

of his years in public service and contribution to the community. I wish him continued success.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO ETHAL JORDAN**

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ethal Jordan, a dedicated weather observer from Hamilton, Colorado. Ethal was recently honored with the 2004 John Campanius Holm Award for outstanding service in the Cooperative Weather Observer Program by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Her observations have helped our government accurately describe the climate of our country, and I am honored to stand here today with my colleagues before this body of Congress and this nation and recognize her accomplishments.

The National Weather Service Cooperative Weather Observer Program has provided scientists and researchers continuous data on temperature, precipitation, and other weather factors such as river levels and soil temperature. Once a month observers mail their records to the National Climatic Data Center. These weather records retain importance over time as they provide an accurate picture of a locale's normal weather and give scientists a basis to predict future trends. Through these predictions scientists are able to enhance economic security and provide for the national safety of Americans.

Ethal has served for over 47 years as a cooperative observer. The award that she received this year is one of the agency's most prestigious awards and she is one of only twenty-six that received the honor this year. She established the Hamilton station in 1957, where she began reporting daily precipitation data to the National Weather Service. With her hard work these records have helped establish climatology parameters for northwest Colorado and the central Yampa River Basin.

Mr. Speaker, Ethal Jordan is a devoted weather observer whose data have been an important source of information for scientists to make accurate weather forecasts and predictions in the United States. She has provided a great service to her country for over 47 years, and I am honored to recognize her efforts before this body of Congress. Congratulations on your award, Ethal, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

**CONGRATULATING JANESVILLE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

**HON. PAUL RYAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Janesville Performing Arts Center on its grand opening and spotlight this exciting new addition to Janesville, Wisconsin.

Today the Janesville Performing Arts Center opens its doors—and opens a new chapter of

the life of historic Janesville High School on Main Street. The center will give our area's performers a wonderful new stage for their creative energies and serve as a resource for people of all ages throughout our community. Besides providing a terrific venue for local arts groups to showcase their talent and skill, the Janesville Performing Arts Center will bring new opportunities for entertainment to everyone in our region.

The grand opening of Janesville's first community performing arts center is a cause for celebration throughout our area and especially for those who have worked so hard to make this center a reality.

**RECOGNIZING THE CHARACTER COUNTS YOUTH FLAG RALLY IN LISLE, ILLINOIS**

**HON. JUDY BIGGERT**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a group of young constituents in my district whose efforts to recognize September 11 brought a local community together in collective pride for the United States.

Three years ago, when our Nation was overcome by fear and dismay, Katie and Carrie Straub came together with other young people to make a difference during the aftermath of our Nation's greatest tragedy. They planned a local flag rally to bring youths together to share in their grief and honor America's heroes.

The first rally was an impromptu response to the profound sadness and patriotism expressed in the days after September 11, and it caught the eyes and ears of a community and its local leaders. Now, with the help of many other youths in the community and local businesses, the annual rally has grown to incorporate charity fundraising events and has become an uplifting day, focused on staying positive and helping others in the wake of tragedy.

The girls sought out and received official approval for the annual rally, and this year, September 11, 2004, has been declared Character Counts Youth Flag Rally Day in the village of Lisle, Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I am so proud of these young constituents. They heard the call of the President to stand up in support of our nation in the days after September 11, and their dedication and spirited efforts have proven once again that teens can make a difference.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO SCOTT TIPTON**

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Scott Tipton, a dedicated businessman and friend from Cortez, Colorado. Scott is a prominent member of the Cortez business community, selling pottery for over a quarter of a century from his establishment, Mesa Verde Pottery. He is a tremendous serv-

ant of the community, and I am honored to stand with my colleagues today before this body of Congress and this nation to recognize his accomplishments.

Scott passed up an opportunity for a successful law career to open a seven hundred square foot pottery shop on East Main Street in 1979. Twenty-five years later that business is thriving in a building twenty times its original size. The pottery is sold in all fifty states and six foreign countries. The heaviest concentration of his business is concentrated in the Rocky Mountain region and the Southwest, but also stretches to specialty stores and gift shops throughout the nation.

Mesa Verde Pottery employs eight salespeople and fourteen full-time American Indian artists and production workers. These artists paint designs on geometrically carved white and red-earth objects evolving Navajo monument and silhouetted mountains into intricate patterns. Scott takes pride in the unparalleled craftsmanship and employee spirit that results in better products. Scott has also taken many opportunities to give back to the community, donating twelve thousand dollars worth of goods, services, and financial contributions to local non-profits and charities in addition to pottery awards for the Indian Summer Run contestants.

Mr. Speaker, Scott Tipton is an outstanding member of the Cortez community. He has followed his dream and inspired his fellow Coloradans to do the same. The pottery created at Mesa Verde Pottery celebrates an important part of America's history, and I am honored to stand here before this body and this nation and recognize his service to his community and the nation. Congratulations on your twenty-five years of successful business, Scott, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

**HONORING METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGES, DEDICATION OF THE BLUE RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAMPUS CENTER BUILDING**

**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a new addition to Metropolitan Community Colleges. On Friday September 10, 2004, the Metropolitan Community Colleges will officially open the Campus Center Building at Blue River Community College. The new two story Campus Center Building is adjacent to the Education Center and the Western Missouri Public Safety Training Institute. The addition houses a lecture hall, student activities offices, food services along with the Academic Resource Center that includes library and tutoring facilities. The second floor features hi tech classrooms, laboratories and faculty offices.

Since 1969, the Kansas City Metropolitan Community Colleges have been governed by an elected Board of Trustees. The six member Board serves for six years with jurisdiction over four community colleges and the Business and Technology Center encompassing the county of Jackson and parts of Cass, Clay

and Platte County. In 1997 the Board of Trustees deemed that Blue River would be designated a Community College with locations in Blue Springs and Independence, Missouri.

I have been a strong supporter of the Metropolitan Community Colleges and the educational opportunities they provide. As Ranking Member of the Intelligence Subcommittee for the Homeland Security Committee, I previously secured \$400,000 in federal funding for first responder training at the Western Missouri Regional Police Academy at Blue River Community College. Since 9/11 we have become cognizant of the importance of well trained first responders for natural disasters and threats of terror.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Metropolitan Community Colleges for their continued growth with the addition of the Campus Center Building at Blue River Community College. The college provides a resource that impacts economic growth by educating a work force equipped to solve future problems.

#### HONORING DETECTIVE SERGEANT BRAUN AND DETECTIVE BALDWIN

#### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the bravery of two law enforcement officers from my district whose heroic acts will be honored by The National Association of Police Organizations at their annual TOP COPS Awards on Saturday September 11th.

While all of our nation's law enforcement officers deserve recognition for their invaluable and often unnoticed service, the TOP COPS Awards pay tribute to those outstanding individuals who performed actions that went beyond the call of duty to protect the citizens of their community. All of the award recipients displayed extraordinary courage and resolve in bringing dangerous criminals to justice.

I am pleased to recognize and share the story of two individuals from my district that have received a TOP COPS honorable mention. In October 2003, the Somerset Medical Center contacted the county prosecutor's office concerning several unexplained deaths of their patients. Detective Sergeant Braun, son of a detective lieutenant and a law enforcement officer for 24 years, and Detective Baldwin, a law enforcement officer for 12 years, began to investigate the case and quickly identified 43 year old registered nurse Charles Cullen as a suspect. Cullen had worked at more than nine medical facilities for brief periods of time in the New Jersey and Pennsylvania area, all of which had recorded an inordinate number of unexplained deaths, many occurring during Cullen's shift.

Based on the evidence these skilled investigators compiled, an arrest warrant for Cullen was issued in December 2003. The innovative, unique and ethical interrogation techniques used by these veteran law enforcement officers, resulted in Cullen's confession. He admitted to taking the lives of more than 40 of his patients, 15 at the Somerset Medical Center alone, over a 16-year span.

Thanks to these two outstanding individuals, a killer targeting the most vulnerable of victims

at our area medical facilities will be brought to justice. Their efforts in this case have forced health care facilities nationwide to re-examine the hiring practices for their nurses.

I commend the dedication and commitment of Detective Sergeant Braun and Detective Baldwin to solve this most tragic and heinous crime and extend my heartfelt gratitude to law enforcement officers across the country for their service to our communities.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO KEVIN SHAEFFER

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an individual of remarkable courage who serves as an inspiration to many Americans. Kevin Shaeffer was the only survivor of his section at the Pentagon's Navy Command Center that was destroyed in the attacks on September 11, 2001. Kevin was severely wounded in the attack; and he has overcome many challenges on the long road to recovery. Kevin is a brave and dedicated patriot, and despite his wounds, has continued his service to his nation. I am honored to tell his story before this body of Congress today.

Kevin had been working for the Navy's Command Center for almost thirteen months as a junior action officer in the branch that dealt with naval strategy and concepts. Specifically Kevin was working on the final phases of a new service strategy for the Navy in the twenty-first century. At 9:43 a.m., Kevin's world was dramatically altered when the command center exploded in flames, blowing Kevin to the ground. He quickly rolled to douse the flames, and with the help of Sergeant First Class Steve Workman, made his way over flames and debris toward the daylight that came from the gaping hole that Flight 77 left in the Pentagon.

Kevin was placed in an ambulance and sent to Walter Reed Army Hospital to be treated for seared lungs and burns that covered forty-two percent of his body. On his path to recovery, Kevin was forced to endure intolerable pain, several skin graft operations, two heart attacks and multiple infections. He received the Purple Heart from the Navy for the wounds he sustained in the attack.

Kevin was discharged from the Navy while in the hospital, but vowed to continue in the service of this country. He found an opportunity to keep that promise by seeking an appointment to the 9/11 commission, charged with investigating the 9/11 attacks. Kevin has faithfully devoted his time and energies to the commission, and worked alongside the panel's members to develop a number of strategies for the government to consider to prevent such a terrible disaster from reoccurring.

Mr. Speaker, Kevin is a phenomenal individual who has prevailed in the course of disaster and tragedy. His tremendous courage and continued dedication to our nation certainly deserves the attention of this body and nation. I am honored to recognize his service. Thank you for all your hard work Kevin, and I wish you, your wife Blanca and your daughter Sophia all the best in your future endeavors.

#### MEMORIALIZING DR. CLIFFORD I. UYEDA

#### HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2004*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievements and the life of Dr. Clifford I. Uyeda, M.D., a dedicated human rights activist, pediatrician and a loving family man. Dr. Uyeda passed away of cancer on July 30, 2004 in San Francisco. He will be fondly remembered for his contributions to human rights and social justice issues, and for his service to the Japanese American community. Dr. Uyeda is survived by his wife, Betty Uyeda.

Clifford Iwao Uyeda was born in Olympia, Washington on January 14, 1917 to Matsutaro and Kimiyo Uyeda. He attended the University of Wisconsin and Tulane University medical school. During the Korean War, Dr. Uyeda served as an Army doctor and as a captain in the United States Air Force.

In 1953, Dr. Uyeda moved to San Francisco where he worked as a pediatrician at Kaiser Permanente for more than twenty years. In addition to touching the lives of countless children and their families, Dr. Uyeda was committed to human rights, social justice and service. He was active in many medical and community organizations and served as editor of Nikkei Heritage, a quarterly journal.

After retiring from medicine in 1975, Dr. Uyeda turned to full-time activism. In an era when the United States government did not recognize the grievances of its Japanese American population, who had been disenfranchised during the Second World War, Dr. Uyeda was instrumental in fighting for their rights.

During his tenure as president of the national Japanese American Citizen's League, Dr. Uyeda helped push for a federal Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Citizens, which eventually led to a formal apology and monetary compensation for surviving internees. He was also part of the successful "Tokyo Rose" campaign to clear the name and reinstate the citizenship of Iva Toguri, an American who had been falsely accused of treason during World War II.

Dr. Uyeda was a proud advocate of Japanese American rights but, foremost, he was dedicated to social and historical justice. In 1998, he helped establish the Rape of Nanking Redress Committee to raise awareness about Japanese military atrocities committed during World War II. As president and member of the National Japanese American Historical Society, he was determined to seek and disseminate the truth, even if it was painful or incriminating.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of Dr. Clifford Uyeda. His commitment to human rights and social justice has left an indelible mark on the countless individuals he helped over his distinguished lifetime. He will be fondly remembered by his family, friends and members of the local and national communities he worked so passionately and unselfishly to serve.