

Mr. Balzekas has been blessed with a wonderful family of three children and four grandchildren, all of which will be celebrating his birthday this week.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Mr. Stanley Balzekas on reaching the milestone year of 80, and I wish him many future years of happiness and enjoyment in his personal and professional endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO CINDY ROTH

#### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 5, 2004*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Riverside, California are exceptional. Riverside County has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to making their communities a better place to live and work. Cindy Roth is one of these individuals.

Cindy currently serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce. In this key position, Cindy has been instrumental in the development of Riverside's business community. She became the first woman to hold this post, and her leadership is a testament to her diligence and understanding of business management in Riverside.

Additionally, Cindy serves as the President of the Southern California Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives and is a past board member of the Western Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives.

Cindy's dedication is not only to local business, but also to the wider community. She serves as part of numerous organizations, including the Monday Morning Group of Western Riverside County, the Science and Technology Education Partnership, the Raincross Exchange Club, the Foundation Board of Trustees for La Sierra University, and the Honorary Commanders of March Field. She has received the 1996 Community Service Award from the Rotary Club of Arlington, the 2000 Athena of the Inland Valleys Award, and has been honored as the 2003 Woman of the Year by Assemblyman John Benoit.

It is no surprise that she is now honored as the 2004 Distinguished Citizen of the Inland Empire by the California Inland Empire Council, Boy Scouts of America. Cindy's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Riverside. She has been the heart and soul of many community organizations and events and I am proud to call her a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many in our community are grateful for her service and salute her as she receives this award.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO BRYAN HESS

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 5, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bryan Hess, a dedicated man-

ager of Emergency Medical Services at the Gunnison Valley Hospital in Colorado. Bryan was recently awarded the Rural Healthcare Excellence Award by the Colorado Rural Health Center for his tireless efforts in the Gunnison community. It is my privilege to stand before this body of Congress and this Nation today to recognize Bryan receiving this well-deserved award.

Bryan began his medical career at the young age of sixteen as an Emergency Medical Technician in rural Pennsylvania. He currently serves as the manager of Emergency Medical Services at Gunnison Valley Hospital, as well as the Director and Coordinator of the local EMS training center. Through his leadership, several new technological innovations have been implemented for the services the organizations provide. These include the Life Pack 12 monitors that give an electrical representation of a patient's heart, and automated external defibrillators which aide first responders in procedures at the scene of an accident. One of the most important changes implemented by Bryan is a rigorous training program for the Gunnison Volunteer Fire Department and local search and rescue teams. The hard work and dedication of Bryan and his crew has paid off in providing excellent personal patient care in very stressful situations.

Mr. Speaker, Bryan Hess is a strong, dedicated individual who devotes his time to helping those in need. His work as a paramedic and director of Emergency Medical Services has taken him away from friends and family, often putting him in harm's way. It is my honor to stand here before this body and recognize the efforts of such a selfless and benevolent man. Congratulations on your award Bryan, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING THE FARMWORKER HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

#### HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 5, 2004*

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Roberto Franco, who is stepping down as director of the Farmworker Housing Development Corporation, FHDC, after years of effective service to Oregon's farmworker community.

FHDC is a non-profit community-based organization that was founded in 1990 to help serve farm workers in Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley by developing affordable housing for workers and their families. Despite many hurdles, under Mr. Franco's leadership at FHDC has been very successful in achieving its mission and now provides housing for over 100 families. The group's major complex, Nuevo Amenecer or "New Dawn," gives 93 families who otherwise might not have acceptable living quarters an opportunity to live in clean, decent, and dignified housing.

But FHDC has done more than put a roof over the head of those it serves. Mr. Franco led a successful effort to create the Cipriano Ferrel Education Center, a multipurpose community facility that serves the needs of Nuevo Amenecer residents and others in the community. With the opening of the center last year,

FHDC has begun offering opportunities for self-enhancement to those who wish to get ahead. Earlier this year I visited Cipriano Ferrel to address a group working to improve financial literacy and homeownership opportunities for Oregon's Latino community.

Cipriano Ferrel includes a Head Start program, child care, and a computer lab that provides opportunities for both young and old alike to learn technology skills that will help them get ahead. In addition, Cipriano Ferrel provides adult educational programs, including literacy and language classes, homeownership education, preparation for becoming a U.S. citizen, and a microenterprise program that helps people start their own businesses. A recently announced grant by Microsoft to upgrade the computer lab will provide software and help fund an instructor, thus offering even more opportunities for Nuevo Amenecer residents and members of the community.

I want to thank Roberto Franco and the Farmworker Housing Development Corporation for their work in offering low-income farm workers additional opportunities. Thanks to you, hundreds of families truly have experienced a New Dawn.

#### CRIME PREVENTION FOUNDATION OF BROWN COUNTY

#### HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 5, 2004*

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, the Crime Prevention Foundation of Brown County is the first of its kind in the United States. Its sole purpose is to provide financial support for crime prevention programs in Brown County, Wisconsin, and is managed by the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation. It will support programs like DARE, Crimestoppers, School Liaison Officers and Teen Court—programs that keep our children safe.

This program is completely privately funded, and will provide a stable, long-term funding source for these programs that face elimination because of state and local budget cuts. The Crime Prevention Foundation of Brown County is governed by a Board of Directors independent of any political body. The mission of the board is simply to support the most effective crime prevention activities in Brown County, Wisconsin.

This program is an innovative way to help continue effective programs that help keep our communities and kids out of harms way. I am proud to recognize the innovative efforts of the Crime Prevention Foundation of Brown County, and wish them great success.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM MOYER

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 5, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize the legacy of William Moyer from Grand Junction, Colorado. William was a leader of the community who left an indelible print on the city of Grand

Junction, and I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing his tremendous generosity before this body of Congress and this Nation.

Born in Pennsylvania in 1859, William Moyer traveled the country as a salesman. After a trip to Grand Junction in 1888, he decided to move there permanently in 1890. Four years later, he opened the Fair Store and married a local girl, Ida Shantz. William was an active member of the community and in addition to owning the Fair Store; he also had partial interests in the Grand Valley National Bank and the Valley Building and Loan Company. He used these associations to help students pay for college and to help small businesses survive difficult times with low or no interest loans.

When, in 1921 a young boy died while swimming the Colorado River, William knew something had to be done. He approached the city council and asked to build a swimming pool. William offered more than \$25,000 for construction and made only one stipulation; that children would be able to swim free at the pool at least one day a week. The city council agreed and the pool was opened in 1922. This year a new pool is being opened that will bear the Moyer name. In addition, consistent with his original request, the pool will allow children to swim free every Wednesday.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor William Moyer for his selfless contributions to the people of Grand Junction. Even today, 61 years after he passed away, he is fondly remembered in the community. Thanks, William, for everything you did. This Congressman and the people of Grand Junction will never forget you.

TRIBUTE TO ARMY STAFF SERGEANT (SSG) DARREN J. CUNNINGHAM

**HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 5, 2004*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a fallen hero, Army Staff Sergeant (SSG) Darren J. Cunningham of Groton, Massachusetts. SSG Cunningham was deployed as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and died tragically on September 30th when his unit came under mortar attack in Baghdad. He gave his life in service to our country, and we will forever be grateful.

Ever since he was a young boy, SSG Cunningham knew he wanted to pursue a career in the military. His eighth grade teacher recalls Darren talking about wanting to join the armed forces so that he could serve our country with pride. For Darren, the military stood for more than a respectable job: it offered education, discipline, and a chance to travel. The quote on high school yearbook page said it all: "My ambition is to enjoy life to the fullest, see the world."

At the age of eighteen, Darren graduated from high school and immediately enlisted in the Army. He moved up through the ranks of the 545th Military Police Company of the Army's First Cavalry, stationed at Fort Hood in Texas. He served nobly during the Persian Gulf War in 1991 and returned to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom to train Iraqi police

and help rebuild local infrastructure. He planned to retire next year.

SSG Cunningham leaves behind a wife and two children who adored him. His friends and family remember him as spirited, outgoing, fun, and a jokester. A great athlete, one of his proudest moments was being chosen as co-captain of the high school varsity basketball team. Today, SSG Cunningham's relatives, friends, community, and Nation mourn his loss.

SSG Cunningham died fighting for the country he loved, alongside his comrades-in-arms. Our Nation is humbled and grateful for his sacrifice. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a father, husband and hero who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2004 RIVER CATS

**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 5, 2004*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to the 2004 River Cats, the deserving winners of the 2004 Pacific Coast League Championship. The 2004 River Cats successfully recaptured the Pacific Coast League championship for the second consecutive year by sweeping the Iowa Cubs in a hard fought thrilling three-game series. The 2004 Sacramento River Cats displayed their trademark determination and teamwork that continue to make them a great source of civic pride and a prominent local attraction for years to come. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in saluting the triumphant 2004 Sacramento River Cats.

The 2004 Sacramento River Cats are comprised of an outstanding blend of experienced professionals with major league experience and bright young prospects who are destined to become the stars of tomorrow. The 2004 River Cats team is led by the excellent all-around play of 2004 Pacific Coast League Most Valuable Player and Playoff Most Valuable Player Dan Johnson. In addition, the outstanding roster was anchored by the consistent contributions of recently promoted major leaguers: Nick Swisher, Jairo Garcia, Esteban German, Joe Blanton, and Justin Lehr. All the aforementioned River Cats are among the best touted prospects in all of baseball. Whether a seasoned veteran or an up and coming prospect, every member of the 2004 River Cats demonstrated outstanding commitment to team play and hard work as they march toward the 2004 Pacific Coast League Championship.

In addition to a wonderful roster, the 2004 River Cats also benefited greatly from the tutelage of one of the best coaching staffs and the leadership of one of the most accomplished and innovative front offices in all of professional baseball. On the bench, the River Cats were led by the 2003 Sporting News Minor League Manager of the Year Tony DeFrancesco. Mr. DeFrancesco and his able assistants were able to cultivate a spirit of camaraderie and an unyielding commitment to hard work and fair play in the clubhouse. In the front office, the River Cats are led by the extraordinary leadership of President and CEO Art Savage and the astute management of Executive Vice Presidents Warren Smith and

Robert Hemond. Under this leadership team, the River Cats have taken great steps to forge one of the strongest and most unique relationships in all of sports with their team supporters. Given the River Cats front office's commitment to the city of Sacramento, it is no wonder why the River Cats have led all of Minor League Baseball in attendance during each of their five years in Sacramento.

Mr. Speaker, as the Sacramento River Cats conclude its second consecutive championship season and prepare to achieve greater triumphs in the future, I am honored to pay tribute to the many hard working men and women of the River Cats organization who brought so much joy and pride to the people of the Capitol Region and River Cats fans everywhere. Their successes are highly commendable, and it is a great honor for me to have the opportunity to pay tribute to their accomplishments. I ask all my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the Sacramento River Cats on a wonderful season and wishing them greater success in future seasons.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DICK AND NANCY KNOWLTON

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 5, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dick and Nancy Knowlton, two generous and loving people whose extraordinary compassion and dedication to each other and the State of Colorado is highly commendable. Dick and Nancy will celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary this year, and I am honored today to bring their story and their contributions to their community to the attention of this body of Congress and this Nation.

When Dick was young, his father Lyle suffered a debilitating heart attack at the age of 42 and was laid-off from his job for medical reasons. To make ends meet, the family would buy dilapidated homes and fix them up for profit. As a result, their living conditions were often barely habitable. Dick and his six brothers and sisters were raised by both Lyle and Rose. Rose was a sweet and lovely woman who took loving care of each of her children. It was Rose's love and guidance that led all of her seven children to lead successful lives. Upon graduation from high school, Dick attended college on a football scholarship at the University of Colorado where he would meet his future bride, Nancy VanDerbur. After he graduated from college, he received his papers for government service, and Dick and Nancy were married shortly before he left to serve his country.

Following his military service, Dick returned to work at the Hormel Company where he had begun working during the summers at the young age of fifteen. Through hard work and many hours of dedication, Dick worked his way up to become President, CEO, and Chairman of the Board of the Hormel Company. Along the way, Dick worked every job in the company from the gut shanty to the corner office and each job in between. When he retired, Dick received the Horatio-Alger Award in recognition of his status as a successful, self-made man. Fellow recipients of this prestigious award are Colin Powell, Henry Kissinger, Wayne Huizenga and fellow Coloradan