

under Air Force Space Commander General Lance W. Lord, recently participated as champions in the 37th annual Guardian Challenge competition and won the coveted Aldridge Trophy for Best Space Operations

Guardian Challenge is the only national competition for Air Force Space Command professionals and has a history of competitions dating back to 1967. It allows nearly 200 best-of-the-best competitors from various Air Force Space Wing Teams around the nation to test their skills against each other in tough competition and rigorous evaluation. The competition helps them better perform their missions by increasing their overall capabilities. Teams qualify by competing at their home stations against difficult criteria set in a competitive environment. By qualifying, teams compete at the national Guardian Challenge competition where they demonstrate their capabilities. In this case, Team 21 from Peterson Air Force Base came home with high honors, securing the coveted Aldridge Trophy, which is awarded to the Best Space Operations Wing.

I extend congratulations to the top-notch competitors in Guardian Challenge who earned the Aldridge Trophy for the 21st Space Wing. From Space Operations this includes: Captain Michael Bruno, Crew Commander, Technical Sergeant Kenneth DeFeo, Space Operator, Captain Jennifer Berger, Crew Commander, Staff Sergeant Robert Widrick, Crew Chief, Airman First Class Jennifer McCord, Space Console Operator, Flight Lieutenant Jay Garratt, Crew Commander, Flight Sergeant Ken Callaghan, Space Operator, Sergeant Stewart Williamson, Operations Team Trainer, Corporal Andrew Leckie, Space Operator, Corporal Gary Wright, Space Operator, SAC Kristopher Cochrane, Space Operator. From Communications: Staff Sergeant David Kisner and Senior Airman Jon McCullar, both Communications competition. From Security Forces competition: Staff Sergeant Duane Blackmon, Staff Sergeant Jon Scott, Airman First Class Steven Israel, Airman First Class Thanongsack Phanda and Staff Sergeant Matthew Tussey.

In addition, I extend special congratulations to Staff Sergeant Matthew Tussey of 137th Space Warning Squadron, Air National Guard in Greeley, for earning the Top Gun Trophy and medal for overall best marksman in all of Air Force Space Command.

I would also like to honor the entire Team 21 Wing Staff: Command Chief Master Sergeant for the 21st Space Wing, Vance Clarke; Colonel Gary Pond, 21st Maintenance Group Commander; Lieutenant Colonel Bryant Anderson, 21st Operations Group Deputy Commander; Colonel Al Kemmet, Jr., 21st Space Wing Guardian Challenge Project Officer; Staff Sergeant Jason Hand who was "Iron Mike"—the Team Mascot; Major Matthew Carroll, Guardian Challenge Project Officer Advance Team; Mr. Dick DuBose and Mr. Mel Thiel, both Guardian Challenge Advance Team and Technical Sergeant Roger Kelley, Transportation Support.

Mr. Speaker, I take great pleasure today in congratulating the 21st Space Wing for their outstanding achievements in this year's Guardian Challenge. They are true professionals in our United States Air Force and are part of the best space and missile team in the world.

IN RECOGNITION OF INDIANA STATE TROOPER SCOTT PATRICK DURING NATIONAL POLICE MEMORIAL WEEK

### HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2004*

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. In recognition of National Police Memorial Week and the ultimate sacrifices given by police officers across the nation, I wish to recognize the service and memory of Indiana State Trooper Scott Patrick.

Trooper Scott Patrick, a three-year veteran of the department, was shot by a driver he had stopped to help on an exit ramp of Interstate 80/94 in Gary, IN. He died December 22, 2003 at the age of 27.

Trooper Patrick's name and service will be among 362 fallen officers, killed in the line of duty in the past year and added to the National Police Memorial here in Washington during National Police Memorial Week.

Our mere words, even our sincere thanks cannot add to the life of this young husband, father, son and brother. Trooper Patrick has paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to the people of Indiana.

We can ensure the life and sacrifice of every officer slain in the line of duty is never forgotten. We can try to assure the survivors that his sacrifice was not in vain, and we must do what we can as citizens to increase the public's appreciation for law enforcement, especially the dangers faced on our behalf to protect us.

To the Patrick family, grateful Hoosiers and a grateful nation say thank you.

### PAYING TRIBUTE TO SUZANNE WILLIAMS

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Suzanne Williams and thank her for her extraordinary contributions to the State of Colorado as a member of the Colorado General Assembly. As a four-term member of the State House of Representatives, she will always be remembered as a dedicated public servant and leader of the community. As she moves on in her career, let it be known that I, along with the people of Colorado, are eternally grateful for all that she has accomplished in her tenure in the Colorado House of Representatives.

Representing Arapahoe and Denver counties for District 41, Suzanne has worked in neighborhood schools for twenty-two years as a special education teacher. Suzanne's intimate knowledge with education has served her well as a member of the Education Committee, sponsoring legislation to implement funding for full-day kindergarten in low-performing school districts. Other legislation Suzanne has sponsored includes the Child Care Loan Forgiveness Program that assists childcare professionals in attending community college to gain more skills, and the American Indian Scholars license plate, which estab-

lished a scholarship fund for Colorado American Indians to attend a college or university within the state.

Suzanne's efforts to better her community include extensive involvement with civic organizations. She currently sits on the Colorado Special Education Advisory Board and the Colorado Medicare Consortium, and she has served on the board of directors for Aurora Sister Cities, D.A.R.E. Colorado and the United Cerebral Palsy Association. The Colorado Chapter of American Mothers, Inc. recognized her outstanding commitment to community service in 1996 when she received the Colorado Mother of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, it is quite clear that State Representative Suzanne Williams is a person who has demonstrated an exceptional level of dedication and commitment to her life long pursuit of public service. It is her incredible devotion along with her passion for contributing towards the betterment of her community and the State of Colorado that I wish to bring before this body of Congress and this nation. It is my distinct pleasure to honor Suzanne here today, and wish her and her husband Ed all the best in their future endeavors.

### RECOGNIZING GORSKI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2004*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Gorski Construction Company as it celebrates 50 years of excellence in the construction industry.

Caesar J. Gorski, Sr. started the Gorski Construction Company in 1954 with a \$75 surplus pickup truck from Peco Energy Company and carpentry and masonry tools that he had gathered during a four-year apprenticeship with Mecca Construction. In the beginning, Gorski constructed stone chimneys and repaired barns. From 1954 until 1974, Gorski Construction built three to four custom homes each year. In the late 1960s, Gorski Construction took on the new task of building commercial properties.

Gorski Construction earned a first-place award from Associated Builders and Contractors for the design and construction of the Gorski headquarters building. The 16,200 square-foot, two-story brick building won the "Excellence in Construction" Eagle award for pre-engineered buildings costing less than 2 million dollars. The \$1,640,000 building was built in 7 months and was occupied in November 2002. The Company uses the corporate headquarters to showcase their construction prowess for prospective clients.

In 2003, the Company completed three major construction projects with a 17-person crew and several subcontractors. For example, they designed and built the \$3.5 million, 30,000 square foot food processing facility for Don's Salads in Skipack Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Gorski Construction also built the \$1.4 fire station for Goodwill Fire Company in West Chester, Pennsylvania. The Company also completed a five-bedroom, 6,000 square foot Mediterranean style home in Limerick Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

This year, Gorski Construction is working on a 22-acre extension to the Iron Bridge Corporate Center that will be finished by summer 2004. The Company is also renovating the St. John's Lutheran Church in Hamburg, Pennsylvania with new hardwood floors and more seating for its choir. The \$300,000 project will be completed in late August 2004.

When Caesar J. Gorski, Sr. founded his company in May 1954, he quickly gained a reputation as a creative builder who took great pride in his craftsmanship. Over the past 50 years, Gorski Construction has grown into a nationally recognized design and construction firm that has extensive experience in industrial, institutional, and commercial construction.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Gorski Construction Company for its innovative vision, exemplary craftsmanship and contributions made to the quality of life of the citizens of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

### HONORING THE BLUE RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2004*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the coalition that has dedicated years of energy to restoring Colorado's Lower Blue River for the community, the economy and the environment.

One of the most cherished aspects of Colorado life is the access to pristine views and the wide variety of outdoor activities. Summit County provides both, sitting in the heart of Colorado's mountain country. With scenic mountains, majestic forests, and wild rivers, this region is world-renowned for its remarkable vistas and outdoor activities.

For decades the Blue River was designated a Gold Medal fishery. However, in recent years the Blue River in Summit County has been impacted by nearby historic mining activities and other development, as well as years of drought. The river became so shallow below the Dillon Dam that native fish species were unable to live in this river's habitat. This not only damaged the various fish, it also hurt the local fishing industry which relies so heavily on vacationing anglers.

Facing a major environmental and financial problem, a diverse group of citizen groups united behind the idea of restoring the Blue River to its original state. Among these groups were Trout Unlimited, the Town of Silverthorne, the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Summit County, the United States Forest Service, and the National Forest Foundation. These groups worked together to raise the money to return the river to its natural width, thus restoring the riparian habitat. Moreover these enhancements have helped bring the community together and have proven to be a model for similar restoration projects.

The restoration has been a tremendous success. Mr. Andy Gentry, president of the local Trout Unlimited chapter, received a national award recognizing his role in the project. The American Public Works Association selected the project as one of the most outstanding projects in the nation.

In addition to the national recognition and appreciation, the most rewarding aspect of the restoration project was returning the Blue River to its natural beauty. Anglers can now fish for trout in its sparkling waters. Hikers can walk the trails adjacent to the river and take in the wonderful views.

Mr. Speaker, the Blue River Restoration Project is a shining example of collaborative and successful outdoor public works projects. It is a model for future projects and proves that groups of concerned citizens can cooperate to improve the environment and enhance the quality of life in their communities. This is especially important as hunting and fishing activities significantly contribute to the health of Colorado's economy—as well as the health of the environment.

I have attached a newspaper story about this accomplishment.

[From the Summit Daily, May 2, 2004]

RESTORATION NAMED 'EXEMPLARY PROJECT'

(By Christine McManus)

SILVERTHORNE.—After receiving a third award for their Blue River restoration efforts, local Trout Unlimited members are looking for other stream beds in the county to improve for fish habitat.

The most recent accolade for the Blue River project came April 17 when the Colorado Trout Unlimited (TU) honored the local Gore Range Anglers chapter of TU and its partners with the Exemplary Project Award.

"The one constant about trout is they like to live in beautiful places. Summit County fits that perfectly," said Andy Gentry, president of the local chapter.

Trout Unlimited and its partners worked together to narrow the channel of the Blue River.

With declining stream flows during the ongoing drought, and only minimal releases from the Dillon Reservoir Dam, the 120-foot wide channel below the dam provided water too shallow for fish to survive.

The restoration project generally narrowed the channel to 30 feet wide.

The project preserved the Gold Medal status of the fishery, as declared by the Colorado Division of Wildlife on 13 rivers in the state.

The Exemplary Project Award from Colorado Trout Unlimited recognizes outstanding projects that have a significant impact on coldwater fisheries.

The award also recognizes successful partnerships between Trout Unlimited and other local and state groups, local governments and/or state and federal agencies.

Partners who worked on the Blue River restoration included the town of Silverthorne, the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG), the National Forest Foundation, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, the U.S. Forest Service and Summit County.

Gentry said the project would not have been done without all the partners.

"The Blue River Restoration Project has made a significant impact on the county and the fishery," said Kevin Batchelder, Silverthorne town manager.

"This project really showed how many different government entities, nonprofit organizations and local organizations can work together to make a lasting impact on their community."

Trout Unlimited and NWCCOG hope to work with other local governments and nonprofit organizations on additional river restoration projects, said Gentry and Liz Finn, NWCCOG assistant executive director.

The chapter is putting together a list of river restoration projects they would like to explore this summer.

The Upper Blue River, the Tenmile Creek, Swan River drainage and Lower Blue River are being considered, Gentry said.

"Hopefully other Summit County governmental entities and groups find projects for Trout Unlimited to be involved in as well," Gentry said.

In January, the Colorado Chapter of the American Public Works Association selected the project for the Project of the Year Award in the Utility Drainage and Environmental in the Small Communities category.

In September 2003, Gentry won the National Trout Unlimited Distinguished Service Award for his efforts with the Blue River Restoration Project.

### RECOGNIZING THE INAUGURATION OF THE RICARDO MONTALBÁN THEATRE

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2004*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Nosotros organization and the Ricardo Montalbán Foundation for their exceptional leadership in creating and inaugurating the Ricardo Montalbán Theatre in Hollywood, California.

Over 33 years ago, the legendary film and television actor Ricardo Montalbán had a vision for a place where Latino artists, and those in support of Latino artistry, could unite and work towards the common goal of "improving the image of Latinos in the entertainment industry." Today, we are able to see Mr. Montalbán's dream come true via his Nosotros organization and its partner, the Ricardo Montalbán Foundation.

After years of hard work and tireless leadership, tonight's opening of the Ricardo Montalbán Theatre will historically mark the inauguration of the first major theatrical venue of its kind in our country to be founded and named after a Latino artist. For generations to come, the Montalbán Theatre will operate and present performances that will encompass the same ideals that its founders held nearly 34 years ago.

As reflected through its mission statement, the Ricardo Montalbán Theatre will produce, present and support exceptional world-class theatre that examines issues of common concern for all people, as seen through the lens of the Latino experience. By offering theatre in an accessible and state-of-the-art facility that emphasizes artistic partnerships and community participation, it will also aim to establish a genuine cultural center for Los Angeles, and contribute to the development of a new vision for the American theatre.

We are fortunate to have passionate and exceptional leaders like Ricardo Montalbán, who has dedicated his career to improving the image of Latinos—both in front and behind the camera. I commend his leadership for expanding Latino employment opportunities in the entertainment industry; for training Latinos to become better actors and industry professionals; and, most notably, for reaching out to the community and encouraging talented young people to enter the entertainment profession.

I wish Ricardo Montalbán, the leadership of the Nosotros organization and the Ricardo Montalbán Foundation continued success in their future professional and artistic endeavors. They exemplify excellence in American leadership today.