign against Hitler's Nazi Germany. The 11th Infantry Division chaplain, Major Kovach, recently offered this prayer regarding the sacrifices American fighting men made on that effort some 58 years ago. The prayer is set out in text as follows:

Almighty, eternal God, we bow before you during this solemn moment of remembrance. we find ourselves standing on hallowed ground... ground consecrated by the blood of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the cause of freedom, and their families gathered to honor the memory of their loved ones.

58 years ago, men of extraordinary courage fought for this very ground upon which we stand today. it is nearly impossible to conceive of the enormous price exacted to insure liberty's light would never grow dim. Only by the grace of God, the determined spirit of men like those memorialized here was freedom won and peace preserved.

But keep us mindful Lord that freedom is not free. That it takes men and women of valor to win it, and a people committed to character and principle to keep it. May we stand firm to keep the peace others have given their lives to win and may it call us to a renewed appreciation for the liberty and opportunities which have been safeguarded by their sacrifice.

As we walk by this memorial and countless graves, may we never again entertain thoughts of indifference or forgetfulness. May we pause and rededicate ourselves to the highest ideals our fallen comrades lived and died for. And, following their example, commit ourselves this day to the ultimate virtue of self-sacrifice in service to God, to country, and to our fellow man, that the memory of those who fought and died be properly preserved, and their lives not sacrificed in vain.

In Your most holy name we pray. Amen.

#### IN SUPPORT OF PITTSBURGH'S TELEVISION STATIONS AND THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL TELEVISION

### HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2002*

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer support to the local Pittsburgh television stations in my district that are moving into the digital future. These stations: including WPXI, a Cox owned station, WTAE a Hearst-Argyle station, KDKA of CBS Television, and WPGH and WCWB which are both Sinclair Broadcasting Group stations have demonstrated a commitment to the future of free over-the-air

television. By investing in digital television, they are preparing to offer their viewers—many of whom are my constituents—exciting services like High Definition TV, interactive television, datacasting, and expanded programming content.

The digital television transition is happening now, and I am proud that stations in Pittsburgh are leading the way.

Today, record players and cassettes have in many cases been replaced by CDs. Analog VCRs are being replaced by digital VCRs and DVD players. Similarly, consumers will soon be swapping their analog television sets for digital television sets. Of course for digital television to move into its next exciting next stage and fulfill its great promise, it will be important that all of these digital devices are capable of working together.

This concept—called interoperability—will enable a cable set-top box to be plugged into a digital VCR, which could in turn be plugged into a digital television set and all of the different devices will be able to communicate with each other. While there may be some discussion about the best way to achieve this end. It seems that everyone can agree that the final goal of interoperability will greatly benefit all consumers.

Like any new technology, the digital television transition can go only so far without the full support of the American consumer. Clearly, their support will increase significantly when these different devices work together easily enough for the average consumer to understand.

As we continue forward, let me reiterate: I am proud that Pittsburgh stations are leading the way in this exciting transition and I am confident that their investment in digital television will produce benefits for all consumers.

#### IN HONOR OF J. FRANK MOORE III

### HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2002*

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of J. Frank Moore III, President of the International Association of Lions Clubs. Deeply involved in the community and sincerely committed to service, President Moore brings a unique passion and spirit to his duties, and truly lives the mission of Lions International: "We Serve."

Lions have a strong commitment to community service, and are recognized internationally for their service to the blind and visually impaired, as well as their commitment to helping youth throughout the world. An educator by profession and former Superintendent of Education for the Daleville, Alabama city schools, President Moore brings a wealth of experience as well as a unique perspective to the Association's service work.

A member of the Daleville Lions Club since 1975, President Moore has held many positions within the organization, and received numerous awards in recognition of his commitment and service to the organization and its mission. President Moore has won two Lion of the Year Awards, a 30 Member Key Award, the Henry W. Sweet Outstanding Past District Governor Award, two International President Leadership medals, seven International Presi-

dent's Award, and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the Association bestows upon its members.

In addition to his Lion activities, President Moore is active in numerous professional and community organizations. He is Chairman of the Daleville City Planning and Zoning Commission, a member of the Board of Directors of the Army Aviation Center Federal Credit Union and a member of the Army Aviation Museum Foundation executive committee. As you may be able to tell by now, President Moore is a busy man. More importantly, however, President Moore is a well-respected, hard-working, and dedicated individual.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Oak Cliff, Texas Lions Club myself, I have seen firsthand how tirelessly President Moore works on behalf of the International Association. I know my colleagues, many of them Lions themselves, will join me in honoring a remarkable man and a tireless advocate. I salute President Moore today, and wish him continued success in all of his endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO HELEN THORP STREET

### HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 6, 2002*

Mr. UDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Helen Thorp Street, a citizen of Colorado. Helen died on May 6, 2002 and left a legacy of public service and dedication to the field of law and community leadership.

Helen was born in Marion, Kansas in 1912, and at nine years old, moved to Colorado when her widowed mother took up residence at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver. These were adventurous times for Helen and she was inspired to branch out on her own and run away from home. Given streetcar fare by the hotel's bellman, she traveled for about an hour, had a change of heart and returned to the safety of her historic residence and its protective staff.

Helen graduated from The Kent School for Girls in 1929 and traveled east by train to study at Vassar College, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1932. She was also a student at the Sorbonne in Paris. She returned to Denver, and in 1936, began her legal studies at the Westminster College of Law at the University of Denver, above the Mapelli Meat Market, where she graduated with honors in 1939. She received the top score on the Colorado bar examination in 1940, but no firm in Colorado would hire her. Law was a man's profession and no one would give her a job.

In 1940, Helen joined the University of Denver's law school faculty, becoming the first woman in the United States to teach at an accredited law school. She represented indigent clients at the Legal Aid Society of Denver and after World War II, began a solo practice in the estates and trusts field.

Helen married John Campbell Street, a West Point graduate and attorney from Alabama in 1942, and their daughter, Kimbrough Street Schneider, an estates and trusts attorney in Seattle, Washington, survives them.

For over 50 years, Helen was an active volunteer for many of Denver's charitable and