

mathematics and a graduate degree in law. In between his undergraduate and graduate studies, Judge Shadur served his country with distinction during World War II as a Lieutenant in the Navy as a radar officer stationed on aircraft carriers.

During law school, he served as editor-in-chief of the law review and was elected to the Order of the Coif. This excellence in education was acknowledged as Judge Shadur graduated, ranked first in his class with the highest scholastic average ever obtained at the University of Chicago Law School.

Even while attending Law School, Judge Shadur's legal skills were recognized by the finest legal minds in the country. Two of his law review notes were cited and quoted by the United States Supreme Court. Additionally, by special leave of the court, Judge Shadur argued his first case before the United States Court of Appeals before being admitted to the bar. One day after his admission to the bar, Judge Shadur argued his first case before the Illinois Supreme Court.

Judge Shadur practiced law in the private sector for 31 years, first joining the law firm headed by former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg. During his career in private practice, Judge Shadur established himself as a highly skilled and even-minded lawyer. His dedication to the law extended beyond his law firm as he served terms as director of both the Chicago Bar Foundation and the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago. He additionally held many important positions with the Chicago Bar Association.

On May 23, 1980 President Jimmy Carter appointed Judge Shadur to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, where he still currently serves. In this position, Judge Shadur has ruled on both civil and criminal cases, authoring over 8,000 opinions. In 1992, Judge Shadur was named a Senior Judge, where he maintains a full civil and criminal calendar, as well as sitting by invitation with several Courts of Appeals around the country each year.

Judge Shadur has also been very active as a community leader, serving as a trustee of the village of Glencoe and as vice president of the American Jewish Congress, where he has pledged to defend the rights of minorities in the United States. He has also been very active with the Ravinia music festival, spending many years serving on its Board of Trustees.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois and indeed all of Chicago, I am privileged to congratulate Milton I. Shadur, on the occasion of his 80th birthday, for his impressive career accomplishments in the law. I join his wife Eleanor, their three children, three grandchildren, and two great-grandsons in wishing him continued happiness and success in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF RAYMOND
FIGUEROA

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2004

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize the achievements of Ray-

mond Figueroa, an inspiration, and the executive director of Turning Point/Discipleship Outreach Ministries located in Brooklyn, New York.

Raymond has been instrumental in the success of this organization, which provides housing, educational opportunity, substance abuse treatment and AIDS programs to some of Brooklyn's most underprivileged neighborhoods. The program reaches over 2,000 residents a year and reaches 20,000 more through outreach initiatives.

I am pleased to announce that Mr. Figueroa's dedication and work has been recognized by the Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership program, as they have chosen him as one of their 10 annual recipients. Raymond has overcome many challenges to get where he is today—he was born into poverty, and grew up with a troubled childhood. Yet, his commitment to bettering our community is unwavering, and although he did not graduate from high school or receive a formal education, Mr. Figueroa is living proof that one can rise above the circumstances to achieve their goals.

Over the course of his life, Raymond has lost friends and family to violence, addiction, and AIDS. He watched his sister as she endured the stigma of living with AIDS and was victimized by a hospital staff that refused to touch her, despite her absence of tuberculosis or skin abrasions. The reality of his sister's dehumanization strengthened his drive to work in social justice.

Starting as a volunteer at the Turning Point/Discipleship Outreach Ministries in 1990, Raymond moved to a leadership position 12 years later as the only second executive director. He is truly an inspiration to his community, and reminds us that we can overcome barriers.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Raymond Figueroa, and join with my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize his extraordinary work in the Brooklyn community.

PRAISE FOR THE PLANNING AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF RONALD
REAGAN TRIBUTE

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2004

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to praise the City of Simi Valley, California, for its role in paying tribute last week to the 40th President of the United States, Ronald Reagan.

Many county, State and Federal agencies, Nancy Reagan and the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library joined in planning and implementing the tribute to and national mourning for President Reagan.

But as the host city, the burden of limiting the impact on the surrounding community, accommodating mourners from throughout the Nation, and ensuring a respectful good-bye to one of America's greatest presidents largely fell on the City of Simi Valley. As a resident of the city for more than 35 years, its former mayor, and a neighbor of the presidential library, I applaud the city for a job well done.

I arrived at the presidential library within 2 hours of the announcement of President Rea-

gan's death. Simi Valley police and Ventura County Sheriff's deputies were already on hand to provide crowd control. A place for people to leave flowers and tributes was already established. At the library, 50 to 60 people were already working in crews to ready the place for the arrival of President Reagan's casket and the more than 100,000 mourners who would file past it in the coming days.

Simi Valley dedicated nearly half its police force specifically to duties associated with the viewing and internment. Volunteers were brought in to answer telephones. Other volunteers were dispatched to the Wood Ranch development with fliers to inform residents on what they could expect and why.

The top-notch planning and execution ensured that the tribute to President Reagan was dignified, secure and smooth from beginning to end. Visitors from across the country and television viewers throughout the world marveled at the peaceful and orderly scenes.

Working closely with Duke Blackwood, director of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, Mayor Bill Davis and the entire City Council, City Manager Mike Sedell and Police Chief Mark Layhew displayed to the world the heart and spirit of Reagan country.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in expressing to Simi Valley's officials that they have the thanks of a grateful Nation.

CONGRATULATING DR. WESLEY E.
PITTMAN

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2004

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I want to express my most sincere congratulations to Dr. Wesley E. Pittman who will soon be installed as the President of the American Optometric Association.

A lifelong resident of Mexia, Texas, Dr. Pittman and is a fourth generation optometrist, who has practiced optometry there since 1984. Dr. Pittman has been a leader in his community and in his profession at the state, regional and national levels.

Like his father, the late William D. Pittman, O.D., and grandfather, the late W. Duke Pittman, O.D., he has been a member of the Texas Optometry Board, where he served as Chairman. He has served on the board of the Foundation for Education and Research in Vision, the Southwest Council of Optometry, and is the past president of the Heart of Texas Optometric Association.

Dr. Pittman has also received many prestigious awards including Texas Young Optometrist of the Year, the Texas Optometric Association's President's Award for outstanding contributions to the profession and Texas Optometrist of the Year. In March 2003, he received the University of Houston College of Optometry's William D. "Bill" Pittman Leadership award, named for his father.

An active member of his community, Dr. Pittman has served as a director of the Mexia Industrial Foundation. He is a past president of the Mexia Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club. Dr. Pittman has served on the Bricks and Mortar Board of the Parkview Regional Hospital and is a consultant to the Mexia State School, a mental health facility.

Later this month, Dr. Pittman will become the 83rd President of the American Optometric Association, a professional association of specialized doctors with more 34,000 members nationwide. I join with Dr. Pittman's friends and neighbors in Mexia in congratulating him on this prestigious achievement and wishing him the very best in all his future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION ACT

HON. WAYNE T. GILCHREST

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2004

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague, Representative EHLERS, in introducing the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act at the request of this Administration. Our Subcommittees in the Science and House Resources Committees share jurisdiction over authorization of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or NOAA, programs and I'm proud to say we work well together. Our joint introduction of a NOAA organic act is just one step in our commitment to work together to solidify and better support NOAA agency functions.

NOAA performs a number of vital services to the nation, including the monitoring and management of our oceans, monitoring meteorological trends, and making life-saving storm predictions. Its job is to bring together many pieces of complex oceanic and atmospheric systems so that we can best understand and utilize them as good stewards. Our very lives, particularly along the coasts, depend upon many of NOAA's functions and our future, especially as we observe the impacts of atmospheric, surface and ocean warming trends, rests on how well we support this work. NOAA's work emphasizes an ecosystem approach and enables the U.S. to best manage our place in the global environment as well as the impacts of global changes on us. This effort, given its many and diverse pieces and constituents, needs strong and central leadership and coordination, just as steering a ship requires a captain and a plan.

Because NOAA does not have a single organic act that requires the agency budget, as a whole, to be authorized on an annual basis and because many NOAA programs are authorized under different public laws and committees of jurisdiction, NOAA programs may be authorized at different times. NOAA's functions, in the contexts of many laws with varying purposes, are difficult to oversee and for the agency to fulfill under these circumstances. In light of these challenges, NOAA has done well, and by crafting an organic act for the agency, the Administration has taken the first important step toward the leadership we need to strengthen NOAA's role.

As one of the key recommendations of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, this effort is a necessary component to improving our ocean management. I look forward to working with Representative EHLERS and my colleagues on both the Resources and Science Committees and the Administration with this important legislation and on continuing to pursue and create greater central coordination of ocean policy issues.

INTRODUCTION OF AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2004

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased, along with my colleague from Maryland, Mr. GILCHREST, to introduce the President's bill to establish the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). As Chairmen of the House subcommittees with jurisdiction over NOAA, we are introducing this bill as a courtesy to the President.

NOAA was created by Executive Order in 1970. Since that time Congress has not passed a comprehensive law describing the mission of the agency. On April 20, the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy released its long awaited Preliminary Report with recommendations for a coordinated national ocean policy. One of its key recommendations is that Congress should pass an organic act for NOAA. I have already introduced my bill creating such an organic act (H.R. 4546). This bill Mr. GILCHREST and I are introducing today is the Administration's response to the recommendation.

I look forward to working with Mr. GILCHREST and the Members of the Science Committee and the Resources Committee as we consider comprehensive legislation for NOAA.

HONORING MAYOR LUIS E. MELENDEZ CANO OF VEGA BAJA, PUERTO RICO

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2004

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor an exemplary public servant from Puerto Rico, the Honorable Luis Melendez Cano, mayor of the City of Vega Baja.

Luisito, as he is popularly known, has been Mayor of the City of Vega Baja since January 1973. Luisito, who also is a pharmacist, earned the rank of Captain in the U.S. Army National Guard and became Mayor at age 33.

Luisito has served the citizens of his fast-growing city with enthusiasm, a strong sense of patriotism and total devotion to the highest ideals of public service. He is known and respected for his honesty and dedication to the best interest of the people he serves.

Mr. Speaker, public service is one of the highest callings an individual can embark on. Please join me in recognizing the stellar record of this dedicated public servant. A man who committed himself to the improvement of the City of Vega Baja and its people.

Luisito, I congratulate you for your many years of selfless public service, and I wish you and the people of your city much success in your future endeavors.

COMMEMORATION OF DELTA AIRLINE'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2004

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate Delta Airlines on the 75th anniversary of the airline's first passenger flight, June 17th, 1929.

Delta has a long and storied history in aviation development in America. Starting as a small crop-dusting business in Monroe, Louisiana under the name of Huff Daland Dusters in 1923, C.E. Woolman and his associates acquired it in 1928. A company secretary came up with the name Delta after the airline's location near the Mississippi River's outlet to the Gulf of Mexico. By 1929 the company had its first passenger plane. Seventy-five years ago today, a Delta Airlines plane carried passengers for the first time from Monroe to Dallas, Texas.

While competitors faltered during the Great Depression, Delta survived by teaching flying as well as providing maintenance and hangar rentals to other airlines at its Monroe base. Delta won a bid for a federal postal contract in 1934, giving the airline a route from Charleston, South Carolina to Fort Worth, Texas. As the airline grew Delta split the route into two parts—eastbound to Charleston and westbound to Dallas and Fort Worth, later linking them up in Atlanta. With this route and passenger service as reliable sources of income, Delta grasped the opportunity to evolve into one of the most successful airline companies in the United States. Today Delta serves 209 domestic cities in 46 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as 48 international cities in 32 countries. As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Aviation, I am pleased to recognize Delta's great contribution to the transportation industry.

TRIBUTE TO DRURY SHOEMAKER

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2004

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, as we have just recently reflected on the loss of President Reagan and have also recently remembered those who have given their lives in defense of this great Nation on Memorial Day, I wanted to also pay tribute to the late Drury Shoemaker of my District in Tennessee.

Drury's beloved widow, Hazel, sent me a nice note in remembrance of her late husband, who served in the United States Marine Corps. Drury Shoemaker was a fine Marine, part of the C-1-28-5th Division that participated in the battle of Iwo Jima. He survived the War, but later took ill as a result of exposure to radiation from the Hiroshima nuclear explosion. Drury went to be with the Lord on December 11, 2001.

Known as Papaw to his special grandson Darrian, Drury often spoke of taking his wife and grandson back to Iwo Jima to share with them such an important place in his life. Unfortunately, his health did not allow for that special trip.