

of Engineering and Construction Division with the Army Corps of Engineer in Little Rock, is currently in Iraq where he is helping bring oil production systems back online for the people of Iraq.

Mr. Dunn is currently serving as the Deputy for Program Management for Task Force Restore Iraqi Oil (RIO). Established in May 2003, RIO was staffed with personnel originally targeted for other positions in engineering and most had little or no background as project managers. Mr. Dunn is responsible for establishing, training and leading the Programs and Project Management team and developing a group of motivated men and women who are now getting the job done.

His dedication to this task, attention to the training and developmental needs of his staff, and his leadership have been exceptional. In addition, he gave considerable time and attention to locating and selecting the replacement program and project management personnel for future rotations.

Further, Mr. Dunn displayed ample flexibility and imagination when he retooled his staff to respond to unforeseen challenges, such as the requirement to provide approximately 400 megawatts of stand-alone power to critical oil infrastructure locations throughout Iraq. He worked tirelessly to build and improve vital relationships with contractor partners including the Coalition Provisional Authority.

Perhaps most significantly, Mr. Dunn has nurtured new relationships with Iraqi Ministry of Oil officials and local oil and gas company engineers and technicians. He has helped the people of Iraq in all his endeavors and contributed significantly to our ability to build lasting and effective relationships in the Middle East.

Recently, Mr. Dunn won an award from the Federal Executive Association for his hard work and dedication to service. His response was, "I believe that no one exists in a vacuum, and that it takes the contributions of everyone to have a successful team." On behalf of the Congress, I commend Mr. Dunn for his commitment, for his intelligence and for his unwavering dedication to seeing our efforts in Iraq end in success.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STOCKTON LADY TIGERS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 2, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to congratulate the Stockton Lady Tigers basketball team. For the third time in 4 years, the Lady Tigers have taken state championship honors in their division.

The Lady Tigers won their first state championship 4 years ago when the current seniors were freshmen. The team has returned to the Missouri State High School Activities Association final four in Columbia, Missouri, every year since.

This year's championship game was particularly meaningful. It was the last time the team's seniors would play together. It also marked the end to an outstanding season in which the team lost only one game in a particularly challenging schedule. The team exceeded all expectations; a challenge not easily met when there is such a history of success.

Mr. Speaker, the Stockton Lady Tigers basketball team has proven itself to be worthy state champions. The young women have offered excitement and pride to the fans in their community and have earned respect and garnered praise from their opponents. I am sure my fellow Members will join me in congratulating them on their outstanding accomplishments and wish them continued success.

HONORING BILL FERRENCE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 2, 2004

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pleasure to pay tribute to Bill Ferrence as he celebrates his 30th Anniversary as manager of Boulder Dam Credit Union in Boulder City, Nevada. Bill came to Boulder City in 1974 and has been contributing to his local community ever since. When Bill first started at the Credit Union in 1974, he saw a challenge and tackled it. Using his ingenuity and his true belief in the "Golden Rule," he was able to turn the small 3,000 member Credit Union into a thriving 20,000 member Credit Union with almost 90 percent of all residents located within the Boulder City limits holding a membership. He treats his customers and employees like he does his family; in fact, many of those that live and work with him consider him to be a member of their family.

I applaud him in his example to others of what hard work and dedication can achieve. He is an example to all as he has demonstrated that it requires caring and a desire to better oneself and one's surroundings to achieve true successes in life.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Bill Ferrence in his dedication and efforts. I wish him another thirty years of successes in his life and career and congratulate him on his wonderful achievements and dedication to the Boulder City residents and his example to fellow Nevadans.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING PFC SEAN SCHNEIDER OF JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 2, 2004

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, this week our nation lost a man of honor, courage and kindness. Private First Class Sean Schneider was killed in Iraq on Monday when a bomb hit his convoy.

Sean grew up in Janesville, Wisconsin, and graduated from Craig High School—the same school I graduated from. Sean liked to hunt, canoe, and tinker with cars and motorcycles. His high school teachers talk about what a caring individual he was and how he was the kind of student you respected. At the same time, he was an independent young man who knew what he wanted to do with his life.

Sean joined the Army in 2002 with a strong desire to serve and protect his country. In doing so, he made that incredible commitment that our military men and women and our vet-

erans throughout history have made: he was willing to make the ultimate sacrifice and put his life on the line to preserve our rights and freedoms.

It is because of Sean and people like him that our country remains free today. America owes him and his family a tremendous debt that can never be repaid. What we must do is commit to always remembering his life and the sacrifice he made on our behalf. And we must be grateful for every one of our veterans who has stood up, like Sean did, for our country and the cause of freedom.

Sean Schneider led an inspiring life and touched so many people's lives along the way. Our thoughts and prayers are with his many loved ones—especially his wife, his parents and his siblings—during this most difficult of times.

A TRIBUTE TO EMIL MARZULLO, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY DI- RECTOR OF SPECIAL DISTRICTS

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 2, 2004

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to pay tribute to Emil Marzullo, who is retiring as Director of the Special Districts Department for the County of San Bernardino, California, after 25 years of dedicated service to the people of California's Inland Empire.

The County of San Bernardino Special Districts Department manages dozens of local entities charged with providing a variety of vital public services ranging from fire protection and drinking water to parks and roadways. Mr. Marzullo took the helm of Special Districts in 1994 during very difficult economic times, when funding for these important services were increasingly scarce. Under his expert leadership the Department took on the responsibility of the County Franchise Authority and the restructuring of all water and sanitation districts and operations. These visionary reforms would come to be Mr. Marzullo's greatest accomplishments.

Mr. Marzullo was born in New Jersey and moved to California in 1965. He graduated from San Bernardino High School in 1971, received his B.A. in Geography and Environmental Studies from the University of California at Riverside in 1978, and a M.S. in Environmental Studies and Public Administration from California State University, Fullerton, in 1986. He began his county employment in January 1979 as an Environmental Specialist.

As an employee and later deputy director of the County Office of Community Development, Mr. Marzullo participated in or led the creation of more than 200 capital projects such as senior and community centers, playgrounds and parks, as well as water systems and fire safety facilities.

Serving as assistant director of special districts, he was instrumental in restructuring the Special Districts Department as well as the San Bernardino County Fire Department. In this capacity he trained the Board-governed commissions in the conduct of public meetings under the California Open Meetings Law and authored many of the related policies and board actions.

An esteemed member of the community, Mr. Marzullo served as a visiting professor at the Graduate School of Public Administration at California State University, San Bernardino, where he has lectured and led graduate seminars in Land Use Planning, Public Policy Analysis and Economic Development, and Local Development Finance. He also became a member of the Board of Directors and later the President of the Board for the Bethlehem House, a shelter and program for victims of domestic violence.

Mr. Speaker, for more than two decades, Emil Marzullo has served the people of San Bernardino County well in a variety of important capacities, and the county will benefit from his accomplishments for many generations to come. Please join me in thanking him for his dedicated public service, and wishing him well as he takes a well-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY MCCOOL

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 2, 2004

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen; I am proud to recognize Larry Allen McCool in the Congress. His recent death was a great loss to his community, his family, his state and this nation.

Larry McCool was born in Kosciusko, Mississippi. He earned an education degree and taught history in a Jackson, MS, high school. When he wasn't teaching, he traveled around the country buying and selling unusual antiques and collectibles. Mr. McCool ended his teaching career in the early 1970s to pursue his own dreams and opened a shop in Jackson where he realized his potential in appraising antiques.

A four-time president of the Mississippi Auctioneers Association and president of the National Auctioneer's Association (NAA), Mr. McCool was a self-taught auctioneer who became one of the industry's foremost authorities on the appraisal and sale of antiques, fine arts and antebellum real estate. He continually pushed NAA to improve educational programs, increase its membership and revenues, and, most importantly, widen the charities NAA supported.

Despite his drive and dedication to auctioneering, Mr. McCool will be most remembered for his passion for charity auctions. On the day of his passing, he had planned to conduct an auction for a children's cancer fund, one of the many charities for which he raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for more than 25 years. Mr. McCool was named honorary chairman for the Hinds County chapter of the American Cancer Society, worked for the American Heart Association and volunteered his time to numerous charitable groups over the years.

On behalf of Congress, I extend my deepest sympathies to Mr. McCool's family and gratitude for the countless hours he spent serving others. He leaves a legacy of accomplishment in the industry as well as inspiring memories for those who knew him.

HONORING THE DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 2, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to honor the efforts of the Department of Missouri Veterans of Foreign Wars. In March 2003, this group launched the "Hidden Heroes" project to provide direct support to the families of deployed Missouri National Guardsmen and Reservists.

The "Hidden Heroes" program has made a real difference. In the first year of the program, families have been guests at dinners, banquets, and picnics. At the Christmas parties for the Air Force Reserve 442nd Central Postal Directory and the Army National Guard 1139th MPs, hundreds of toys were provided to the children of those serving. The Department of Missouri Veterans of Foreign Wars has also provided concert and sporting event tickets to family members. The efforts have helped to lift the spirits of these families.

The "Hidden Heroes" program has also helped to provide these families with food and other household products. When National Guard and Reserve members are deployed, their family incomes often fall by fifty percent or more. The Armories across Missouri participating in this pantry program are alleviating some of the financial strain experienced by these families that have already given so much.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Missouri Veterans of Foreign Wars have identified a need and are rallying resources to address it. I am sure my fellow Members will join me in thanking them for the service they continue to offer to this country.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SERVITUDE AND EMANCIPATION ARCHIVAL RESEARCH CLEARING HOUSE (SEARCH) ACT OF 2004

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 2, 2004

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Servitude and Emancipation Archival Research Clearing House (SEARCH) Act of 2004, companion legislation to S. 1292 sponsored by Senator LANDRIEU. This bill would authorize the creation of a national database of servitude and emancipation records within the National Archives.

For most Americans, researching their genealogical history involves searching through municipal birth, death, and marriage records—most of which have been properly archived as public historical documents. However, African Americans in the United States face a unique challenge when conducting genealogical research.

Current records of emancipation and slavery are frequently inaccessible, poorly catalogued, and inadequately preserved from decay. Instead of looking up wills, land deeds, birth and death certificates, and other traditional genealogical research documents, African Ameri-

cans must often try to identify the name of former slave owners, hoping that the owners kept records of pertinent information such as births and deaths.

Although some states and localities have undertaken efforts to collect these documents with varying degrees of success, there is no national effort to preserve these pieces of public and personal history or to make them readily and easily accessible to all Americans. While entities like Howard University and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture Library have extensive African American archives, the SEARCH Act would create a centralized database for these historic records. This database would be administered by the Archivist of the United States as part of the National Archives.

Finally, the SEARCH Act would also authorize funding for States, colleges, and universities, to preserve, catalogue, as well as index servitude and emancipation records locally. It would make available up to \$5 million for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to establish and maintain the national database, as well as \$5 million in grants for States and academic institutions to conserve local records of servitude and emancipation.

I believe that this legislation will be a very important step in resurrecting the rich history of African Americans and the vital role that they played in building America. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the SEARCH Act as not only a means by which their constituents can trace their lineage, but also as a means by which we can preserve historically comprehensive and accurate information for generations to come.

IN MEMORY OF ELIEZER SCHWARTZ

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 2, 2004

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of Eliezer Schwartz, and in anticipation of the Elie Schwartz Memorial Baldwin Classic Basketball game being held in his honor on Sunday, April 11.

I never had the opportunity to meet Elie, but the number of relatives, friends, and community members who will attend the basketball game represent a testament to the special young man he was. The son of Rabbi Gershon Schwartz and Dr. Shuly Rubin Schwartz, Elie was raised with a strong, unequivocal connection to the Jewish community. From his involvement in United Synagogue Youth, to his dedication to Israel, to his education at Brandeis University, Elie was a favorite among both his peers and adults.

Ten years ago, Elie was the driving force behind the Baldwin Classic, a 3-on-3 basketball tournament that became an annual event. It is quite appropriate that this year's game, the first since Elie's passing in November, be held in his honor, and the proceeds benefit the newly established Eliezer Schwartz Memorial Scholarship Fund of the METNY Region of USY.

Mr. Speaker, the contributions Elie made to our community in his short lifetime will not be forgotten. I know this year's Baldwin Classic