

anniversary and wish the community the best in the future.

IN HONOR OF DAVID PENNISI

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor David "Rowdy" Pennisi, who disappeared at sea on June 22, 2004. Commercial fishing was not only his profession, but also his passion in life. He will be lovingly remembered by family and friends for his generous and kindhearted nature.

David Pennisi was raised on a ranch near Hollister, and was an active member with Future Farmers of America. He moved to Monterey when he was fourteen and quickly adapted to his new life on the wharf. Fisherman's Wharf has long been the center of a vibrant fishing and canning industry, made famous in Steinbeck's Cannery Row. David eagerly continued this tradition when he became a commercial fisherman himself.

While David was respected around Monterey for his abilities as a fisherman, he was better known for the kindness and love he showed to all who knew him. In a profession dominated by stereotypes of loud, brash men, David, like his father, was regarded as a gentleman. A good friend of the family, Pat Flanagan, spoke about David at his memorial service, "He died in a dying industry, with dignity and respect."

Mr. Speaker, David Pennisi was dedicated to a profession that is neither easy nor safe, but he loved it nonetheless. Not many people choose to become fishermen in this day and age, but David will continue to provide a shining example for generations to come. He has made a lasting impact on our community and the people with whom he worked. I join the communities of the Monterey Bay, his friends and his family in honoring this truly commendable man and all of his lifelong achievements.

TRIBUTE TO THE DADE CITY SENIOR LITTLE LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAM

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Dade City Senior Little League All-Star Team.

The Dade City All-Stars gave a stunning performance in the World Series Games this year. After capturing the Southeastern Regional U.S. championship, the team ended the season with a batting average of .370 and only six strike-outs. The dedication the players have shown to their team members has made them one of the most successful teams in years.

I commend Manager Dale Maggard, who has worked with some of these young men for almost a decade. I also congratulate our Dade City Senior Little League All-Star Team, for representing our community in Bangor, Maine with an unparalleled level of professionalism and maturity.

The outstanding young men who comprise the first and only All-Stars team from Pasco County to compete in the Senior League World Series and its coaches are as follows: Dominic Brown, Rashaun Capehart, Jamie Cruz, Julian Juarez, Gerald Mathis, Lance Roberts, Hunter Hedman, Zachary Maggard, Will Pullin, Steven Roe, Robbie Shields, Matt Wells, Coach Raul Cruz, Coach Dale Maggard, Coach Tony Karpee, and Coach John Shields.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ANN GORSUCH BURFORD

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to mourn the death of Ann Gorsuch Buford, who recently passed away at the age of sixty-two after a long bout with cancer. She possessed a strong intellect that she utilized to become an eloquent and passionate environmental advocate. President Ronald Reagan appointed her as the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency where she brought economic and fiscal discipline to the agency. I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this Nation to recognize her many accomplishments.

Ann was born in Casper, Wyoming, but spent most of her life growing up in Denver, Colorado. She earned both her masters and law degrees from the University of Colorado by the time she was twenty-one, and went on to study in India for a year on a Fulbright Scholarship. After completing her studies, Ann served as an assistant district attorney in Denver and Jefferson counties before being elected to the Colorado state House of Representatives in 1976. She spent 4 years leading the initiative to cut the grocery sales tax and stiffen criminal sentences, and was named outstanding freshman legislator. In 1980, when Reagan was elected president, Ann was selected to be the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), making her the second highest-ranking woman in the Reagan Administration.

At the EPA, Ann was able to efficiently cut-down on government waste inside the executive agency while enforcing environmental regulations. When she left Washington, Ann returned to a Denver law practice working primarily on children's advocacy. She is survived by her mother, Dorothy O'Grady McGill, her children, Neil, Stephanie, and J.J. Gorsuch, five grandchildren, her brother, Joe McGill, and her sisters, Mary Edwards, Theresa Peace, Dorothy McGill, Veronica Urban, and Rosie Binge.

Mr. Speaker, Ann Gorsuch Burford was a diligent public servant of this Nation, who worked to improve the quality of our air and water in Colorado and the Nation. I am honored to recognize her before this body of Congress today. My thoughts and prayers go out to her friends and family at this difficult time of bereavement.

IN HONOR OF DR. RAY CLIFFORD

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Ray Clifford, a long-time Salinas resident and Chancellor of the Defense Language Institute. Dr. Clifford is retiring from the Defense Language Institute after 24 years of dedicated service, leadership and mentorship to his students and country.

During his years of service, Dr. Clifford honorably fulfilled the Institute's mission to educate, sustain, evaluate and support foreign language specialists, ensuring that our military forces are prepared to meet ever-changing global foreign language requirements. As the academic leader of the world's largest language school, he has represented the Institute in national, international and professional forums including regular briefings to members of Congress and senior leaders in the Department of Defense.

Under his leadership, the Defense Language Institute has been continually regarded as one of the finest schools for foreign language instruction in the world. Specifically, Dr. Clifford has improved the language performance results four-fold in over 80 percent of major programs, created and implemented the first standardized language proficiency testing program for the Department of Defense and spearheaded the Institute's response to terrorism with the addition of new instructional and testing programs for military personnel.

In addition to his commitment to the Defense Language Institute, Dr. Clifford served in the United States Army, worked for the Bureau of Land Management and the Central Intelligence Agency. His dedication to national service is embodied in his overall belief in community service and education. He has published many papers and articles on teacher development, language proficiency assessment, curriculum design and educational program administration.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Dr. Clifford on his retirement and thank him for his contributions to our community and country. Dr. Clifford has dedicated his life to public service and his contributions to the Defense Language Institute have been instrumental in the Institute's recognition as a world renowned language instruction institute. I wish him the best in his retirement.

EXTENDING THE BAN ON MILITARY STYLE ASSAULT WEAPONS

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, Congress has three legislative days to vote before the ban on military assault weapons expires and weapons of terror, like the AK-47, will be legal in America. The Republican leadership won't even allow the 136 bipartisan supporters of the ban a vote on the House floor.

Just last night, Congress could have voted to extend the ban, but instead Republican leaders decided it was more important to

name four post offices. While I support the post office bills, I oppose the Republican's misdirected priorities. As a result, I chose to vote present on these post office bills.

On September 14th, either the ban will be extended and our communities will remain safe or the weapons used by terrorists around the world will be legal on America's streets.

President Bush and Republican leaders have a choice: allow Congress to vote an opportunity to extend the ban or do nothing and allow assault weapons to be used to terrorize police officers and our families.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GUS' GANG

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to an impressive group of community leaders from Pueblo, Colorado. These men, driven by a desire to serve their community and promote economic development in the city of Pueblo, began meeting every week for lunch to discuss problems, and solutions, for issues facing their community. As a result, Gus' Gang has been meeting now for over thirty-five years and although the membership has changed over the years. Their service and loyalty to the community remains a constant.

Gus' Gang is a group of local businessmen, lawyers, bankers, realtors, and public officials that meet every Friday afternoon to encourage companies to consider Pueblo when establishing, expanding, or relocating their business. The group invites corporate executives to lunch and encourages them to locate their companies in Pueblo by welcoming and introducing them to leaders in the community. Many achievements in Pueblo have been born out of Gus' Gang meetings such as the creation of the Pueblo Economic Development Corporation, and the idea and approval to locate the Colorado Lottery Office in Pueblo.

The unusual but highly effective meeting venue, Gus', has been recognized in several publications and media outlets such as The Rocky Mountain News, The Denver Post, The National Geographic and Ripley's Believe It or Not, for its western atmosphere and good hometown spirits. Some of the founding members of Gus' Gang include: Tommy Thompson, Director of the Southeastern Water Conservancy District; Bob Ellis, the Vice President of First National Bank; Jade McGuire, the President of the Pueblo Chamber of Commerce; and Walt Bassett, President and CEO of Bassett Construction.

Mr. Speaker, Gus' Gang is a staple of the Pueblo community, and their persistent efforts to attract businesses and corporations to Pueblo has helped strengthen their community and the Colorado economy. Gus' Gang is a terrific group of dedicated, innovative individuals. It is my privileged and honor to recognize their accomplishments and service before Congress and this Nation. I thank the members of Gus' Gang for all their hard work and commitment, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF JESS OJEDA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jess Ojeda, an extremely gifted police officer who dedicated much of his life to the Watsonville Community and the California Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement. Mr. Ojeda, who was born in Chihuahua, Mexico in 1912 and moved to Watsonville, California in 1922, passed away of natural causes on August 9th, 2004. He was 91. Mr. Ojeda's wife, Lillian Martha Ojeda, passed away in 1999. He is survived by three children, Kelley, Martha, and Shane, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

The son of Jesus Antonio and Rosa Luisa Ojeda, Mr. Ojeda worked hard upon his arrival to America. Before becoming a police officer, his jobs included working in a butcher shop, starting up a courier business, deputy civil engineer, and tomato farming. After assisting in the construction of Fort Ord, one of the largest training bases in the U.S., Mr. Ojeda became a police officer with the Watsonville Police Department in 1949. He was known for his true concern for the people of Watsonville and the compassion with which he performed his job.

Mr. Ojeda worked for the Watsonville Police Department until 1957 when he earned a spot as an undercover agent with the state's Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement in San Francisco. During his time as an undercover agent, Mr. Ojeda faced great danger in order to successfully arrest the criminals whose extensive drug operations he was determined to bring down. During his long career, he made over 5,000 arrests and had a 95 percent conviction rate.

Mr. Ojeda never lost sight of his true goal, which was to protect the people of his community who suffered at the hands of drug kingpins and dealers. His main objective was to reduce the number of addicts, not through punitive means, but through legislation focused on treatment, counseling, and support programs.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my condolences to the Ojeda family during these difficult times. His legacy as a devoted police officer and community leader will have a lasting effect in both the Pajaro Valley and all of California. I join the Watsonville community, friends and family in honoring this truly admirable man for all his lifelong achievements.

RECOGNIZING THE LOS ANGELES CITY CHICANO EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Los Angeles City Chicano Employees Association (LACECA) for its thirty-three years of service to the city of Los Angeles and its Latino employees. Since its inception on March 10, 1971, LACECA has been dedicated to the educational, economic, and social wel-

fare of hard working Americans in the workplace and the promotional advancement of Latinos serving our nation's second largest city.

LACECA provides critical leadership and a progressive vision that has successfully fought for passage of the City's Bilingual Skills Ordinance, formation of the City's Advisory Affirmative Action Committee (AAAC), and employee payroll deductions for LACECA membership. LACECA understands the importance of community development and outreach and devotes significant time, energy, and resources in support of many local activities, such as the City's Latino Heritage Month, voter education and registration drives, scholarships to Latinos seeking higher education, and an annual donation drive to support organizations which seek to improve the status of Latinos.

As LACECA celebrates its thirty-third year of service, I am proud to recognize its executive board and members who have distinguished themselves as exceptional leaders in the Los Angeles community. I look forward to continuing to work with LACECA as it promotes the advancement of Latinos serving the city of Los Angeles.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PALMER FRANKLIN SMITH

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to mourn the passing of Palmer Smith of Alamosa, Colorado. Palmer recently died unexpectedly of a suspected pulmonary embolism. He was a lifelong learner and dedicated activist in his community who shared his knowledge with countless students. I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this nation to recognize his life and accomplishments.

Palmer was born in 1932 in Los Angeles, California. He attended the California Institute of Technology where he studied chemistry under five Nobel Prize winners before enlisting in the Air Force. At Lowry Air Force Base in Denver, he taught the top secret 1009th Special Weapons Project. In 1956, Palmer continued his education at the University of Colorado at Boulder in a mathematics masters degree program, despite his lack of a bachelor's degree. Palmer also taught in the applied mathematics program at CU for five years as he worked on a doctorate before he went on to teach at Nichols State College.

In 1962, Palmer returned to Colorado to teach and chair the mathematics department at Adams State College where he received emeritus status after retiring in 1987. After teaching, Palmer became involved in buying and selling real estate, and ran for Alamosa County treasurer. He continued to take courses in law, taxes, and bonds and investments from the local college. Palmer was a renaissance man with a wide variety of interests that ranged from archaeology and history to stamp collecting. He was a concert pianist, an avid reader, and a writer.

Palmer is survived by his wife, Erin Macgillivray Smith, his daughter, Laura Suzanne Smith, his son, Brian Smith, his granddaughter Sara Powell and two great grandchildren, Zachary and Allison Powell.