

So here in a makeshift base camp, we have a brigade headquarters with few reservists to command and no regular Army commander to support. The feeling throughout the ranks is that we are being held in place while someone tries to think of something for us to do. We've been assured that new orders will be published "any day now," but we've heard that before.

The advantage of experienced reservists to a unit is immeasurable. But here in Iraq, I am hearing more soldiers talk about calling it quits when they return to the States. Even though some soldiers are only four or five years from qualifying for retirement pay and benefits, they're getting out. The constant deployments are difficult for families and careers, they say, and waiting around for retirement benefits is no longer worth it.

The evidence I see in other units around me is the same: the United States Army is about to see a mass exodus from its Reserve.

For me, the length of time I spend in Iraq is less important than getting the job done right. I don't want my son to have to come here in five years because we messed it up. But if the Army continues its policy of year-plus tours for its Reserve forces in Iraq and elsewhere, it will soon find those ranks empty.

The question the Army faces is simple: will more frequent, extended deployments dry up the Reserve pool? We need an answer soon. If the Reserve continue to be misused, soldiers will vote with their feet when they get home. By then it will be too late for the Army to figure out what went wrong.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld has said that we need to be fair to reservists, their families and their employers. If reservists are forced to spend too much time on active duty, he said, "we're going to end up losing them, and we can't afford to lose them."

From my perspective, however, we're already losing them. The real impact of the Army's policy on Reserve deployments won't be felt until long after his watch. But because everything bad that happens is the commander's fault, Mr. Rumsfeld's tenure may be remembered less for its battlefield victories than for the damage it caused to the morale of the Army.

HONORING MAX AND VERDA FOSTER

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Max and Verda Foster who are receiving the "Pioneer Award" from the California Poultry Federation. As the founders of Foster Farms, they provided countless economic opportunities to local workers and shaped the poultry industry today.

Max and Verda Foster launched Foster Farms in 1939 on an 80-acre ranch just outside of Modesto, CA. With a small loan and his earnings as City Editor of The Modesto Bee the couple was able to raise their first batch of chickens and turkeys. Dedicated to their vision of providing better, safer farm products to the consumer they expanded their company to dairy as well as poultry. Blazing the path in both the dairy and poultry industry they remained steadfast in their determination to uphold the principles upon which Foster Farms was founded: Excellence, Honesty, Quality, and Service.

Always a leader in the industry, Foster Farms always accepted and embraced new technology. In fact, the Fosters were often leaders in this arena as well. With the consumer in mind, Max Foster worked to revolutionize the industry by computerizing both the poultry and dairy operations. Many of his ideas are still in use today.

Not only were the Fosters dedicated to the consumer but also dedicated to protecting farm land as well. They always used natural chicken fertilizer on their dairies and led the industry by having the first Manurial Lagoon. Both Foster Farms' dairy and poultry products continue to be hormone free.

The Fosters' impact can be felt among many in their local community as well. Foster Farms currently employs more than 9,000 people in their poultry and dairy operations. They are one of the largest employers in Stanislaus County. The vision and passion for quality shared by Max and Vera Foster in 1939 remains the legacy of every Foster Farms employee today. Leading it to become the largest poultry company in the Western United States with annual sales in excess of \$1 billion. It is my honor and distinction to recognize the efforts of Max and Verda Foster and to represent their legacy Foster Farms in the 18th Congressional District.

HONORING MAY W. NEWBURGER

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of May Newburger, who is serving her fifth term as North Hempstead Town Supervisor. May is an asset to our community, and an excellent role model for our younger generations. Put simply, May is my role model.

Many Long Islanders know May Newburger as the first female chief executive of a Nassau County town, but she is much, much more than that. A graduate of Hunter College and Columbia University, May is an intelligent woman who has worked on local, state and national issues.

Before becoming supervisor, May spent 2 years as a town councilwoman and 8 years as a New York State assemblywoman. She has worked extensively on behalf of women and children by serving as a New York State delegate to the National White House Conference on Families, chairing the American Jewish Congress' National Commission on Women's Equality, among other committees and commissions.

May's efforts are endless. Under May's responsible and practical supervision, North Hempstead has transformed a \$7 million budget deficit to a \$7.7 million surplus. In fact, the town was the first on Long Island to adopt a debt reduction plan that emphasized the need for long-term strategies. May has built a reputation around her dedication to the environment, securing \$200,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency to designate New Cassel as a Brownfields Pilot Community. She is continually working to protect and preserve our local lands and waterways.

Today, as May Newburger nears her retirement, I honor her for her numerous contribu-

tions to our community. May is the reason that I, along with many other women, had the courage to enter politics and government service. Not a day goes by without me reflecting on or using something May has taught me, and I am proud to call her my friend and mentor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank May Newburger on behalf of each and every person whose life she has improved over her years of service.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH'S 300TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the First Congregational Church of Rochester, Massachusetts, in the district which I am privileged to represent, will mark a very impressive occasion—the church's 300th Anniversary. During these 300 years—which of course predate the establishment of our country, an event in which members of the church had an important role—the First Congregational Church has made innumerable contributions to society while serving its central religious purpose. Recently I received a letter from the Reverend Dr. Leo D. Christian, which gives a brief history of the church—brief because it would take a volume the size of this RECORD adequately to document what has happened here over 3 centuries. This is an impressive example of the way in which our institutions ought to work, and how institutions can both serve the needs of their members and contribute to the greater society. I ask, because I think this is an example that should be widely shared, that the letter from the Reverend Dr. Leo D. Christian be printed here, and I again express my congratulations to Dr. Christian and the members of the church for their truly impressive record.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,
Rochester, MA.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE FRANK: On October the 13th, 2003, we at the First Congregational Church are celebrating our 300th Anniversary. As a Church we have had the privilege of not only watching the development of this nation and this commonwealth, but we participated in its very formation. The laws and governing principles were decided by the input and votes of our people along with the other great peoples of the day. A list of some notable people is as follows: Joseph Burge, First Representative to Province Court and John Hammond, Second Representative to Province Court. Representatives to the General Court before the Revolution; Abraham Holmes, John Hammond, Noah Sprague, Thomas Dexter, John Freeman, and Samuel Sprague.

Rochester Selectmen/Town Clerks: Between the years from 1690 to 1909, more than 30 of our members took on the civic roles of Town Clerk and Selectman, the first three being Samuel White, Samuel Hammond and Mark Haskell. From 1909 until present times, our members have continued to play a major part in local government.

When the settlers came to the shores of New England they found this a very rustic place in comparison to their mother country. Our first minister, the Reverend Samuel Arnold, noted that this was a dark wilderness. Our church has had the privilege of helping our nation and state be what it is today. Whether it was the issue of slaves or the

rights for women to vote we, along with other of like mind, stood for emancipation and for the suffrage movements.

When our nation was involved in its Revolutionary War we mustered the militia on the church green and sent many of our own to answer the call to arms in our nation's revolution. Thirty three (33) of our young men never returned home. In a time of great national crisis we sent people again to stand for liberty in the Civil War. It is more than likely that our people have served in every war and conflict that our nation has fought, even to the point of our ladies' society making bandages and giving support to the troops. Such people of note are Militia: (1690) Lieut. John Hammond and Ensign Isaac Holmes. Rev. Jonathan Moore went as chaplain with the 1st company of militia answering the Lexington call. Captain Earl Clapp was at the Battle of Bunker Hill and rose in rank to Major. Major Elnathan Haskell was an aid to General George Washington and as such is shown in a painting hanging in the Capitol in Washington, D.C. portraying Borgoyne's Surrender.

As our nation was threatened from the north there were those who fought in the French and Indian Wars: Paul Sears and Joseph Doty. Those who served in Canada were Joseph Barlow, Charles Sturtevant and Earl Clapp. Then again in the War of 1812: Joseph Doty, Jonathan King and Samuel Cowing represented our church and community.

Missionaries, authors, educators, civil servants, physicians, lawyers and politicians have come from this beautiful white meeting house on the village green. Through these 300 years our mother church has given birth to four daughter congregations, Marion, Mattapoisett, Warcham and North Rochester Congregational Churches. Our vestry served for years as a town school and many people in the community still remember attending there as children.

We have hosted and still do many civic programs such as senior citizens, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. The men of our church formed an organization known as the Brotherhood that not only provided them fellowship, but served the community with a host of family entertainment opportunities and benevolent contributions to those who were in need.

Some of those who served in the following capacities were: Medicine: Dr. James Foster, (Note) The early pastors, namely Rev. Samuel Arnold and Timothy Ruggles, also aided their people by extracting teeth, doling out opium, saffron, older, yellow dock and snake root when their parishioners' own remedies failed.

Education: The first pastor, Samuel Arnold, along with his pastoral duties, taught young boys who wanted to attend Harvard College. (Rochester has always been known for its support of academics and in the early days it was generally the presiding Reverend who led the quest for education.)

Abraham Holmes, a lawyer and representative to the General Court, used his home office to teach law students, there being no law school available.

Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, who came in 1827, was responsible for the building of our present meetinghouse, a parsonage and the Rochester Academy. The latter a "noted and highly accredited institution gave instruction in all English studies, Latin, Greek and French languages and great attention was paid to the Moral Conduct, general deportment and intellectual improvement of its scholars." Many graduates became doctors, lawyers, teachers, ministers and judges, living beneficial lives in their own communities.

Henry Martyn Dexter, one of the first preceptors of Rochester Academy afterwards be-

came Nestor of Congregationalism. Our congregation has always been blessed with an abundance of teachers.

Although we are separate organizations to our governing and civil structures we have always been in congruence for the good of the community, our commonwealth and our nation. Whatever the need of the community we have tried to rise to the occasion and offer assistance.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BAUDILIO VILA

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the accomplishments of a remarkable man, my friend, Mr. Baudilio Vila.

Born on May 20, 1932 in Camaguey, Cuba as the youngest of eight siblings, Baudilio quickly found his calling in the company of Mother Nature. As a very young man, Baudilio worked alongside his father and his siblings as they tilled the soil under the bright Cuban sun. The work was difficult and unending, but Baudilio proved to have a gift for cultivating the land.

At the age of 25 Baudilio married his beloved partner Dulce Diaz. Invigorated by both his newfound marital bliss and a new farm—a wedding present from his father-in-law—Baudilio redoubled his labors in order to provide for his new family. Unfortunately for the Vila family, beginning in 1959, Castro's communist tyranny stifled all attempts to create a small private business that would support a family. Nonetheless, Baudilio devoted his life to developing the farm until he could no longer bear Castro's constant repression of the human spirit. Unable to achieve the dreams he nurtured as a small boy under Castro's totalitarian regime, Baudilio Vila and family made the decision to seek freedom in the United States of America.

While it is never an easy decision to flee your homeland, it is often a simpler decision for those who make this daring journey in their youth. As yet unaffected by the responsibilities of family, young people are capable of making immense decisions with the confidence that often characterizes early adulthood. At the age of 48, well into middle age, Baudilio was fully cognizant of the risks he and his family were taking as they crossed the perilous Florida Straits. For Baudilio to start again with nothing at the age of 48, with a family to feed, takes a daring unknown to most of humankind.

In 1980, temporary facilities were set up in Miami's "Orange Bowl" to accommodate the enormous number of Cuban refugees seeking asylum in the United States of America. As the Vila family settled into this temporary housing, Baudilio's first thoughts were how could he help, how could he begin to provide for his family? Baudilio suggested he could help pick up the trash in the refugee camp. The authorities running the tent city said yes, he could help pick up the waste accumulating in the Orange Bowl. For his efforts, Baudilio would receive the sum of \$1 dollar for every large bag of trash he collected.

After departing the Orange Bowl, and upon being assimilated into South Florida, Baudilio and Dulce both took jobs as they attempted to

realize their American Dream. Initially, Baudilio tended to lawns with borrowed tools, while his wife cleaned houses every day of the week.

Never forgetting the connection to the land he felt as a farmer in Cuba and attempting to realize his dream of starting his own business, in 1982 Baudilio and the Vila family rented 4 acres of land. While the family continued to work in different types of gardening jobs, they were also collecting the plant seeds they would need to open their own agriculture business.

In the years that followed, the Vila family slowly began to expand their landscape contracting and growing business, Vila & Son, by buying equipment and obtaining small contracts with Miami-Dade and Broward Counties. After years of successfully striving to establish a growing business, Vila & Son was awarded the prestigious contract to service the grounds of Walt Disney World.

Vila & Son, begun on four acres of rented property, now has 462 employees in three district offices. Vila & Son annually surpasses \$34 million in sales in addition to planting 6000 plants every working day.

In recognition of their hard work and success, the Vila family has received many honors including the keys to Miami-Dade County and having May 18, 2002 proclaimed "Vila & Son Day."

Baudilio Vila, born in Cuba in 1932, a refugee who arrived in the United States at age 48 with nothing more than his dream of living in freedom, and later an extraordinarily successful entrepreneur, was invited by President George W. Bush to his inauguration in January, 2001.

Baudilio Vila is an extraordinary human being who has lived a remarkable life. I am proud to call Baudilio Vila and his family my friends and I am pleased to share Baudilio's remarkable story with the United States Congress.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 1588, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2003

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises in opposition to this motion to instruct House conferees to H.R. 1588. Certainly, this Member has no objections to expediting citizenship for non-citizen members serving in U.S. armed services and supports efforts to provide appropriate incentives for a very small percentage of the few non-citizens who meet established requirements to join our professional military forces. However, in granting citizenship to these qualified men and women, it is not necessary or desirable to also grant priority to their parents, spouses, and children. And it is certainly not appropriate to waive the requirement that such family members financially support themselves in the U.S. Unfortunately, the provisions in the Senate-passed version of H.R. 1588, which this motion instructs House conferees to accept, would have that effect.

Through the provisions, the spouses, children under the age of 21, and parents of men