

During a routine patrol on July 6th, Lance Corporal Engel's light armored vehicle struck a roadside bomb. After a valiant fight that lasted the better part of a month, Lance Corporal Engel passed away with his family at his side, just one day before his 22nd birthday.

Mark was an active young man. He attended West Middle School, and later attended Cherry Creek High School, where he played varsity football as a fullback. By all accounts, Mark was an avid athlete, an outdoorsman, a neighbor and a friend. Mark was a bright star that will be dearly missed by his family, his friends, his fellow Marines, and our community.

Mr. Speaker, my deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Lance Corporal Mark Engel. Mark served his country with distinction, making the ultimate sacrifice for freedom and liberty in defense of a grateful nation. All of us owe him a great debt of gratitude.

His dedication and bravery will not be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF GERTRUDE
McDONALD ON THE OCCASION OF
HER 88TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of Gertrude "Gert" McDonald, a lifelong New Yorker and dedicated public servant. On August 5, 2004, many of Mrs. McDonald's friends and colleagues will gather in her longtime neighborhood of Sunnyside, Queens to celebrate her 88th birthday. I am very pleased to offer my best wishes to Mrs. McDonald for a truly memorable and enjoyable evening.

Gertrude McDonald's decades of service to our community are truly worthy of celebration. Born in New York City, Gert moved to Sunnyside when she was seven years old. For more than sixty years, Gert has worked tirelessly to improve the well-being of her fellow New Yorkers. Gert has been a Democratic District Leader and a Downstate Representative of the Steering Committee of the Women's Political Caucus; additionally, she continues to serve as the President of the Queens of Angels Senior Center Club and the Corresponding Secretary of the 108th Precinct Community Council. Mrs. McDonald is a member of Community School Board 24, the United Forties Civic Association, the Borden Avenue Veterans Residence Advisory Board, the Queens Correctional Facility Advisory Board, the Mayor's Volunteer Task Force and, significantly, has been a loyal member of Queens Community Board Two for nearly thirty years.

Gert has also been a prominent figure in local politics for decades. At a time when women were usually relegated to a supporting role, Gert took the bold step of tossing her own hat into the ring. Her legacy as the first woman to run as a Democratic candidate for public office in Queens is truly inspirational. Although Gert did not prevail in her 1968 candidacy for the New York State Assembly, this bold act encouraged other women, including me, to run for public office.

With a quick wit and undeniable charm, Gert has a reputation for finding clever ways to

make her point. When the mayor proposed cutting garbage pickup in Queens to once a week, while leaving Manhattan pickup at three times per week, Gert suggested that Queens residents should take their garbage to work.

I continue to be in awe not only of Gert's contributions to the public good, but also of the level of energy and enthusiasm she brings to her many activities. Mrs. McDonald's life and accomplishments are a reflection of the strength and vitality of New York City itself.

I would like to join Gert McDonald's friends and family in marking this special occasion; I trust that she will be surrounded by the warmth of happy memories, good cheer and loving friendships.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Gertrude McDonald, a mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and cherished friend of New York City. To Mrs. McDonald and her dedicated colleagues and friends at Queens Community Board Two, I offer my continuing admiration, respect and support.

HONORING MICHAEL PHELPS

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Michael Phelps for his performance representing the United States in Athens at the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad.

Michael Phelps, who was born in Baltimore and now lives in Towson, is a lifelong resident of Maryland's Third Congressional District.

So, we Marylanders have been following Michael's career long before these Olympic games. At age seven, he joined the North Baltimore aquatic club, and at age sixteen, he won his first world title at the 2001 world championships in Japan. This was only the beginning of many recordsetting victories.

This August, joined by the rest of the world, we watched with extraordinary pride as Michael earned eight medals.

Through seventeen races in eight days, Michael did much more than beat his competitors—he exemplified true sportsmanship.

After winning his fourth individual gold medal, Michael stunned the athletic world by giving up his spot in the men's 400 meter medley relay on July to team mate Ian Crocker. The relay team won a gold medal, setting a world record. Michael's words say it best, and show why for him "world-class champion" is an understatement.

When asked about his decision, Phelps responded, "Ian is one of the best relay swimmers in U.S. history . . . when we want to put the four fastest guys up there, we look at everything, all the past swims, and we make the best decision . . . we came into this meet as a team and we're going to leave as a team."

Those words demonstrate why Michael Phelps is recognized as an outstanding role model, not just for athletes, but for all of us, no matter what our life's work.

As Michael leaves our state this fall to pursue his studies at the University of Michigan, we offer him our hearty congratulations and best wishes for the future.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me today in thanking Michael Phelps for representing our country with such honor and grace.

TRIBUTE TO BILL LAMBERT

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting my very good friend and an all around great guy, Bill Lambert, who for 40 years has served the United Teachers of Los Angeles as their Political Director. His colleagues will honor him at the UTLA Leadership Conference this summer.

Bill has worked tirelessly for decades on behalf of the teachers and the students of Los Angeles. He has counseled me on the intricacies of many difficult education issues, provided special insights on many bills I've sponsored, and hounded me mercilessly to work harder for his schools, find more funding for his projects and solve more problems for his teachers. He has demonstrated a special commitment to improving vocational education for students who are not college bound.

When Bill began his involvement in Teachers' organizations in 1957, teachers in Los Angeles had no family health insurance plans and no added bonuses for teaching over 30 years. He was a founder and key member of advocacy groups including the Elementary Teachers Association of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Teachers Association. An extremely successful negotiator, he has succeeded in winning both an excellent salary increase and improved benefits for Los Angeles' teachers.

Bill was born in the Bronx, but spent most of his life in Los Angeles. An alumnus of UCLA with a Masters Degree from Cal State Los Angeles, he began his long career in education in 1955 as a teacher at Montague Elementary School. He soon gained leadership positions among his fellow teachers and eventually became a legislative advocate on their behalf. He helped lobby along with United Teachers of Los Angeles for the revolutionary Rodda Act, which in 1975 became the first collective bargaining bill for teachers in California history.

Among his finest accomplishments is Bill's work for Children of the Dream, a program that puts children of diverse backgrounds—Israeli and Arab, Pakistani and Indian—together to help shatter stereotypes and create understanding. In 1997 he won the NEA Applegate Doros International Understanding Award.

Bill and his wonderful wife, Lenore, have four fine, successful children.

Please join me today in honoring my close friend, Bill Lambert, for his outstanding contributions to our community and for his steadfast commitment to the education of our children and to their teachers.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
VERONICA ZASADNI (RONNE)
FROMAN, REAR ADMIRAL, U.S.
NAVY, RETIRED

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Veronica Zasadni

(Ronne) Froman, Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy Retired.

Ronne Froman serves as Chief Executive Officer of the American Red Cross of San Diego and Imperial Counties. Froman joined the American Red Cross in 2003 and through her leadership quickly and decisively developed "The New American Red Cross" in San Diego by refocusing the organization on its core mission of disaster relief and emergency preparedness.

Admiral Froman comes to the American Red Cross from the San Diego Unified School District, where she served as Chief of Business Operations for one-and-a-half years. As the Chief Business Officer, she was responsible for the modernization and automation of the district's finance, technology and logistics support operations and infrastructure.

She is a retired Rear Admiral from the United States Navy and the former "Navy Mayor of San Diego." Admiral Froman brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the American Red Cross of San Diego and Imperial Counties, with over 31 years of service as a Naval Officer leading similar reform efforts.

Her expertise is reorganizing, saving money and improving services. Froman is a no-nonsense "efficiency expert" and whether she's helping the military, education or human service organizations, Froman is always ready to meet any challenge head-on.

Admiral Froman has received the Department of Defense Distinguished Service Medal, and the United States Navy Distinguished Service Medal, as well as various service and unit awards.

In the civilian community she currently sits on the Board of Directors of 1st Pacific Bank of California, the Monarch School, and the San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum. She was recognized by the San Diego Mediation Center with the Peacemaker of the Year Award (2004), and by San Diego Magazine as one of the "50 People to Watch in 2004." In 2003, she was honored to serve as the Chair of Fleet Week and received the Girl Scouts' Cool Woman Award. Other awards include: the "YMCA TWIN" Award, (2002), the San Diego Soroptimists' Woman of Accomplishment (1998), the National Association of Women Business Owners' Advocate of the Year (1998), the San Diego Press Club's Headliner Award (1998), and a San Diego Women Who Mean Business Award (1997).

With 20-years senior executive experience in complex, multi-functional, multimillion dollar organizations; with extensive experience in operations, facility management, marketing and human resources; being skilled in building teams through collaborative management; being a strategic planner and proven executor of the plans; being a designer and implementor of major organizational change; always being people and customer focused; and extremely comfortable handling community relations, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Veronica Zasadni (Ronne) Froman and commend her accomplishments to my colleagues.

RECOGNIZING MARSHA COBB

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Marsha M. Cobb for her recent recognition by the Texas Council for the Social Studies as "Elementary Teacher of the Year" for 2004.

Mrs. Cobb is a second-grade teacher at Polser Elementary School in Lewisville, Texas, located in my Congressional District. She is now up for consideration as the national Social Studies Teacher of the Year award, given by the National Council for the Social Studies.

Mrs. Cobb has 16 years of experience in the classroom. Mrs. Cobb employs a "hands on" educational philosophy and strives to educate her students through experience rather than text books. If you were to walk in her classroom, you would most likely see her students roaming the room looking at various interactive displays rather than with their heads buried in textbooks.

Mrs. Cobb is not the only recognized distinguished teacher in the Lewisville School District. This is the third consecutive year a Lewisville teacher has won the Texas Council for Social Studies Elementary Teacher of the Year award. Last year, Linda Krause, a fifth-grade teacher at Wellington Elementary School in Flower Mound received the award. And in 2002, Janet Davis, a second-grade teacher at Heritage Elementary in Highland Village, earned the award.

I would like to commend Marsha Cobb, as well as Linda Krause and Janet Davis, for receiving this distinguished award.

A TRIBUTE TO HUNTSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, on August 9th, students and teachers in North Alabama officially ended their summer break and headed back into the classroom for another year of study. It was also a special day for my high school alma mater, as the students and teachers of Huntsville High School began classes in a new state-of-the-art educational facility.

The original Huntsville High School, built in the 1950s, was no longer able to support its growing number of students. Mr. Speaker, the new school encompasses 280,000 square feet, has 65 classrooms, a small practice gym, a lecture hall of 140 seats, a large auditorium that can hold the entire student body, and a main gym that will seat 2,400.

I strongly believe that a firm academic foundation will help the young people of North Alabama achieve their goals and help raise the overall quality of life in our community. Having outstanding teachers with eager students in this wonderful new facility will be a successful combination for the future.

Mr. Speaker, I was unable to join the administrators and faculty, students, alumni, and friends at the official opening of the new Huntsville High School. However, I rise today

to join in their celebration and welcome them into the new Huntsville High.

CONGRATULATING TODD HAMILTON

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate Illinois native Todd Hamilton on his win at the 133rd British Open Championship on Sunday, July 18, 2004.

Born on October 18, 1965 in Galesburg, Illinois, Todd Hamilton was raised in the town of Oquawka. He practiced golf at Hend-Co Hills Golf Club in Biggsville and attended Biggsville's Union High School. At Union, he petitioned the school to create a golf club, and then went on to win the Illinois state high school golf championships during his junior and senior years. Next, Todd was an All-American golfer at the University of Oklahoma.

Todd Hamilton went pro in 1987, and then spent 11 years golfing in Asia between 1992 and 2003, where he won tournaments such as the Thailand Open, Singapore Masters, Korean Open, and the Japan Golf Tour's Acom International. However, the esteemed PGA Tour eluded him. He finally made the PGA Tour in December 2003 on his eighth attempt, tying for 16th in the qualifying tournament at the age of 38.

The four most important tournaments in golf are known as the "majors." They are the British Open, the U.S. Open, the Masters, and the USPGA championships, which make up the most important events in the golfing calendar. The British Open is golf's oldest national championship and the only one of the majors that is played outside the USA.

When Todd Hamilton was given the opportunity to compete in the Open Championship, as the British Open is known in the United Kingdom, he defeated some of golf's best and most wellknown players, including Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson. Winning this competition has elevated Todd Hamilton to rank among the world's best golfers.

I am proud to represent the place where Todd Hamilton learned to play golf, and I think I speak for everyone in Oquawka and throughout Illinois when I say that we are so proud of Todd's remarkable achievement in the Open Championship. Todd Hamilton has demonstrated the tenacity, perseverance, and skill of a champion in his long journey to the top, and I wish him and his family the best of luck in this new chapter of his career.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF WILDERNESS ACT

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, September 3rd marked the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, which protects the Nation's enduring natural heritage as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Revered by scores of Americans and visitors