

part to its founder and president, Anthony Joseph. The Queens-bred son of a Jamaican mother and Puerto Rican father, Anthony, understood the significance of culture early on as it related to marketing.

In May 2001, VMG was presented with the Black Enterprise Rising Star Award, in honor of the high revenues garnered by VMG's high profile clients. A year later, VMG offered further proof that they were on the ascent when they turned a cold call and a year of conversation into a multimillion dollar contract with the U.S. Army via advertising giant Leo Burnett.

Mr. Speaker, Anthony Joseph has created a successful company through his own hard work and ingenuity. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GRETCHEN
SEHLER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today to pay tribute to Gretchen Sehler of Steamboat Springs, Colorado. As a ski instructor and an avid outdoorswoman, Gretchen has inspired the community to take full advantage of the outdoor recreation opportunities in her community. I would like to join my colleagues here today and recognize Gretchen before this body of Congress and this nation.

Gretchen first moved to Steamboat Springs to work as a ski instructor in 1983. Every winter she dedicates herself to teaching interested people the fundamentals of skiing and, in doing so, has had the opportunity to share her passion for the outdoors. When the ski slopes close for the year, her desire for outdoor recreation remains. In the past, she has spent time as a life guard at the Steamboat Springs Health and Recreation Center, but her current passion is mountain biking. Working for the Parks and Recreational Services Department, she has organized a series of eight mountain bike races involving over eight-hundred riders. Recently, Gretchen and two friends started Rocky Peak Productions and created a new twenty-four hour endurance mountain bike race in Steamboat Springs.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize Gretchen Sehler and her commitment to improving the lifestyles of her fellow citizens. Outdoor recreation is very important in Colorado's communities and Gretchen's work exemplifies this spirit for recreation. I thank Gretchen for her work and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WALTER ALLEN
III

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and congratulate Mr. Walter Allen, III as the newly appointed director of the California Youth Authority by

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. As the director, Mr. Allen oversees one of the largest youth corrections agencies in the nation, with over 4,000 wards, nine institutions, four camps, 16 parole offices and two regional parole offices.

Born and raised in Oakland, California, Mr. Allen earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Urban Planning from California Polytechnic University in Pomona. Following graduation, Mr. Allen began his long and dedicated career in law enforcement beginning as a Police Officer with the Chino Police Department and transitioning to a Special Agent for the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement. Over the past 20 years, Mr. Allen has distinguished himself in every avenue of his career where he has earned special agent assignments and leadership appointments. Most recently, Mr. Allen served as the Assistant Chief for the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement.

In 1997, Mr. Allen became active in local politics and was elected to serve on the city council for Covina, California, where he has actively participated as Mayor Pro Tem and Mayor. Currently, Mr. Allen serves as council member and continues to work towards maintaining a high quality of life for the citizens of Covina.

Throughout his life, Mr. Allen has demonstrated his commitment to public service through his career and political activism. He has proven to be an honorable citizen and has admirably embraced his civic duty to his country. I am proud to honor Mr. Allen's achievements and congratulate him on his new appointment.

THE TEACHER PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTES ACT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Teacher Professional Development Institutes Act, legislation based on a unique and highly successful partnership between the New Haven Public School System and Yale University. Based on the model which has been operating at Yale for over 25 years, my proposal would establish eight new Teacher Professional Development Institutes throughout the country each year over the next five years.

Today, it is more important than ever for our nation's teachers to have access to the skills and resources they need to prepare our children for the future. Since 1978, the Institute has been providing area educators with the opportunity to strengthen themselves professionally through annual seminars in the humanities and sciences—by working with program participants to bring the curriculum and lessons of the seminars to the classroom.

In this bill, every Teacher Institute would consist of a partnership between an institution of higher education and the local public school system in which a significant proportion of the students come from low-income households. The program strengthens the present teacher workforce by giving participants the opportunity to gain more sophisticated content

knowledge and a chance to develop curriculum units that can be directly applied in classrooms. For example, the Yale-New Haven program it is based on has offered several thirteen-session seminars each year, led by Yale faculty, on topics that teachers have selected to enhance their mastery of the specific subject area that they teach.

The result is that teachers have been found to gain confidence in their deeper understanding of the subject matter and enthusiastically deliver their new curriculum to the classroom—qualities that translate into higher expectations for their students and in turn, higher student achievement.

And student achievement is what this effort is about. By allowing teachers to determine the seminar subjects—by providing them the resources to develop curricula for their classroom and their students—this legislation lifts up our students by empowering teachers. With a K through 12 teacher shortage forecast in the near future, those already teaching will do the majority of teaching in the classrooms in the very near future. As such, it is imperative that we invest in methods to strengthen our present teaching workforce.

Like the Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute before it, we believe this program can provide a model for communities around the country. And so, it is my distinct honor to introduce the Teacher Professional Development Institutes Act, and I look forward to its consideration in this body.

CONGRATULATING FOR THE LOVE
OF THE LAKE

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. HENSARLING. Today, I would like to congratulate a very special organization on a very special anniversary. On Saturday, July 10, 2004, White Rock Lake's "For the Love of the Lake" organization will mark the 100th consecutive month of shoreline spruce-ups that have helped keep the shores of White Rock Lake clean and the surrounding park looking beautiful.

For the Love of the Lake is a truly grassroots effort, made up of caring volunteers who are dedicated to improving White Rock Lake and the surrounding area. The organization is a shining example of conservation and volunteerism in action. For the Love of the Lake shows what good people can do when they come together to accomplish something for the betterment of their community.

My wife, Melissa, and our two young children enjoy White Rock Lake very much. The lake area is important, not just to those who live in the neighboring streets, but to all of the people that come to White Rock Lake to enjoy the beautiful landscape, water, trees and parks.

For the Love of the Lake volunteers understand that we have a duty to protect and preserve these wonderful natural resources for our children and future generations. Since its inception in 1995, thousands of people have given their time, effort and energy in a variety of ways to help keep White Rock Lake looking beautiful, from picking up litter, to painting murals and buildings at the park, to attending

fund raising events, or helping with White Rock Marathons.

Over the years, For the Love of the Lake has been honored with countless awards and recognized by numerous organizations for their outstanding work. Dallas Observer magazine said, "For the Love of the Lake is easily one of Dallas' best volunteer service organizations," and I could not agree more.

On behalf of all of the people in Dallas, especially those who live in neighborhoods near White Rock Lake, I would like to congratulate the For the Love of the Lake organization and volunteers on their tremendous accomplishment. I would also like to thank them for their continued and valuable service to our community.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EDMUND
CHELEWSKI

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I rise today to recognize the life and passion of Edmund Chelewski of Rifle, Colorado. He will be remembered as a dedicated servant to our nation and an innovative farmer in his community. As his family and community mourn his passing, I would like to take this opportunity to remember the life of this exceptional man.

Edmund was born and raised in Saint Paul, Nebraska. During the Korean War he faithfully served in the United States Army as a member of H Company in the First Infantry Regiment. When he returned from the war he worked as a farmer in Nebraska and Colorado for over two decades. In 1948, he married Doris Price. He and his family moved to the town of Rifle in 1963. His innovativeness thrived in Rifle. He was the first to use an irrigation system on Silt Mesa and he developed farm equipment that he would later patent. One piece of farm equipment that he designed and patented was shared with the world at the 1965 World's Fair. He saw an opportunity in 1972 to get out of farming and open Chelewski Pipe & Supply, but still remained active in cultivating agriculture in his garden whenever he had the time. Edmund was active in the community as a supporter of Future Farmers of America and as a member of the Bookcliff Soil Conservation District.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the life of Edmund Chelewski. He will be remembered in his community for his creativity and inventiveness, his hard work as a farmer, and his commitment as a soldier. My heart goes out to his family and community during this difficult time of bereavement.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS KLESTIL,
PRESIDENT OF AUSTRIA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, Thomas Klestil, President of the Republic of Austria, passed away just two days be-

fore he was to turn over the office of President to his elected successor. President Klestil was a man of distinction whom I knew, admired and considered a friend.

Thomas Klestil was born in Vienna in 1932, the youngest of five children of a tram driver. After completing a doctorate in economics and business in 1957, he entered the Austrian diplomatic service. Some 18 years of his diplomatic career of 35 years was spent in the United States, first as a junior diplomat in Washington and later as Consul General in Los Angeles, Ambassador to the United Nations in New York, and then as Ambassador to the United States here in Washington. I worked with him during the time he served as Ambassador in Washington. Following his election as President, I met with him in Vienna on more than one occasion.

Mr. Speaker, Thomas Klestil was elected to the office of President at a difficult time in Austria's post-World War II history. His predecessor as Austrian President was Kurt Waldheim, former Secretary General of the United Nations. Austria's international reputation was severely damaged by the disclosure that Waldheim had lied about his Nazi military service during World War II.

Klestil played an important role in helping to restore Austria's image, and in acknowledging and taking steps to remedy the ugly taint of Austria's Nazi past. He spoke out numerous times about Austria's complicity with the Nazi regime during World War II, and he expressed sympathy and regret for the victims of the Holocaust. During an official visit to Israel in 1994, he spoke before the Israeli Knesset and reaffirmed a statement made by Chancellor Franz Vranitzky in 1991 acknowledging the responsibility of Austrians in the Holocaust and admitting that Austrians were not only victims, but also active collaborators with Hitler's regime.

Mr. Speaker, although Klestil was elected President as the candidate of the Austrian People's Party, he clashed with the party leader Wolfgang Schossel. He was critical of Schossel's decision to form a coalition government with the far-right Freedom Party of Jörg Haider in 2000. Several months of international diplomatic sanctions against Austria resulted from the formation of that government. Though the role of Austrian President is largely ceremonial and representational, Klestil demonstrated his disapproval of the coalition government with the Freedom Party by publicly exhibiting stern disdain as he ceremonially swore the new government into office.

He later stated in an interview, "The Freedom Party is not a Nazi party, but, unfortunately, the highest officials of this party continue to use a language which disqualifies them for every political office."

President Klestil also played an important role in strengthening Austria's ties with the Central European states emerging from almost half a century of Soviet domination. In 1993, the year after his election, he began convening yearly meetings with the heads of state of these new democracies, which strengthened their ties with Austria and also helped the new governments to strengthen their commitment to democratic principles.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in expressing our most sincere condolences to the family of President Thomas Klestil and to the people of Austria on the death of this principled statesman, who has

done so much to foster positive relations with the United States and to help his country and its people deal with their past.

COMMEMORATING COMPLETION OF
PHASE ONE OF THE JOHN N.
HARDEE AIRPORT EXPRESSWAY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I along with my colleague, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, would like to take this opportunity to commemorate the completion of Phase One of the John N. Hardee Airport Expressway. This will be announced to the people of South Carolina at a ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday, July 10. The completion of this 2.8 mile expressway will provide easy and direct access to the Columbia Metropolitan Airport.

This expressway, which widened Airport Road from Airport Boulevard in Cayce to Platt Springs Road in Springdale, will make a vast difference in the way South Carolinians and visitors commute to the airport. We are looking forward to the next and final phase of the project, which is currently under design and should begin construction in 2006. This will provide for a new four-lane road extending Airport Road to Interstate 26. Coupled with the success of the John N. Hardee Expressway, these two new roadways will reduce traffic and provide direct access to the growing Columbia Metropolitan Airport by passenger and cargo vehicles, removing some 25,000 vehicles each year from the local network surrounding the airport.

We would like to thank the people at the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) for all of their hard work in completing this important project. Mrs. Elizabeth Mabry, Executive Director of SCDOT, and Mr. John Hardee, SCDOT Second District Commissioner for whom the expressway is named, thank you for your tireless dedication in getting this phase of the project completed. This expressway will be helpful to the people of the entire state of South Carolina, and for this you are appreciated.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF DR. BRENDAN GODFREY

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Brendan Godfrey, a great scientist, leader, and friend. As the Deputy Director of the 311th Human Systems Wing at Brooks City-Base, formerly Brooks Air Force Base, since 1998, Dr. Godfrey has served the medical and human system needs of the Air Force and the San Antonio community.

Dr. Godfrey has proven his leadership skills and abilities, to the benefit of Brooks, the Air Force, and the San Antonio community. Dr. Godfrey has been a true partner in the transformation of Brooks from an Air Force base to